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Member APNS & CPNE

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Security Forces foil terror attack on FC Headquarter Suicide blast in Quetta leaves 10 martyred, 6 terrorists dead

President, PM & others strongly condemn Quetta suicide attack

QUETTA (APP): A suicide bombing and gun assault in Quetta on Tuesday resulted in the martyrdom of ten people and the killing of six terrorists from the banned group Fitna al-Hindustan.

As per police sources, the blast on Zarghoon Road near Model Town left 32 people injured, including two members of the Frontier Corps, local media channels reported.

Reports suggest that the car bomb blast killed six terrorists, all of whom were

Balochistan CM vows to thwart terrorism following Quetta blast

QUETTA (APP): Chief Minister (CM) Mir Sarfraz Bugti has strongly condemned the recent bomb blast in Quetta, declaring that the cowardly acts of terrorists will not shake the resolve of the nation and its people.

In a statement issued on Tuesday, Sarfraz Bugti denounced the agenda of anti-state elements as an attempt to harm innocent civilians and spread fear. He reaffirmed that national unity and determination will continue to thwart the vile and wicked designs of terrorists. The CM commended the rapid and effective action of security forces in neutralizing the threat, stating that the perpetrators were

wearing FC uniforms, including the suicide attacker.

The powerful blast was heard across a wide area, including Model Town and surrounding neighborhoods, shattering windows in nearby homes and buildings.

Following the explosion, sporadic gunfire was heard in the vicinity, causing widespread fear and confusion among the residents. The police and res

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QUETTA: Paramilitary soldiers and rescue workers stand amid the debris after a bomb blast ripped through a busy street near Quetta's Frontier Corps (FC) headquarters.



QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti stands with outstanding students during a ceremony to encourage and motivate them.

CM Bugti urges youth to counter anti-state propaganda, honors martyrs

QUETTA (APP): Chief Minister of Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti, on Tuesday strongly urged the youth of the province to actively confront and defeat anti-state propaganda with logic and action, emphasizing that they focus heavily on national resolve and honoring those who sacrificed for peace.

The Chief Minister delivered his remarks at the Government Post Graduate Girls College Quetta Cantonment during the inauguration of a new block, named after Shaheed Professor Nazma Talib, and a modern auditorium.

Addressing the ceremony, Chief Minister Sarfraz Bugti said that the sacrifices of the martyrs will never go in vain. This state belongs to all of us, and every individual must play their pivotal role in its protection, development, he

added.

He lauded the courage of students for standing firm against terrorists who seek to shut down educational and health facilities. "The bravery and determination with which our daughters and young people are standing firm is not only commendable but a source of pride for the nation," Bugti said.

The Chief Minister paid a special tribute to Professor Nazma Talib, who traveled from Karachi to Quetta out of a pure spirit of service to education but was targeted by a cowardly act of terrorism. He also remembered Justice Nawaz Marri, announcing that Serena Chowk would be renamed after Shaheed Justice Nawaz Marri to permanently commemorate his sacrifice. CM Bugti also ad

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TURBAT: Provincial Minister for P&D Mir Zahoore Ahmed Buledi, MPADr. Abdul Malik Baloch, Additional Chief Secretary Development Zahid Saleem and others being briefed about under construction Mekan Medical College teaching Hospital Turbat.

US should not pursue "extremist or forceful politics": Fazl

LAHORE (INP): Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam Pakistan (JUI-F) chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman has criticised US foreign policy, stating that the United States should not pursue "extremist or forceful politics."

He asserted that Hamas is a central stakeholder in the Palestine issue, and excluding it from negotiations is unrealistic.

Speaking to the media, Maulana Fazlur Rehman emphasised that the Palestinian issue is currently the most pressing global con

cern. He referenced the founder of Pakistan, who once described the creation of Israel as "a dagger in the back of the Arab world."

The JUI-F chief reaffirmed his party's stance that Israel is an illegitimate state. He criticized US President Donald Trump, accusing him of "imposing decisions" and condemned such behaviour as neither ethical nor political.

Maulana Fazlur Rehman stated that no solution can be imposed on

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U.S vows unwavering support for Pak anti terror fight

ISLAMABAD (APP): In the wake of a deadly terrorist assault near the Frontier Corps (FC) headquarters in Quetta, which left numerous people dead and many others wounded, the United States has issued a strong condemnation, labeling the strike as a "heinous" act of violence.

A statement released by the U.S Embassy in Islamabad on Tuesday underscored Washington's outrage at the brutality of the incident, while expressing heartfelt sympathies for the victims' families. "We extend our deepest condolences to the families of the victims and wish a swift recovery to those injured," the statement read.

FBR extends tax return filing deadline by 15 days

ISLAMABAD (PPI): The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) on Tuesday extended the deadline for filing income tax returns for the 2025 tax year by 15 days.

In a statement, the FBR said that the deadline had been extended in view of the request from various trade bodies, taxpayers, and tax bar associations.

Now, income tax returns for tax year 2025 can be filed till October 15.

"This decision has been made under Section 214A of the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001.

missioners and Deputy Commissioners, Shakeel Qadir Khan highlighted that public welfare remains the top priority of the government, which is being pursued through strengthened governance and coordinated institutional efforts.

The Chief Secretary noted that effective measures are being implemented across the province via the District Development Committees (DDCs)

to ensure the timely completion of various development projects aimed at improving public access to basic facilities.

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Governor denounces attack as cowardly act of terrorism

Visits CMH, Quetta Civil Hospital to inquire after health of injured in blast

QUETTA (APP): Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandokhel separately visited Combined Military Hospital (CMH) Quetta Cantt and Trauma Center Civil Hospital Jinnah Road and inquired about health of people who injured in the blast near Pishin Stop FC Headquarters on Tuesday.

The Governor also directed the concerned authorities to provide all medical facilities immediately. He also inquired about their health individually and reviewed their condition and appreciated the excellent care provided by the doctors and paramedical staff present there.

Expressing deep sorrow over the tragic incident, the Governor extended heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims and emphasized his concern for those wounded. He directed the concerned authorities to

Mandokhel strongly condemns terrorist blast near FC Headquarters in Quetta

Khan Mandokhel has strongly condemned the terrorist explosion near the Frontier Corps (FC) Headquarters at Pishin Stop in Quetta, which claimed the lives of innocent civilians and left several others injured.

Expressing deep sorrow over the tragic incident, the Governor extended heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims and emphasized his concern for those wounded. He directed the concerned authorities to

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QUETTA: Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandokhel enquiring after health of Pishin bus stand blast victims during his visit to CMH.

Differences between PML-N, PPP 'family matters': Nazeer Tarar

ISLAMABAD (INP): Federal Minister for Law and Justice Azam Nazeer Tarar on Tuesday said that differences between the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) and the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) were internal matters, but their alliance remained intact and was based on ideology and sincerity.

Responding to a point of order raised by PPP leader Syed Naveed Qamar in the National Assembly, he said, "If anyone has been hurt by words, we apologize. Politics comes with ups and downs, and such verbal exchanges happen. These issues will be resolved within the house, as

our focus is to strengthen democracy and the country."

He added that the alliance had delivered success for Pakistan "from Saudi Arabia to the United Nations," stressing that it was founded on good faith. "Today, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques has declared Pakistan's people as guardians of the Haramain Sharifain," he noted.

Earlier, speaking on a point of order, Syed Naveed Qamar highlighted the flood situation across the country, particularly in his constituency, where villages and farmland were submerged.

DPM Ishaq Dar says Muslim nations including Pakistan united on Gaza issue; calls 20-point peace plan 'Major Breakthrough'

ISLAMABAD (APP): Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Tuesday said that the Muslim nations, including Pakistan, were united on the Gaza issue, calling US President Donald Trump's 20-point peace plan a major breakthrough.

The deputy prime minister briefed the media on Pakistan's diplomatic engagements during the 80th UN General Assembly session in New York and Washington, stressing that Gaza remained the central focus of the country's agenda.

The deputy prime minister revealed that eight Muslim nations had put forward coordinated pro



posals to the U.S. administration, which were deliberately kept confidential to prevent attempts at sabotage. "This was no small agenda. It was Allah's special blessing that Pakistan was among the countries chosen to play this historic role," he said.

After sharing further details of how the proposal

for ending the Israeli onslaught in Gaza was finalised, Dar said he had received messages from the Saudi foreign minister yesterday.

"He told me that five countries had reached a consensus on joint statement [regarding the Gaza

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Petrol up by Rs4.07, diesel by Rs4.04 as govt announces new price hike

ISLAMABAD (INP): The federal government has announced an increase in the prices of petroleum products, with the new rates taking effect from October 1. According to a notification issued by the Ministry of Finance, the price of petrol has been raised by Rs4.07 per litre, while high-speed diesel prices have increased by Rs4.04 per litre. Following the price hike, petrol will now cost Rs268.68 per litre, up from Rs264.61. High-speed diesel will be priced at Rs276.81 per litre, up from the previous rate of Rs272.77. These revised prices will remain in effect for the next 15 days, with the price adjustments set to reflect in fuel stations starting midnight. The increase is part of the government's routine review of petroleum prices, which are influenced by fluctuations in international markets and exchange rate changes. Earlier, on September 16, the federal government had announced new petroleum prices for the next 15 days, keeping petrol unchanged while increasing the price of high-speed diesel.



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) CEO Mr. Aamir Hayat called on Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar.

Pakistan Army successfully conducts Fatah-4 ground launched cruise missile

RAWALPINDI (INP): Pakistan Army has successfully conducted the training launch of the newly inducted indigenously developed Fatah-4 Ground Launched Cruise Missile, achieving a range of 750 kilometres.

The advanced weapon system, integrated with modern avionics and sophisticated navigational aids, demonstrated its precision strike capability during the test.

The military's media wing said that the missile—equipped with terrain-hugging features—has been designed to evade enemy missile defence systems, thereby enhancing operational survivability. The system's accuracy and long-range capability are expected to further strengthen the conventional missile arsenal of the Army Rocket Force Command, according



to Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR).

According to official details, the Fatah-4 combines state-of-the-art navigation and guidance technology with high precision engagement ability. Its design allows low-altitude flight paths, making detection and interception more challenging for adversary systems. This capability, paired with its long reach, adds significant lethality to the Pakistan Army's strike options.

The launch event was observed by the Chief of General Staff, senior officers from the Pakistan Armed Forces, as well as scientists and engineers involved in the programme.



QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan addressing Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners Conference.

Pak announce 18-member preliminary squad for South Africa Test series

LAHORE (APP): The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Tuesday named a preliminary 18-member squad for the two-test match series against South Africa commencing from October 12 at the Gaddafi stadium.

The preliminary squad will further be trimmed before start of the test series which is part of the ICC World Test Championship 2025-27. Shan Masood will continue to lead the side, while three

uncapped players – Asif Afridi, Faisal Akram and Rohail Nazir have also been included. South Africa, champions of the ICC World Test Championship 2023-25, will take on Pakistan in the first Test at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore from 12 to 16 October, while the second Test will be staged at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium in Rawalpindi from 20 to 24 October.

The two-test match series will be followed by three T20Is and as many

ODIs to be played from 28 October to 8 November. The squad for the white-ball series will be announced in due course.

The players for the pre-series camp will undergo training under red-ball head coach Azhar Mahmood and NCA coaches later today till Wednesday, 8 October. The players who featured in the recently concluded ACC Men's T20 Asia Cup will join the squad on 4 October.

CM Bugti urges..

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dressed the security situation, acknowledging the recent successful operation by security forces in Quetta. "The nation pays tribute to our zealous young men who promptly acted and sent the terrorists to hell," he said. He recognized the security forces the Army, Police, FC, Levies, and general public who have rendered their lives for the province's peace and development, declaring them the real heroes of history. He further said that ongoing operations in the Zehri area have broken the back of the terrorists, whose screams are now be-

ing heard. The Chief Minister highlighted his government's efforts for modernizing the education sector. Balochistan is developing an advanced educational environment that will allow experts from around the world to deliver online lectures. He also announced that additional classes will be constructed at the Girls College Quetta Cantonment, and the government will fulfill its promise to provide laptops to the female students.

Sarfaraz Bugti added that the college would be equipped with digital facilities and modern infrastructure to provide students with a world-class education.

Balochistan..

Continued from page 1

sent to hell. He praised the bravery of the personnel involved and emphasized that their sacrifices alongside public cooperation are the cornerstone of the fight against terrorism.

"The entire nation pays tribute to our brave young men for their timely and effective action," Bugti said. Reiterating his government's commitment to restoring peace in Balochistan, Sarfaraz Bugti vowed that no sacrifice will be spared. He assured that the sacrifices of both civilians and security forces would not be forgotten, and pledged to fulfill the mission of the martyrs.



PODGORICA: Senator Qurat-ul-Ain Marri delivering the National Delegation Statement at the Women Political Leaders Summit in Podgorica, Montenegro.

Suicide blast in Quetta leaves..

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cue teams rushed to the site and an emergency was sounded in all the hospitals of the provincial capital.

Police immediately cordoned off the area and restricted movements while the bomb disposal squads were called in to comb the area. Rescue teams shifted the injured to nearby hospitals. Eyewitnesses said the blast occurred close to commercial areas. The law enforcement agencies have launched an investigation while additional security personnel have been deployed to secure the vicinity. President Asif Ali Zardari on Tuesday

strongly condemned the suicide attack that took place in Quetta carried out by the Indian proxy Fitna al Khawarij.

The president, in a statement, said that the elements serving the interests of Fitna al Khawarij and India could not undermine Pakistan's peace and stability. He commended the security forces for their timely and effective response to foil the malicious designs of the terrorists.

President Zardari prayed for the swift recovery of the injured FC personnel and lauded the courage and resolve of the country's security forces in defending the motherland.

He reaffirmed Pakistan's determination to continue thwarting the nefarious designs of India-backed miscreants, saying that the growing frustration of anti-Pakistan forces was a reflection of their failure and inevitable downfall.

"As the global and regional scenario is shifting against anti-Pakistan states and their proxies, they are getting desperate. Pakistan, its people and the security forces shall prevail, Insha Allah," President Zardari said. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday praised the security forces for killing terrorists of Fitna al-Hindustan involved in the Quetta terrorist attack.

Governor..

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ensure immediate and comprehensive medical treatment for all injured individuals.

In a statement, Governor Mandokhail denounced the attack as a cowardly act of terrorism and called on law enforcement agencies to mobilize all available resources to swiftly apprehend those responsible.

He underscored the importance of national unity and social harmony as the strongest defense against the destructive agenda of terrorists and saboteurs, reaffirming the collective resolve to overcome such threats.

The Governor also offered prayers for the departed souls, wishing them eternal peace, and conveyed his hopes for the speedy recovery of the injured.

US should..

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Palestinians, and any discussion about a two-state solution must be based on mutual acceptance, which currently does not exist—Israel doesn't accept Palestine, and vice versa. He added that the two-state solution cannot be forced upon Palestinians.

Drawing a comparison with past global actions, he questioned how Saddam Hussein was executed over alleged war crimes, while over 100,000 Palestinians have been martyred due to hunger, lack of medicine, and disease—yet their plight is overlooked.

He called the United Nations' speech referencing Saddam's conviction by the International Court of Justice as "regrettable," considering the silence on ongoing Palestinian suffering.

Balochistan..

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On environmental protection, he reaffirmed the government's commitment to enforcing the ban on plastic bags. He stated that the initiative is being effectively implemented in various districts, with eco-friendly alternatives being promoted to ensure a cleaner and healthier environment.

Shakeel Qadir Khan ordered the immediate disbursement of salaries to temporarily appointed teachers and doctors in the Education and Health Departments. He also directed the issuance of advertisements for vacant positions under the third phase of recruitment.

Emphasizing the importance of birth registration, Shakeel Khan described it as a vital component of national planning and individual legal identity. He urged Deputy Commissioners to fully cooperate with NADRA to ensure accurate and timely registration. The Chief Secretary underscored the need to promote a cashless economy for improved financial transparency and economic growth. He directed Deputy Commissioners to promote digital payment systems.

Muslim nations..

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plan] and that our agreement was needed on this matter as well, and that they had also reached out to Indonesia and the UAE.

"I then consulted the foreign secretary and proposed some changes. I spoke to the Saudi foreign minister again ... as I had some objections ... He then sent me a revised version ... and the joint statement was released."

Dar told the media that the Palestinian Authority had also welcomed the statement.

"Some elements are opposing the 20-point plan for political reasons, but Gaza is above politics. The people of Palestine are accepting it, and that is what matters," he asserted.

Dar also disclosed that Indonesia had offered 20,000 personnel for a proposed Gaza peacekeeping force, while Pakistan's leadership would soon decide its own contribution. Under the plan, a technocratic government is envisaged for Palestine to ensure stability and reconstruction.

He said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif actively raised the issue of Gaza both in his UNGA address and in a series of sideline meetings with world leaders, including a high-profile session with U.S. President Donald Trump, where the

leaders of Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, the UAE, and other Muslim nations jointly called for an immediate ceasefire.

"Gaza has reached a stage where hunger itself is being used as a weapon," Dar remarked, adding that Muslim countries were unanimous in demanding an urgent ceasefire, withdrawal of occupying forces, and immediate humanitarian relief. Highlighting Pakistan's broader diplomatic outreach, Dar said he held bilateral meetings with his counterparts from the UK, Germany, Belgium, Canada, and Sri Lanka, and attended OIC, Commonwealth, and climate change-related sessions. "In just five days, Pakistan participated in nearly 18 sideline meetings, ensuring its voice was heard on key global issues," he noted.

Reiterating Pakistan's consistent position, Dar said that Pakistan's policy was clear and unchanged on Gaza. "And I rather would say the seven other countries are also with us on this... This plan, backed by eight committed nations, is a genuine step toward peace, security, and stability in the region." "Some elements are opposing the 20-point plan for political reasons, but Gaza is above politics. The people of Palestine are accepting it, and that is what matters," he asserted.



ZIARAT: Provincial Minister for Food Haji Noor Muhammad Dummur in a group photo with Jamiat members who joint BAP.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The procurement of works listed below for which Notice Inviting Tender on sealed percentage rates based on CSR 2023 Govt. of Balochistan are invited from interested Contractors / Firms with detailed terms & conditions are given below.

The tender fee Rs.1000/- will be deposited through green challan in the National Bank of Pakistan Pishin Branch under the head of account C-02716 (Building CWPP&H Receipt), Earnest Money 3% of the Bid cost in the shape of a call deposit, RELEVANT CATEGORY C-6 & Above and DATE OF COMPLETION 30th June 2026

S.#	NAME OF WORK.	E/COST
1.	Rehabilitation of RHC Karbala and veterinary Hospital Karbala, tehsil Pishin district Pishin PSDP No 1785 (Z2025.0275) TSE-252609880593	RS, 10,000,000/-

Eligibility of Bidders Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules – 2014. Presence in Active Taxpayer List (ATL) is mandatory. The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency in Pakistan. Balochistan Revenue Authority (BRA) Registration is required. The bidder must have completed 3 Assignment of similar nature of work Turn over of at least 80% Amount in3 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm Registration with Pakistan Engineering council (PEC) C-6 and above (Upto 25 million) In Relevant Category. CDR 3 Assignment of similar nature of work and complexity completed in previous 3 years 100% of the Estimated Cost Green Chalan Method of Procurement Single Stage, Two Envelope Procedure. **Bid Security** The bid must include a Call Deposit Receipt (CDR) in the amount specified, issued in the name of the undersigned, from a scheduled bank under the contractor's title account. Fake Call Deposits will result in blacklisting of the firm. **Tender Documents** Can be obtained electronically from www.bppra.gov.pk. **Last Date for Bid Submission:** 14th October, 2025, by 11:00 AM. **Tender Opening:** 14th October, 2025, at 12:00 PM Financial bids opening date will be announced later. **Additional Conditions** Bid security (CDR) for technically non-responsive bidders will be returned within 30 days. Bid Validity Period: 90 days. An affidavit on non-judicial stamp paper (PKR 100/-) must declare: The firm has never been blacklisted. All documents and information submitted are true and correct. Documents will be verified from relevant authorities. Contractors who failed to complete previous projects without valid reasons are ineligible to participate. **For any queries, please contact the Executive Engineer, Building Communication Works, PP&H, District Pishin Office through one of the following: Contact Number: 03013239187**

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER-BUILDING Communication Works PP&H District Pishin.

PRQ No.1631/30-9-2025

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NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division Loralai invites sealed percentage rate tenders based on composite schedule of rates (CSR 2023). Government of Balochistan amended up to date from interested contractors/firms for the works listed below: -

Tender Fee 1000/- and Earnest Money 2% of Bid Cost for each work

S. No	Name of Works.	E/Cost
1.	CONSTRUCTION OF FLOOD PROTECTION BUND / WALL KILLI KACHAREA DISTRICT LORALAI TSE-252609882393	29,717,777
2.	CONSTRUCTION OF FLOOD PROTECTION BUND / WALL KILLI SHAH KAREZ DISTRICT LORALAI TSE-252609882653	17,000,000
3.	CONSTRUCTION OF FLOOD PROTECTION BUND KILLI NIGANGAREA DISTRICT LORALAI TSE-252609882573	15,000,000
4.	CONSTRUCTION OF WATER CHANNEL OVER RIVER DRAZNDADISTRICT LORALAI TSE-252609882063	15,000,000
5.	CONSTRUCTION OF FLOOD PROTECTOIN WALL KILLI MAHOLAREA DISTRICT LORALAI TSE-252609882973	15,000,000
6.	CONSTRUCTION OF FLOOD PROTECTOIN BUND / WALL KILLI SURKI JANGLE DISTRICT LORALAI TSE-252609882923	14,500,000
7.	CONSTRUCTION OF FLOOD PROTECTION BUND / WALL KILLI CHIRGI AREADISTRICT LORALAI TSE-252609882473	14,000,000
8.	CONSTRUCTION OF FLOOD PROTECTOIN SCHEME KILLI MINARA DISTRICT LORALAI TSE-252609882483	13,000,000
9.	CONSTRUCTION OF FLOOD PROTECTION BUND / WALL KILLI SHAH KAREZ SULMAIN KHEL DISTRICT LORALAI TSE-252609883023	12,000,000
10.	CONSTRUCTION OF FLOOD PROTECTION BUND / WALL KILLI CHINJANAREA DISTRICT LORALAI TSE-252609881973	10,530,000
11.	CONSTRUCTION OF FLOOD PROTECTOIN BUND / WALL KILLI ZARH KAREZ DISTRICT LORALAI TSE-252609883033	10,000,000

Eligibility of bidders: - Registrations with relevant taxation department i.e (NTN), Income Tax / Sales Tax Department, Balochistan Revenue Authority (BRA) updated. Registration with Pakistan Engineering Council in Relevant Category C-5 and Above for Serial No 1, C-6 and Above for Serial No 2 to 11. Discipline Code CE-04 (v) (Irrigation Only) valid for the year 2025-26. The **Technical Proposal** shall consist of the Following Documents: - Name of Firm / Contractor with year of establishment along with postal address and telephone number. Name of Technical Supervisory staff/Management Staff along with their qualifications/ Experience and proof of their stay with the firm, with fresh affidavit (**duly attested by first class Magistrate**) as per criteria specified in bidding data. Detail of Works Machinery as per details mentioned in bidding documents. Complete with all respect giving their model, make, condition and location. No of Projects completed (Details should be given as per criteria Specified in bidding documents). Fresh Registration / Clearance from income tax Department and BRA Original must be shown on submission/Opening the technical Proposals. As per BPPRA rule 25 sub rule (2) serial 3 only one bid can be submitted against one NTN. Under taking on judicial paper (**duly attested by First Class Magistrate**) that the firm has never been black listed and involved in litigation. It is mandatory that the Contractor must show the original fresh PEC valid registration i.e. 2025-26 with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) on the time of submission / opening the Technical Proposals. Non satisfactory performance in past or present with any executing agency will lead to the disqualification of Firm / Contractor. Detail of bases of evaluation of technical proposal is referred to the bidding documents (IB-3.3.2). **The Financial Proposal** shall consist of the Following Documents: - Detail BOQ with Quoted Rates in sealed envelope mentioned the name & Title of scheme. Bid Security @ 2 % of bid quoted amount must be in the form of call deposit from the Firm Account in favor of the office Name of the under signed from a scheduled bank of Pakistan. **No any Bank Drafts & Banker Cheque will be acceptable.** **TENDER DOCUMENTS:** The bidders can obtain the bidding document from the address mention above on production of green Challan of (Rs) Mentioned against Each work deposited in the head of account C-03434 Civil works through Govt. Treasury/National Bank of Pakistan or can be downloaded from the Website of BPPRA (www.bppra.gov.pk), during working hours, from the date of publication of this invitation in newspapers till one day prior to the last date of submission. **DEADLINE OF SUBMISSION:** Technical and financial proposals from intending contractors/firms sealed in two separates envelopes clearly marked with Work title & type of proposal must be delivered by hand or through registered mail to the address mentioned below on or before **15th October, 2025 at 12:00 PM. OPENING:** The envelope containing "Technical Bids" will be opened on the same day **15th October, 2025 at 1:00 PM.** Before procurement committee in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives who choose to attend. The Second sealed envelope containing "financial bids" of technically responsive / qualified bidders will be opened later, the date of which will be communicated after evaluation of the technical bids. In case of any holiday or force majeure the opening will be on the next official day. **Bids Validity: Ninety (90) days. Place of issuance and submission will be:-** Address: Office of the Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Loralai Office Telephone No.0824-410813 email address: engrkarimkakar@gmail.com **Terms and Conditions:** Terms and conditions are mentioned (incorporated) in detail in bidding documents.

Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Loralai

PRQ No.1650/30-9-2025

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CORRIGENDUM

The office of Municipal Committee Hurrainzi notice inviting tender (NIT) Published in daily Newspapers on date_23/9/2025 Vide AB No 283-22-9-2025 is extended to 10 October 2025. Other terms and condition will remain the same.

CHIEF OFFICER MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE HURAMZAI

AB No.314/30-9-2025

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CORRIGENDUM & CHANGE IN DATE OF SUBMISSION AND OPENING

This office Notice for Inviting Tender for the works "Const of Flood Protection Wall / Gabion Spur at Zorh Manki, Ghoutai & Kashmir River District Killa Saifulah" under TSE- TSE-252609876773. It is to notify that development works were published in leading newspaper PRQ No. 1576 / 26-09-2025 and uploaded in BPPRA website. Necessary amendments have been made in bidding documents, and it has been uploaded on B-PPRA. Wherein the date of submission & opening of same tenders were uploaded in, BPPRA website were know fixed on 06 October 2025 by system / BPPRA website.

Date of Submission of tender:- 06-10-2025 at 11.00 Am
Date of opening of proposals:- 06-10-2025 at 12.00 pm
The other terms and conditions will remain same

Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Killa Saifulah

PRQ No.1646/30-9-2025

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Corrigendum / Extension of Bid Submission Date

Reference: PRQ No. 79725-8-2025 – Published Tender Notice
It is hereby notified for information of all concerned that the last date for bid submission for the following work(s) invited under the above-mentioned Tender Notice is extended as under:

S. No.	Name of Work	Original Submission Date	Extended Submission Date
As per Tender Notice	PROVISION OF 50 KV SOLAR SYSTEM FOR HQ BAHU EDUCATIONAL COMPLEX SARIAB ROAD QUETTA. PSDP No. 6098 22025.1761 TSE-252608822983	10-09-2025, 09:00 AM	06-10-2025, 09:00 AM

Additional Instructions:
Corrected BOQ: The revised/corrected BOQ has been uploaded on the BPPRA website and can be downloaded from the respective TSE links.
Other Conditions: All other terms, conditions, and instructions mentioned in the original Tender Notice shall remain unchanged.

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER Urban Planning & Development Department Quetta Division – Quetta

PRQ No.1651/30-9-2025

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TENDER NOTICE

TSE-252608829623 Only electronic bid will be submitted, No physical bid is required. Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, it is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. The Executive Engineer (Building), Sariab CW, PP&H Department, District Quetta invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2025 based on Composite schedule rates 2023 on Percentage Rates

Tender Fee Rs 1500/- and Bid Security 2%

S.No	Name of Work	E/Cost
1	ESTABLISHMENT OF MODEL DRUG REHABILITATION CENTRE, FOR WOMEN AT QUETTA.	104,718,579

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules – 2014. **Eligibility of Bidders:** Presence in Active Tax Payer List The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required The bidder must have completed 3 Assignment of similar nature of work Turn over of at least 85,000,000 PKR Amount in3 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm Bid Security of 2% of the Estimated Cost in the shape of Deposit at call, Bank Guarantee by a scheduled Bank in Pakistan Power of Attorney on the company letterhead authorizing a person to submit the Bid. The Bid must accompany a power of Attorney issued by authorized representative of the Firm/company having the name and CNIC No of the person Rs.1500/- deposit in the Account C-02716 in NBP or Government treasury in shape of Green Challan (non-refundable) in favor of the undersigned **Procedure Of Procurement:** Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure **Bid Security:** The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Guarantee. Deposit at Call of 2 % specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. **Tender Documents:** The NIT & Bidding Document can be obtained electronically from www.bppra.gov.pk **Issuance of tender Documents:** Complete Bidding Document can be viewed at www.bppra.gov.pk **Last Date of bid submission:** Bid can only be submitted electronically latest by 15 October, 2025 till 11:00 AM through supplier dashboard. **Tender opening:** All tenders will be opened on same day at 12:00 PM on EPPS System Address: XEN Buildings Sariab Quetta Phone no: 0819213555 Email: xen.p2qta@gmail.com

Executive Engineer (Building), Sariab CW, PP&H Department, District Quetta

PRQ No.1637/30-9-2025

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RE-TENDER NOTICE

The Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) published in the leading newspapers under TSE No. 252609860523 and PRQ No. 1317/17-09-2025 dated 18th September, 2025 stands cancelled.

TSE-252609881693 Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. Therefore **The Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Awaran** hereby Re-invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2025 based on Composite schedule rates 2023 on Percentage Rates

Tender Fee 1000/- and Bid Security 3%

S.No	Name of Work	E/Cost
1	CHECK DAM SESTAGAN UP-GRADATON & REVAMPING DISTRICT AWARAN.	10,000,000

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules 2014. **Eligibility of Bidders:** Presence in Active Tax Payer List o The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan o Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required o The bidder must have completed 2 Assignment of similar nature of work o Registration with Pakistan Engineering council (PEC) C-6 and above (Up to 25 million) In Relevant Category And Specialized Code is CE04(i) (Irrigation & Flood Control Systems). Turnover of at least 7,000,000 PKR Amount in3 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm **Procedure Of Procurement:** Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure **Bid Security:** The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Guarantee. Deposit at Call of 3 % specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. **Tender Documents:** The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the under-signed 1,000 PKR Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 22 October, 2025 during office hours on working days **Last Date of bid submission:** The Tenders must be submitted latest by 22 October, 2025 till 11:30 AM **Tender opening:** All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the undersigned at 12:30 PM Address: irrigation office main Awaran road Awaran. Phone no: 03337717515 Email: zafar.pandrani@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IRRIGATION DIVISION AWARAN

PRQ No.1630/30-9-2025

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TENDER NOTICE-CORRIGENDUM

With reference to advertisement published in daily newspaper vide PRQ No.1377/18-9-2025 The Balochistan Environmental Protection Agency invites bids from eligible Bidders for supply of following items. **TSE-252609859561 Only electronic bid will be submitted, No physical bid is required. Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, it is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. Tender Fee 1000 PKR**

S.No	Class of Object	Bid Security
1	Manufactured Vehicles & Accessories (Total Item(s) Count: 1)	2%

Changed Area

S.No	Step Name	Remarks
1	Case Particular	
2	Case Schedule	By Default
3	Case Particular	In compliance of the instructions of BPPRA letter for Rule 13, 27, 37

Note: The Remaining Terms & Conditions shall Remain Same.

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules – 2014. **Eligibility of Bidders:** Eligibility Criteria for bidders may be seen in the Bidding Documents **Procedure Of Procurement:** Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure **Bid Security:** The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Deposit at Call of 2 % specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. **Tender Documents:** The NIT & Bidding Document can be obtained electronically from www.bppra.gov.pk **Issuance of tender Documents:** Complete Bidding Document can be viewed at www.bppra.gov.pk **Last Date of bid submission:** Bid can only be submitted electronically latest by 07 October, 2025 till 11:15 AM through supplier dashboard. **Tender opening:** All tenders will be opened on same day at 12:15 PM on EPPS System The bidders who have downloaded Bidding Document(s) before 29 September, 2025 are required to download the amended Bidding Document(s). The Other terms and conditions shall remain same. Address: Balochistan Environmental Protection Agency Samungli Road Quetta Phone no: 0819201840 Fax no: 0819201180 Email: ddoopa2022@gmail.com

Assistant Director Balochistan Environmental Protection Agency

PRQ No.1645/30-9-2025

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Landlocked states can become land-linked economies: Aleem

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Communications Abdul Aleem Khan on Tuesday underlined Pakistan's pivotal geo-strategic role in connecting South Asia, the Middle East, and Central Asia, stressing that regional trade corridors could transform landlocked states into land-linked economies.

Addressing the Silk Way Transport Forum held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, he stated that the Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul road link is of critical importance for Pakistan as well as the entire region, said a press release.

The minister highlighted that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) flagship projects, like the Belt and Road Initiative which are aligned with Pakistan's vision of achieving self-reliance and sustainable economic growth by 2030.

He added that CPEC is integrated with other regional corridors, including ECO and SCO initiatives,

while Pakistan's membership of TIR and the Quadrilateral Transit Agreement marks a milestone for regional connectivity.

Aleem Khan stressed that through trade corridors, landlocked states can be transformed into land-linked economies, while digital transformation is enhancing transparency in the communication sector. He underlined the strategic significance of Eurasia as the world's largest land-mass and reaffirmed Pakistan's readiness to play its role in South Asia, Middle East and Central Asia.

He remarked that turning international transport corridors into pathways of peace and prosperity is a shared responsibility but customs regulations and visa restrictions remain impediments to regional integration.

The Forum was attended by Transport Ministers from 12 countries including Türkiye, Iran, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan,

Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Georgia, Belarus, Russia, Latvia and Kazakhstan. The host, Kazakhstan's Minister of Transport Mr. Nurlan Sauranbayev warmly welcomed the Pakistani delegation and extended generous hospitality to Federal Minister for Communications Abdul Aleem Khan.

On the sidelines, a high-level bilateral meeting was held between Federal Minister Abdul Aleem Khan and Kazakhstan's Minister of Transport Nurlan Sauranbayev, accompanied by their respective delegations. Discussions focused on the initiation of direct flights, easing of travel procedures and issuance of multiple-entry visas especially for the business community. Federal Minister Abdul Aleem Khan invited his Kazakh counterpart to attend the upcoming Regional Transport Conference in Pakistan scheduled for October 23-24 with participation from multiple countries.



Gilani, Mehdi Shah review relief, reconstruction activities in GB

ISLAMABAD (APP): Governor of Gilgit-Baltistan Syed Mehdi Shah on Tuesday called on Acting President Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani, wherein they reviewed ongoing relief and reconstruction activities in GB following recent floods and heavy rains that caused widespread damage in the region.

During the meeting, matters pertaining to the political situation, law and order situation and party affairs were also discussed.

Gilani expressed concern over the losses suffered by the people and emphasised the need for coordinated efforts by federal and Gilgit-Baltistan government institutions to ensure early rehabilitation of the affected families.

Governor Mehdi Shah briefed the acting president on the measures being undertaken by the regional administration to provide relief to the displaced persons and restore essential services.

He thanked Acting President Gilani for his keen interest and support for the people of Gilgit-Baltistan.

Malik calls for unity against misinformation on HPV vaccine to save women's lives

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister of State Malik Mukhtar Ahmad Bharath Tuesday made a powerful appeal to civil society, religious leaders, teachers, students and social media influencers to join forces in eradicating the dangerous propaganda surrounding the HPV vaccine, reaffirming that it is safe, lifesaving and accessible to every eligible girl.

In an exclusive video message to a private news channel, Minister of State Malik Mukhtar Ahmad Bharath strongly emphasized the safety and importance of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine.

He highlighted that the vaccine is approved by the World Health Organization (WHO) and has been available globally for over a decade without causing any harm.

The minister condemned the spread of negative propaganda on social

media, calling it baseless and misleading. Minister urged the public to reject these false claims and instead trust the scientific evidence supporting the vaccine's safety and effectiveness.

He further appealed to civil society, religious leaders, educators, students and social media influencers to actively work together to dispel myths and misinformation.

The HPV vaccine remains a critical tool in protecting the health of eligible girls and preventing life-threatening diseases. He stated that cervical cancer ranks as the third most common cancer among women in Pakistan, with a mortality rate where two out of every three diagnosed women do not survive.

He emphasized that the HPV vaccine is highly effective and scientifically proven, preventing more deaths per vaccinated individual than any other immunization.

Misbah Khar meets Syrian Ambassador

ISLAMABAD (APP): Advisor to the Chairman Senate and Ambassador for the Inter-Parliamentary Speakers' Conference (ISC), Misbah Khar, on Tuesday held a meeting with the Ambassador of Syria in Pakistan Dr. Ramez Alrae, to discuss matters of mutual interest and parliamentary cooperation.

During the meeting, Misbah Khar formally conveyed an invitation to the Syrian parliamentary delegation to participate in the upcoming Inter-Parliamentary Speakers' Conference. She highlighted that the conference, being organized under the theme "Peace, Security and Development", will provide a significant platform for legislatures across the globe to deliberate on collective responses to pressing global and regional challenges. The Advisor underlined Pakistan's commitment to fostering dialogue, parliamentary diplomacy, and collaborative initiatives aimed at strengthening peace and development in the region and beyond.



ISLAMABAD: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi in a meeting with Chairman NHA Muhammad Shehryar Sultan.

Speakers stress collaboration, innovation for clinical research in resource-constrained

ISLAMABAD (APP): Leading health experts at an international workshop organized by OIC-COMSTech and the Health Research Advisory Board (HealthRAB) underlined that resource limitations should not become barriers to evidence-based healthcare and clinical research.

They emphasized that collaboration, innovation, and capacity building are

essential for developing centres of excellence in low-resource environments across OIC member states.

The workshop, titled "Clinical Research in Resource-Constrained Environments", was hosted by COMSTech in collaboration with the Institute of Innovation Leadership in Medicine and Management at its Secretariat in Islamabad.

It brought together

healthcare professionals, researchers, and policymakers to discuss strategies for strengthening research capacity despite infrastructure and funding challenges.

In his inaugural message, Coordinator General OIC-COMSTech Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary highlighted the urgent need for innovation in health research across the Muslim world.

IRSA releases 135,900 cusecs water

ISLAMABAD (INP): Indus River System Authority (IRSA) on Tuesday released 135,900 cusecs of water from various rim stations with inflow of 136,300 cusecs.

According to the data released by IRSA, Tarbela Dam has already attained its maximum conservation level of 1550.00 feet, which was 148.00 feet higher than the dead level of 1402.00 feet.

Water inflow and outflow in the dam were recorded as 83,500 cusecs and 83,100 cusecs, respectively.

The water level in the River Jhelum at Mangla Dam was 1240.75 feet, which was 190.75 feet higher than its dead level of 1,050 feet.

The inflow and outflow of water was recorded as 9,000 cusecs each respectively.

ECP summons Punjab LG secretary over LG polls delay

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Tuesday expressed deep disappointment over the prolonged delay in Punjab's local government elections, summoned the Secretary of the Punjab Local Government Department in personal capacity, and scheduled a full bench hearing for October 8, 2025. An important meeting of the Commission was held under the chairmanship of Chief Election Commissioner Sikandar Sultan Raja to review the status of local government elections in Punjab.

During the meeting, the Secretary of the ECP briefed the Commission, stating that the tenure of local governments in Punjab had ended in 2021.

He further noted that local government laws were amended five times under previous provincial administrations, which contributed to repeated delays in the electoral process. The Commission has conducted delimitation exercises three times and completed the registration of electoral groups twice. Legislative work is now underway for the sixth time.

Despite repeated correspondence and meetings with the Punjab Government, the necessary legislation and conduct of local government elections have yet to be finalized.

The Secretary also informed the Commission that, in an effort to expedite the process, a hearing was held on June 2, 2025.

During this hearing, the Provincial Minister for Local Government, Punjab and the Secretary Local Government, Punjab, appeared before the Commission and stated that the draft local government law was under review by the Standing Committee.

ISLAMABAD: Chairman NDMA Lt. Gen. Inam Haider Malik presenting souvenir to Gize Nurdautov, Secretary of the Security Council, Kazakhstan upon his visit to National Emergency Operation Centre at NDMA Headquarters.

Kundi condemns Quetta suicide attack, expresses solidarity with victims

ISLAMABAD (APP): Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi on Tuesday strongly condemned the suicide blast near the Frontier Corps (FC) Headquarters in Quetta, expressing deep grief and sorrow over the loss of precious lives.

In his statement, the Governor said that terrorists backed by India could never succeed in sabotaging the country's peace or in targeting innocent civilians to achieve their nefarious designs. He emphasized that the blood of martyrs would not go in vain and that the entire nation stands united against terrorism.

Governor Kundi expressed heartfelt condolences and sympathy with

the families of the martyrs and prayed for the early recovery of the injured.

He urged the federal and provincial governments, along with law enforcement agencies, to bring the perpetrators and their facilitators to justice.

He further said that the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan equally share each other's grief and pain, reaffirming that the nation stands shoulder to shoulder with the armed forces and security institutions in the fight against terrorism.

The Governor also paid tribute to the security forces for foiling the terrorists' bid and acknowledged their sacrifices for the country's peace and stability.

PCSIR organizes training workshop to promote value addition of dairy products

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), in collaboration with the Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIR), on Tuesday organized a one-day training on "Whey Valorisation and Product Innovation" to promote value addition in the country's dairy sector.

The initiative aims to encourage innovation, minimize environmental impact, and promote sustainable dairy practices. The Whey Valorisation Project highlights the potential of con-

verting challenges into opportunities for a more profitable and sustainable future.

The event was attended by representatives of leading dairy companies, food processors, public sector organizations, and regulators, who discussed practical approaches to whey utilization, said press release.

The training focused on building the technical capacity of cheese processors while highlighting market trends, technological considerations, and global best practices in whey valorisation.



ISLAMABAD: CDA workers preparing the green belt for sapling plantation at Zero Point in the Federal Capital.

SC continues hearing in super tax case

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Supreme Court's constitutional bench on Tuesday continued hearing the case related to the imposition of super tax, as counsel for the companies, Shehzad Ata Elahi, concluded his arguments.

The five-member bench, headed by Justice Aminuddin Khan and comprising other senior judges, heard the matter.

Presenting his arguments, Elahi contended

that taxation should be applied in a routine and predictable manner, not through ad-hoc measures.

He said, "We are ready to pay all taxes, but there should not be a new levy introduced every now and then."

Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar questioned the structure of the Finance Bill, noting that it was intended for the upcoming fiscal year and not for retrospective application.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Inter-Faith Harmony Sardar Muhammad Yousof in a meeting with the Archbishop Germano Penemote, Ambassador of Holy See (Vatican City).

ISSI hosts session on Pakistan-Bangladesh relations & regional cooperation

ISLAMABAD (APP): The India Study Centre (ISC) at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) on Tuesday organized an In-House Round-table, titled "Pakistan-Bangladesh Relation and Regional Cooperation."

The Round-table featured Maj. Gen. @ Fazle Elahi Akbar, Chairman Foundation for Strategic and Development Studies, Bangladesh, as the Distinguished Speaker. It was attended by former diplomats, practitioners, academics, and area specialists, said a press release.

The participants reviewed the recent upward trajectory in the bilateral ties between Pakistan and Bangladesh, opportunities and challenges in geopolitical dynamics of South Asia, and the likely future shape of regional cooperation architecture.

Commending the recent warmth in fraternal relations, participants emphasized the importance of

pursuing a forward-looking, future-oriented approach and expanding mutual cooperation beyond traditional spheres. They noted promising developments in productive, multi-sectoral engagement from the government to people's levels.

The participants were optimistic that common historical and cultural roots, shared interests, and similar challenges give solid basis to pursue shared future objectives. It was suggested that, in order to further strengthen people-to-people exchanges, the two countries should resume direct flights; further ease travel barriers; diversify trade to arenas of their respective strengths; promote bilateral tourism; encourage cultural cooperation; inter-connect youths; open up academic and think-tank exchanges; and learn from each other's experience and expertise in various domains.

The participants agreed that both Pakistan

and Bangladesh share the perspective that regional cooperation can no longer be allowed to remain hostage to the whims of one country. The rapid global transformation to a multipolar world order requires this region to move in tandem and also deepen ways of economic integration and connectivity.

As the leaderships of the two countries have recently reiterated, regional cooperation remains imperative and the revival of SAARC remains crucial. At the same time, the prospects for regional cooperation in myriad formats should be proactively pursued.

The recent Bangladesh-China-Pakistan trilateral was an innovative step and could be replicated in different other geometries. Participants agreed that reimagining South Asia in terms of security, development, and regional cooperation architecture was now indispensable.

No escape from justice: ICT Police held proclaimed offender after 15 years

ISLAMABAD (APP): Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Police's Sahala Police Station team, in collaboration with Interpol, arrested a proclaimed offender wanted in a murder case who had been absconding abroad for 15 years.

An official told APP on Tuesday that, acting on the directions of Inspector General of Police (IGP) Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, SP Sawan Zone, SDPO Sahala Circle, and SHO Sahala Mian Zulfiqar Ali, along with SI Muhammad Raees, ASI Ashfaq Shah and the police team, arrested proclaimed offender Nasir Mehmood, son of Khan Muhammad. He was nominated in FIR No. 165/10 dated August 17, 2010, under sections 302/324/109/34 PPC registered at Sahala Police Station.

He said that the accused had fled to Saudi Arabia and remained in hiding for 15 years.

ICT admin seals 7 sheesha cafes, arrests 6 in crackdown

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad district administration sealed seven illegal indoor sheesha cafes, arrested six people, and imposed heavy fines during late-night operations.

The spokesman of the district administration said the action was part of an ongoing campaign against unlicensed sheesha outlets in the federal capital.

According to the administration, the cafes were operating without legal permission and offering indoor sheesha, which is banned under government regula-

tions. The raids were carried out in different areas of the city following public complaints and field reports.

Teams from the district administration, assisted by police, visited several cafes late at night. Seven establishments found violating the ban were sealed on the spot. Six individuals, including managers and employees, were taken into custody for running the illegal business.

Authorities also confiscated sheesha pots and related equipment.



ISLAMABAD: Senator Sardar Al Haj Muhammad Umer Gorgal, Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Poverty Alleviation & Social Safety, presiding over a meeting of the committee at Parliament House.

Daily Voice of Masses Independent

Wednesday October 01, 2025

Petty politics

It is disappointing that the Indian cricket team felt compelled to engage in theatrics on what should have been a celebratory occasion.

Having clinched the Asia Cup after a thrilling contest with Pakistan, the side ought to have basked in its triumph. Instead, it spoiled the moment by refusing to accept the trophy from the Asian Cricket Council chief, because he is a Pakistani national.

That act of arrogance was not isolated. From its captain's refusal to shake hands in the opening match to his overtly political comments in the post-match awards ceremony, the Indian cricket team's behaviour seemed scripted to turn the game into another stage for New Delhi's nationalist posturing. Their prime minister wasted no time in reinforcing this narrative, describing India's victory as "Operation Sindoor on the games field".

That he felt compelled to cast a sporting win in the language of war spoke less of confidence than of his insecurity, betraying the scars of his government's military misadventure against Pakistan earlier this year.

The pettiness is particularly regrettable given cricket's history in the region. Since the beginning, the game has seen fierce rivalry but also provided some rare occasions for goodwill between the two nations.

Vajpayee's "friendship through cricket" initiative in 2004 and the 2011 World Cup semi-final in Mohali, famously attended by the prime ministers of both countries, reminded South Asians that sport offers respite from hostility. These occasions gave ordinary people a glimpse of what statesmanship and sportsmanship could achieve. India's current approach is the opposite. Even as its team shone on the field, it chose to be arrogant off it, ensuring the tournament would be remembered less for its skill and more for its churlish behaviour. The disappointment is immense, especially for fans who turn to cricket for joy, not as a platform for leaders to flaunt their insecurities.

Equally troubling is the general political climate that feeds this behaviour. India insists on Pakistan's culpability in the Pahalgam terrorist attack, but has yet to provide any compelling evidence. Its leaders repeat the allegation endlessly, as if that can substitute for proof. It was this unyielding stance that brought both countries to the brink of nuclear catastrophe earlier this year.

To now see the same rhetoric spilling into cricket is extremely dangerous. It narrows the space for peace, deepens mistrust, and denies the region any room for optimism. The Indian cricket team had a chance to show grace in victory; to remind millions that the sport can offer relief when politics fails. Instead, it left behind not only the trophy it refused to receive, but also a lasting impression of the country's insecurities. The people of the two countries deserve better. Their shared love of the game should not be exploited in so crass a manner.

Arifa Noor

Much is happening in the world around us but at home, there is little to report or talk about. The messy Pakistani politics that doesn't even believe in a day of rest is rather dull these days, forcing many of us in anchor-land to discuss foreign policy and the Middle East. It ain't really out of choice and let no one tell you otherwise.

However, it's not just the lot on television but also those in politics who seem to have run out of choices. If one had to describe politico-land in Pakistan these days; there are a bunch of headless chickens running around and clucking non-stop. None has a clue as to what to do and this is as true of those in power as it is of those in opposition. The only aim is to survive.

Consider the PTI leadership, which is caught between the establishment and its supporters. The second tier is mostly doing the bid-

ding of one while pretending to care about the latter (and they are fearful of both). And while it's hard to tell what the establishment wants, the view of the workers and supporters was evident from the recent lacklustre jalsa in Peshawar.

Perhaps this is why the KP chief minister's speech, too, lacked the bombast of his earlier speeches — he knows no one will buy his Gabbar Singh act. The booing and jeering during his speech (and those of others), along with his being greeted by workers waving shoes at him had Ali Amin Gandapur run to Adiala on Monday morning, in the hope of a meeting — a meeting that he and those around him had been at pains to explain wasn't being allowed.

No one doubts anymore that his 'chief ministry' is now less dependent on the PTI and more on the real power bosses. Indeed, if he is in power, it is not because of the man in Adiala. And that is because, the chief min-

ister appears confident that Imran Khan is going to remain a resident of Adiala for some time.

However, in light of the mood in the province regarding the party leadership's behaviour and the issue of militancy, this tightrope walk is going to become more and more difficult. Everyone is holding their breath to see how long it lasts. In the meantime, the PTI wallahs in the KP government and in parliament in Islamabad are going to run around in circles, achieving little other than exhausting themselves.

But it has to be said that the PTI's routine shenanigans could not top what the Noonies got up to in New York. A meeting with President Donald Trump at the UN and a tête-à-tête at the Oval Office was too good an opportunity not to mess up and this is exactly what the PML-N managed to do. The boomers took a molehill on social media and turned it into a mountain on the mainstream.

The presence of Shama Junejo, a British-Pakistani woman who was part of the Pakistani delegation, caused a social media skirmish, among a dime-a-dozen other fights, till the defence minister decided to tweet that he didn't know her or who made her sit behind him during a speech — as if ministers are usually aware of who is sitting or standing behind them at most public events.

His tweet disturbed the slumber of the Foreign Office, run by the deputy prime minister himself, which also decided to distance itself from Junejo's presence. And voila! the mainstream media had a story to report and discuss in the midst of all else that can't be mentioned. Junejo continues to remain confident that she was there because of the prime minister, and no one — be it ministers or the FO — has denied this or asked him about the issue. There really is no mystery here but let's all pretend there is one because it does draw atten-

tion away from other issues, such as, how can there be a solution for Gaza without addressing the West Bank or who decided Pakistani government officials are cut out for interviews.

But uncomfortable questions are a no-no, so let's stick to who let a woman into the UN General Assembly. Asking obvious questions and pretending there is no answer is how we roll these days. This wasn't the only (non) political news of the week. The PPP-PML-N public spat was another. Thankfully, Maryam Nawaz and Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari stepped in, otherwise the media would have been forced to spend hours on the statements of Sharjeel Memon and Azma Bokhari, two people whose press conferences are as hard to watch as a Netflix rom-com. But then, the heirs apparent came to our rescue and we had a pretend fight on our hands. How serious was the back and forth, it was asked, while we wrung our hands. As if there was not just one answer.

The ending is as obvious as the one in a Pakistani drama with an evil mother-in-law and an innocent daughter-in-law.

The PPP and N spat is no different. This arrangement drawn up by the grown-ups which allows everyone to rule, reign and make merry is not going to fall apart on disagreements on the handling of the floods or because N is not taking the PPP on board in Punjab. The handful of PPP Punjab will continue to huff and puff and their seniors in Sindh will pretend to agree.

While walking out is not an option, because our politicians believe that the people watching and voting are stupid, there will be verbal sparring as if there are some principles involved. For the PPP, it's the Devdas-like concern for the people, while for the PML-N it's this belief that Maryam Nawaz is doing so well that the PPP is worried about N's growing popularity in Punjab. Delulu is their solulu. On the television screens, at least.

Who desecrates, who sanctifies?

Jawed Naqvi

If there was one thing absolutely clear in the 2019 Babri Masjid judgement by India's supreme court, it was the conclusion by the five-member bench of the absence of any evidence, legal, historical or archaeological, that the 16th-century mosque was built by destroying a Hindu temple.

The Archaeological Survey of India did claim to find older pillars from around the site of the mosque. The court concluded they were several centuries older than the time of the mosque's construction and there was no valid explanation that they showed the destruction of a Hindu temple.

The dead rubber question has resurfaced, however, after former chief justice of India Dhananjaya Yeshwant Chandrachud claimed last week that erecting the mosque during the reign of the first Mughal emperor Babur was itself an act of desecration.

This was a loaded claim coming from a judge who was on the five-member bench that handed the site of the

mosque, which Hindu zealots had destroyed, to those that had supported its destruction against the supreme court's orders to keep the mosque safe. In the end, though the court decided that it was a criminal act to destroy the mosque, it went on to pave the way for the temple's construction and its eventual inauguration by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the eve of the 2024 elections. Elements so conspired that the BJP lost the seat from Ayodhya to an opposition Dalit candidate.

The Babri Masjid has gone to the winner of the curious court case and temple has come up in its place; possibly it was the only way to contemplate any peace at all given the current ideological preferences of the ruling elite. And yet it may not bring closure to the trauma that continues to be inflicted on the country by state institutions, not excluding the judiciary. In the same interview with intrepid journalist Sreenivasan Jain, justice Chandrachud made another troubling assertion. He was asked why he had allowed another

Mughal-era mosque in Varanasi to be surveyed, yielding to Hindu revivalist demands and violating the law that all historical monuments built before in-dependence would be protected by law. The judge said this was in deference to the fact that Hindus were praying from inside the mosque's compound. The following day, Jain paused the clip where the judge made the assertion and ran a fact-check, which clarified that the claim was wrong.

Justice Haider Abbas of the Allahabad High Court — who dealt with the Ayodhya case for years — had told me very lucidly that the claim about Lord Ram being born at the exact site of the then intact mosque was simply not justifiable. India's secular constitution and its secular laws carry a different brief from religious courts of some other countries. Secular law cannot determine and is not equipped to decide whether a certain god existed, much less that he or she was born at a particular place in this or that district. However, justice Chandrachud's de-

cision bequeathed 2.77 acres of land, which had been contested for decades, to Ram Lalla Virajman or the infant deity Ram. The Holy Roman Empire owned a lot of land, but it never had Jesus as its owner.

Just as professional historians or a surgical oncologist cannot supplant judges to decide lawsuits it's best for the judiciary to keep its distance from pretending to know more about history or oncology than those trained and qualified for the purpose. Suppose Romila Thapar or Harbans Mukhia — though they would frown witheringly at the idea — had led the supreme court bench that decided the fate of the Babri Masjid dispute in favour of Hindu extremists. You could bet your last penny that the outcome would be happily different, and, in any case, only well-grounded historical facts would be entertained.

After all, the Ayodhya contest was turned into one about faux historical evidence and ownership claims. But could one have marshalled historical evidence about

matters of faith? There are science books about how we may have evolved from fish. But there are only religious books and oral traditions about how we were created.

Justice Chandrachud did two other things that betrayed an inkling of where he stood in the saffron surge now visiting India. He says he took the advice of his family deity before delivering the Ayodhya judgement. Then he did what judges would cringe at being made to do. As head of the Allahabad High Court, he had kept a distance between political leadership and the judiciary. In his last days as chief justice, Chandrachud abandoned the rule. He invited Prime Minister Modi to his home to be watched by the nation jointly offering prayers to Hindu deity Ganpati.

Be that as it may, regardless of Chandrachud's troubling views — and he is surely not alone in the judiciary to hold them — it is actually less than relevant with enlightened societies as to who desecrated whose temples or

mosques or churches many centuries ago. The predominantly Hindu Indian state of Kerala hosts among the oldest mosques and synagogues.

The St Mary's Thiruvithamcode Arappally in Kanyakumari, the oldest church in India was founded by Thomas the Apostle in 63 AD. However, many churches in Europe, admired for their architecture, were, in fact, usurped from old pagan temples. Hindu rulers destroyed Buddhist and Jain temples. Türkiye's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has converted a former church into a mosque. On the flip side, Muslim Indonesians don't just preserve their Hindu and Buddhist temples, they flaunt them as a core of Indonesia's heritage. Each day a story from the Ramayana is enacted at special venues. All the actors and actresses are Muslim, including orthodox Muslims. The Indian prime minister has taken credit for a grand Hindu temple built in the UAE. However, it was the Muslim rulers of the UAE who showed up as more enlightened.

Pact risks

Dr Niaz Murtaza

The Saudi defence pact is being called a huge game changer. But will it make both sides more secure or open big economic vistas for us as hoped? Many other pacts have not lived up to expectations. While the details of the agreement aren't out yet, it's still useful to see what it may cover to meet the two aims and the risks we must be prepared for.

One clause shared publicly says that war against one will be seen as war against both. It may not face war soon, but risk-averse Saudi Arabia still wants this pact given the US inaction in Qatar after the Israeli attack and against Houthi salvos. But as Saudi Arabia lacks firepower, it may only fund us to defend it and ourselves better. Will it want short- and long-term air and land forces? If so, that may cut our defences against our many foes as new forces take time to raise and train well. Any muscle we lend must ace those of many well-armed foes. Matching a US-aided, high-tech and nuclear Israel may be the hardest but it may be the top Saudi hope as the US may defend it against its other foes but never against Israel. Our ability to do so will depend on how much aid it gives us and what Israel gets from the US in response.

Saudis must pay to cover any deployment forces, but, ideally, also boost our defence against our foes. We held our own against India in May with our own money. India may react if we raise our capacity via Saudi aid. So, it must be high and durable enough to keep outpacing India with its current defence

budget of about \$75 billion and hard reserves of \$700bn (versus Saudi Arabia's \$70bn and \$450bn).

Pacts among states with different foes can turn a partner's foes against one. This risk may be low for the Saudis as they won't fight India directly and have good ties with it but may be high for us. Irking a vicious Israel may risk ruthless covert actions by it, as in Iran, and an indirect tiff with the US as it blindly aids Tel Aviv. We may see more co-action among the foes of both partners, which could hurt us. Our foes, too, are security-centred and can react strongly to even minor risks even if they don't oppose a pact now. So, the pact can make us more secure if Saudi Arabia covers for the replacement of any deployed forces, offsetting increased defence expenditure by India and countering any new threats we may face from Saudi Arabia's foes. In short, it must give us economic aid. This is a big list.

Some see the pact as later including the UAE and Qatar. But this will raise risks too as Israel could attack Qatar again. Some even foresee a Muslim Nato. But Nato binds 32 rich, mostly closely located states (three of them nuclear) that have one key common foe (Russia) and one small border to defend. The 50-plus Muslim states have separate local foes. Most are poor; many have failed due to civil war. They span 13,000 kilometres east to west and 7,500 km north to south. Only a big force can defend them all. But who will lend it troops, key arms and money? A pact among rich Gulf and big Muslim states like Pakistan and Türkiye would

see risks too: technical and financial as well as the risk of irking the foes of pact partners. Such pacts work well for nearby states facing one common big foe. But even that model failed the Arabs in 1967.

There are economic and political risks too. Shunning reforms, our selfish rulers have long chased geostrategic rents to thrive themselves. Shrinking rents were forcing reforms but given this new option they may well stall them again. So, we may fail to benefit from Saudi economic flows. The pact may also make us more of a security state, cut civilian sway and raise autocracy — something that has yet to be debated publicly and in parliament, which in any case has a controversial mandate. We are still paying dearly for past such secret deals struck by set-ups with low legitimacy. A muffled media has largely avoided detailed debate too and toed the official hype by inflating uncertain gains while ignoring the risks.

As the public would have to bear the fallout of such risks, the latter must be debated publicly — more so, if as some say, the pact came out prematurely after the Qatar attack. The key issue is whether a struggling economy torn by many nearer threats can bear new risks to protect rich states in the Middle East quagmire. Both partners risk endless ego-led arms races that give them no edge but to cut other budgets. It is only through debate, necessary changes and consensus that the pact can be enabled to truly aid our masses. Or else, it may even raise external risks and internal repression.

Heart & climate disaster

Dr Rezzan Khan | Tabinda Ashraf Shahid

Not only did the floods wash away fields, livestock, livelihood and homes, they also exacerbated the hunger and malnutrition crisis in the country and trapped communities in less-visible diseases, leaving millions at risk. Public discussion often focuses on communicable diseases in the wake of natural disasters, such as cholera and dengue. But the impact of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) on health is rarely discussed. These include heart, kidney and respiratory conditions, which are aggravated when food, medicine and healthcare systems are disrupted.

Globally, NCDs account for 71 per cent of deaths. They include preventable cardiovascular disease. Over 620m people worldwide are estimated to have CVDs, and LMICs like Pakistan carry the heaviest burden. Between 2025 and 2050, CVD cases worldwide are projected to rise by nearly 90pc. Preventive action must be taken now.

In countries like Pakistan, which frequently experience disasters, ignoring NCDs not only costs lives, it also undermines long-term recovery efforts. About 80pc of heart diseases can be prevented by monitoring behavioural and environmental changes if detected early. South Asian countries, including Pakistan, have a higher risk of CVD than people of other origins as they tend to develop central obesity (fat around the abdomen), which increases insulin resistance, raising the risk of Type 2 diabetes, high triglycerides and low HDL.

The flood crisis this year has killed hundreds

and destroyed vast tracts of farmland. Crop devastation and loss of livestock have driven severe food insecurity, while roads, hospitals and clinics have become either inaccessible or lie in ruins. Relief efforts, understandably centred on immediate injuries and infectious diseases, often fail to address chronic conditions such as hypertension or diabetes, even though uncontrolled blood pressure and cholesterol are among the leading causes of heart failure and stroke.

Research shows that natural disasters often precipitate heart attacks, strokes and acute arrhythmias due to a combination of intense stress, loss of medicines, less diversity of diet and interrupted access to healthcare. Flood survivors are particularly vulnerable because displacement itself creates physical as well as emotional strain for those living in camps, relying on aid and facing trauma.

"Don't Miss a Beat", the 2025 theme for World Heart Day, which was observed yesterday, is a reminder of how critical continuous heart care is during climate disasters. Sudden breaks in treatment for hypertension or diabetes can tip a patient from stability into a crisis. Even missing medication for a few days can trigger this. Stress and trauma can aggravate underlying heart-related conditions, raising the likelihood of strokes or sudden cardiac arrest.

Heart health is inseparable from disaster preparedness, and addressing NCDs as part of the climate disaster response is essential for LMICs. Nutrition is one of the most overlooked aspects of disaster response. Malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies in Pakistan are already

high and could regress further in the months ahead with inflation and poor access to hygiene and sanitation.

Balanced, heart-protective diets are essential for recovery. Relief agencies must distribute foods that provide sustained energy and support cardiovascular health with better choices, including lentils, beans, whole grains, vegetables, seasonal fruit, nuts, powdered milk and modest sources of lean protein such as eggs or fish. Reducing added salt, excessive sugar and fried foods is just as important to avoid aggravating CVD risks.

To prevent deaths due to heart conditions during climate disasters, certain measures must be built into relief strategies. Infectious diseases surveillance teams, be-sside administering vaccinations, can check blood pressure and cholesterol and blood sugar levels during relief operations, especially for people over 40 years, pregnant or post-menopausal women as well as elderly citizens who bear a higher burden of both malnutrition and heart disease. They must be prioritised in food and medicine distribution.

Local volunteers must be trained to support basic cardiovascular and diabetes monitoring and facilitate early referral to medical services. Government and NGOs should stock antibiotics and chronic disease drugs (blood pressure pills, diabetes medication, statins) in mobile clinics and disaster camps. Beyond a robust emergency response, Pakistan must invest in flood defences and a resilient healthcare infrastructure in rural regions most at risk, ensuring that patients have access to regular treatment even under extreme weather conditions.

Federal Minister Rana distributes relief cheques among flood victims

SWABI (APP): Federal Minister for Public Affairs, Rana Mubashar Iqbal here Tuesday distributed relief cheques among flood victims of Swabi district.

He met with the flood affected people at Dalori Topi tehsil of Swabi and handed over relief cheques amounting to Rs16 million to them on behalf of the Federal Government.

Talking to flood victims and media, Federal Minister Rana Mubashar Iqbal said that he came here on the direction of Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif to provide relief to flood affectees of Swabi.

He said Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and his government are standing with flood victims of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa during this difficult time and will continue efforts till the last victim of flood is rehabilitated.

“Whether Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz

Sharif is inside the country or abroad, his heart always beats with people of Pakistan, especially those affected by the recent floods and continued monitoring of flood relief operations especially in KP and Punjab provinces.”

He said that Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz visited the flood affected areas of KP soon after the natural calamity struck northern parts of the province and personally monitored relief operations here.

He said the Federal Government has fulfilled all the promises made with flood victims and distributed relief cheques among flood affectees of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to minimize their difficulties.

Rana Mubashar said the cheques distribution among flood victims has not yet begun in Punjab, but we have distributed cheques among flood-affected victims of KP, showing

ing Federal Govt’s commitment for people of all provinces.

“Humanity is the greatest virtue, and it exists in people here. During difficult times, the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa have provided strong support to their distressed brothers.”

The Minister said Govt was well aware of the difficulties of flood victims and assured that he will present their demands to the Prime Minister as well as the federal government committee to provide full support to the affectees.

“Pakistan was founded on name of Islam, and today our country has been entrusted with the responsibility of protecting the Haramain Sharifain (two holy mosques at Saudia Arabia.

This is a great blessing from Allah Almighty upon our country, and we should be thankful for being entrusted with such a huge responsibility.”



PESHAWAR: Additional IG (Gender & Human Rights) Ms. Aneda Naz, Deputy Chief KP CPWC Ijaz Khan, and UNICEF Child Protection Specialist Sohail Ahmed pose for a group photo with officials and participants during the launch ceremony of the State of Children in Pakistan 2024 Report and Situation Analysis on Children from Minority Religions in Pakistan Report 2024.

Urges protection of Interfaith harmony Minister calls for Sikh pilgrims’ access to Baba Guru Nanak anniversary

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister of State for Religious Affairs Khel Das Kohistani on Tuesday decried India’s religious repression and urged the government to allow Sikh pilgrims to observe Baba Guru Nanak’s anniversary freely, cautioning that Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s rising hate campaign of religious intolerance risks igniting deeper sectarian conflict in the region.

While speaking exclusively to a local news channel, Khel Das Kohistani urged India to respect the religious rights of Sikh pilgrims and ensure their unhindered access to the anniversary celebrations of Baba Guru Nanak in upcoming month of November, adding, such gestures are essential for promoting

mutual respect and understanding between communities.

Kohistani also criticized India’s continued denial of access to Sikh devotees, warning that these restrictions not only violate basic religious freedoms but also threaten the fragile fabric of interfaith harmony in the region.

He appealed for renewed efforts towards peace and coexistence, stressing that safeguarding interfaith harmony must be a priority for both nations.

He said India is even exploiting sports to spread hatred and continues to impose restrictions on religious freedom, further deepening divisions and undermining efforts toward peace and harmony in the region.

Civil society urged to help boost voters turnout in KP LG by-election

PESHAWAR (APP): Joint Provincial Election Commissioner Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Muhammad Faeed Afridi, on Tuesday urged civil society members to play their role in enhancing voter turnout in the third phase of local government by-elections scheduled for October 19.

He was chairing a meeting of the Gender and Disability Electoral Working Group here.

The meeting was attended by representatives of various civil society organizations, including Muhammad Ayub Khan of Blue Veins, Muhammad Javed SPDA, Muhammad Haris Khan, Enlightlab, Muhammad Shafiq, URDO, Roshan Khan Pak

Women, Hasna Ali Da Hawar, Noor Alam CPDI, Director Elections Muhammad Nadeem Khan, and spokesperson of the Provincial Election Commissioner, Sohail Ahmed.

Addressing the participants, Faeed Afridi said the Election Commission was committed to ensuring the participation of all marginalized groups, including women, in the electoral process.

He emphasized the importance of voter awareness in districts where by-elections are being conducted.

He also briefed the participants on the legal framework and procedure for postal ballot papers for persons with disabilities.

Regional director ombudsman Ghotki holds open court

By Tanveer Soomro
MIRPUR MATHELO: On the instructions of Provincial Ombudsman Sindh Muhammad Sohail Rajput, Regional Director Fazal Muhammad Sheikh organized an open court in District Accounts Office Mirpur Mathele to resolve financial and administrative issues faced by serving and retired Government employees.

Regional Director Ombudsman Ghotki Fazal Muhammad Sheikh, District Accounts Officer Ghulam Sarwar Chachar and Accounts Officer Sarfaraz Awan participated in the open court. Dozens of serving and retired employees submitted complaints related to salaries, pension, GP fund, LPR, gratuity and other issues.

Police officer martyred in Karachi gun attack

KARACHI (INP): An assistant sub-inspector (ASI) of police embraced martyrdom when some unidentified assailants who were riding a motorcycle opened fire on him in Karachi.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Malir Abdul Khaliq Pirzada said that the incident occurred during resistance in a dacoity attempt in Bhains Colony located in Karachi. The SSP said that the martyred ASI was going home after performing his duties.

The victim, Qaisar Ali, was performing his duties in Saudabad Police Station, Karachi. All assistants escaped from the scene, leaving behind their motorcycle. Later, the police team took custody of the motorcycle.



HYDERABAD: Vehicles passing through a flooded street after heavy rain showers in the city.



SARGODHA: Director of Political and Press Office, Li Haoteng, along with Pro Vice Chancellor of the University of Sargodha, Prof. Dr. Masood Ahmad Malik, distributing certificates to participants during the Confucius Day Celebrations and Mid-Autumn Festival commemorations organized by the Confucius Institute at the University of Sargodha.

CM suspends DHOs, issues notices to DCs, removes ACs over polio cases

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, expressing displeasure over the detection of two more polio cases in the province, has placed the services of two District Health Officers (DHOs) of Badin and Keamari under suspension, issued disciplinary notices to the Deputy Commissioners (DCs) of Badin and Thatta and removed Assistant Commissioners (ACs) Matli and Mirpur Sakro.

“Polio is a debilitating

disease, and its eradication is our national duty, which everyone must perform diligently. Negligence will not be tolerated,” he stated.

The CM made this statement while presiding over a meeting on polio eradication at the CM House here on Tuesday.

The meeting was attended by Minister of Health Dr Azra Fazal Pechuho, Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah, Secretary to the CM Raheem Shaikh, Secretary of

Health Rehan Baloch, Coordinator EOC Irshad Sodhar, and other concerned officials.

The chief minister said that the new cases, one each from Hyderabad, Badin, and Thatta - all within the Hyderabad Division - highlight a critical reality. The health minister added that despite achieving over 98 per cent coverage in recent vaccination drives, the virus continues to find and paralyse vulnerable children.

480 CCTV cameras to be installed in DIKhan under Safe City Project: Faraz

DERA ISMAIL KHAN (APP): The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has initiated a comprehensive policing and security development plan in Dera Ismail Khan to further strengthen law and order and facilitate citizens under the Safe City Project.

Talking to APP on Tuesday, the Spokesman of Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Faraz Mughal, said that as many as 480 CCTV cameras would be installed at 88 different locations across Dera Ismail Khan for modern surveillance and crime control.

He said the provincial government was also reconstructing seven police stations in the district, with more to be established in the coming phases, while construction work on six new check posts along Dera-Tank Road and four on Darazinda Road was also in progress. Faraz Mughal said that the government had approved the establishment of a traffic headquarters, command and control centre, and facilitation centre in Dera to improve policing standards and ensure better services for the people.

Mine collapsed 3 killed 3 injured

By Khaliq Qureshi
ABBOTTABAD: In a tragic incident occurred in the Rewaiya limits of Makkan, Havelian Tehsil in Abbottabad district where a phosphate mine collapsed during routine operations, claiming the lives of three workers and injuring three others. According to police reports, the workers were engaged in mining activities in a mine operated by contractor Nawab Ali when the structure suddenly caved in. Six workers were trapped under the debris.

Rescue teams swiftly launched an operation, recovering the bodies of three deceased workers.



MULTAN: Japanese student Ms. Hikari Kiran Shah Tokunaga donating sewing machines to flood-affected families.

Mian Amer says:

No development until powers devolved to grassroots level

MULTAN (INP): Dunya Media Group Chairman Mian Amer Mahmood said there will be no development until powers are devolved to the grassroots level.

Addressing a seminar organised by APSSP “Pakistan 2030: Challenges, Opportunities, and New Directions”, he said that Pakistan currently has four provinces, and Punjab makes up 51% of the country.

He said our population is massive, and the government does not have control over it. He said that at the time of Pakistan’s creation, the population of Balochistan was only 1.1 million.

Mian Amer said that Punjab is larger than the other three provinces combined. It has a population of 130 million, and if Punjab were a separate country, it would be the 13th largest

in the world. Similarly, if Sindh were a country, it would be the 32nd largest in the world, he added.

He said that the World Bank published a report in 2019, which explored what Pakistan would look like when it turns 100 years old. It is often said that Southern Punjab has not seen development because it is far from provincial capital Lahore, and this is absolutely true.

Severe traffic jams reported in multiple areas of Karachi

KARACHI (INP): After the latest spell of rain, severe traffic jams were reported in multiple areas of Karachi, leaving commuters stranded for hours.

According to reports, motorcycles broke down on several flooded roads, while traffic flow was badly affected on Shahrah-e-Faisal, causing long queues of vehicles.

In Korangi Industrial Area, overflowing drains led to waterlogging, further slowing down traffic. Similarly, M.A. Jinnah Road witnessed one of the worst traffic snarls with vehicles stuck in long lines.

The gridlock extended to Gurumandir, Lasbela,

and Liaquatabad, where traffic movement was badly disrupted. Congestion was also reported on Saddar, Jamshed Town, Tariq Road, and Mauripur Road.

Other areas hit by jams included Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Korangi, Malir, Kala Pul, Qayyumabad, and Brooks Chowrangi, while heavy traffic was also observed near Jail Chowrangi, Essa Nagri, Hassan Square, and University Road.

Even major arteries like the Lyari Expressway and roads around the National Stadium were choked with traffic following the downpour.

Five bandits gunned down in Narang Mandi police encounter

NARANG MANDI (INP): Five dacoits were killed and two escaped from the scene during a police encounter in Narang Mandi.

The incident took place at Muridke-Narowal Road in Narang Mandi. Police sources said they received credible information that seven dacoits who were riding three motorcycles were looting people at Kartu Stop.

Youth a true strength of Pakistan: Rana

LAHORE (APP): Prime Minister’s Youth Programme (PMYP) Chairman Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan has said that Pakistani youth are the true strength of the nation and the government is committed to equipping them with education, skills, and opportunities to excel both nationally and internationally.

He expressed these views while addressing the Future Synergy Event 3.0 at the University of Lahore on Tuesday.

He said that under the vision of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, the Youth Programme is working day and night to provide free training, internships, and access to global employment opportunities. He emphasized that the government is determined to empower young men and women equally, enabling them to contribute meaningfully to Pakistan’s progress. He added that the government, just three days ago, approved the new National Youth Policy which, he said, will prove to be a game-changer. The policy outlines a comprehensive framework for creating em-

ployment avenues, promoting entrepreneurship, developing digital platforms, expanding sports opportunities, and opening new pathways in emerging fields.

The Chairman stressed that special focus is being given to women, ensuring they benefit fully from new initiatives. “Our priority is to empower women, because no nation can prosper without their active participation,” he said. He further noted that the programme is also investing in e-sports and other innovative sectors to create platforms where Pakistani youth can demonstrate their talent at the global level.

Rana Mashhood underlined that Pakistani youth are being prepared to compete internationally through free training programmes and skill development initiatives. “If you work hard, the doors of the world will open for you,” he remarked, adding that countries where visas were once difficult for Pakistanis are now opening their doors, which recognition of Pakistan’s talent and potential.



HYDERABAD: Artists perform the stage play “Qeid-a-jazab” to captivate the audience during the Hyderabad Theatre Festival 2025 at Sindh Museum.

Chinese-made electric buses continue to roll out across Punjab

ISLAMABAD (INP): Chinese-made electric buses continue to roll out across Punjab under Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif’s Green Initiative, with the newest fleet of 90 inaugurated in Faisalabad.

Maryam Nawaz said she had “brought 150 electric buses for the Faisalabad division. Out of these, 90 will serve Faisalabad, 30 Jhang, and 15 each Chinot and Toba Tek Singh.” She noted that, for the first time, Faisalabad is getting a proper public transport system.

The buses are fully electric, each with 30 seats and capable of carrying up to 80 passengers, a major step toward curbing smog and bringing safe, clean, affordable transit to people across cities.

Since the launch of the pilot project in Lahore in February with 27 buses, the program has quickly expanded across Punjab. Fifteen buses were introduced in Mianwali on September 15, followed by another 15 in Wazirabad on September 17, which now serve nearly 10,000 passengers daily.

On September 19, 33 buses began operating in Sargodha, facilitating

around 25,000 passengers each day. Just days later, on September 22, Sahiwal launched its own electric bus service, marking the start of a new era of clean and modern travel for the city.

With the addition of 90 buses in Faisalabad today, almost 270 buses have been delivered so far, and the number is expected to grow as more fleets are rolled out in the coming months.

The initiative reflects Pakistan’s growing commitment to sustainable transport solutions in partnership with China. In his vision for the Green Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), President Xi Jinping has stressed that development must be rooted in eco-friendly practices.

“We will continue to deepen cooperation in green infrastructure, green energy, and green transport, and step up support for the Green Development Initiative,” President Xi said at the Belt and Road Forum in October 2023. Punjab’s adoption of electric buses is seen as a practical, visible outcome of this agenda, which is combining modernization with environmental stewardship.



MULTAN: Workers loading mud with the help of a machine on tractor trolley after digging during the construction work of old Shujabad Link Road.

ANF recovers over 22kg of drugs worth Rs 2.4m in 6 operations

RAWALPINDI (APP): The Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF), conducting six operations across the country, recovered as many as 22.436 kilograms of drugs worth Rs 2.4 million and arrested six suspects, including an Afghan national, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman on Tuesday.

He informed that 780 grams of hashish were recovered from a vehicle near a university in Islamabad, and two suspects were arrested.

As many as 3 kg of hashish was recovered from a suspect near a university in Hyderabad.

The arrested confessed to selling drugs to students of educational in-

stitutions. During another operation, 6 kg of hashish was recovered from a suspect riding in a passenger van near the Motorway Toll Plaza in Islamabad.

As much as 9.6 kg of hashish and 2 kg of ice were recovered from a vehicle near Kot Abdul Malik Toll Plaza, Sheikhupura, and 2 suspects were arrested.

Similarly, 1.020 kg of hashish was recovered from 2 suspects, including an Afghan national near Singer Chowrangi, Karachi.

As much as 36 grams of cocaine were recovered from the possession of an accused on Ring Road, Peshawar.

Pak ministers in Saudi Arabia to draft economic roadmap after landmark defence pact

RIYADH (INP): A high-level Pakistani delegation led by two ministers is currently visiting Saudi Arabia to advance Islamabad-Riyadh economic ties in a "structured and result-oriented manner," Pakistan's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Ahmad Farooq said.

The delegation, led by Commerce Minister Jam Kamal Khan and National Food Security Minister Rana Tanveer Hussain along with officials from Pakistan's Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC), landed in Riyadh on Sept 25 and is reportedly working on a two-month plan to shape bilateral co-operation. Formed in 2023, the SIFC is a civil-military body that aims to attract foreign investment, especially from Gulf countries.

Pakistan has tried to

strengthen its business-to-business (B2B) relations with the Kingdom in recent years, with both sides signing 34 memorandums of understanding and agreements worth \$2.8 billion during Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's visit to Riyadh last October. The agreements aimed to enhance private sector collaboration and commercial partnerships.

The visit of the Pakistani delegation comes after Pakistan and Saudi Arabia signed a landmark defence pact during Shehbaz Sharif's state visit to Riyadh this month. While the pact is meant to enhance joint deterrence and deepen decades of military and security cooperation, many analysts believe the agreement will likely open new avenues of economic

cooperation between the two nations.

"The visit comes within the framework of the High-Level Taskforce for Economic Cooperation between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, which provides an institutional mechanism to advance bilateral economic ties in a structured and result-oriented manner," Ambassador Farooq told Arab News. "These meetings are part of the ongoing efforts to further deepen cooperation between the two countries across a wide spectrum of sectors, including trade, investment, energy, infrastructure, technology, and human resource development."

Pakistan and Saudi Arabia have close religious, cultural, diplomatic and strategic ties, particularly in trade and defence.



ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Railways & Finance Bilal Azhar Kayani meeting with the Finnish delegation comprising H.E. Hannu Ripatti, Ambassador of Finland to Pakistan, Ms. Piia Karhu, President Minerals at Metso and Willie Eerola, Honorary Consul General of Pakistan in Finland.

Pakistan to meet 10000 MT sesame export target to China this year

ISLAMABAD (INP): In order to meet 10000 metric tonnes (MT) sesame export target to China by the end of 2025, Pakistan-China agriculture cooperation and China-led "contract farming" initiative are in full swing under CPEC-driven agri advancements.

Introduced by Chinese companies especially by China Machinery Engineering Corporation (CMEC) Pakistan, sesame contract farming spreading over 5000 acres is becoming instrumental to increase export volume, growers training on modern liens, transfer of agriculture-based technology, high-income generation to farmers, and revamp of input and output of Agri-infrastructure.

CMEC official Mr Liu told Gwadar Pro that Pakistan's sesame export target to China stands at 10000 metric tonnes.

"Despite the fact that flood devastation may inflict dents to set target but

It is attainable as contract farming has taken effect in the light of CPEC agriculture cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative's agriculture collaborations," he said.

CMEC Pakistan, part of CMEC group (a flagship company of SINOMACH Group, one of the largest manufacturing & trading groups in China), debuted contract farming with around 500 acres in Pakistan in 2020.

"It is expected that sesame exports to China will exceed \$1 billion in the coming years.

Pakistan's exports of sesame seeds to China exceeded \$226 million in 2024, marking a significant development in bilateral trade relations.

This export growth reflects the increasing demand for Pakistani agricultural products in the Chinese market and highlights potential areas for further economic cooperation.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Petroleum, Ali Pervaiz Malik had a farewell meeting at his office with the outgoing Australian High Commissioner, H.E. Mr. Neil Hawkins.

Economy shows stability with moderated inflation, rising manufacturing

ISLAMABAD (APP): Despite disruptions caused by severe floods since July 2025, the country's economy maintained its trajectory of stabilization and growth during the first two months of the current fiscal year, supported by moderating inflation, strong large-scale manufacturing (LSM), improved fiscal discipline, the finance ministry reported here Tuesday.

According to the "Monthly Economic Update and Outlook" for September 2025 issued by the Finance Division on Tuesday, industrial momentum strengthened with the LSM sector posting 9 percent year-on-year growth in July, led by textiles, automobiles, and cement. Cement dispatches rose over 20 percent, while automobile production recorded sharp gains across vehicles.

Inflationary pressures eased considerably, with Consumer Price Index

(CPI) inflation dropping to 3.0 percent in August compared to 9.6 percent a year earlier. On a cumulative basis, inflation stood at 3.5 percent during July-August FY2026, down from 10.4 percent in the same period last year.

Fiscal accounts reflected resilience, with revenue mobilization and expenditure discipline helping to contain the deficit at 0.2 percent of GDP and yielding a primary surplus of Rs. 228.9 billion. Federal Board of Revenue's collection rose 14.1 percent to Rs. 1.66 trillion during the period.

The external sector remained broadly stable. Exports increased 10.2 percent to \$5.3 billion, while remittances climbed 7 percent to \$6.4 billion.

Foreign exchange reserves reached \$19.8 billion by September 19, 2025, including \$14.4 billion with the State Bank of Pakistan.

FTO appoints honorary advisers

RAWALPINDI (APP): The Federal Tax Ombudsman of Pakistan has appointed Sohail Altaf, Group Leader and Former President of Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI), as Honorary Chief Advisor (Business Liaison), and Usman Shaikat, President RCCI, as Honorary Coordinator (Business Liaison), Rawalpindi Region.

This prestigious recognition acknowledges their outstanding services, visionary leadership, and tireless efforts in bridging the gap between the business community and national institutions.

The business community and chamber members have appreciated this appointment, stating that it will greatly contribute to promoting tax culture and helping address the issues faced by the business community.

Gold rates surge to record Rs 406,778 per tola

ISLAMABAD (APP): The price of 24-karat gold reached a historic peak on Tuesday, climbing by Rs3,178 to an unprecedented Rs406,778 per tola as compared to the previous day's closing of Rs403,600.

Figures released by the All Pakistan Sarafa Gems and Jewellers Association showed that the price of 10 grams of 24-karat gold also increased sharply by Rs2,725, settling at Rs348,746 against Rs346,021 a day earlier. Similarly, the price of 10 grams of 22-karat gold rose to Rs319,695 from Rs317,197, reflecting an increase of Rs2,498.

In the international bullion market, gold was quoted at \$3,855 per ounce, higher by \$37 from the previous rate of \$3,818.

Rupee gains 04 paisa against US Dollar

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Rupee on Tuesday appreciated by 04 paisa against the US Dollar in the interbank trading and closed at Rs 281.31 against the previous day's closing of Rs 281.35.

However, according to the Forex Association of Pakistan (FAP), the buying and selling rates of the dollar in the open market stood at Rs 282.25 and Rs 282.35, respectively.

The price of the Euro increased by Rs 0.75 to close at Rs 330.39 against the last day's closing of Rs 329.64, according to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP).



ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar chairing a meeting to review Pakistan's strategy for advancing trade & economic diplomacy.

Pakistan launches sovereign sustainable financing framework

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan has launched its Sovereign Sustainable Finance Framework, aimed at strengthening the country's commitment to sustainability while setting out a structured roadmap for raising green, social, and sustainability-linked financing instruments.

Through this initiative, Pakistan aims to enhance its participation in the global sustainable finance market while fostering the development of a

robust sustainable financing ecosystem, said press release issued by finance ministry here Tuesday.

Developed with Citi Bank and Deutsche Bank as Joint Sustainability Coordinators, the framework aligns with international standards, including ICMA principles for green, social, and sustainability bonds, loan market association principles for green and social loans, and blue bond guidelines from leading global institutions.

Sustained reforms, disaster resilience key to continued economic growth: ADB

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan's improved macroeconomic conditions contributed to an uptick in growth in fiscal year 2025 (ended 30 June 2025), underpinned by increased investment driven by continued policy reforms and economic stability, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) said in a report released on Tuesday.

According to the Asian Development Outlook (ADO) September 2025, ADB's annual flagship economic publication, Pakistan's growth is projected to continue in the medium term, with real gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast at 3.0% in FY2026 as macroeconomic stability deepens through sustained reforms addressing structural vulnerabilities.

Economic reform has progressed considerably under the IMF Extended Fund Facility arrangement that began in October 2024. Policy consistency and climate resilience remain vital to maintaining the growth momentum. Downside risks to the outlook remain high.

"Pakistan's growth prospects remain positive," said ADB Country Director for Pakistan Emma Fan. "However, the country continues to face structural challenges, compounded by recurring disasters such as the recent floods. In this context, consistent reforms and policy implementation are essential for reinforcing policy credibility, sustaining economic momentum, and enhancing the country's resilience, Fan added."



ISLAMABAD: A worker carrying persimmon boxes on his handcart for sale at the Fruit and Vegetable Market in the Federal Capital.

Sindh CM directs to ensure adequate supply of wheat in market

KARACHI (INP): Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah presiding over a meeting on the wheat release policy directed to ensure adequate supply of wheat in the market.

He said sufficient wheat supply in the market would help maintain stable prices of flour and bread. The meeting held at the CM House was attended by Agriculture Minister Muhammad Bux Mahar, Food Minister Makhdoom Mehboobuz Zaman, Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah, and others. He noted that currently 1.2 million tons of wheat stocks are available in Sindh, with the private sector also holding a further 600,000 tons.

CM Shah said these stocks are sufficient for the next four and a half months,

by which time the new harvest is expected.

The chief minister directed the food minister to develop and get approval for a comprehensive wheat release policy. "I want to finalize the wheat release policy and fix the price within this week," he added. Food minister Makhdoom Mahboob briefed the meeting that around 250,000 tons of wheat are normally released to the market each month.

Chief minister stated that to boost production, the government is supporting wheat farmers with 25 acres of land or less. "We are providing these growers with one bag of DAP and two bags of urea fertilizer each," Murad Shah said, adding, "I want to set the support price to encourage a bumper wheat crop."



ISLAMABAD: Women select and purchase household items from a stall displayed by a vendor at the I-9/4 weekly bazaar in the Federal Capital.

Pakistan, Germany to boost energy sector digitization & green transition: Leghari

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Energy Sardar Awaiz Ahmad Khan Leghari on Tuesday reaffirmed Pakistan's resolve to modernize its power sector, highlighting digitization, green energy transition, and research-led reforms as key to achieving sustainable development goals.

He was speaking, during a meeting, with a delegation of the German Development Agency (GIZ), led by Deputy Head of Mission Mr. Arno Kirchhof, which discussed ongoing cooperation in the energy sector, including programmes on decarbonization and digitization of power distribution networks, said a press release.

The German delegation

informed that a €7 million grant programme, launched in 2024 and continuing until the end of 2026, is providing technical assistance to the Ministry of Energy. The initiative aims to digitize Pakistan's electricity distribution system, launch pilot projects, and strengthen the capacity of energy sector officials. Its four key components include regulatory support, renewable energy integration, pilot project implementation, and knowledge sharing.

The delegation further noted that an additional €2.5 million grant had been approved for Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), under which pilot projects and business models would

be developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Energy. Pilot initiatives to digitize two feeders in PESCO and LESCO are already under implementation.

Sardar Awaiz Leghari underscored the government's commitment to modernizing Pakistan's energy sector, terming it a vital national priority.

"Our aim is not only to overcome current challenges but to lay the foundation of a sustainable, transparent, and modern energy system," he said, adding that a comprehensive research and development plan was being prepared to align future energy policy with modern technologies and global best practices.



ISLAMABAD: Maqbool Ahmad Gondal, Auditor General of Pakistan paid a courtesy call on Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue following his assumption of office.

Euro gas acquisition cleared by CCP

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has approved the acquisition of a majority shareholding in M/s. Euro Gas (Private) Limited by M/s. BBE D Pte. Limited.

BBE D Pte. Limited is a Singapore-based investment holding company and a wholly owned subsidiary of BB Energy Group Holding Limited, a global energy trading company. Under a Share Purchase and Share Subscription Agreement, it will acquire majority ownership in Euro Gas (Private) Limited, said a release issued here on Tuesday. Euro Gas (Private) Limited, incorporated in Pakistan in 2022, has not yet commenced commercial operations but intends to enter the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) sector, subject to regulatory approvals. After

the transaction, the sellers will retain a minority shareholding in the company. The CCP conducted a comprehensive review of the transaction and determined that it does not raise competition concerns at this stage. Since Euro Gas has not yet entered the market, the transaction is not expected to create or strengthen a dominant position in the LNG import and distribution sector.

The Commission also noted that Euro Gas's entry into the LNG market could enhance competition and diversify supply in a sector currently dominated by state-owned entities. Based on its assessment, the CCP authorized the proposed transaction, concluding that it is unlikely to substantially lessen competition in the relevant market.



LAHORE: A fruit vendor neatly arranges banana bunches on his roadside setup to catch the eye of passing customers after unloading from delivery truck at a local market.

Power Cement to build 7.5MW captive wind power plant

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan's Power Cement Ltd. on Monday announced what it called the country's "first-ever" green transaction to install a 7.5-megawatt captive wind power plant.

The project is supported by a PKR 1.5 billion financing facility from Bujr Clean Energy Modaraba. It will be con

UBG chief for new federating units to evolve strong federation

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Patron-in-Chief of the Federation Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) United Business Group (UBG), S. M. Tanveer stressed the need for new federating units to evolve strong federation and good governance in the country.

The Patron-in-Chief of the United Business Group (UBG), S. M. Tanveer, has said that even after 78 years we are still standing at the same point; only by changing the system will the country move forward. New provinces should be created and powers must be transferred to the grassroots level, he said in the release issued here on Tuesday. He said that soon to arrange a meeting between the ICCI delegation and the Interior Minister.

"Together we will resolve the issues of the business community."

He expressed these views today while visiting the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry along with a large delegation of traders to congratulate the newly elected President Sardar Tahir Mehmood, Senior Vice President Tahir Ayub, and Vice President Irfan Chaudhry on their remarkable victory.

Addressing the participants, he said that every division has its own product, and each division can generate 5 to 6 billion dollars in exports.

Agreeing with the proposal of former ICCI President Ahsan Buktawari, he said that very soon a representative delegation of traders would meet the Interior Minister, and together they

will resolve issues related to CDA, FBR, and other matters.

He questioned, "If India can have 36 states and the U.S. 50 states, then what are we waiting for?" Despite huge spending on education and health, nothing has been achieved.

Defense expenses amount to 2.3 trillion, while all four provinces combined spend 3.2 trillion on education and health, yet the quality remains very poor. "Our armed forces, however, have raised the nation's head high in the battle for truth."

He stressed, "We are the largest taxpayers; we deserve respect. The only solution to trade deficit, IMF dependency, and domestic debt lies in boosting business, imports, exports, and remittances."

Gaza civil defense says 41 killed in Israeli attacks

Monitoring Desk

NUSEIRAT: Gaza's civil defense agency and hospitals said Tuesday that Israeli forces killed at least 41 people across the territory, including 17 near an aid distribution center.

The Israeli military has pressed on with its offensive even as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu voiced support for US President Donald Trump's plan to end the war.

Officials from Gaza's civil defense agency — a rescue force operating under Hamas authority — said 17 people were shot dead by Israeli forces near an aid distribution site near the Wadi Gaza bridge in central Gaza. Al-Awda hospital confirmed receiving 17 bodies and said 33 people were wounded.

"We received 17 martyrs and 33 injured as a result of Israeli forces targeting gatherings of citizens near the humanitarian aid distribution area near Wadi Gaza Bridge in the central Gaza Strip," the hospital said in a statement.

Thousands of Palestinians congregate daily near food distribution points in Gaza, including those managed by the US- and Israeli-backed Gaza Humanitarian

Foundation. Since launching in late May, its operations have been marred by regular reports of Israeli forces firing on those waiting to collect aid.

UN slams Israeli strikes on displaced Palestinians collecting firewood in besieged Gaza

UNITED NATIONS (APP): As Israel presses on its genocidal war in Gaza City, deadly strikes on displaced Palestinians — including people collecting firewood for cooking — raise further concerns about attacks on civilians, the UN human rights office, OHCHR, said in a statement.

OHCHR in the Occupied Palestinian Territory expressed dismay that "the Israeli military is destroying Gaza City, forcing Palestinians to flee and then killing them when they seek shelter in Middle Gaza, especially in and around An Nuseirat Camp."

Amid the ongoing displacement and influx of internally displaced persons (IDPs), Israel intensified strikes on the northwestern part of Middle Gaza governorate, covering An Nuseirat and Az Zawaida areas.

Officials recorded at least 12 incidents there during the past five days, which killed at least 89 Palestinians, most of whom appeared to be civilians — including many women and children.

The incidents included strikes on IDPs tents, homes and a crowded market in An Nuseirat Camp where at least 17 Palestinians were reportedly killed.



Foreign ministers of Ukraine, Poland and France attend the Warsaw Security Forum.

Qatar says meeting on Gaza plan to be held with Hamas, Turkey

DOHA (AFP/APP): Qatar said it was set to hold talks with Hamas negotiators, Egypt and Turkey Tuesday to discuss US President Donald Trump's Gaza plan, adding that Hamas would study it "responsibly".

Trump unveiled a plan in Washington calling for a ceasefire, release of hostages by Hamas within 72 hours, disarmament of the group and a gradual Israeli withdrawal from Gaza, followed by a post-war transitional authority headed by the president himself.

Qatar and Egypt handed the proposal to Hamas on Monday, and "the (Hamas) negotiating delegation promised to study it responsibly," foreign ministry spokesman Majed al-

Ansari told a press conference.

"There will also be another meeting today, also attended by the Turkish side, with the negotiating delegation."

The head of Egyptian intelligence and his Turkish counterpart were in Doha he said, to take part in negotiations.

"It is still too early to speak about responses, but we are truly optimistic that this plan, as we said, is a comprehensive one," Ansari added.

Following the announcement on Monday, Qatari authorities said they were ready to press for a truce in the Palestinian territory following an Israeli apology for its unprecedented strike targeting Hamas leaders in Doha earlier this month.

Dozens missing, three dead in Indonesia school collapse

SIDOARJO (AFP/APP): Searchers raced Tuesday to rescue dozens of people still believed trapped a day after the collapse of an Islamic school building in Indonesia that has already left three dead, authorities said.

Tearful families desperate for news of their loved ones crowded around the flattened multi-storey building, as rescuers navigated a maze of concrete rubble in the town of Sidoarjo on Indonesia's main Island Java.

The building gave way on Monday, where students were gathered for afternoon prayers, said local reports, citing a witness.

Imron, a father of one of the missing people, told local broadcaster Metro TV from near the site that he was waiting for his child to be rescued.

Australian Prime Minister visits Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi

ABU DHABI (WAM/APP): Anthony Albanese, Prime Minister of Australia, visited Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi alongside his partner Jodie Haydon. They were accompanied by Fahad Obaid Al Taftaq, UAE Ambassador to Australia, Ridwan Joudat, Australian Ambassador to the UAE, and senior members of the Australian delegation. During the visit, the Australian Prime Minister and the accompanying delegation were accompanied by Dr. Yousif Al Obaidli, Director-General of the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque Centre, who led them through the mosque's expansive halls and courtyards. He outlined the history of the mosque's establishment and its role as a cultural landmark embodying the values of coexistence.

ment of silence in tribute to the heroes who sacrificed their lives for the liberation of the Chinese people and the development of the People's Republic of China.

Nine large flower baskets were placed in front of the Monument to the People's Heroes. Xi and other leaders walked up to the foot of the monument, where he straightened the ribbons on the baskets. Then, they walked around the monument to pay their tributes.

The baskets, with ribbons reading "Eternal Glory to the People's Heroes," were presented in the name of the CPC Central Committee; the National People's Congress Standing Committee; the State Council; the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference; the Central Military Commission; non-Communist parties.



A strong earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 6.7 shook the central Philippines, sending people dashing out into streets, damaging a stone church and knocking out power in some areas.



People walk outside the heavily-damaged Al-Farouq mosque in Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip.

After two years of war, Americans' back Palestinians over Israel for first time: Poll

NEW YORK (APP): Support for Israel has plummeted in the United States, its closest ally, after nearly two years of the Israeli genocidal war in Gaza, according to a new poll.

The poll, by The New York Times and Siena University, said that more respondents backed the Palestinians over Israel for the first time since the survey began asking the question in 1998.

The poll was in line with other recent surveys showing Israel's support dropping among swathes of the American public.

Disapproval of the war appears to have prompted a striking reassessment by American voters of their broader sympathies in the decades-old conflict in the region.

In the aftermath of the Hamas-led attacks on Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, American voters broadly sympathized with Israelis over Palestinians, with 47% siding with Israel and 20% with Palestinians.

In the new poll, 34% said they sided with Israel and 35% with Palestinians. Thirty-one percent said they were unsure or backed

both equally.

A majority of American voters now oppose sending additional economic and military aid to Israel, a stunning reversal in public opinion since the Oct. 7 attacks.

About 6 out of 10 voters said that Israel should end its military campaign, even if the remaining Israeli hostages were not released. And 40% of voters said Israel was intentionally killing civilians in Gaza, nearly double the number of voters who agreed with that statement in the 2023 poll.

US deports 'planeload' of Iranians in rare cooperation with Iran: NYT

NEW YORK (APP): The United States deported a planeload of about 100 Iranians to Tehran in one of the Trump administration's starkest migrant returns, marking a rare act of cooperation with Iran after months of talks, the New York Times reported Tuesday. Citing two senior Iranian officials involved in the negotiations and a US official with knowledge of the plans, the report said a US-chartered flight took off from Louisiana on Monday night and was scheduled to arrive in Iran via Qatar on Tuesday.

The White House and the U.S. State Department have so far made no comments. U.S. President

Donald Trump plans to deport a record number of people living in the U.S. without legal status, arguing that it is necessary after what he describes as high illegal border crossings under his Democratic predecessor, Joe Biden. However, his administration has struggled to increase deportation levels, even as it has created new avenues to send migrants to countries other than their own. The identities of the Iranians and their reasons for attempting to immigrate to the U.S. were not immediately clear, the paper said, adding that some had volunteered to leave after being in detention centers for months.

Ukraine says Russia drone strike kills family of 4 in Sumy

KYIV (AFP/APP): Ukraine said on Tuesday that a Russian overnight drone strike had killed a family of four in the northeastern Sumy region.

Oleg Grygorov, the head of the regional military administration, said Russian forces had hit a residential building in the village of Chernychyn, in the Krasnopillia community. "A couple with two young children lived in this house. Unfortunately, no one managed to escape," Grygorov wrote on the Telegram platform. "Rescuers (recovered) the bodies of four deceased people from under the rubble."



Passers-by watch as workers remove fallen trees and electric polls from a road after Typhoon Bualoi made landfall in Vietnam's Nghe An province.

YouTube to pay \$22 million in settlement with Trump

NEW YORK (AFP/APP): YouTube has agreed to pay \$22 million to settle a lawsuit filed by President Donald Trump after the company suspended his account over the January 6, 2021 attack on the Capitol, according to a court filing Monday. The online video platform, a subsidiary of Google parent Alphabet, is the latest Big Tech firm to settle with Trump after he lodged legal cases challenging his broad deplatforming after January 6.

The \$22 million will go toward Trump's latest

construction project at the White House, through a nonprofit called Trust for the National Mall, which is "dedicated to restoring, preserving, and elevating the National Mall, to support the construction of the White House State Ballroom," per a notice of settlement filing in a California federal court.

Besides the \$22 million to Trump's ballroom venture, YouTube agreed to payments of \$2.5 million to a host of other Trump allies, including the American Conservative Union.

Korea to launch Nuri space rocket on November 27

SEOUL (WAM/APP): The Korea Aerospace Administration (KASA) said Tuesday it has finalized the date for the fourth launch of the country's homegrown Nuri space rocket. The Nuri, formally the Korea Space Launch Vehicle II (KSLV-II), will be launched on 27th November.

A backup launch window has been set between 28th November and 4th December. The rocket will lift off from the Naro Space Centre in the southern coastal village of Goheung between 12:54 am and 1:14 am, with the exact time to be decided on the previous day. Alongside the main satellite, the rocket will carry 12 smaller satellites, which are set to be delivered to the space centre by the end of October.

5.0-magnitude earthquake hits Papua New Guinea

PORT MORESBY (WAM/APP): A 5.0-magnitude earthquake struck Papua New Guinea on Tuesday, US Geological Survey (USGS) reported.

The quake's epicentre was located 127 kilometres west of Kokopo at a depth of 68.2 kilometres.

Papua New Guinea lies within the Pacific Ring of Fire, an area known for high seismic and volcanic activity and home to 90 percent of the world's active volcanoes.

GCC Secretary General welcomes US President's plan to end crisis in Gaza strip

RIYADH (QNA/APP): Secretary General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Jassem Mohamed Albudaiwi welcomed the plan announced by US President Donald Trump regarding ending the war in the Gaza Strip. The Secretary General considered that any international effort aimed at ending the crisis and putting a stop to the humanitarian catastrophe in the Gaza Strip deserves praise, engagement, and contribution.

He affirmed that a ceasefire, the direct and rapid lifting of restrictions on aid delivery, preventing the displacement of the population from the Strip and protecting them, are priorities that should be at the core of any responsible international action.

He stressed that the

success of any initiative is contingent on the seriousness of its implementation and on ensuring the protection of civilians and providing suitable conditions for stability. GCC Secretary General indicated that the Cooperation Council views the proposed steps positively, as they could contribute to paving a genuine and just path that guarantees the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, foremost among them the establishment of their independent state on the June 4, 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital. He also underscored the Cooperation Council's readiness to cooperate with regional and international partners to support every effort that leads to ending the crisis in the Gaza Strip.

Venezuela's Maduro ready to declare state of emergency over US 'aggression'

CARACAS (AFP/APP): Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro said Monday he is ready to declare a state of emergency over the threat of US "aggression," following a spate of deadly US strikes on suspected Venezuelan drug boats.

"Today the consultation process began...to declare a state of emergency in accordance with the constitution and protect our people, our peace, and our stability if Venezuela were attacked by the American empire, attacked militarily," Maduro said in a televised address.

Earlier in the day, Vice President Delcy Rodriguez told foreign diplomats that Maduro had signed a decree giving himself "special powers" as head of state to act in matters of defense and security in the event the United States "dares to attack our homeland."

A government

source, however, told AFP that Maduro had not yet signed the document.

"The vice president presented the document to show that everything was ready and that the president can decree it at any time," the source said, speaking on condition of anonymity. The left-wing authoritarian Maduro placed Venezuela on high alert over a major US military deployment near his country's coast.

US President Donald Trump has deployed eight warships and a nuclear-powered submarine to the southern Caribbean as part of a stated plan to combat drug trafficking, but which appears particularly aimed at pressuring Maduro. US forces have destroyed at least three suspected drug boats in the Caribbean in recent weeks, killing 14 people in a move decried as "extrajudicial execution" by UN experts.

UK plans tougher rules for migrants seeking to stay in country

LONDON (AFP/APP): Britain's interior minister Monday proposed tough new rules for migrants seeking to settle in the UK, as the ruling Labour party bolstered its fight against the hard right at its annual conference. Migrants looking to remain indefinitely will have to have a job, not claim benefits, and undertake volunteer community work under plans designed to claw back support among voters drawn to the anti-immigrant Reform UK party, whose popularity is soaring. Confronting Reform, led by firebrand Nigel Farage, is the main theme of Labour's four-day gathering in Liverpool, northwest England. Currently, migrants with family in Britain and who have lived there for five years qualify for "indefinite leave to remain" — permanent residence — as do those who have lived legally in the UK for 10 years on any type of visa.

Eligible applicants meeting those thresholds also earn the right to live, work and study in the UK and to apply for benefits and British citizenship. But in a major policy shift, interior minister Shabana Mahmood was to tell the Labour conference that migrants would have to make social security contributions, claim no benefits, have a clean criminal record and volunteer in their community in order to stay.

The government will consult on the changes later this year, according to a Labour party press release. The announcement comes shortly after Reform, which is currently leading in national polls, said it would get rid of "indefinite leave to remain" altogether, with migrants instead required to reapply for visas every five years.

This would apply to the hundreds of thousands of people who already have the right to remain. "These measures draw a clear dividing line between the Labour government and Reform, whose recent announcement... would force workers, who have been contributing to this country for decades, to leave their homes and families."

Typhoon Bualoi inflicts death, lasting floods on Vietnam

HANOI (AFP/APP): Lingering flooding from Typhoon Bualoi devastated homes, infrastructure and farmland across swathes of Vietnam on Tuesday, with the death toll rising to 26 and dozens more missing.

Rain fell from the storm inundated the capital Hanoi, bringing large parts of the city to a standstill and rerouting dozens of flights.

Bualoi made landfall in central Vietnam late Sunday, packing winds of 130 kilometres (80 miles) per hour, and remained over land for almost 12 hours.

It arrived in Vietnam after battering parts of the Philippines, where 400,000 people were forced to evacuate their homes.

The death toll in the Philippines rose to 37 on Tuesday following the recovery of 10 additional bodies in the devastated central island of Masbate. Seven of the latest victims were crushed by falling trees, regional disaster offi-

cials said. "This typhoon — the 10th that hit Vietnam this year — was a serious natural disaster, bringing a combination of strong winds, huge flash floods and widespread flooding," said Mai Van Khiem, head of the National Centre for Hydro-Meteorological Forecasting.

Its lengthy duration over Vietnam was "very rare", Khiem added.

The typhoon and its aftermath had killed 26 people and injured more than 100 in Vietnam by Tuesday, the environment ministry said, with 30 others missing.

More than 136,000 houses were damaged, and several thousand families were stranded in central Ha Tinh province, the ministry added.

"I have not experienced such a strong typhoon in several decades," Le Hong Lyuen, 62, from Nghe An province told AFP. "My house and garden are all flooded."

Speakers emphasize shared future of Pakistan, Afghanistan rooted in peace, culture, economic connectivity

ISLAMABAD (APP): Speakers at the Pak-Afghan Dialogue 2025 emphasized that the future of Pakistan and Afghanistan should be shaped not by weapons but by ideas, mutual trust and people-centric policies.

The high-level dialogue brought together political leaders, diplomats, academics and civil society members from both countries, who unanimously called for deeper cooperation in education, culture, economy, and counter-extremism efforts.

Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Commerce Rana Ihsaan Afzal highlighted the shared history, civilization, and cultural ties between the two nations, referring to com-

mon landmarks such as the Silk Road and the Khyber Pass. "Our people have exchanged values, poetry, and ideas for centuries. It is now time to invest in education, language, culture, literature, music, and healthcare collaboration," he said. He proposed the establishment of cultural exchange offices to institutionalize these ties.

Chairperson and President of the South Asian Strategic Stability Institute (SASSI) University, Dr. Maria Sultan, stressed the importance of regional economic integration through projects like the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI)

pipeline.

In her presentation, she said Pakistan's main concern was the weapons left behind in Afghanistan after the US withdrawal from the country.

She noted that over \$7 billion worth of weapons remain unaccounted for, posing a serious threat to Pakistan's border security. "Pakistan's biggest issue is that Afghan soil must not be used for terrorism in Pakistan," she warned, urging international coordination to track and destroy the missing military equipment. Afghan Member of Parliament Fawzia Koofi acknowledged Pakistan's efforts in supporting a stable and prosperous Afghanistan.



ISLAMABAD: The Uzbek delegation led by H.E. Nuriddin Ismoilov, Speaker of the Legislative Chamber of Uzbekistan visited National Emergencies Operation Centre, NDMA Headquarters.

SC declares IHC order barring Justice Jahangiri from judicial work 'null and void'

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Supreme Court (SC) on Tuesday declared Islamabad High Court's (IHC) Sept 16 decision to bar Justice Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri from judicial work "null and void", a day after the apex court ordered the decision's suspension.

Yesterday, the court adjourned the hearing to 30 September and issued notices to all the respondents, as well as the Attorney General of Pakistan (AGP) Mansoor Usman Awan, to appear before the court.

On September 16, the IHC had restrained Justice Jahangiri from exercising his judicial powers as a two-judge bench issued the interim order while hearing a writ petition filed under Article 199 of the Constitution. Justice Jahangiri then challenged the decision

in the SC, pleading for the restraining order to be set aside.

The matter centres on a letter that began circulating last year on social media, purportedly from the University of Karachi's controller of examinations, regarding the judge's law degree.

Resuming the hearing on Tuesday, the five-member Constitutional Bench headed by Justice Aminuddin Khan and comprising Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail, Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar, Justice Hassan Azhar Rizvi and Justice Shahid Bilal Hassan — took up Justice Jahangiri's petition.

AGP Awan appeared before the court and said, "A judge cannot be barred from judicial work through an interim order."

PHE Minister strongly condemns explosion in Quetta

QUETTA (APP): Balochistan Minister for Public Health Engineering (PHE) and WASA Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran on Tuesday strongly condemned the blast in Quetta.

He said that this cowardly act is a failed conspiracy of terrorists. Appreciating the timely and courageous action of the forces, he said that the security agencies averted major losses by killing four terrorists.

Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran expressed deep sorrow and grief with the families of those martyred in the blast and said that the sacrifices of the martyrs would not go in vain, their blood would be the guarantee of peace.



QUETTA: Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandokhel in a group photo with members of three-day conference on human rights and media literacy organized by Individual Lands.

Govt committed to timely completion of public welfare projects: DC Kohlu

QUETTA (APP): Deputy Commissioner Kohlu Azeem Jan Dummer on Tuesday said that the Balochistan government is committed to the timely completion of public welfare projects.

He said this while chairing a meeting of the District Development Committee.

Heads of various departments and district representatives attended the meeting.

The meeting was also approved important several

projects for district development, including solarization of DHQ Hospital and Girls Degree College Kohlu, construction of bridges on Sonari Nallah and Manjhra Nallah, construction and repair of Kohlu Sibi Road, establishment of modern sewage system in the city, water supply schemes in different areas, solarization schemes of mosques, upgrade of boys hostel of FC School and College, construction of additional classrooms in different schools.

DC Jaffarabad reviews preparations for national polio immunization drive

Independent Report
JAFFARABAD: Deputy Commissioner Jaffarabad, Khalid Khan, conducted a detailed review of the two-day training program for Union Council Medical Officers (UCMOs) and Area In-Charges ahead of the National Polio Immunization Drive (NID) scheduled from October 13 to 16, 2025. During the review, Dr. Abdul Ghaffar Solangi briefed the Deputy Commissioner on the various stages of training and ongoing campaign activities. District Health Officer Jaffarabad, Dr. Shaukat Ali Khosa, was also present.

Deputy Commissioner Khalid Khan emphasized that the success of the polio campaign is a top priority for both the govern-

ment and the district administration. He directed that all available resources be deployed to ensure effective implementation. He noted that with the onset of winter, the risk of polio virus spread increases, making it a national responsibility to ensure the campaign's success. He instructed Area In-Charges and UCMOs to perform their duties under effective strategies, ensuring that every child receives the polio vaccine within the scheduled days, leaving no room for gaps in campaign outcomes. He also urged officers to strictly monitor field teams and implement public awareness campaigns to educate parents on their responsibility to vaccinate children against polio.

Rauf Rind condemns Quetta blast, terms it inhumane act

QUETTA (APP): Senior Pakistan Peoples Party leader and former provincial minister Mir Abdul Rauf Rind on Tuesday strongly condemned the Quetta blast, calling it a cowardly and inhumane act. In his condemnation statement, he said that targeting innocent citizens is proof of the terrorists' failure and desperation; such attacks are not only a threat to national security but also to regional peace.

He said that anti-national elements could not weaken the morale of the people; the Pakistani nation has always shown unity, sacrifice and solidarity against terrorists and would not allow such elements to succeed in the future either.



ISLAMABAD: Acting President Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani interacting with senators from different political parties at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Positive use of media essential for preventing fake news: Governor

QUETTA (APP): Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandokhel on Tuesday said that disinformation and fake news are also having a very negative impact on society, which could be prevented by the proper use of media and the promotion of positive attitudes among people.

He expressed these views while inaugurating a three-day conference on human rights and media literacy organized by Individual Lands.

This conference was also attended by teachers from various public sector universities, media persons and members of civil society. Governor Jaffar Khan said that the media is full of fake news, which is also a challenge for governments around the world to control rumors and propaganda.

He said that in this regard, legislation proves to be particularly difficult be-

cause it finds a delicate balance between freedom of expression, which is a fundamental right enshrined in the constitution of every country.

On the other hand, a complete ban on social media raises global concerns; therefore, through regular seminars, conferences and workshops, etc., a sense of responsibility and positive use of media could be created to reduce the negative impact of fake news, he said.

He said that there is a dire need for media in our daily lives, but familiarity with information technology and control over the negative effects of media are also very important.

Governor Mandokhel said that there are positive and constructive aspects of criticism; criticism leads to improvement.

The participants pointed out the shortcomings of social media, but the

methods of remediation were not made clear.

Along with telling the symptoms of the disease, its diagnosis and treatment are also essential. Thus, there are many benefits of media; it is an effective source of knowledge and information, and it keeps us informed about the changing conditions of the world. University students are making full use of all the scientific and research materials available online for education and research. It is true that with the advent of social media, the light of traditional press and news channels has also been dimmed.

In response to a question, the Governor of Balochistan said that disinformation and fake news also have a very negative impact on society, which could be prevented by the proper use of media and the promotion of positive attitudes among people.

Bodies of young man, woman found, levies launch investigation

Independent Report
HARNAI: A tragic incident was reported in Shahrag's Ambo area, where Levies personnel recovered the bodies of a young man and a young woman.

According to Levies control, the deceased were identified as Faizullah, son of Qahir, resident of Pishin's Bostan area, aged around 22, and Samina Bibi, daughter of Abdul Salam, resident of Shahrag, aged around 23.

The bodies were shifted to Civil Hospital Shahrag for medico-legal formalities. While the exact cause of the deaths could not be immediately determined, Levies officials confirmed that an investigation is underway to ascertain the circumstances surrounding the incident.



SIBI: Provincial Minister for Commerce and Industries addressing the laptop distributing ceremony amongst the topper students of Metric and Intermediate.

Bakht Kakar praises security forces for prompt and decisive action

QUETTA (APP): Balochistan Health Minister Bakht Muhammad Kakar has strongly condemned terrorist attack in Quetta, extending heartfelt condolences to the families of the victims and prayers for the swift recovery of the injured.

Bakht Muhammad Kakar praised the security forces for their prompt and decisive action in the aftermath of the blast.

He commended their timely and effective response, which led to the elimination of four terrorists involved in the incident.

"The sacrifices made by our people and our security forces will always be remembered," he added, reaffirming the nation's unwavering resolve against terrorism. He emphasized that such cowardly acts cannot shake the morale of the people. Minister Bakht Kakar reiterated that the government's top priority remains a peaceful Balochistan.



QUETTA: Inspector General Police Balochistan Muhammad Tahir being briefed by DIG CTD Aitzaz Ahmed Gorya about FC Headquarter Pishin blast during their visit to site of blast.

President Zardari extends warm greetings to China on its 76th National Day

ISLAMABAD (APP): President of Pakistan, Asif Ali Zardari on Tuesday extended warm and heartfelt congratulations to the Government and the people of the People's Republic of China on the occasion of their 76th National Day, commemorating the founding of the nation in 1949.

In his official message issued from the Presidency, President Zardari noted that the people of Pakistan

join their Chinese brothers and sisters in celebrating this significant occasion, which he described as a testament to China's remarkable journey of progress, unity, and national advancement.

He praised the visionary leadership of President Xi Jinping, crediting it with propelling China to new heights in innovation, global engagement, and sustainable development.

Education minister terms PSL standardization historic milestone

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training, Dr Khalid

language was not merely a tool of communication but a "language of rights, culture and identity." Dr.



Maqbool Siddiqui, on Tuesday described the standardization of Pakistan Sign Language (PSL) as a historic milestone for the full recognition and inclusion of Deaf Pakistanis in national life.

Addressing the National Consultation on the Standardization of PSL, the Minister welcomed provincial representatives, academia, civil society, UNICEF officials, media, and members of the Deaf community, said a press release. He said that sign

Siddiqui noted that the lack of a standardized PSL had long restricted access to education, employment, justice and public services for Deaf citizens.

The consultation, he added, would lay the foundation for a national framework to develop unified curricula, certify interpreters, ensure consistent use across schools, media and government institutions, affirming the cultural and linguistic identity of the deaf community.

Balochistan declares emergency at Civil Hospital, Trauma Center Quetta after a deadly blast

QUETTA (APP): Balochistan Health Department has declared emergency at Civil Hospital and Trauma Center Quetta to provide best health care to the injured persons after an explosion reportedly injured several people in Quetta.

According to a statement from the Media Coordinator of the Health Department of Balochistan, Dr Waseem Baig, the Provincial Health Minister Bakht Muhammad Kakar, alongside Health Secretary Muejeb ur Rehman, announced the emergency response to ensure swift mobilization of medical resources for the injured.

Minister Bakht Kakar directed Medical Director of the Trauma Center, Dr. Arbab Kamran, and Medical Superintendent of Civil Hospital, Dr. Hadi Kakar to provide immediate and comprehensive care to all victims.

According to official reports, 21 injured persons have been shifted to the two facilities, with four in critical condition. Minister Bakht Kakar said that medical teams are working around the clock, with operating theaters at both hospitals fully functional.

Domki awards laptops to topper students to promote modern education

Independent Report
SIBI: The Sibi district administration held a special ceremony at the Deputy Commissioner's Office conference hall to encourage students with outstanding academic performance. Twenty brilliant male and female students from matriculation and intermediate examinations were awarded laptops.

Provincial Minister for Industries and Commerce Sardar Kohyar Khan Domki, who served as the chief guest, distributed the laptops and said that talented students are the true asset and architects of the nation. He added that the provision of laptops would connect them with modern educational facilities and secure their future.

Khuzdar traders call off strike after successful talks on power loadshedding issue

Independent Report
KHUZDAR: The All Parties Citizens Action Committee of Khuzdar has withdrawn its call for a shutdown and wheel-jam strike after successful negotiations with the administration and Quetta Electric Supply Company (QESCO) officials.

The strike had been announced against prolonged and unannounced electricity load-shedding that severely disrupted business and daily life. Two rounds of negotiations were held, where Deputy Commissioner Khuzdar Yasir Iqbal Dashti played a key mediating role. The first round, hosted by President Anjuman Tajirun Khuzdar Hafiz Hameedullah Mengal, highlighted public grievances, while the second round was held at the DC office with QESCO Super-

intendent Engineer Karam Bakhsh and other officials. QESCO representatives acknowledged the difficulties caused by power outages and assured improved supply while urging timely bill payments to reduce financial shortfalls. Following these assurances, the Citizens Action Committee announced withdrawal of the strike call scheduled for October 1 and 2.

Committee Chairman Bashir Ahmed Jatak said, "This is a victory for the people, as constructive dialogue has led to relief for citizens. We will continue positive engagement for public issues in the future." The outcome was widely welcomed as a demonstration of constructive cooperation between Khuzdar's citizens, traders, and the district administration.