

DAILY MIRROR

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10 FC jawans martyred, 3 injured in Fitna al-Khawarij attack in D.I Khan

ONLINE

RAWALPINDI: 10 Jawans of Frontier Constabulary (FC) have been martyred while 3 have been injured in a Fitna al-Khawarij attack on FC check post in Dera Ismail Khan.

According to interior ministry spokesperson 10 Frontier Constabulary personnel were martyred and three other injured in a Fitna al-Khawarij attack on the checkpoint in Dera Ismail Khan.

He said that the Fitna al-Khawarij taking advantage of darkness launched an attack using heavy weapons on a FC checkpoint. As a result, 10 FC men fighting the terrorist

martyred while three others injured.

The spokesman said that the FC jawans foiled the attack.

The martyred were identified as Naib Sobedar Muhammad Jan, Naik Arif, Lance Naik Saeedur Rehman.

Sepoy Akhundzada, Sepoy Hazratullah, Sepoy Mushtaq, Sepoy Abdul Samad, Sepoy Imran, Sepoy Baseer and Sepoy Mehtab.

6 among the martyrs belong to South Waziristan and 4 were from district Kirk.

The injured FC Jawans were shifted to CMH Dera Ismail Khan for treatment.

The injured include Naik Hamza, Sepoy Hassan and Sepoy Sabir Ayoub.



Quetta: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir, Sarfraz Bugti chairing a meeting regarding progress to the Quetta development package and the measures taken about the beauty of Quetta city.

ATC grants bail to Imran's sisters Uzma, Aleema in D-Chowk protest case

INP

ISLAMABAD: The Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) Islamabad on Friday granted bail to PTI founder Imran Khan's sisters, Aleema Khan and Uzma Khanum, following their detention during a protest in the capital amid Section 144 restrictions.

Earlier this month, hundreds of PTI activists, including senior leaders and the two sisters, had gathered at multiple locations in the capital, defying heavy police blockades and road closures, while authorities dug trenches and placed iron nails on a stretch of the Islamabad-Peshawar motorway to prevent protesters from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa from reaching the capital.

Despite the placing of hundreds of containers to secure entry points and key areas across the capital and the imposition of Section 144, demonstrators managed to converge at various sites, including the edge of the high-security Red Zone, at D-Chowk.

Section 144 is a legal provision that restricts gatherings of four or more people in an area to prevent public disorder or unrest.

Police rounded up over 100 PTI members, including Imran's two sisters for allegedly instigating unrest and causing damage to public property.

Violent clashes between protesters and law enforcement officials were reported throughout the day, with several instances of stone-pelting and tear gas shelling being witnessed.

Following the incident, a case was registered against Aleema and Uzma under terrorism provisions in connection with D-Chowk violence by Kohsar police.

Muhammad Aurangzeb meets IDB chief, lauds support for Pakistan

By Khawaja Farooq

WASHINGTON: Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb held a meeting with the President of the Islamic Development Bank Dr. Muhammad Sulaiman Al Jasser in Washington.

He acknowledged the Bank's role as a reliable partner in Pakistan's progress and appreciated its financing in various sectors including energy, transportation, education, and health.

Muhammad Aurangzeb lauded Bank's investment in the Mohmand Dam, along with other members of the Arab Coordination Group, as a model for co-financing similar or larger projects in the future.

The finance minister also held a meeting with the leadership of Mashreq Bank. He appreciated the Bank's longstanding partnership with Pakistan and highlighted the

performance of the economy over the past year.

Aurangzeb expressed satisfaction that the Bank is expanding its operations in Pakistan and would soon launch a new office. Meanwhile, Muhammad Aurangzeb also held a meeting with the representatives of JP Morgan Bank in Washington.

He provided an overview of the improvements in Pakistan's economic outlook and emphasized

the importance of the IMF's Extended Fund Facility for lending permanence to macroeconomic stability and executing structural reforms.

The finance minister highlighted significant reforms in taxation, privatization, and the overhauling of state-owned enterprises. He also expressed Pakistan's resolve to tap into International Capital Markets through the issuance of its inaugural Panda Bond.

No intention of joining govt: Fazlur Rehman

NEWS DESK

CHINIOT: Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (F) chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman says pitting one province against another reflects a non-political mindset.

Talking to media in Chiniot on Friday, he said that 56 clauses in the amendment were reduced to 22, with five added back, highlighting the accomplishments of this change.

"I have no intention of joining the government. I am unaware of any such proposal; strong resistance will be made against the 27th constitutional amendment," he added.

Fazl noted that the 27th constitutional amendment is not simple. He refrained from commenting on Sheikh Rashid's remarks, stating that he fundamentally does not believe in retaliatory politics, filing cases against politicians, or banning

political protests.

The JUI-F chief also remarked that Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa has had a productive tenure and congratulated the incoming Chief Justice, wishing him success in delivering justice to the nation.

Commenting on broader political dynamics, he clarified that JUI-F opposes revenge-driven politics and cases targeting politicians. "We believe in political freedom and do not support restrictions on protests," he said.

Maulana Fazlur Rehman highlighted the importance of increasing resources to address public issues. Regarding the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) meeting, he had requested both opposing sides to cooperate.

The governments should avoid protests and disruption, he said, urging a return to democratic process through re-elections if necessary.



WASHINGTON DC: Federal Minister for Finance & Revenue senator Muhammad Aurangzeb met Anna Bjerde MD of Operation at the World Bank.

Govt taking concrete steps to end polio in Balochistan: CS

APP

Quetta: Balochistan Chief Secretary (CS) Shakeel Qadir Khan on Friday said that the provincial government is taking concrete steps to eradicate polio from the province.

He said this while presiding over a high-level meeting regarding anti-polio campaign in the province.

The progress of the previous anti-polio campaign and the preparations for the upcoming campaign were reviewed in the meeting. Addressing the meeting, the Chief Secretary said that eradicating polio from the province is a common responsibility of all of us. He said that scholars, parents, civil society and people associated with the media should play their role in the national anti-polio campaign because this is a common problem of all and we all have to play a vanguard role to end this deadly virus.

He said that by giving two drops of polio

vaccine, we have to protect our children from permanent disability Children are our future and we will protect our future. The Secretary said that the polio campaign must be made successful for a healthy Pakistan and for the success of the polio campaign, the public should fully cooperate with the teams. Fool proof security will be provided to all the teams participating in the polio campaign, he noted. He said that the polio campaign has to be successful in every way, no negligence would be tolerated, polio is a national problem. We all have to play our part to remedy this. In this campaign we have to reach every child and administer the drops and cooperate with the administration to convince the refusing parents because it is a common problem of the whole society in order to make the campaign successful/ the Chief Secretary instructed to appoint all the ladies health workers, ladies health visitors of the health department and to dismiss them for neglecting their duties.

PM Shehbaz hails PSX milestone as economy shows signs of stability

INP

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif extended felicitations to the nation as the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) reached a historic milestone, with the KSE-100 index crossing the 90,000-point mark on Friday.

He attributed this significant achievement to the relentless efforts of his administration's economic team and stated it as a marker of investor confidence in the government's economic policies.

In a statement, the PM commended the economic team for orchestrating a 36% surge in the stock market since March and for helping reduce inflation from 38% to 6.9%. He highlighted recent economic stability, pointing to increased remittances and a surplus in the current account for the past two months. Remittances from Pakistanis abroad reached a record \$8.8 billion in the last quarter, supporting the balance of payments and reinforcing financial resilience, he noted. The PM also cited the forthcoming \$7 billion facility from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as a stabilising factor for Pakistan's economy, assuring the public that these indicators represent a turnaround from the economic

CM expresses resent on delay of Quetta's beautification work

APP

Quetta: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir, Sarfraz Bugti on Friday expressed his anger over delay of work on the beauty of Quetta city and especially on Airport Road and directed the concerned authorities to speed up the work. He shared these views while chairing a meeting regarding progress to the Quetta development package and the measures taken about the beauty of Quetta city. The meeting beautification of Quetta City and other ongoing development project were reviewed. In the meeting, Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan, Secretary Communications and Work Lal Jan Jafar, Commissioner Quetta Division Hamza Shaqqaat, Project Director Quetta

Development Package Rafiq Ahmed, DG QDA Askar Khan and Special Secretary Finance Aurangzeb Khan Kasi and other concerned officials attended Project Director Quetta Development Package Rafiq Ahmed and Commissioner Quetta Division Hamza Shaqqaat briefed the meeting on the progress on Quetta Development Package and the steps taken to beautify Quetta city. In the meeting, Secretary C&W Lal Jan Jafar while giving a briefing said that the restoration of roads in Quetta inner city is going on and carpeting of all roads would be completed very soon. In the briefing given by the Commissioner Quetta Division, it was informed that steps are being taken to beautify including Airport Road and Quetta.

Justice Qazi Faez opened more doors to external interference in judiciary instead of stopping it: Justice Mansoor Ali Shah

ONLINE

ISLAMABAD: Justice Mansoor Ali Shah while telling the reasons for not attending full court reference on occasion of retirement of Chief Justice (CJ) Qazi Faez Isa in a letter written to registrar Supreme Court (SC) has said CJ Qazi Faez Isa opened more doors to interference in judiciary instead of stopping it.

While asking for placing his letter before full court he said he had not attended full court reference of former chief justice Saqib Nisar for transgressing the constitutional limits and he will not participate in the reference in

respect of Justice Qazi Faez Isa.

He said in the letter CJ Qazi Faez Isa ignored the external pressure on the judiciary.

The role of a chief justice is to protect the rights of people. Chief justice has to safeguard independence of judiciary.

Qazi Faez Isa did not show moral courage in defence of judiciary. The interference in judiciary was made in connivance with Qazi. There is no value of decisions of judiciary in the eyes of Qazi Faez Isa.

Qazi Faez Isa gave ground to those who weakened the judiciary.

May have made wrong decisions but Allah knows truth: Justice Isa

ONLINE

ISLAMABAD: Outgoing Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa said on Friday he may have made many wrong decisions but Allah (ooper wala) knows the truth.

Justice Isa was addressing a full court reference held in his honour in Courtroom No 1 of the Supreme Court.

Justice Isa shared his experiences and feelings with those who attended the reference. He thanked all his staff, including his gurd Fayyaz and the registrar, for their support during his stay in the office.

He referred to the practice of taking notes on pieces of papers during hearing of cases. He said the notes helped him decide a case according to the facts. "We have to adjudge who is right and who is wrong. The paper may favour a contestant (party) and go against the other," he added.

"It is our duty to give justice," Justice Isa said. Chief Justice-designate Yahya Afridi paid Justice Isa tribute and said he learnt a lot from him.

He said he was sad that he (Justice Isa) was leaving but glad that "you get time to spend with your family."

Justice Afridi said Justice Isa was an excellent human being. He disagreed with Justice Isa on many benches but "we played our role judiciously."

Justice Afridi said today's lunch in honour of Justice Isa is



Supreme Court judges attend a full-court reference for CJP Qazi Faez Isa's farewell.

not at the government expense.

He said he would miss [his senior colleague] Justice Isa.

Earlier, Attorney General Mansoor Awan said Justice Isa had been a competent

lawyer and a judge who gave landmark judgements in the history of the country's judiciary.

Attorney General Awan paid Justice Isa tribute for live streaming of "important cases" in September last year.

He gave reference of Justice Isa's case in which he gave a landmark judgement.

The full court reference started at 10.30am in the Supreme

Court Courtroom No 1 and attended by 16 judges, including Chief Justice Isa and Chief Justice-designate Yahya Afridi.

The wife and family of Justice Isa participated in the full court reference.

Justice Mansoor Ali Shah did not attend the full court reference as he

has gone on leave. Justice Malik Shahzad, Justice Athar Minallah, Justice Munib Akhtar and Justice Ayesha Malik also did not participate in the reference.

Supreme Court lawyers, court staff and journalists attended the full court reference.

Another polio virus case reported from Loralai district in Balochistan

INP

QUETTA: Cases of polio virus are on the rise in Pakistan as another case has been reported from Balochistan on Friday.

According to health officials, this is the first case of polio from Loralai district of Balochistan this year while overall so far 21 children have reportedly been affected by polio virus in Balochistan.

Overall in entire country total number of polio cases during the current year has touched 41. Federal Ministry of Health has advised parents to administer anti polio drops to children during the campaign starting from October 28.

PTI MPAs among fleeing inmates rearrested after gun attack on prison vans in Islamabad

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: Armed assailants have attacked three prison vans carrying several Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) lawmakers, government workers and cops detained in the D-Chowk protest case, sources told Geo News on Friday.

The unidentified attackers carried out a gun attack on three prison vans transporting "82 accused, including PTI members of provincial assembly (MPAs), government officials, and policemen, to Attock jail" after court hearing.

One of the prison vans was transporting PTI MPAs Anwar Zaib, Liaquat, and Yasir Qureshi.

The armed attack occurred at Sangjani Toll Plaza where the attackers burst tyres of the prison vans, the police sources said.

They added that it was like an ambush as the armed men had already taken position before the arrival of the vans at the toll plaza.

The attackers burst tyres of the vans and later opened fire on the cops, leaving several policemen wounded who were swiftly shifted to the hospital.

Following the armed attack, Inspector General (IG) Islamabad Police Ali Nasir Rizvi told Geo News that 82 prisoners were present in the prison vans who were being transported to Attock jail after being produced before a court in the federal capital.

He said that all inmates, who fled after the attack, have been rearrested as police foiled the bid to escape. Rizvi confirmed that the fleeing inmates also include two MPAs who have also been taken into custody again.

'I said I would make effort for Imran's sisters, and today they have been granted bail': Vawda

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: Senator Faisal Vawda stated that he has successfully secured bail for the sisters of former Prime Minister Imran Khan.

Vawda expressed his satisfaction, stating, "I had already said I would make efforts for the release of Imran's sisters, and today, thank God, their bail has been granted."

In a statement posted on X (formerly Twitter), he remarked, "Last night, I mentioned my intentions regarding Imran's sisters, and today, their bail has been secured."

He further criticised the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leadership, labelling them as

"sellouts" and "fugitives," asserting that they did not even visit Imran's sisters while they were in jail.

Vawda questioned the commitment of the PTI leadership, stating, "The nation does not understand the game being

played, as they neglected Imran's sisters during their time in custody."

He concluded by assuring the public that he would continue to speak the truth, contrasting himself with the PTI leadership, whom he accused of hiding information from the people.

Earlier today, an anti-terrorism court in Islamabad had granted bail to Aleema Khan and Uzma Khan, sisters of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan.

Judge Abul Hasanat Zulqarnain approved the bail requests against surety bonds of Rs20,000 each.

Aleema Khan and Uzma Khan were arrested on October 4 in a case registered at Kohsar Police Station.

The sisters were detained in the context of PTI protests.

Earlier this month, Islamabad police arrested Aleema Khan and Uzma Khan from D-Chowk. The two were taken into custody and transferred to the Secretariat police station



Activists of Tehreek-e-Labbaik (TLP) are holding protest rally against Israeli cruel and inhumane acts and expressing unity with the innocent people of Palestine, at Quetta press club

PTI's anti-PPP campaign part of Mission Israel, Mission Goldsmith: Sharjeel Memon

INP

KARACHI: Senior Minister Sharjeel Inam Memon has claimed that after the 26th Constitutional Amendment, the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)'s negative social media campaign targeting the Pakistan Peoples Party PPP is part of "Mission Israel" and "Mission Goldsmith."

Speaking at a press conference in Karachi, he said the political hustle in the country has reached its conclusion after a long period.

PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and President Asif Ali Zardari had already instructed to focus on public welfare and relief

efforts.

Recently, Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah inaugurated six schemes in a single day.

He noted that Karachi Central Jail has been completely solarised, and that Energy Minister Syed Nasir Hussain Shah is working diligently on solarisation projects in various districts.

Solarisation efforts are underway for government hospitals, with 656 schools and

211 rural health centers set to be solarised, providing solar systems to two hundred thousand families in Sindh, ensuring they will not have to pay utility bills for life.

The provincial minister men-

tioned that only negativity is highlighted, while the constructive work happening on the ground should also receive attention.

Chairman Bilawal Bhutto issued a labour card, following the issuance of a workers' card during the previous government.

Sharjeel Memon emphasised that the 26th Constitutional Amendment was passed after significant consultation, and PTI had a positive attitude and consent regarding it.

He said, PPP has always respected the judiciary, even when certain judges took historic revenge on the party. However, the PPP has never waged a campaign against the judiciary or attacked it.

Belgium to invest, cooperate in IT, agriculture, education sectors of Pakistan

INP

LAHORE: Punjab CM Maryam Nawaz and Belgium's Ambassador Idesbald van der Graecht de Rommerswael have expressed interest to strengthen bilateral ties and boost cooperation during the meeting. They stressed the need to explore more opportunities to promote cooperation between both states.

Ambassador of Belgium hailed the Punjab CM's people friendly policies and commended the Punjab government's economic vision.

Maryam Nawaz stated that the Punjab government aimed for the cooperation of Belgium in the education, IT and agriculture sectors.

Punjab CM informed him about the Punjab government's initiatives including provision of IT training to youth as per international standard and mechanisation of agriculture sector.

The Belgian ambassador commended the Punjab government's initiatives and concrete measures to mitigate climate change induced challenges and environmental protection. Innovative environment friendly measures in Punjab would create impactful results, Rommerswael added.

Idesbald informed that Belgium was interested to invest in Pakistan and collaborate in the education, agriculture and other sectors.

Mariyum Aurangzeb blames India for increasing smog

INP

LAHORE: Punjab Senior Minister Mariyum Aurangzeb has blamed India for the increasing smog in the country.

Expressing her thoughts, Aurangzeb said: "India has to blame by 30 per cent due to the smog, and the rest of the smog has increased due to our own measures."

She said: "The crackdown is being launched against the vehicles emitting smoke," he added.

Aurangzeb stated: "The SOPs have been emphasized over bringing the contraction material to Lahore."

"There are about 4.5 million motorcycles in Lahore, according to the excise department. Every day, 1800 motorcycles have been accumulated," said Aurangzeb.



QUETTA: A woman selecting and purchasing used cloth from roadside vendor.

Chairman NA Body On Information Visits PTV Quetta Center

APP

QUETTA: Chairman National Assembly Standing Committee on Information and Broadcasting, National Assembly, Pullain Baloch on Friday visited pvt Quetta Center.

On this occasion, General Manager PTV Quetta Syed Faheem Shah, Program Manager Gul Shah Bukhari, Bolan Incharge Jawad Ali Hazara and Heads of the Engineering, Administration, Finance, Design, news, Current Affairs and IT departments provided a detailed briefing to the chairman.

Speaking on the occasion Pullain Baloch said, "Pakistan Television is the national institution safeguarding the ideological borders of the country, and modernizing it is the need of the hour". Pullain Baloch praised the role of PTV Quetta Center in promoting the soft image of Balochistan.

Aggression on J&K on Oct 27, 1947 stigma on India's face: Rehmani

APP

ISLAMABAD: All Parties Hurriyat Conference Azad Jammu and Kashmir (APHC-AJK) chapter senior leader Muhammad Farooq Rahmani has said that India's air attack on Jammu and Kashmir on October 27, 1947 is remembered as the worst act against peaceful and unarmed Kashmiris.

Muhammad Farooq Rahmani in a statement issued in Islamabad said the aggression on Jammu and Kashmir is not only a stigma on the face of India, but it has

given rise to many political and economic evils.

He said India has deprived the Kashmiris of their right to freedom for which they had fought a great struggle against the Dogra Raj since the early 1930s and 22 Kashmiris were martyred while facing the bullets of the Dogra army. He added that the illegal Indian invasion of Jammu and Kashmir had made the entire subcontinent and the people of Jammu and Kashmir insecure and had put the future of lakhs of Kashmiris in darkness.



Advisor to Chief Minister Balochistan on Commerce and Industry, Mir Ali Hassan Zehri presenting certificate to frontline polio worker during ceremony on the eve of World Polio Day.



Ex-wife of boxer Muhammad Ali in Afghanistan to build sports stadium: Taliban govt

SPORTS DESK

A former wife of legendary US boxer Muhammad Ali arrived in the Afghan capital, a Taliban government official said on Friday, to reportedly open a stadium in a country where women are barred from sports.

The head of the Taliban government's sports directorate, Ahmadullah Wasiq, told AFP that Khalilah Camacho-Ali, who was married to the boxer for a

decade from 1967, had arrived in Kabul.

State media cited the directorate as saying she was in the city "to build a sports stadium to be named 'Pirozi' (victory in Dari) and a sports association named after Muhammad Ali". Born Belinda Boyd in 1950 in the United States, Camacho-Ali, like her world champion boxer ex-husband, converted to Islam after they married.

Muhammad Ali himself visited Kabul in 2002, a

year after the US forces overthrew the first Taliban government, visiting a girls' school in his role as a United Nations peace ambassador.

Since the Taliban government came to power in Afghanistan in 2021, they have imposed a strict interpretation of Islamic law,

with women bearing the brunt of restrictions the United Nations have called "gender apartheid", including blocking women from participating in sports.



Pakistan players at the end of play at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium in Rawalpindi.

Pakistan bowled out for 344, lead England by 77 runs in third Test in Pindi

SPORTS DESK

Saud Shakeel's crafty 134 fetched Pakistan a handy first-innings lead before their spinners blew away England's top order to boost their hopes of a memorable series victory on day two of the deciding third test in Rawalpindi on Friday.

Pakistan had slumped to 46-3 but Saud stitched four 50-plus partnerships, including with tailenders Noman Ali and Sajid Khan, to reach 344 all out — a lead of 77 — in a remarkable turnaround.

Pakistan further consolidated their position by reducing England to 24-3 when bad light stopped play at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium.

Joe Root, batting on five, will be key to England's survival hopes, while Harry Brook, on three, will also need to respond to the challenge when play resumes on Saturday.

England captain Ben Stokes began the day with

spin from both ends and Saud got a life on 26 when he edged Shoaib Bashir low into the shin of wicket-keeper Jamie Smith.

Off-spinner Bashir would not be denied, however, and removed Pakistan captain Shan Masood for 26, caught in the second slip.

Rehan Ahmed (4-66) was brought in somewhat late but did not take long to make his mark, trapping Mohammad Rizwan lbw for 25. Rizwan burned a review on his way back to the pavilion trying to get the decision reversed.

In his next over, Rehan removed Salman Agha in the same fashion and went on to fox Aamer Jamal with a googly, which the batter could only glove to his stumps.

Saud and Noman, who combined in an 88-run stand for the eighth wicket, battled resolutely to frustrate England.

Saud took a single off Rehman to bring up his hundred, raising his fist in a muted celebration before doing a fist-bump with

Noman. Bashir dismissed Noman (45) lbw in what was England's lone success in the post-lunch session but Pakistan's tail continued to produce precious runs.

Number 10 batter Sajid, who was not out after a run-a-ball 48, scored mostly via boundaries that included four sixes. Sajid was left with a bleeding chin after deflecting a ball into his face trying to play a scoop shot and had to change the bloodied shirt.

Gus Atkinson ended Saud's vigil with a short pitch delivery which the batter fended to the mid-wicket fielder. Saud hit only five fours in his painstaking knock that stood out for its discipline.

Sajid returned to dismiss England opener Ben Duckett (12) lbw in his second over after successfully challenging the original not-out decision.

Noman dismissed Zak Crawley for the fourth consecutive time in the series and also prolonged Ollie Pope's poor run.

Rabada 'a superstar' as South Africa crush Bangladesh

SPORTS DESK

MIRPUR: South Africa cruised to a seven-wicket win over Bangladesh in the first Test on Thursday with fast bowler Kagiso Rabada the star of the show in Mirpur.

Rabada took 6-46 as Bangladesh went from 283-7 overnight to 307 all out, leaving the visitors a victory target of 106.

Rabada finished with 9-72 in the match, having become the fastest bowler to reach 300 Test wickets during the first innings.

"It's special," stand-in captain Aiden Markram said of a victory that was sealed before lunch on day four and gave South Africa a 1-0 lead in the two-match series.

They move up to fourth in the World Test Championship standings.

"A pretty young group, or slightly inexperienced group [...] to come to the subcontinent and get a win is great for us," Markram added.

Left-arm spinner Tajjul Islam took all the wickets to fall in his 3-43, but he failed to slow South Africa's chase as they reached 106-3.

Tony de Zorzi top-scored with a quickfire 41 off 52 balls, hitting seven fours.

Fellow opener Markram was first to go, bowled by Tajjul for 20. De Zorzi departed in the 16th over trying to play a big shot over long-on, caught by Hasan Mahmud.

David Bedingham was third out caught behind by wicketkeeper Litton Das. Tristan Stubbs, unbeaten on 30, ensured there were no further alarms.

"He has been a superstar for us for years," Markram added of Rabada. "And to see all those stats pop up about him [...] it really proves that he's one in a million, and we're really lucky to have him on our team."

Bangladesh lost their last three wickets for just 24 runs inside half an hour, all-rounder Mehidy Hasan Miraz top-scoring with 97. "Missing out on the century is disappointing," said Mehidy. "I would have been happy if I had executed the plan better. I was only focusing on guiding the team to a strong position."

Nayeem Hasan departed lbw without adding to his overnight 16 on the third ball of the day when a rampant Rabada inswinging kept low. Wiaan Mulder removed Tajjul for seven in the fourth over via a thick edge to Stubbs at third slip. Mehidy fell three runs short of his second Test century in the next over when he edged Rabada to Mulder at slip.



South African opener Tony de Zorzi plays a shot during the first Test against Bangladesh at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium.

POSITION VACANT

The Government of Balochistan, Health Department invites applications from qualified and experienced individuals having local/domicile of Balochistan for the following position on contract basis for a period of one year to provide technical guidance in Purchase of Machinery & Equipment for the below mentioned Hospitals/Institutions.

S.#	Position	PPS	Qualification & Experience	Hospitals	No. of Post	Salary Package (Rs.)	Age Min-Max
1.	Bio Medical Engineer	7	B.Sc./B.S./B.E (Bio-Medical Engineering or (Bio-Medical Engineering Technology) from HEC recognized University duly registered with Pakistan Engineering Council having 05 years' experience in the field of bio medical equipment engineering. The Requisite practical Experience must be after acquiring the prescribed qualification.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Director General Health Services Office - Quetta DHO/Teaching Hospital Kech (Turbat) Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al-Nahyan Medical Complex Qta. Bolan Medical Complex Hospital Quetta. DHO/Teaching Hospital Khuzdar Sardeman Provincial Hospital Quetta Falima Jinnah Institute of Chest Disease & General Hospital Quetta DHO/Teaching Hospital Loralai 	01 01 01 02 01 01 02 01	220000/-	30-45

i) The above positions are offered purely on contract basis initially for one year.
 ii) The Age of the candidate will be calculated on the last date of submission of application.
 iii) The candidates having Local/Domicile of Balochistan shall only be eligible to apply.
 iv) No TA/DA will be admissible for test/interview.
 v) The department has the right to accept/reject or cancel an application or whole recruitment process at any time without any notice/justification.
 vi) Candidate already working in Government/Semi Government/Autonomous Bodies may apply through proper channel.
 vii) These vacancies are post specific.
 viii) Incomplete applications or applications received after due date/closing of office hours on the last date for submission of application will not be entertained.
 ix) In case of large number of candidates, the department reserve the right to decide upon any threshold marks/ ratio of candidate vis-à-vis to be further considered in the recruitment process/interview.
 x) Only short-listed candidates shall be called for a final interview
 xi) Submission of fake documents or concealment of any fact will lead to dis-qualification of the candidate.
 xii) Candidate shall produce all original documents, alongwith a set of attested photocopies of all relevant (verifiable) documents, at the date/time of interview to be communicated.
 xiii) Applications alongwith CV and attested copies of educational and experience certificates, CNIC and three (3) recent photographs may reach this office on or before **07th November 2024** on following address:-(Planning Cell, Health Department, Room No.2, 2nd Floor, Block-9, Balochistan Civil Secretariat, Quetta.)

Chief Planning Officer PC, Health Department

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Curtain call

THE controversy surrounding the full-court verdict, where a majority of eight Supreme Court judges favoured restoring PTI as a parliamentary party and granting it reserved seats, continues to simmer.

Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa, part of the minority in the case, has raised concerns about the legality of the majority's decision to issue clarifications on queries from the ECP. In his dissenting note, the CJP makes a valid point: once the full court had issued its verdict, the eight judges had no authority to act independently and issue clarifications to queries put forth to the court. He rightly contends that the responses should have been routed through official channels in line with protocol.

And yet, while his critique of the judges' overreach is valid, his leadership has faced criticism for failing to enforce the full court's decision. As chief justice, he had a responsibility to ensure that the ruling was implemented, even if he disagreed with it. His inability to push for its implementation gives one the impression he may have been quietly aligned with the view that the ruling should not be enforced. This failure to act raises concerns about his leadership during a critical period for the judiciary.

The CJP's note marks the end of a tumultuous tenure marred by decisions that some saw as unnecessarily divisive. His handling of cases like the ones pertaining to PTI's bat symbol and Article 63-A are examples where his rulings appeared more focused on technicalities and less on justice. In the bat case, he was clear in upholding the ECP's stance against the PTI, refusing the party its election symbol due to legal technicalities. Yet, this decision appeared to be more of a punitive gesture towards the PTI.

Similarly, the timing of the Article 63-A ruling — which dealt with toeing party lines — stirred significant debate. The forces that hunger for influence over the political and judicial landscape were firmly against the man at the start but appear sated now.

On the other hand, the chief justice, who was once viewed as a crusader for judicial integrity has left many of his initial supporters disillusioned. Once lauded as one of the finest jurists, he will now leave a complex legacy, with his dissent symbolising the divisions within the apex court.

Adding to this quagmire is the appointment of Justice Yahya Afridi as the new CJP, passing over Justice Mansoor Ali Shah, who was a strong contender being the next most senior judge.

There is, however, hope that under Justice Afridi, the court can move beyond the discord and heal the fractures that developed under CJP Isa's watch. The nation needs a judiciary that upholds justice without descending into internecine strife — a hope that rests on Justice Afridi's shoulders as he dons the robe.

By Naseer Memon

Divisive canals

A MID rapidly depleting water resources, Punjab has embarked upon an exercise to build new canals and develop new command areas. The Green Pakistan Initiative is pursuing its agenda of ploughing millions of acres of hitherto barren land, especially in Cholistan.

With an appetite for large-scale corporate agriculture, it is pressing the government to complete six strategic canals on a fast-track basis. These include the Chubara Canal as the second phase of the Greater Thal Canal, the Kachhi Canal, the Raineer Canal, the Thar Canal, the Chashma Right Bank Canal and the Cholistan Flood Feeder Canal. The total command area of these canals is 3.58 million acres.

Sindh, the lowest riparian, is upset at the recent decision of the Central Development Working Party that disregarded its objections and approved the Cholistan Flood Feeder Canal. This canal is part of the Smaller Cholistan irrigation project proposed on the Sutlej River. The canal will further feed four canal systems to irrigate 0.6m acres in the Cholistan desert of Bahawalpur and Bahawal Nagar districts. Water availability for this project was certified by the Indus River System Authority (Irsa) in January 2024. Sindh has concerns that the Sutlej receives water when India releases surplus flows. Hence the entire canal system will be vulnerable to uncertain flows. Climate change has rendered flood flows unreliable.

Once water rights are established, Punjab may resort to diverting water from the Indus zone through link canals during dry spells to sustain the cropped area. Sindh's concerns are pending with the Council of

Common Interests. The federal government should have deferred the project until the CCI's decision on Sindh's reservations. The approval of this canal will pave the way for other components of the Smaller Cholistan project that will eventually irrigate 2m acres of land.

Sindh has reservations about the new irrigation projects.

The Chubara Canal is a branch canal of the Greater Thal Canal which Sindh has objected to since the start. Irsa approved the project on May 7, 2002, whereas Sindh and Irsa's federal members opposed it. Subsequently, the Sindh Assembly adopted two consensus resolutions in 2003 dismissing the project. Later, the assembly also adopted a resolution spurning the Chubara Canal in November 2021. The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council advised the Planning Commission to hold meetings with the representatives of Sindh and Punjab. Sindh maintained its dissent yet Ecneec approved this project on March 16, 2022. Sindh has referred the matter to the CCI, where it awaits a final decision.

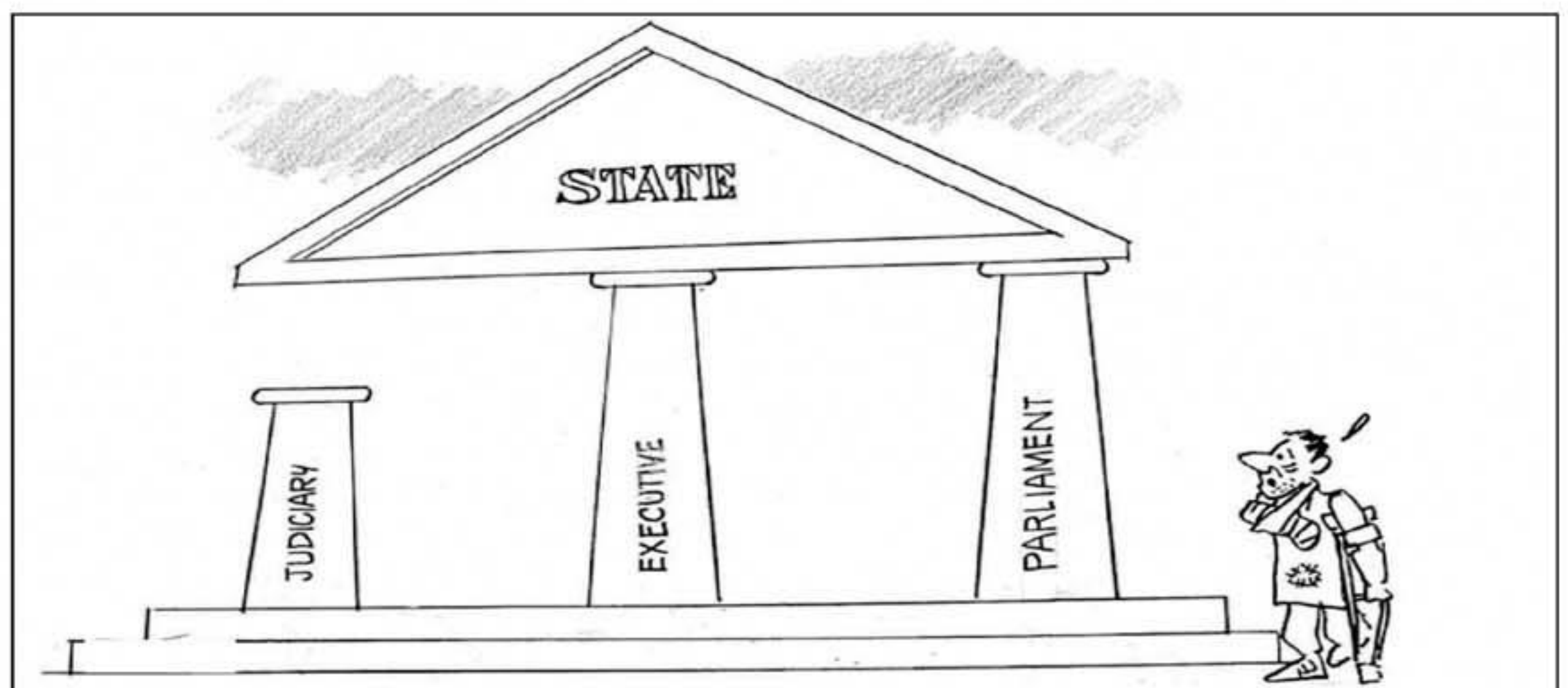
The Kachhi Canal is designed to irrigate 0.7m acres of land in the Dera Bugti, Nasirabad, Jhal Magsi and Bolan areas of Balochistan. The canal with a capacity of 6,000 cusecs starts from the Taunsa Barrage. Almost 75 per cent of the work on the canal has been completed. The canal is exposed to gushing hill torrents descending from the Dera Bugti hills. A drain has been proposed to divert the flows to protect the canal structure. Wapda, however, has ignored the critical aspect of the ultimate disposal of water from this drain. It suggested that the flows be offloaded in Sindh's Hamal Lake through the

Right Bank Outfall Drain. What Wapda did not realise was that the estimated flood could be of 100,000 cusecs, which is beyond the capacity of the RBOD and Hamal Lake.

Currently, four hill torrents drain into the lake with a flow of 44,000 cusecs. Excessive inflows can burst the banks resulting in devastation in Qambar Shahdaktot and Dadu districts. These factors should have been thought of at the design stage but in its eagerness to comply with the orders of the then ruler Gen Musharraf, Wapda hastily executed the project.

Wapda constructed the Raineer Canal, handing it over to the Sindh government in January 2022. The canal, with a capacity of over 5,000 cusecs, was designed to irrigate 0.4m acres land in Ghotki district. No water has been allocated for the canal in the 1991 Water Accord. Hence, it depends on surplus flows during floods. Sindh opposed the next phase of the canal for not having been sanctioned water. The Thar Canal is proposed as an escape channel for the Raineer Canal, to be operated during high floods. Developing large-scale cropped areas on flood channels is imprudent due to erratic Indus flows.

Sindh has reservations about the new irrigation projects mainly because of insufficient water availability in the Indus basin. The average annual flow below Kotri Barrage between 1976 and 1998 was 40.69 MAF. The flow decreased drastically to 14 MAF from 1999 to 2022. The Indus delta is in the throes of an ecological disaster. Climate change is aggravating the water scenario. In these conditions, constructing new canals will stoke new conflict between Sindh and Punjab.



By Nadeem ul Haque

Inconsistencies and disconnects

THERE are contradictions in the policies being pushed by the IMF in the latest programme.

While it played a crucial role in liberalising the economies of the communist bloc, it now appears to support heavy-handed regulation and price controls in a developing country like Pakistan. Such inconsistencies raise questions about the adaptability and relevance of IMF programmes in different contexts. In our case, the domestic market continues to influence the pace, pattern and level of growth. Policies are focused on protecting an industrial structure that produces low productivity/ low value-added goods. The growth of one industry has created a market for another — flourishing with varying degrees of inefficiencies. The result is that all such markets have grown together. The outcome is a formal private sector whose habits and investments have not changed over time. Exporting a similar range of goods (with modest upgrading to higher value-added goods) depends on subsidies and concessions.

We believe Pakistan needs a comprehensive policy overhaul, moving away from excessive regulation and a tax-first approach towards a strategy that promotes market development, innovation, and economic productivity.

For this transformation to take place, greater engagement with local research and institutions is necessary. The findings of the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) suggest that Pakistan's economy is being held back by structural flaws, not simply low tax revenues or energy pricing issues. Decentralising governance, reforming tax policy, and removing barriers to trade and investment are key to a more vibrant, competitive economy. International partners, including the IMF, must recognise these local realities and align their strategies accordingly.

The IMF's recommendations often seem aligned with abstract economic models. Energy losses have brought the economy to its knees with the IMF's only proposal being to increase prices to cover losses and hide inefficiencies. Not once has the IMF accepted that the need of the hour, as shown by local research, is to activate the market system, which has been on the anvil for almost 20 years.

The energy sector remains highly centralised; it is a one-buyer one-seller (government) model, with an outdated uniform pricing system that relies on cross-subsidies and prevents the development of competitive markets.

Perhaps the most central issue is the extreme centralisation of power within government and bureaucracy. A

few civil servants wield disproportionate control, undermining the growth of key sectors like education, energy, and infrastructure. Energy losses can only be eliminated if the system is configured as independent units operating in a market. The IMF, however, has set up impossible goals such as privatising huge energy monopolies without an adequate regulatory framework and capability and allowing market forces to operate. In 2024, the government is still trying to control prices through the bureaucracy. The IMF is silent on this key issue. With the fall of the Soviet bloc, we thought this issue had been dealt with and that the world had learnt price controls don't work. Should the IMF not settle this issue of price controls in a programme?

As argued earlier, the governance system itself incentivises rent-seeking and political loyalty over merit and efficiency. Public resources are misallocated, and government officials benefit from a system that rewards perks like subsidised housing and overseas assignments instead of transparent cash salaries. PIDE suggests that a simple reform — monetising these perks into one transparent salary structure — could potentially unlock billions of dollars in investment by freeing up valuable real estate currently occupied as housing by government officials.

DAILY MIRROR

Measures underway to ensure drug free society: Attaullah

By Zahid Ahmed Khan

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar has said the government is taking all possible measures to ensure a drug free society in the country. He was responding to a question during the Question Hour in the National Assembly on Friday.

The Minister said the Anti-Narcotics Force regularly conducts raids against drugs traffickers. He, however, urged parents and administration of educational institutions to keep a vigilant eye to protect children from the menace of narcotics.

The Minister also stressed the need to launch an awareness campaign in the media to counter narcotics. He said the federal government has allocated funds to create awareness among masses about the menace of drugs through films and dramas.

Attaullah Tarar further informed that Pakistan has bilateral engagements with counter-narcotics authorities of partner countries like the United States, United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, UAE and Iran.

He added that thirty-seven Memorandums of Understanding have been

signed for cooperation with other countries to curb narcotics while MoUs with twenty-nine countries are under process or under revision.

Replying to another question, he said a smart city App in the name of "My Islamabad" is being launched to provide all kinds of facilities to the citizens on a touch of a button.

Answering a question, Attaullah Tarar said the feeder route F-11 will start from I-16 to N-5 Metro Station and is expected to be operational by January next year. This will connect I-16 to Islamabad and Rawalpindi through Orange Line and Red Line Metro Bus services.

Responding to a Calling Attention Notice, Minister for information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar said the government is focusing on bringing down the electricity tariff.

He pointed out that additional subsidy was given to power consumers during this summer season. He said contracts with five IPPs have been terminated while contracts have been negotiated with eight IPPs. He said this will help bring down the electricity prices which will have positive impact on the economy as well.

The Minister also laid before the House two bills. These are The

Naturalization (Amendment) Bill, 2024 and Pakistan citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

Responding to a question, Parliamentary Secretary for Inter-Provincial Coordination, Kiran Dar said the Federal Government is committed to promote game of hockey in the country. She said the government provides financial grants to the Pakistan Hockey Federation for the promotion of the game.

The Parliamentary Secretary said revival of departmental sports is a priority to attract new talent towards sports to ventilate the financial sufferings of sportspersons. She added departments like Pakistan Armed Forces, HEC, WAPDA, Railways, FBR, ZTBL and Police have been requested to provide quota in jobs to sportsmen.

Meanwhile, the National Assembly today passed a unanimous resolution, reiterating Pakistan's full diplomatic, political and moral support to the people of Kashmir for their right to self-determination. The resolution was moved by Minister for Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan Engineer Amir Muqam on the 77th anniversary of Indian invasion of Kashmir on 27th October 1947.



QUETTA: Provincial Minister Mir Saleem Khosa in a meeting with Provincial Health Minister Bakht Muhammad Kakar.

Pakistan, Bangladesh agree to enhance cooperation

APP

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Bangladesh have agreed to advance high level dialogue and cooperation, particularly in the areas of trade, cultural exchanges and people-to-people contacts.

This agreement was reached during a meeting between Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar and Adviser for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh, Md. Touhid Hossain, on the sidelines of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Samoa.

This was the first meeting between the two dignitaries, following their assumption of office.

The Deputy Prime Minister highlighted the historical, religious and cultural linkages between the two countries.

Both the sides agreed to strengthen cooperation at various multilateral fora.

They also discussed revitalization of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

Imran's possible release imminent: Haidari

INP

CHINIOT: Maulana Abdul Ghafoor Haidari, General Secretary of Jamiat Ulema Islam (F), announced that Imran Khan, the former Prime Minister of Pakistan and leader of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), may be released as early as tomorrow, following the release of Bushra Bibi.

Speaking to the media in Chiniot, Maulana Haidari expressed confidence in Khan's imminent freedom, highlighting PTI's role in supporting the recent 26th constitutional amendment.

He noted that the PTI leadership had collaborated closely with JUI-F on the amendment, even providing the entire draft after negotiations were finalized.

Haider pointed out that all PTI leaders, except for Khan, endorsed the draft without raising any objections. However, he mentioned that the incarceration of PTI leaders prevented them from casting their votes in favor of the amendment.

This statement comes amid ongoing political developments in Pakistan, raising questions about the future of PTI and its leadership as they navigate the current legal and political landscape.

Pakistan-Russia joint anti-terrorism drill concludes with military show of solidarity

APP

RAWALPINDI: The Pakistan-Russia joint counter-terrorism exercise, Druzhba-VII, concluded on Friday with a closing ceremony at the National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC) in Pabbi, where military officials from both nations lauded the exercise as a successful demonstration of tactical skills and inter-military cooperation.

The two-week exercise, which commenced on October 13, involved special forces from the Pakistan Army and a contingent of 54 Russian troops, who participated in training drills and counter-terrorism techniques, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said in a statement.

Lieutenant General Fayyaz Hussain Shah, Inspector General Training & Evaluation, attended the closing ceremony as the chief guest, while Russian

Ambassador Albert P. Khorev also observed the proceedings. "The troops displayed the highest standards of professionalism," ISPR noted, praising the collaboration as instrumental in refining tactical procedures.

The exercise, the seventh bilateral engagement of its kind, focused on enhancing skills and sharing expertise in counter-terrorism.

"This joint training enhances our historic ties and strengthens our shared commitment to combating terrorism," said an official statement.

Druzhba-VII underscored Pakistan and Russia's evolving military ties, offering a platform for both nations to benefit from each other's specialised experience in counter-terror operations.

The exercise ended with a display of advanced tactical drills, showcasing the skill and coordination developed over the fortnight.

Black Day to be observed in Balochistan on Oct 27: Gulab

APP

Quetta: Former Member of Provincial Assembly (MPA) Mufi Gulab Khan Kakar on Friday said that black Day would be celebrated in Balochistan against the Indian usurpation of Kashmir on the occasion of October 27. Talking to APP, Ex. MPA of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI-F),

Former member of Balochistan Assembly Mufi Gulab Khan Kakar Mufi Gulab Khan Kakar said that on October 27, India had used its forces to suppress and subjugate the innocent people of Occupied Kashmir and dropped off at Srinagar but the passion of Kashmiris for Hurriyat is still intact.

He said that we would support Kashmiri people at international level under democratic process in order to dispose of ugly face of India. Jamiat Ulema-

e-Islam wants referendum of Kashmir according to United Nations resolutions and condemns the cruel treatment and occupation on Occupied Kashmir, he said.

He said that every intelligent person of Balochistan would

be an equal participant in the suffering of Kashmiri people by expressing solidarity with Kashmiri brothers and sisters on the occasion of October 27 Black Kashmir Day.

The efforts and blood of all Hurriyat leaders and Kashmiri martyrs will not be allowed to go in vain, he mentioned.

He said that self-determination is a fundamental right of Kashmiris people and it must be granted to the in accordance with the UN Resolution.

He said that India could not silence the voice of the Kashmiri people with the use of force.

Gaza rescuers say 17 killed, dozens wounded in Israel strike on school

INP

GAZA: Rescuers in central Gaza said an Israeli strike on Thursday killed at least 17 people at a school-turned-shelter, where the Israeli military said it had targeted Hamas militants.

Al-Shuhada school in Nuseirat refugee camp, where Hamas authorities said displaced Palestinians had sought refuge, was the latest target in a series of attacks on similar facilities across the Gaza Strip in recent months.

Mahmud Bassal, a spokesman for the Gaza civil defence agency, told that the strike killed 17 people and wounded dozens more. The nearby Al-Awda hospital gave the same death toll.

Palestinian woman Umm Muhammad, who told she was at the school at the time of the strike, described a terrifying scene with "stones and glass" falling from above. "I hugged my little girl. I couldn't see anything through the thick plume of smoke," she said. "I ran and screamed for my sister and found her alive downstairs." Umm Muhammad added, "But there were children torn to pieces" as a result of the attack, she said.

Free Media a cornerstone of democracy: German Ambassador

INP

ISLAMABAD: The Embassy of Germany and the Embassy of the Netherlands, both members of the Media Freedom Coalition (MFC), hosted a panel discussion titled "Media Freedom and Democracy - Challenges and Opportunities". This event brought together journalists, diplomats, and community members for an open dialogue about the crucial role of media in shaping democracy.

Both representatives of the countries emphasized the role of a free press in strengthening democracy and fostering informed societies.

Commenting on the occasion, Ambassador Alfred Grannas highlighted: "A free press is a precondition for a thriving democracy; this is why, for instance, we offer journalists from all over the world additional training courses with the DW Academy, both in Germany and online." Mr Hajo Provó Kluit, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Netherlands Embassy added: "That is why the Netherlands supports a 3-year project of NGO Free Press Unlimited helping rural journalists in Pakistan enhance their role as accountability advocates."

Ahsan Iqbal chairs meeting to review rehabilitation of NJHPP

ONLINE

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal on Friday chaired a meeting to discuss progress and potential solutions for the rehabilitation of the Neelum Jhelum Hydro Power Project (NJHPP).

The meeting was attended by the Minister for Water Resources and senior officials from relevant departments, including WAPDA and the Ministry of Water Resources, said a news release.

In line with directives issued by the Prime Minister in May, an International Panel of Experts (IPOE) was engaged to investigate the structural issues affecting the project's Head Race Tunnel (HRT).

The panel, consisting of experts including a renowned Pakistani geologist, was tasked with identifying the causes of recent challenges.

During the meeting, officials provided an update on dewatering activities, which commenced in May and were successfully completed by July.

This process enabled the IPOE to con-

duct an on-site inspection in September and submit an Inception Report detailing the current state of the tunnel infrastructure.

The report highlighted areas of the tunnel floor that require attention, alongside recommendations for enhanced ventilation, lighting, and worker safety measures.

The experts' Terms of Reference (TORs) include a comprehensive evaluation of factors impacting the tunnel and recommendations for improvements in design, construction, and contract management.

They also proposed a risk assessment for the HRT and TRT (Tail Race Tunnel) and outlined steps for the tunnel recovery plan.

The minister emphasized the importance of a detailed action plan and advised the

departments to continue collaborating with independent experts.

A follow-up session is planned for next week to further refine strategies for the project's rehabilitation.



Balochistan National Party (BNP) Leader, Agha Hassan Baloch along with others addressing a press conference, at Quetta press club.

Accurate reporting key to tackling trafficking, smuggling: Kundi

APP

ISLAMABAD: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi on Friday emphasised the crucial role of accurate reporting in guiding government actions, particularly in combating Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants, where media plays a vital part.

He expressed these views while addressing an interactive session with journalists on media reporting in Trafficking in Persons (TIP), Smuggling of Migrants (SOM) and bonded labor in Pakistan organized by the Sustainable Social Development Organization (SSDO), where he was the chief guest.

Governor Faisal Karim Kundi praised

SSDO's initiative and called the awareness session a significant effort in addressing Trafficking in Persons and forced labor. He said that media reports on Trafficking in Persons (TIP) and the Smuggling of Migrants (SOM) play a critical role in shaping national policies and improving society. "Accurate reporting, based on factual information and current laws, can support the government's efforts in dismantling trafficking networks," he said. He explained that the police handle cases of internal trafficking within the country, while the FIA is responsible for investigating cross-border trafficking. The Governor further stressed the importance of protecting the identities and dignity of victims when reporting on these sensitive issues.

US envoy celebrates completion of Frere Hall restoration, reaffirms partnership in trade, investment

ONLINE

ISLAMABAD: The United States (US) and Pakistan have built a long-term partnership over seven decades, rooted in shared interests in health, education, energy, economic growth, and security sectors.

US investments in Pakistan have grown by 50 percent in the past year, underscoring the strong economic ties between the two nations. This includes investments in clean energy and sustainable agriculture through the US-Pakistan Green Alliance, in public health through tuberculosis control, in people-to-people ties, and in preserving Pakistan's rich cultural heritage, said a press release on Friday.

In Ambassador Donald Blome's October 22 to 25 visit to Karachi, he reinforced the long-term partnership between the US and Pakistan at the closing ceremony of a \$350,000 US Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP) grant to restore the historic Frere Hall.

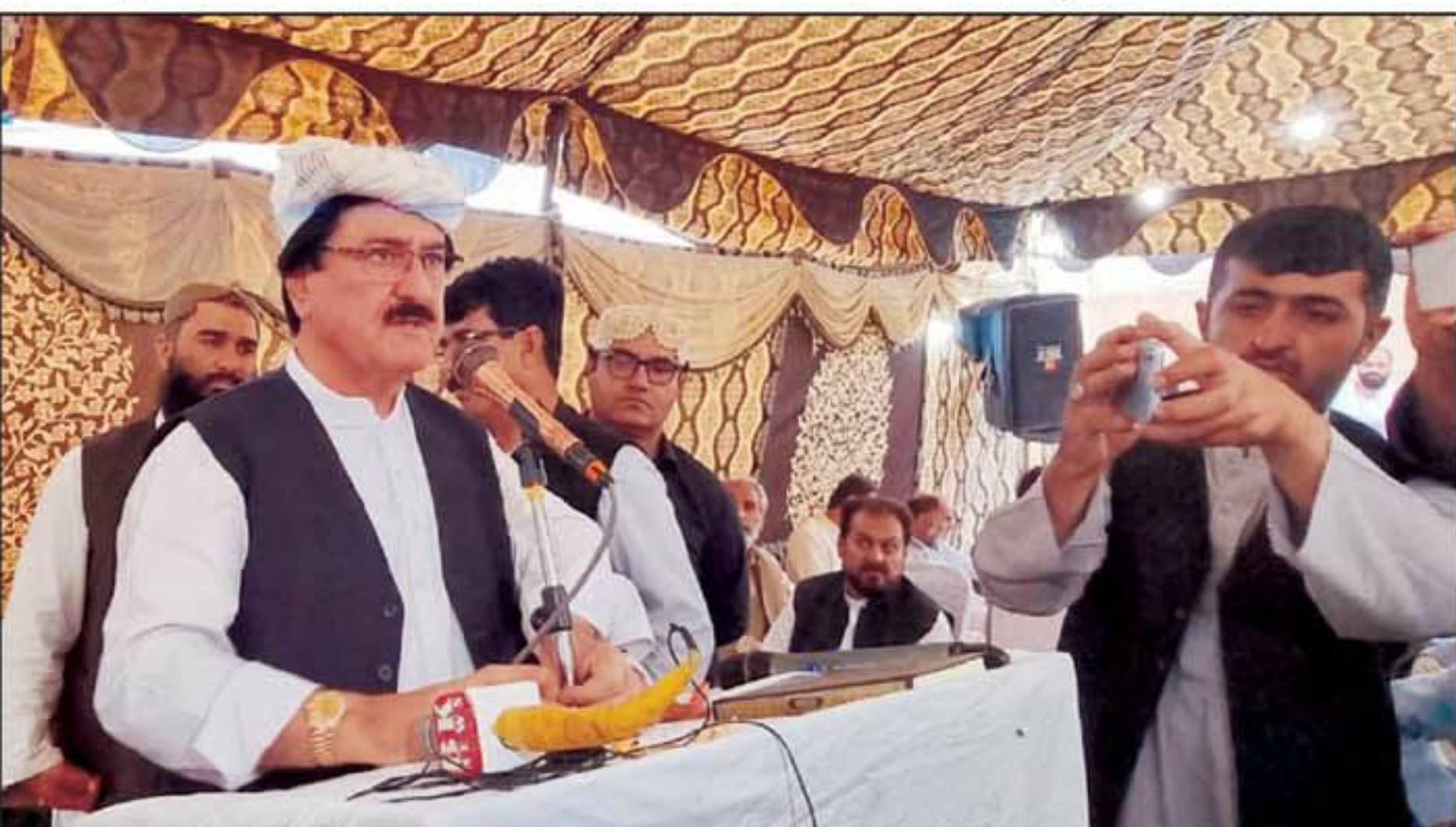
At the closing ceremony, the ambassador noted, "It's rare for one project, a partnership between the US Consulate and the Sindh Exploration and

Adventure Society, to sum up so much of what the US and Pakistan work on together. After the 2002 bombing that damaged both US assets and Frere Hall, we felt a responsibility to help restore what was harmed. Today, this iconic space symbolizes our bond - a commitment to cultural heritage, civic engagement, and community empowerment."

The project restored Frere Hall as a public space, reopening its library and gallery, and is one of several AFCP initiatives in Sindh, with similar efforts underway in Balochistan.

In a move to reinforce Pakistan's fight against tuberculosis (TB), Ambassador Blome handed over five state-of-the-art diagnostic vans and three mobile X-ray machines to the Government of Sindh. These cutting-edge tools, provided through USAID's Integrated Health System Strengthening activity, will improve access to early diagnosis and treatment, particularly for vulnerable populations in remote areas.

Ambassador Blome also visited Nutrilov, a local food processing company and a beneficiary of USAID's Investment Promotion Activity (IPA), to discuss how US support is driving entrepreneurship and job creation in Pakistan.



Chief of Pashtun, Nawab Ayaz Khan Jozgazi addresses during the Dastarbandi ceremony of Muhammad Idrees Barraich, newly elected Chief of Barraich Tribe held in Quetta