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Karachi

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Article 63(A) review: SC annuls verdict barring lawmakers from defection in parliament

INP

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court on Thursday annulled its 2022 verdict on the interpretation of Article 63(A) of the Constitution, which barred lawmakers from going against party directions when voting in parliament.

Hearing the Supreme Court Bar Association's (SCBA) plea, the five-member bench led by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa announced the unanimous verdict and approved the review petition with the top judge saying that the detailed verdict will be issued later.

The case revolves around the apex court's previous ruling, which stated that the votes of parliamentarians who deviated from their party's directives and policies were to be disregarded and not counted.

During the hearing today, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) lawyer Barrister Ali Zafar apprised the court that he met the PTI founder, however, the meeting didn't have the attorney-client privilege as it was also attended by police officers.

The lawyer further said that the incarcerated ex-prime minister has requested to appear before the court himself and that he wishes to raise certain arguments via virtual appearance.

Reiterating the party's earlier opposition to the bench, he said that the PTI founder has maintained that the five-member bench hearing the said case wasn't constituted properly so they won't be a part of the proceedings.

"If you announce a verdict then there would be a conflict of interest [...] the PTI founder said that the bench is not legal and so there is no point of moving forward," he remarked, adding that the

PTI wanted to distance itself from the court proceedings. "I will not appear before the court if the PTI founder is not given permission [to present his arguments]," he noted.

However, the lawyer's repeated mention of Khan didn't sit well with the CJP who said: "Why are you taking [Imran] Khan's name again and again, [you should] talk without taking [any] names."



Prime Minister, Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Dato Seri Anwar Ibrahim, Prime Minister of Malaysia addressing a joint press stakeout in Islamabad

Pakistan, Malaysia strengthen ties with major trade, defence agreements

Pakistan will export \$200 million worth of halal meat annually, 100,000 tonnes of Basmati rice to Malaysia

ONLINE

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Malaysia on Thursday agreed to enhance bilateral cooperation across multiple sectors, including trade, investment, defence, and agriculture. Both countries also reiterated their strong positions on regional issues such as Gaza and Kashmir.

Following a one-on-one meeting and delegation-level talks, the two prime ministers held a joint press conference, highlighting their commitment to strengthening collaboration in areas of mutual interest and addressing regional and international matters. As part of their efforts to boost bilateral trade, both leaders announced that Pakistan would export halal meat worth \$200 million annually, along with 100,000 metric tonnes of Basmati rice to Malaysia.

The total trade volume between Malaysia and Pakistan currently stands at \$1.4 billion, encompassing products such as palm oil, textiles, chemicals, electronics, and apparel. Pakistan is Malaysia's third-largest trading partner in South Asia. Prime Minister Shehbaz expressed confidence in the quality of Pakistan's exports. He assured that Pakistan would uphold the highest standards for its products. Malaysian PM Anwar Ibrahim assured Pakistan that any discrepancies in the import of Pakistani rice would be addressed. PM Shehbaz described their meeting as "wonderful," noting that they discussed enhancing trade and investment, as well as exploring further cooperation in defence, tourism, agriculture, green energy, skilled labour, and youth empowerment. He stressed both countries' commitment to elevating trade and investment cooperation to new heights, envisioning a bright future for the two nations.

On defence and security cooperation, he expressed Pakistan's readiness to further strengthen ties. He also highlighted the role of the thousands of Pakistani students currently studying in Malaysia in fostering closer people-to-people connections.

Shehbaz also praised Malaysia's development, suggesting it as a model for other Muslim countries due to its success in attracting foreign direct investment and boosting exports.

CM Takes Notice As Balochistan Reports 16th Polio Case

APP

QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Bugti on Thursday expressed his great concern over the surface of fresh poliovirus case in Balochistan, expressing annoyance over the performance of provincial Emergency Operation Center (EOC) to curb the spread of deadly virus.

A WPV-1 crippling poliovirus has been reported in a minor girl in Zhob district of Balochistan raising the total number of such cases to 16 surfaced in Balochistan during the year 2024. As many as 28 cases of poliovirus have been reported in the county during the current year. Of them, the majority of the cases surfaced alone in Balochistan. "A thorough inquiry report of the polio cases reported in parts of the province shall be presented to him," CM said while directing the health department authorities.

Stressing the need for collaborative efforts, he said we would have to fight crippling disease collectively.

"Every emerging case causes a great pain and inconvenience to the government," he said, deploring that other nations are exploring new avenues of development and prosperity, and we are still struggling to get rid of poliovirus.

7 people die, 19 injured in Quetta accident

APP

Quetta: At least seven people died and 19 people including children and women received injuries as a bus plunged into ravine near Brewery Road's Bypass area of Quetta on Thursday.

According to police sources, the bus carrying people of wedding party was on its way when it plunged gorge near Hazara Graveyard. As a result, seven people died on the spot while 19 people including woman and children sustained injuries.

The bodies and injured were shifted to Civil Hospital where the injured treatment were started for medical aid in trauma center of Civil Hospital.

The reason of road mishap was reported to be its tyre burst. The bodies were identified Naseebullah, Haji Naqibullah and small girls including Zeenat Bibi, Bibi, Alia, Bibi Safia and Bibi Alia.

The injured including Habibullah, Bibi Nooria, Bibi Fatima, Bibi Khakija, Najiba, Bibi Tayyiba, Bibi Jamila, Palusha, Bibi Nadia, Bibi Ruqia, Bibi Ajwa, Bibi Abida, Bibi Malala, Bibi Zulikha, Bibi Alia, Bibi Jamila, Bibi Asia, Bibi Naqwa and wife of Naseebullah. The bodies of the deceased were handed over to the heirs after completion of medico legal formalities. Further investigation was underway.

Pakistan, Malaysia reiterate resolve to cement cooperation

APP

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Malaysia have reiterated commitment to further enhance bilateral cooperation in the areas of trade, economy, banking sector, food technology and agriculture.

The resolve was expressed during a meeting between President Asif Ali Zardari and the visiting Malaysian Prime Minister Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim at Aiwan-e-Sadr in Islamabad.

Deputy Prime Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar, Chairman Pakistan People's Party, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, Minister of Commerce, Jam Kamal Khan, Senator Sherry Rehman, and senior

government officials also attended the meeting.

Welcoming the Malaysian Prime Minister, the President said that Pakistan attaches great importance to its relations with Malaysia and is committed to further enhance bilateral cooperation in all areas of mutual interest. He said that the visit of the Malaysian Prime Minister will further boost bilateral cooperation between the two brotherly countries. Talking about Israel's aggression in Gaza, Asif Ali Zardari expressed concern over the current situation in Gaza and called on the international community to take measures to prevent Israel from committing genocide and atrocities against the Palestinian people.

During the meeting, the PM's climate aide stressed promoting concepts and implementing policies for climate-resilient urbanisation not only can help us address immediate environmental and climate change-related challenges but also promote long-term sustainability, equity, and quality of life in urban areas.

She further said that making cities climate-resilient is not possible without involving a multifaceted approach that includes planning, infrastructure development, community engagement and relevant policy implementation.

The PM's climate aide highlighted that the country's several cities are facing significant climate risks, including Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad and Peshawar. With increasing temperatures, erratic rainfall, and rising sea levels, the need for climate adaptation strategies has never been more urgent.

"The climate change and environmental ministry is taking all-out measures and implementing policies and frameworks to create sustainable urban environments for making cities environmentally-sustainable and climate-resilient so that they can withstand the impacts of climate change while improving the quality of life for residents," Romina Khurshid Alam told the meeting participants.

During the meeting, Ms Alam emphasized that Islamabad will enhance its green cover and flowering plants, positioning itself as a benchmark for other cities to emulate in achieving sustainability goals.

She also highlighted the importance of addressing climate-related health issues, advocating for the relocation of paper mulberry trees to mitigate pollen allergies affecting residents.

Romina Khurshid suggested that ramping parks across Islamabad to enhance the city's green spaces and improve recreational areas for residents. It should be aligned with broader environmental goals, including increased tree planting and promoting biodiversity within urban settings.

The CDA chairman briefed Khurshid Alam on various projects focused on urban planning.

renewable energy, environmental health, transport, zero waste, and water management, all aimed at developing Islamabad as a smart city.

Gilani highlights literature's role in capturing history, inspiring change

APP

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate, Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani, on Thursday emphasized the essential role of literature in capturing history, reflecting cultural diversity, and inspiring meaningful change.

Speaking at the launch of Testament of Love, a captivating collection of short stories by Dr. Nasir Hussain Bukhari, he said, "Testament of Love beautifully encapsulates the essence of the human experience, shedding light on the struggles faced by ordinary individuals in our society."

The event celebrated not only Dr. Bukhari's remarkable literary achievement but also the profound impact storytelling has on society.

Gilani praised Dr. Bukhari for his exceptional talent and his unwavering commitment to education, democracy, and literature.

He commended Dr. Bukhari's ability to create authentic characters whose stories resonate deeply with readers, fostering empathy and understanding across societal divides.

Gilani also recognized the invaluable contributions of the Foundation for Education, Entrepreneurship, and Literature (FEEL), led by Engr. Dr. Zakauallah Khan and Dr. Salahuddin.

Darwish, for their dedicated efforts in promoting literature and addressing pressing social issues.

He further acknowledged the collaboration of the Shaheed Bhutto Foundation and the Pakistan Academy of Letters in organizing the significant event.

Chairman Senate reaffirmed his commitment to advocating for authors' rights and underscored the importance of nurturing literary creativity.

PPP workers will participate in JI's march for Palestine: Bilawal

INP

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Thursday said that the party workers would participate in the March for Palestine being organized by the Jamaat-e-Islami (JI).

A JI delegation led by its Ameer Hafiz Naem ur Rehman formally invited Bilawal Bhutto Zardari to take part in the march during a meeting here at the Zardari House.

The two leaders discussed the war imposed on the Middle East by Israel and the current situation in the region.

Talking to the media, Bilawal said that the world community remained indifferent to the ongoing brutal killings of women and children in Palestine. The top Palestinian

leader was martyred in Iran. Israel had no regard for human rights, rather it was violating them with impunity, he added.

The PPP chairman said that the war imposed by Israel in Palestine and Lebanon was inching towards Iran. "Israel is, in fact, on a drive

to forcefully occupy the Palestinian lands for completing its agenda of a 'greater Israel'."

"The PPP stands firm with the Muslims all over the world," he added.

The JI delegation consisted of vice presidents Liaquat Baloch and Mian Aslam, Secretary General Ameer-ul-Azeem and Ameer JI Islamabad Chapter Engr Nasarullah Randhawa.



Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari along with Jamat-e-Islami (JI) Chief, Hafiz Naem-ur-Rehman addresses to media persons during press conference after meeting held at Zardari House in Islamabad

No cooperation with govt on Constitutional Package at any cost: Fazlur Rehman

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman on Thursday said that he will not cooperate with the federal government on the Constitutional Package at any cost, stating that such an amendment could not be rushed through parliament and requires consensus.

The Supreme Court earlier today unanimously accepted a review petition against its 2022 verdict related to the defection clause under Article 63-A of the Constitution.

The verdict, pronounced by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa, could potentially provide major relief to the government in its attempts to garner the required support to make a set of amendments to the Constitution, multiple of which pertain to the judiciary.

Fazl previously hinted at supporting the proposed formation of a constitutional court and did not reject the government's proposals to fix the tenure of the CJP at three years or to increase the age of a judge of the apex court. He added that the Package should not be "person-specific".

One of Fazl's main points on the issue was the need for consensus among political parties.

"We want constitutional amendments to be made with consensus, ensuring they do not trigger political unrest in the country," he said.

"I would like the government to postpone this amend-

ment," the JUI-F chief said at a press conference today. "Political differences need to be resolved and the opposition should cease protesting."

Fazl also questioned the "urgency" with which the government was trying to rush the amendment.

"I don't understand the haste; there is no emergency," he said. "In its current state with its details and rules, it is incapable of being passed and supported."

Turning to history, the JUI-F chief recalled that constitutional amendments have taken time to implement and cannot be rushed.

"Even the 18th Amendment took nine months to pass," he added. "They are asking to pass a Constitutional Amendment within a single day. This is not possible."

Qureshi appeals to Bilawal to not rush amendment PTI stalwart and ex-foreign minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi has asked Bilawal Bhutto to oppose the Constitutional Package, adding that he must listen to both civil society and lawyers regarding the amendments and their impact.

Writing a letter titled 'Let the Constituent Assembly of 1973 not be set on fire by the lamp of Bhutto' to the PPP chairman from prison, Qureshi implored Bilawal to not impose the 26th amendment without the consensus of parliament.

"I do not doubt Bilawal's intention and I am aware of

Bilawal's commitment to democracy but the nation is suspicious of the timing of this constitutional amendment," he wrote. "Setting up a constitutional court without consulting parliament and all stakeholders will be tantamount to a PCO Court."

The ex-minister referred to the Provisional Constitutional Order, an emergency power that suspends the Constitution in part or as a whole. In his letter, Qureshi added that any judges sworn into the constitutional court will be called, "PCO judges".



JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman addresses a press conference.

BISP, UNWFP ink agreement to extend Benazir Nashonuma Programme for two years

APP

ISLAMABAD: Benazir Income Support Programme and United Nations World Food Programme have signed an agreement to extend Benazir Nashonuma Programme for two years.

In this connection, a ceremony was held in Islamabad today.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairperson of BISP Rubina Khalid described the agreement as a key step in the country's fight against malnutrition.

She said government is determined to expand its reach and effectiveness to ensure that every child in Pakistan gets the opportunity of a healthy start in life.

Benazir Nashonuma Programme aims to reduce stunting among pregnant and lactating women and their children under two years of age by providing additional cash support to BISP beneficiary families.

Under this programme, the mother and boy child receives 2,500 rupees per quarter, while girl child gets 3,000 rupees per quarter.

The first phase of the agreement concluded in June 2024, and under the second phase, the program will be expanded to cover 157 districts with 562 facilitation centers.

Making cities environmental-sustainable vital for achieving green economy goals: Romina

INP

ISLAMABAD: Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Climate Change, Romina Khurshid Alam on Thursday said that climate change-caused extreme weather events, particularly heat waves and urban flooding incidents are posing grave risk to the lives and livelihoods of the people and public infrastructure.

Building climate-resilience of the cities against adverse impacts of climate change is crucial for making the urban environmentally-sustainable and resilient-livable places, Alam highlighted.

During the meeting with a delegation led by Capital Development Authority (CDA) Chairman, Muhammad Ali Randhawa, she outlined several initiatives aimed at transforming the capital into a model of environmental sustainability.

Presiding over the meeting, the PM's climate aide stressed promoting concepts and implementing policies for climate-resilient urbanisation not only can help us address immediate environmental and climate change-related challenges but also promote long-term sustainability, equity, and quality of life in urban areas.

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renewable energy, environmental health, transport, zero waste, and water management, all aimed at developing Islamabad as a smart city.

PTI's Alvi accuses CJP Isa of fostering floor-crossing to prolong tenure

He has damaged the country more than Justice Munir, says former president

NEWS DESK

LAHORE: Former president and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Dr Arif Alvi has accused Chief Justice of Pakistan Qazi Faez Isa of creating an atmosphere conducive to floor-crossing, driven by a "lust" to extend his tenure.

over what he described as a "bazaar of cruelty," claiming that the CJP had opened "a market for buying and selling people, like how slaves were once sold in America."



Advocate, Qari Rehmatullah addresses during the General Body meeting of Quetta Bar Association, in Quetta

Confrontation Erupts at Washington Restaurant Between OPF Chairman Syed Qamar Raza and Journalists

By Khawaja Farooq

Washington, D.C.: A heated altercation unfolded at the Des Pardis restaurant in Washington when Syed Qamar Raza, Chairman of the Overseas Pakistanis Foundation (OPF), who accompanied Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif during his visit to the United Nations, clashed with journalists upon his return from the Pakistan Embassy.

vide satisfactory answers escalated the situation into a heated argument. The confrontation quickly turned into a physical scuffle, with Raza losing his temper, hurling abuses, and reportedly picking up a chair to throw at the journalists.



Farooq Mirza, Syed Qamar Raza

Will reach D-Chowk come what may: Barrister Saif

INP

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Information Adviser Barrister Saif said on Thursday that the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) workers would reach Islamabad's D-Chowk on Oct 4 come what may.

Cannabis cultivation destroyed during operation in supervision of AC Pishin

APP

Quetta: Assistant Commissioner (AC) Pashin Zaheer Ahmad Zahri took action against narcotics and conducted raid on the land of Abdul Fateh Al-Kuzai in Surkhob Afghan refugee camp area of Pashin on Thursday.



QUETTA: Bazai Tribe head Taj Muhammad Bazai addressing a press conference.

Karim pays tribute to PM for presenting case of Kashmir, Palestine in GA

APP

Quetta: Central senior leader of Pakistan Muslim League- Nawaz (PML-N) Chaudhry Naeem Karim on Thursday paid tribute to the Prime Minister of Pakistan Mian Shehbaz Sharif for presenting the case of Kashmir and Palestine in a better way in the United Nations General Assembly (GA).

same page for the defense of the country, he said. He said that the Prime Minister tried to wake up and disturb the world in front of the Israeli Prime Minister and the Indian leader which was followed by the entire Muslim world.



Heavy machinery busy in placing safety barriers on road under the supervision of Traffic Police located on Court road in Quetta.



Pakistan eye winning start to Women's T20 World Cup

SPORTS DESK

DUBAI: The ICC Women's T20 World Cup begins on Thursday in the UAE with 10 teams featuring in the 18-day showpiece. Pakistan are placed in Group 'A' alongside Australia, India, New Zealand and Sri Lanka while Bangladesh, England, Scotland, South Africa and the West Indies are in Group 'B'.



SPAIN'S Carlos Alcaraz (L) and Jannik Sinner of Italy pose with their respective winner and runner-up trophies after the China Open final.

Battling Alcaraz outlasts Sinner in thriller to win China Open

SPORTS DESK

BEIJING: Carlos Alcaraz roared back from a set down to beat world number one Jannik Sinner in a thriller and win his first China Open title. The four-time Grand Slam champion from Spain edged a captivating final 6-7 (6/8), 6-4, 7-6 (7/3) for his fourth AIP crown of the year and 16th overall.

and win in three hours, 21 minutes. The dramatic triumph ended Sinner's run of 14 victories in a row and saw him deposed as the Beijing champion after an almighty fight.

Arsenal sink PSG as Dortmund hit seven past Celtic

SPORTS DESK

PARIS: Arsenal beat Paris St Germain 2-0 in their heavyweight duel on Tuesday, while Karim Adeyemi starred as last season's beaten finalists Borussia Dortmund ran riot against Celtic and Barcelona and Manchester City claimed their first wins in the restructured Champions League on Tuesday.



BARCELONA: Barcelona's Inigo Martinez Berridi (fourth R) scores during the Champions League match against Young Boys at Estadi Olimpic Luis Companys.

Advertisement for the Balochistan Public Procurement System (BPPRA) with contact information and website details.

TENDER NOTICE for the construction of hostel blocks at Baikar under Development Package for Dera Bugti. Includes details on bid submission and contact information.

CORRIGENDUM notice regarding the NIT published in Daily Newspapers Vide A.B.No.319/20-9-2024, with details on bid submission and contact information.

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Judicial infighting

THE ongoing spat within the Supreme Court has raised serious concerns about the integrity of the country's highest judicial forum at a time of unprecedented crises.

Instead of articulating their differences through formal judgments, which judges are expected to do, senior justices have taken to airing their grievances in public. Their sparring has eroded the court's power and left it vulnerable. The chief justice has been made the target of much criticism in recent days — owing, perhaps, to his seemingly contradictory positions before and after taking office.

However, to blame any individual would be unfair. Other senior judges equally share the responsibility for the ongoing turmoil. For example, the recent note addressed by the senior puisne judge to the chief justice questioning the exclusion of a third judge from the Supreme Court's apex committee should perhaps not have ended up in the public domain. Nor should, for that matter, the response to it.

Indeed, it would have been much better for the issue to have been addressed internally through consultation and debate. Alas, the bitter exchanges have added fuel to the fire. The episode has only solidified the perception that the judges have chosen to take sides against each other and do not wish to work towards a resolution, thus further damaging the judiciary's prestige and weakening public confidence in its ability to function impartially. As other state institutions grow more assertive, continued failure to present a united front will increasingly endanger the apex court's authority.

It is also painful to note how the current schism is turning into a rather disturbing reflection of a past crisis. One cannot help but recall former chief justice Sajjad Ali Shah's troubled tenure, which culminated in his downfall because of persistent discord within his court. While that comparison seems crude at this point — and one sincerely hopes that the situation never comes to pass — the present judiciary should guard against the path leading to it.

The judges must recognise that their squabbling has proven to be a godsend for those who have long wished to weaken the court and capture the state. The government's refusal to implement the court's decision in the reserved seats case is example enough of how other institutions will take advantage of the situation.

The responsibility for restoring the court's writ lies with the senior-most judges of the Supreme Court. They must prioritise their institution over their personal differences and make a sincere, concerted effort to resolve their problems. There is time still for them to come together and settle all disputes amicably. The judiciary has survived many challenges in the past, and it can do so again. For that, its leaders must let bygones be bygones and act with wisdom and restraint.

By F.S. Aijazuddin

Modern facsimiles

MUSTAFA Kemal Atatürk was born in Turkey, in 1881. Since then, facsimiles have been spawned many times: Soekarno in Indonesia, Lt-Col Rawlings in Ghana, Col Nasser in Egypt, Field Marshal Ayub Khan et alia in Pakistan. Each wore the uniform of a patriot, tailored for him, as he believed, by destiny.

Patrick Kinross' definitive biography Atatürk: The Rebirth of a Nation (1964) is a must-read for anyone (in jail or out of it), with time on his hands and thwarted patriotism smouldering in his heart.

Atatürk's political ideas assumed a 'coherent shape' early in his life, while he was still a lieutenant at the military training school at Montasir. "He began to devour history as he had previously devoured mathematics and poetry. He read all he could about the career of Napoleon who became (with qualifications) one of his heroes."

Like Napoleon, Atatürk suffered from the highest form of narcissism. "In so far as Atatürk was capable of love," Kinross explains, "he loved his country." In time, Atatürk would have a loyal mistress Fikriye whom he later discarded for a wife, Latife. Fikriye later committed suicide. Kinross analyses traits found in many of our own Atatürk facsimiles.

When Latife became too demanding and possessive, he divorced her. Childless, Atatürk adopted eight children. Turkey though remained the enduring love of his life. That, and the people of Turkey.

Two incidents in Kinross's biography present little known facets of Atatürk's innate egalitarianism. One day in Sofia, Atatürk notices a peasant

being denied service in a tea house. He chides the waiter: "As long as the peasant is not master of the country, there can be no real progress in the country." From this was born his slogan: 'The peasant is master of this country.' In another, at a dinner given by the Soviets in their embassy, he tweaked his communist hosts: "I don't see among us any of the men who prepared this feast." Within minutes, the cook and other servants were called to the "classless table".

Daringly for his time, Atatürk advocated gender equality. In a national meeting of teachers, he taunted the organisers: "Why did you make them sit apart from the men? Don't you trust yourselves, or have you no faith in the virtue of these ladies?"

Regarding religion, Kinross tells us that Atatürk was not for the eradication of Islam. What he sought was "to disengage it from the condition of being a political instrument, which it had been for centuries of habit".

Kinross describes Atatürk's tortuous efforts to reform the Turkish alphabet. Atatürk spent hours poring over old and new dictionaries in search of "pure Turkish words". His aim was to purify the language of Arabic and Persian infusions. Eventually, he compromised by 'naturalising' words that had no Turkish equivalent. Atatürk's achievement was to give his countrymen a language and alphabet comprehensible to anyone who had learned the new ABC, thereby reinforcing 'Turkishness'.

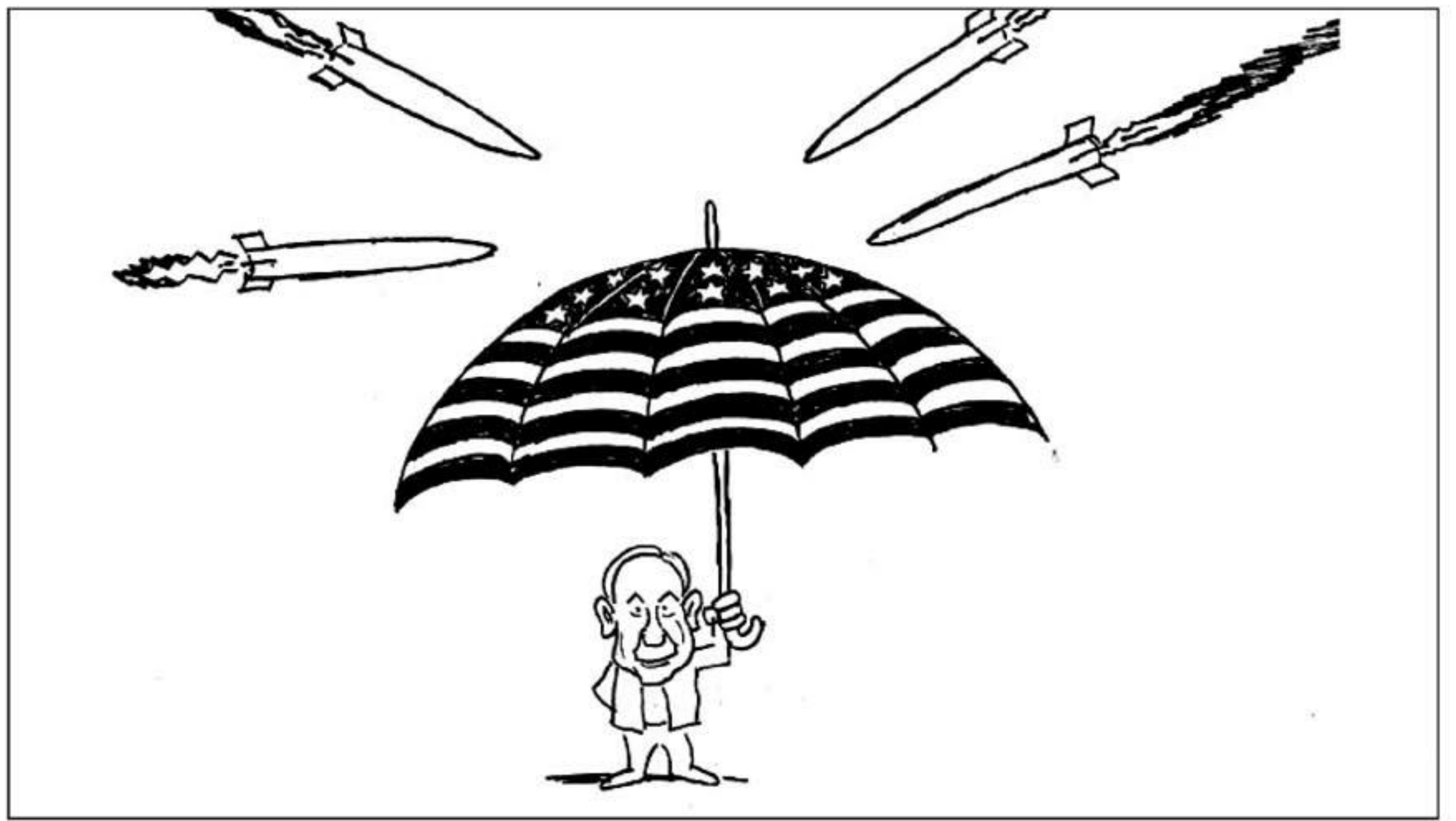
Muslims in India saw in Atatürk's Turkey the possibility of a viable Muslim state. The Indian khilafat committee evidenced its support through an Indian fund. Its contributions were

used for the construction of a new parliament building in 'Angora' and the foundation of Turkey's first nationalist bank.

Western historians have written much about Winston Churchill's disastrous failure at Gallipoli in 1915-16. Kinross provides a corrective account from a Turkish perspective. He highlights Atatürk's military success there as a military commander, despite being heavily outnumbered.

Even in defeat, though, Churchill admitted that "loaded with follies, stained with crimes, rotted with misgovernment, shattered by battle, worn down by long disastrous wars, his Empire falling to pieces around him, the Turk was still alive". Many Pakistanis will recognise in Churchill's words the present condition of our beleaguered homeland.

Kinross analyses traits found in many of our own Atatürk facsimiles: "Kemal was not born for cooperation, except in so far as necessity demanded it. He was born to dominate. Aware of this, [his closest supporters] while following him loyally, had watched him warily. They accepted his leadership but remained on guard against the personal ambition that conditioned his patriotism." In one paragraph, Kinross comes uncomfortably close to our present political situation. Gen J.G. Harbord, an envoy of US president Woodrow Wilson, meets Atatürk. He asks him how he proposes to reconstruct Turkey: "Kemal as he talked had been playing with a string of prayer beads [...] He pulled the string apart, and the beads were scattered all over the floor. Picking them up one by one, he remarked that here was the answer to the general's questions."



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Regarding religion, Kinross tells us that Atatürk was not for the eradication of Islam. What he sought was "to disengage it from the condition of being a political instrument, which it had been

for centuries of habit".

Kinross describes Atatürk's tortuous efforts to reform the Turkish alphabet. Atatürk spent hours poring over old and new dictionaries in search of "pure Turkish words". His aim was to purify the language of Arabic and Persian infusions. Eventually, he compromised by 'naturalising' words that had no Turkish equivalent. Atatürk's achievement was to give his countrymen a language and alphabet comprehensible to anyone who had learned the new ABC, thereby reinforcing 'Turkishness'.

Muslims in India saw in Atatürk's Turkey the possibility of a viable Muslim state. The Indian khilafat committee evidenced its support through an Indian fund. Its contributions were used for the construction of a new parliament building in 'Angora' and the foundation of Turkey's first nationalist bank.

Western historians have written much about Winston Churchill's disastrous failure at Gallipoli in 1915-16. Kinross provides a corrective account from a Turkish perspective. He highlights Atatürk's military success there as a military commander, despite being heavily outnumbered.

Even in defeat, though, Churchill admitted that "loaded with follies, stained with crimes, rotted with misgovernment, shattered by battle, worn down by long disastrous wars, his Empire falling to pieces around him, the Turk was still alive". Many Pakistanis will recognise in Churchill's words the present condition of our beleaguered homeland.

Kinross analyses traits found in many of our own Atatürk facsimiles: "Kemal was not born for cooperation, except in so far as necessity demanded it. He was born to dominate. Aware of this, [his closest supporters] while following him loyally, had watched him warily. They accepted his leadership but remained on guard against the personal ambition that conditioned his patriotism."

In one paragraph, Kinross comes uncomfortably close to our present political situation. Gen J.G. Harbord, an envoy of US president Woodrow Wilson, meets Atatürk. He asks him how he proposes to reconstruct Turkey:

"Kemal as he talked had been playing with a string of prayer beads [...] He pulled the string apart, and the beads were scattered all over the floor.

Picking them up one by one, he remarked that here was the answer to the general's questions. He meant to draw the pieces of his country together."

It took Atatürk only 15 years (three times a Pakistani prime minister's ordained term) to restrain his rosary into today's Turkey.

DAILY MIRROR

Senate Body reviews key issues affecting power companies, PIACL

By Zahid Ahmed Khan

ISLAMABAD: Senate Standing Committee on Privatization on Thursday reviewed crucial aspects related to major power companies and the privatization of Pakistan International Airlines Corporation Limited (PIACL).

The meeting of the Senate Body held on the chair of Senator Muhammad Tullal Badar at OLD PIPS Hall, Parliament Lodges was attended by Senator Khalida Ateeb, Senator Jam Saifullah Khan, Senator Umer Farooq, Senator Khalid Tahir, Senator Mohsin Aziz, the Secretary of Privatization, and the senior officials from the Power Division and concerned departments.

Chairman Senator Muhammad Tullal Badar expressed dissatisfaction over the absence of the Minister at the meeting that reviewed crucial aspects related to major power companies and the privatization of Pakistan International Airlines Corporation Limited (PIACL).

During the briefing by the Ministry of Energy (Power Division) on the proposed privatization of electricity distribution companies (DISCOS), Chairman Muhammad Tullal Badar inquired about the failure to privatize Faisalabad Electric Supply Company (FESCO), questioning why the process was unsuccessful. He mentioned hearing that FESCO had reached its final stage of pri-

vatization around 2016-2017, yet it was not finalized. He further asked what factors contributed to the privatization not being completed and raised concerns about the reasoning provided regarding labor at that time. The representative from the Ministry of Power emphasized that employee concerns have become a significant obstacle in the privatization process.

The Committee Chairman inquired about the pending World Bank report and its expected completion date, and it was stated that the report would be finalized within 20 to 25 days. He recommended that the final report be shared with the Committee upon completion. Senator Muhammad Tullal Badar also inquired about the full details of FESCO and PESCO, expressing dismay over the current state of both companies. He noted that, given the present circumstances, no one would be interested in acquiring the companies if the situation remains unchanged. He urged the authorities to review the board's performance and identify the factors that led to this condition. Additionally, he questioned whether the privatization was intended to resolve existing issues, address the companies' financial decline, or was driven by labor concerns, all of which should have been thoroughly discussed with the Committee.

Regarding the details of expenditures incurred during the privatization of electricity distribution companies (DISCOS), the Power Division consultant

reported that approximately 250 million has been spent. Senator Muhammad Tullal Badar lamented that in a state where 250 million are involved, and failures have occurred in one of the major institutions in Pakistan, what kind of perception does this create in the world?

Additionally, the Committee unanimously agreed to hold a joint meeting of the Senate Standing Committee on Power and the Senate Standing Committee on Privatization to further examine the details and shortcomings of the aforementioned companies.

Moreover, regarding the ongoing privatization of Pakistan International Airlines Corporation Limited (PIACL), Senator Muhammad Tullal Badar emphasized that the Committee's primary concern is receiving further updates on the privatization transaction, stressing that delays and failure to execute the transaction create complications for the country.

The Secretary of Privatization added that the timeline depends on the evaluation and terms, as some bidders are seeking more, and negotiations are still underway. Additionally, there is the issue of legacy liabilities. The Chair directed the Secretary of Privatization to finalize the process by 31st October, emphasizing that Pakistan's future depends on it. The Chairman also expressed optimism that the privatization efforts by PIACL will yield positive results.



A large number of people are gathered after a bus fell into a ditch due to over speeding, near Hazara Graveyard located on Western Bypass in Quetta.

Kamal reaffirms commitment to create conducive environment for foreign investment

APP

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal has reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to create a conducive environment for foreign investment particularly for Malaysian traders.

He was talking to Malaysian Minister for Investment, Trade and Industry Datuk Seri Utama Tengku Zafrul Bin Tengku Abdul Aziz who called on him in Islamabad today.

Minister for Commerce emphasized that there is huge potential to grow bilateral trade between the two sides.

He told Malaysian Minister that recently Government of Pakistan has removed Minimum Export Price for rice to allow Pakistani exporters to negotiate competitive prices.

The Minister reiterated Pakistan's commitment to maintaining high halal standards, which are essential for expanding access to the Malaysian market.

Speaking on the occasion, Malaysian Minister reassured their commitment to ease the procedures of trade for Pakistani businesses.

Pakistan, Australia agree to jointly counter human-trafficking

APP

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Australia have agreed to enhance cooperation to counter human trafficking.

The consensus to this effect was reached during a meeting between Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi and Australian High Commissioner Neil Hawkins in Islamabad today.

Interior Minister said a team deployed to counter human trafficking is working day and night to prevent human smuggling to Australia and other countries.

He said efforts are being made to enhance the capacity of the Federal Investigation Agency in this regard.

Australian High Commissioner Neil Hawkins offered Pakistan to benefit from Australia's modern border management techniques and equipment.

Both sides agreed to hold the meeting of Joint Working Group in Australia in December.

Interior minister warns PTI against Islamabad rally amid Malaysian PM's visit

ONLINE

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Thursday warned the PTI against its plans to hold a rally at Islamabad's D-Chowk tomorrow due to several high-profile visits by foreign dignitaries, including the Malaysian prime minister.

The PTI has carried out multiple rallies across the country, protesting against the "illegal" imprisonment of its founder Imran Khan, the Election Commission of Pakistan's delay in following the Supreme Court verdict on the reserved seats, and to "save the Constitution".

Each time, the government has issued a set of strict guidelines ahead of the rallies, sparking clashes between PTI workers and the authorities.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur and other PTI lawmakers from the province on Wednesday vowed to attend their party's Oct 4 rally at D-Chowk in Islamabad "at all costs" and announced that they would reach the federal capital even if it took

them several days. The participants said they would remain peaceful in their movement towards Islamabad and wouldn't violate the law, but if they were stopped or force was used against them, then they would be responded to in the

same manner. The rally plans coincide with the third and final day of the Malaysian prime minister's visit to Pakistan. The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) authorities have already enforced Section 144 and the Peaceful Assembly Act across the federal capital, prohibiting gatherings and processions in restricted areas as part of tightened security measures.

Addressing a press conference in the federal capital today regarding the matter, the interior minister said the PTI was aware that it was a very "sensitive time" for the Islamabad administration because of several visits by foreign officials lined up and security arrangements needed to be made.

"The PTI is a party of Pakistan, not [some] foreign [entity]. The only thing I want to say is that when a head of state is present here and you plan to assault Islamabad at that time, this is completely inappropriate." He said everyone had the full right to engage in politics and come to Islamabad but requested that the time for all this was not when a head of state was in the federal capital. "We have to make our arrangements... there is no lenience or second thought present in any of us about that," he said, with Inspector General of Police Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi and other officials beside him.

Speaker NA, Egyptian & Ethiopian envoys; discuss bilateral ties, issues of regional, int'l interests

INP

ISLAMABAD: National Assembly (NA) Speaker, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq has said that Pakistan highly values its cordial ties with Egypt and intended to further expand the existing relations through enhanced parliamentary and economic cooperation.

This was stated by him while speaking during a meeting with Ambassador of Egypt Dr. Ihab Abdel Hamid Hassan who called on him at the Parliament House on Thursday.

Sardar Ayaz Sadiq said the brotherly relation between Pakistan and Egypt was based on common religion, culture, history, mutual respect and brotherhood. He expressed grave concern over the current situation in the Middle East and condemned Israeli aggression in Palestine and Lebanon. He urged upon the international community to play its role in ending Israeli occupation and aggression so that durable peace can prevail in the region.

While highlighting the importance of parliamentary diplomacy, he said parliamentary diplomacy could play a vital role in strengthening the bilateral relations. He further said the exchange of parliamentary delegations would enable parliamentarians of both countries to learn from each other's experiences.

The Speaker NA also said enhanced contacts between Parliamentary Friendship Groups (PFGs) of both countries would result in strengthening of bi-lateral relations as well.

Ayaz also extended invitation to his Egyptian counterpart to visit Pakistan along with parliamentary delegation.

Egyptian Ambassador Dr. Ihab AbdelHamid Hassan appreciated the remarks of the speaker for further expanding relations between both brotherly countries and parliaments. He further said Egypt attached great importance to its cordial relation with Pakistan. He also commended Pakistan's efforts for promotion of durable peace in the region. Later on, Ambassador of Ethiopia to Pakistan, Jemal Beker Abdula also called on Ayaz Sadiq at the Parliament House. The matters pertaining to bilateral relations and important regional and international issues.

Coalition needs Fazl's support for constitutional amendments: Irfan Siddiqui

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: Senior leader of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) and Parliamentary Leader in the Senate, Irfan Siddiqui, has emphasised the need for JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman's support, not just his votes, in the coalition's efforts to pass constitutional amendments.

Speaking to a private TV channel on Thursday, Siddiqui hailed the Supreme Court's recent decision on the review petition regarding Article 63-A, calling it a correction of a major mistake. "This decision doesn't give relief to the government or any party—it gives relief to the Constitution," he remarked.

Siddiqui criticised the previous ruling by former chief justice Umar Ata Bandial, Justices Ijazul Ahsan, and Muneeb Akhtar, claiming they had effectively rewritten the Constitution to favour one political party in Punjab. "They added an extra phrase to ensure Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi took the chief minister's seat, instead of Hamza Shehbaz," he

alleged. He further warned of the dangers of judicial overreach, calling it "the most frightening form of dictatorship." Siddiqui said, "Unlike military or administrative authoritarianism, judicial dictatorship knows no bounds and uses justice as a weapon to cross all limits."

Siddiqui stressed the importance of Maulana Fazlur Rehman's involvement in ongoing negotiations between political parties, stating, "We need not only his votes but Maulana himself. Everything is happening in broad daylight, and media discussions show political parties are engaging in talks."

He expressed confidence that Fazlur Rehman would soon reach a decision and predicted that a parliamentary session would be convened within the next 10 days.

Commenting on the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) actions, Siddiqui drew parallels to the party's behaviour during the 2014 protests, suggesting that PTI's approach had not changed since the May 9 incidents.

US will not support Israeli attacks on Iran nuclear sites: Biden

By Khawaja Farooq

WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden said he would not support a strike by Israel aimed at wiping out Iran's nuclear facilities in retaliation for its latest missile attack.

"The answer is no," Biden told reporters, when asked whether he would back strikes against Iranian nuclear sites.

"We'll be discussing with the Israelis what they're going to do," he said, adding that all G7 members agree Israel has "a right to respond, but they should respond in proportion."

Meanwhile, the United States knows Israel will retaliate after Iran's major missile attack, and even says it supports such a move, but is trying to influence the nature of the response, warning against targeting Tehran's nuclear facilities.

US President Joe Biden, who consulted with his G7 counterparts on Wednesday after the Islamic republic fired off about 200 ballistic missiles, set a clear red line

for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

"All seven of us agree that they have a right to respond, but they should respond in proportion," Biden said, without going into detail about what such a response might look like.

All sides are aware that any retaliatory strike against Iran's nuclear or oil installations would send the Middle East spiralling even more towards chaos, but Israel seems not to have made a decision yet.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken conferred with his French, British, German and Italian counterparts to convey that message, the State Department said.

In Washington and elsewhere, a sinking feeling of dread is prevailing as officials wait to see

if Netanyahu, under pressure at home to act, will be tempted to strike hard and deeper into Iran, taking the fight to his country's sworn enemy.



Members of Grand Health Alliance Balochistan are holding protest rally against privatization of government hospitals, in Quetta



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Egypt Dr. Ihab Mohamed Abdelhamid Hassan called on Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq at Parliament house.

ECC discusses issues of national interests, considers & approves various proposal

INP

ISLAMABAD: Chaired by Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, the meeting of the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the Cabinet held here on Thursday discussed different issues of national interests, considered and approved different proposals.

Minister for Industries and Production Rana Tanveer Hussain, Minister for Power Sardar Awais Ahmed Khan Leghari, Minister of State for Finance and Revenue Mr. Ali Pervaiz Malik, along with federal secretaries and senior officers from the concerned ministries and divisions attended the meeting.

On the occasion, the ECC discussed a summary by the Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and

Coordination regarding the short supply of Anti-Rabies Vaccine (ARV) at Federal General Hospital Chak Shahzad Islamabad. The meeting was told that the Anti-Rabies Vaccine (ARV) used at Federal General Hospital Chak Shahzad was manufactured by the National Institute of Health Islamabad and it was currently priced at Rs. 891.65 whereas the same drug was sold at Rs. 2126.40 for WHO-approved ARV and Rs. 1266.14 for non-WHO approved ARV in the market. After due consideration, the ECC approved the proposal to increase the Maximum Retail Price of Anti-Rabies Vaccine (ARV) manufactured by the National Institute of Health, Islamabad, from Rs. 891.65 to Rs. 1980 per vial of 0.5ml/ dose to cover the landed cost of imported material and ensure its sufficient production and supply to the public sector hospitals.

US takes notice of Pakistan's handling of \$400m flood aid after Bilawal's allegations

By Khawaja Farooq

WASHINGTON: The United States took notice of a statement by Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari regarding his allegations against the Shehbaz Sharif government for mismanaging \$400 million intended for flood victims.

Bilawal Bhutto Zardari claimed that he secured a \$400 million loan and aid for flood victims, which the federal government has allegedly appropriated for itself.

The PPP chief stated that the \$400 million obtained from the World Bank has been retained by the federal government, which is providing him with rupees instead, under the pretext that they will be used for projects.

He criticized the federal government for failing to construct a single house in recent years and urged that the funds be directed to the flood victims.

"We take this matter very seriously, not just in Pakistan but also wherever American taxpayer dollars are used and

where urgent humanitarian interests are at stake," State Department spokesperson Mathew Miller said during a press briefing.

Miller highlighted that both the State Department and USAID employ stringent monitoring and evaluation systems in providing assistance, and they cease assistance when it is observed to be mis-directed or misused.

Responding to a query about Secretary Blinken's meeting with Indian counterpart Jaishankar, Miller stated that they discussed their enduring commitment to strengthening bilateral ties, coordinating closely on regional and global challenges, and advancing cooperation on critical and emerging technologies.

"I won't divulge all the details of those conversations, but we frequently raise human rights issues

in our discussions with governments worldwide," he remarked when asked if human rights violations and religious freedom were discussed with the Indian Minister.