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mirrorqta@gmail.com

Chief editor Syed Mumtaz Shah

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High-value target among 4 terrorists killed in Balochistan's Kech: ISPR

HVT was focal recruitment agent, especially suicide bombers, for so called Majeed Brigade, says ISPR

APP

RAWALPINDI: At least four terrorists, including a "high-value target", were killed during an intelligence-based operation (IBO) in Balochistan's Kech district, the military's media wing said on Wednesday.

According to a statement issued by the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the security forces, on the night between November 12-13, conducted an IBO in the general area Balgatar of Kech District on the reported presence of terrorists.

During the conduct of the operation, an intense fire exchange took place between the security forces and the terrorists, as a result of which "four terrorists including the HVT, terrorist ring leader Sana @ Baru" were killed.

"He was a focal recruitment agent, especially suicide bombers, for the so-called

Majeed Brigade in district Kech and was highly wanted by the law enforcement agencies."

The ISPR further said that weapons and ammunition were also recovered from the killed terrorists.

Sanitisation operation was being conducted to eliminate any other terrorists found in the area, said the military's media wing.

Security forces, in step with the nation, remain determined to thwart attempts to sabotage the peace, stability and progress of Balochistan, it added.

It is pertinent to mention here that the third quarter (July-September) of 2024 saw a sharp increase in fatalities of terrorist violence and counter-terrorism campaigns, with a 90% surge in violence, according to a report issued by Center for Research and Security Studies (CRSS).



BAKU: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif addressing the COP-29 Climate Action Summit.

Previous financial pledges on climate change remain unmet: PM tells COP29 summit

PM urged international community to honour climate aid commitments made at prior climate conferences, including COP28

ONLINE

BAKU: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif raised concerns on Wednesday about the unmet financial pledges made at the previous two United Nations climate summits, COP27 and COP28.

Addressing the ongoing COP29 conference in Baku, Azerbaijan, the prime minister stressed that the commitments made by developed countries to support climate action have yet to materialize. He said that Pakistan incurred over \$30 billion in damages due to catastrophic flooding in 2022, a consequence of climate change that continues to impact vulnerable countries globally.

PM Shehbaz described the severe impacts on Pakistan, where thousands were displaced, and essential infrastructure, including schools, was destroyed. He noted that failing to act on these pledges could subject other countries to similar devastations in the future.

Pakistan, among the ten countries most affected by climate change, has implemented strong resilience measures but requires global assistance to sustain these efforts.

In his opening remarks at the Climate Finance Roundtable Conference, organised by Pakistan in Baku, the prime minister highlighted that the developing countries would require an estimated \$6.8 trillion by 2030 to fulfil even half of their current climate goals. "Our commitment to the climate must be accompanied by an equitable mechanism that ensures historic emitters contribute fairly, through financial and technical support to developing countries facing the brunt of climate impacts," Shehbaz told the roundtable. The IDC proposal seeks to establish a structured mechanism to track and measure the delivery of climate finance commitments to developing nations. Under the IDC, the emitters would be accountable for fulfilling their commitments for mitigation and adaptation.

Trump meets Biden at White House to discuss power transfer

"Welcome, welcome back," Biden tells Trump at the start of their meeting in front of a roaring fireplace



By Khawaja Farooq

WASHINGTON: President-elect Donald Trump returned to the White House on Wednesday for the first time since winning last week's election and sat down for talks about the looming transfer of power with longtime political rival President Joe Biden.

"Welcome, welcome back," Biden told Trump at the start of their meeting in front of a roaring fireplace.

He promised Trump a smooth transition

of power and to do all he could "to make sure you're accommodated."

"It'll be as smooth as it can get," Trump said.

It was a sharp contrast to the criticism the two men have hurled at each other for years. Their respective teams hold vastly different positions on policies from climate change to Russia to trade. Biden, 81, has portrayed Trump as a threat to democracy, while Trump, 78,

has portrayed Biden as incompetent. Trump made false claims of widespread fraud after losing the 2020 election to Biden. Trump's motorcade rolled through the heavily guarded White House gate and the former and future Republican president was greeted in the Oval Office by Biden, a Democrat who defeated him in the 2020 election. Outside on the White House driveway, a massive crowd of journalists gathered in anticipation of the big event.

DPM/FM calls upon developed nations to honour climate finance pledges

APP

BAKU: Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Wednesday called on the developed nations to honour their climate finance pledges to provide accessible and grants-based climate financing to achieve developing countries' climate goals.

The deputy prime minister/foreign minister attended a high-level event convened by the United Secretary-General on 'Delivering Early Warnings for All (EW4All)' and Addressing Extreme Heat' on the sidelines of the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29).

Addressing the high-level event, the

deputy prime minister/foreign minister reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to safeguarding lives and protecting communities from the unpredictable and severe impacts of climate change. Pakistan's cuisine

He emphasized the importance of early warning systems for climate-induced hazards, including floods, glacial lake outbursts, droughts, and extreme heat.

DPM/FM Dar outlined Pakistan's key initiatives to reduce projected greenhouse gas emissions including Green Pakistan Project, an Electric Vehicle Policy, a large-scale mangrove rehabilitation project, and BRT mass transit systems across major cities.

He also appreciated the UN Secretary-General's leadership in launching the EW4All initiative in 2022.



QUETTA: CM Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti Chairing a meeting with Provincial Action Plan.

Japan approves grant for flood management project in Pakistan

APP

ISLAMABAD: The Government of Japan has approved a grant amounting to 18.5 million dollars for flood management project in Pakistan.

A signing ceremony for exchange of notes and record of discussion between the governments of Japan and Pakistan was held in Islamabad today.

The project is aimed at improving accuracy of flood forecasts and flood control functions, accumulate basic data that contributes to disaster risk reduction measures, and reducing the risk of loss to human and economy including infrastructure.

The project titled "Flood Management Enhancement in the Indus Basin" will be materialized through Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

The scope of the project is to develop a hydrological and hydraulic observation network besides rehabilitating the river structures damaged by the 2022 flood in Indus River and its tributaries.

The project will also contribute to the capacity building of flood management institutions, thereby contributing to future flood risk reduction.

Deputy Chairman Senate visits Quetta, Condemns Railway Station Attack

APP

QUETTA: Deputy Chairman Senate Syedaal Khan Wednesday visited Quetta's Trauma Center to inquire about the health of those injured in the recent railway station incident.

He extended his best wishes for their recovery and expressed sympathy to the families of the martyrs.

Speaking to the media, he said that terrorists deserve no leniency and expressed the government's resolve to bring those who threaten national integrity and sovereignty to justice.

He acknowledged the crucial role of security forces in combat-

ing terrorism.

It is everyone's shared responsibility to work together to eliminate terrorism and counter hostile elements.

He also highlighted Balochistan's strategic importance as the gateway to Central Asia. He said that the province's progress toward economic development, stressing that cowardly acts, such as the railway station attack, cannot weaken their resolve.

Provincial Ministers Mir Saleem Ahmed Khoso and Raheela Hameed Durrani were also present, and condemned the terrorist attack and reaffirming their commitment to peace and stability in the province.

Pakistan, Azerbaijan vow to strengthen strategic partnership

APP

BAKU: Pakistan and Azerbaijan have expressed their commitment to strengthen strategic partnership in diverse areas, including economic and defense cooperation as well as people to people and cultural ties.

This resolve was expressed at a meeting between Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev on the sidelines of the World Leaders Climate Action Summit (COP-29) in Baku today.

Congratulating Ilham Aliyev on successful holding of the summit, Shehbaz Sharif commended the Azerbaijan President's vision and commitment to enhance international cooperation to address

challenges posed by climate change.

The Prime Minister said Pakistan is among the most affected countries due to climate change despite its negligible contributions. He, however, assured his country's commitment to work with Azerbaijan and the international community on climate change related challenges.

Besides the Prime Minister expressed optimism about further enhancing cooperation in various fields, including technology sharing and joint ventures in renewable energy.

The two leaders also exchanged views on the escalating situation in the Middle East and other regional and international developments.

Imran Khan has given final call for protest on Nov 24: Aleema Khan

ONLINE

ISLAMABAD: Aleema Khan sister of PTI founder has said Imran Khan has given final call for protest on November 24.

PTI founder has said lawyers should come out for the sake of Supreme Court. Civil society, farmers and students should come out for protest, she said this while talking to media men outside Adiala jail Wednesday.

She said people should come out for voicing protest against the stolen mandate, unjust massive arrests and 26th constitutional amendment.

Nation has to decide today either they have to live under martial law or in freedom. PTI founder has given final call for protest on November 24, she held.

PTI founder has said people brought revolution in democracy on February 8, PTI election symbol was taken first before February 8. She went on to say people decided through ballot on February 8 that tyrannical system is not acceptable. People snatched power from powerful on February 8 and laid foundation of real democracy. Mandate was stolen on February 9. Stolen mandate was given to selective people. By seating these people in assembly they did what they would. People were deprived of their rights through 26th amendment, she said adding Imran Khan has said worst ever martial law has been imposed.

Supreme Court issues cause list for constitutional bench

INP

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court has released a cause list for the constitutional bench, which is scheduled to hear cases on Nov 14 and 15.

On Nov 14, the court will hear 18 cases, while 16 cases are set for Nov 15.

Key cases include a petition to remove former president Arif Alvi and another requesting to reschedule the 2024 general elections to the first week of March instead of February. Additionally, hearings will address a petition to disqualify assembly members with overseas businesses and assets, as well as a petition to ban government officials from marrying foreigners. The six-member bench, led by Justice Aminuddin Khan will oversee the proceedings starting tomorrow (Thursday).

SCBA Newly-elect President Calls on CM Balochistan

APP

QUETTA: Mian Rauf Atta, the newly-elect President of the Supreme Court Bar Association, on Wednesday called on Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti here at CM Secretariat.

During the meeting, the two leaders exchanged views on various matters and reaffirmed their commitment to upholding the supremacy of the Constitution and Parliament, stressing that there will be no compromise on the independence of the judiciary. The Chief Minister assured his support for the Supreme Court Bar Association Housing Project in Quetta. Earlier, Mir Sarfraz Bugti congratulated Mian Rauf Atta on winning lawyers top slot extending his best wishes for his tenure.

Khawaja Asif heckled, threatened with 'knife attack' in London

MONITORING DESK

LONDON: Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif faced unsettling heckling and was threatened with a "knife attack" at London ground station by an unidentified individual, shows a video went viral on social media. Sources close to the PML-N leader have confirmed the incident to Geo News, saying that the video showing defence minister being threatened and mistreated "is real". This is not a first time that a Pakistani political leader was harassed and heckled in the British capital. Lately, former chief justice of Pakistan Qazi Faez Isa's vehicle was attacked by PTI supporters at London's Middle Temple. Former CJP Isa's car was stopped and banged upon by a group of PTI protesters last month when he arrived to attend a prestigious event organised by The Honourable Society of the Middle Temple for his elevation as Clee after he relinquished charge as the country's top judge.

Pakistan calls for global strategy to deal with challenges of immigration

Mohsin Naqvi stresses measure for promoting legal immigration:

Pakistan adopted tough measures to tackle illegal immigration

NEWS DESK

HUNGARIAN: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi has called for framing an international strategy to deal with the "complicated challenges" of worldwide immigration flow stemmed from problems like prolonged conflicts, economic instability and climate change.

Addressing the 7th Ministerial Conference of the Budapest Process in the Hungarian capital on Wednesday, Mohsin Naqvi maintained that no country can combat such a huge challenge on its own. "That's why a global strategy is needed to handle this tactfully," he added.

Mohsin Naqvi said new challenges continue to arise due to current global turmoil and they have to adopt comprehensive policies to address these challenges.

Mohsin Naqvi said Pakistan has already taken various legal and administrative measures to curb illegal immigration by introducing effective policies to curb human smuggling and taking measures to award exemplary punishment to accused involved in human smuggling. The Pakistani minister said that general public should get awareness about result of illegal immigration and human smuggling. He said the current government adopted tough measures with the help of European Union to promote legal immigration.

He said during current years lot of negative propaganda being spread against migrants which is not good. He said measures should be adopted to promote legal migration and anyone should be treated equally and on merit.

Mohsin Naqvi said that addressing Budapest Summit was an honour for him and Pakistan will extend full support to Budapest Process. He also congratulated Turkey and Hungary for holding such conference. He also thanked the Government of Hungary and its people for extending him a warm welcome. He said that Budapest is a beautiful and historical city. He lauded efforts of Global Centre for Migration Policy Development for holding this summit.



Mian Rauf Atta, the newly-elected President of the Supreme Court Bar Association, on Wednesday called on Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti.

Imran's final call will prove to be last nail in govt's coffin: Saif

INP

PESHAWAR: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Information Adviser Barrister Saif has stated that whatever the fake government does, their last time has come, after the final call of protest, the constitution and law will prevail in the country, Imran Khan's final call will prove to be the last nail in the government's coffin. The arrest and released of central and elected members of PTI showed the desperation of the fake government's final call, he added.

In a statement issued on Wednesday, he said that preparations are being finalized for the final call of protest in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Ali Amin Gandapur himself is supervising all the preparations, now only founder PTI Imran Khan's final call.

The call is awaited, as soon as the final call is announced, the protest will start from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Barrister Saif stated that Ali Amin Gandapur will bury the political body of the fake government, whatever the fake government does, its final time has come.

There will be strict accountability of the mandate thieves including the release of TI Imran Khan, the final call will be so severe that maybe fake princess Maryam Nawaz and her father will delay their return from Geneva and stay there.

In this regard, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur has said that Imran Khan will call for protest in November. Yes, I conveyed the message of Imran Khan to the nation, now as soon as Imran Khan gives the final call, we will be on the streets.

Firdous Ashiq Awan Urges Unity Among Overseas Pakistanis at New York Event Hosted by Fourth Pillar and Pakistan Watan TV

By Khawaja Farooq

New York – In a spirited address at the Pakistan House in New York, former Federal Minister of Information, Dr. Firdous Ashiq Awan, spoke to members of the Pakistani community, emphasizing the vital role overseas Pakistanis play in the nation's prosperity. The event, organized by Fourth Pillar and Pakistan Watan TV, brought together community leaders and notable figures, including ex-councilor Khawaja Farooq from Gujranwala Cantonment and Atiya Shehnaz, the liaison officer from the New York Mayor's office.

Dr. Awan expressed her deep desire for Pakistan to flourish and follow a path of success, stressing that this vision is achievable only if the Pakistani diaspora unites for the common cause of national progress. "It deeply saddens me to see overseas Pakistanis divided under the banners of different political parties," she remarked. "We must come together under the guiding principles of Quaid-e-Azam, strengthen our nation, and work collectively to bolster the economy."

She voiced her dismay over the negative portrayal of Pakistan by some individuals on social media, fueled by financial incentives. "Spreading false and damaging narratives tarnishes our country's image on the global stage, and it pains me to witness this," Dr. Awan stated, appealing to the community to project positivity and solidarity.



Highlighting the sacrifices made by the armed forces, she noted, "From my city, which borders India, brave soldiers lose their lives defending our homeland every day. It is our duty to support the Pakistan Army and uphold the cause of our nation." She also encouraged overseas Pakistani women to play an active role, particularly in advancing the IT sector to contribute to national development.

Reflecting on her political journey, Dr. Awan candidly admitted that a common flaw she observed in all major political parties was the dominance of a singular, dictatorial figure. "There is no true democracy

within these parties. Until they foster democracy internally, they cannot bring it to the country," she asserted.

The gathering concluded with Dr. Awan thanking community members, including prominent figures like Naseem Ali Zai, Farooq Mirza, and Shahid Mirza. She gave special recognition to Ali Zai, the owner of Pakistan House, for his support of the Republican Party during recent elections. Khawaja Farooq also addressed the audience, echoing Dr. Awan's call for unity, while Atiya Shehnaz emphasized the importance of community cohesion and active participation in promoting a positive image of Pakistan in international circles.

Pediatrician Dr. Gul Tareen took charge of Director Management Children's Hospital Quetta and started working

ONLINE



Quetta: According to the announcement of the Department of Health, Government of Balochistan, Dr. Gul Tareen Pediatrician (B-18) has been appointed as the Director of Management Children's Hospital Quetta. The work has started after assuming charge.

SCO taking steps to promote information technology: Adeel Malik

By Khawaja Farooq

Mirpur: Lieutenant Colonel Adeel Malik, the Commanding Officer of the Special Communications Organization (SCO) Mirpur Division, stated that the SCO is taking revolutionary measures to promote information technology and make public service delivery data more accessible. He emphasized that the rapid development of Pakistan's IT sector highlights its crucial role in the country's economic progress. The SCO is committed to innovation, digital transformation, and fostering economic development within the IT sector. The sector's exports are continuously growing,

showcasing the importance of IT in sustainable economic growth in the modern age.

Under the special instructions of Chief of Army Staff and SCO Director General Major General Umar Ahmad Shah, the SCO is fully utilizing its capacity to develop international-standard facilities equipped for modern times.

This includes establishing software technology parks (STPs) and freelancing hubs at the district, tehsil, and union council levels in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) and Gilgit-Baltistan.

Presently, around 50 SCO software technology parks and freelancing hubs are successfully operating within a short period in these



regions, where thousands of young men and women are being trained to contribute significantly to national development.

Speaking to the media, Colonel Malik further announced that by the end of the current fiscal year, additional SCO software technology parks and freelancing hubs would be set up in the Mirpur Division.

CM, Fed Maritime Minister vow to Address Fishermen Issues, Revive Keti Bandar Port Project

APP

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah and Federal Minister for Maritime Qaiser Shaikh, during their meeting, discussed addressing fishermen's issues, tackling sea pollution and plans to develop Keti Bandar as a new port.

According to CM House statement, meeting held here at the Chief Minister's House on Wednesday and was attended by Secretary to CM Raheem Shaikh and Chairman Port Qasim Rear Admiral Nasir Shah.

The Chief Minister noted that provincial government has banned sensitive fishing nets, known as Bulloo and Gujjo.

However, the matter of determining which government-issued licenses to trawlers remains unresolved.

To tackle the trawlers' issue, the Chief Minister and the federal minister agreed to form a joint committee comprising members from the Maritime Ministry, as well as the governments of Sindh and Balochistan.

They also discussed the problem of untreated wastewater being discharged into the sea, which contributes to sea pollution.

Agriculture Research Institute Balochistan Promotes Saffron, Broccoli Cultivation

APP

QUETTA: The Agriculture Research Institute (ARI) Balochistan on Wednesday hosted a seminar to highlight the potential of saffron and broccoli cultivation in the region. The event was graced by the presence of Ali Akbar, the esteemed Secretary of the Agriculture & Cooperatives Department, as the chief guest, Special Secretary Jahangir Khan Kakar and other distinguished guests from different renowned organizations, Departments and Universities. Renowned researchers from Agriculture Research, Agriculture Extension, the University of Balochistan, Women's University, and other prominent institutions were also invited.

Director General Agriculture Research, Abdul Raouf Kakar, emphasized the significance of saffron cultivation in the province and its global production.

Dr. Muhammad Shakeel, Director of Special Crops, provided detailed insights

into the cultivation techniques, benefits, and medicinal properties of both saffron and broccoli. Following the presentations, participants had the opportunity to visit saffron and broccoli fields. Saffron collection and storage briefed by the concerned Director. Its potential of cultivation in Balochistan Province were also highlighted before the participants. A collaborative research work between ARI and the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) were also visited by the Worthy Secretary Agriculture & Cooperatives and Special Secretary Jahangeer Khan Kakar. The Pistachio, Apple, Fodder, Wheat, Grapes experiments of collaborative work were appreciated by the Worthy Secretary Agriculture. The Secretary of Agriculture & Cooperatives Department commended the efforts of ARI researchers and expressed his commitment to fostering collaborative initiatives between ARI and other institutions to advance agricultural development in the province.



PSB terms PFF NC's call for Congress meeting 'illegal'

SPORTS DESK

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Sports Board (PSB) has declared the Pakistan Football Federation (PFF) Normalisation Committee's (NC) decision to convene an extraordinary Congress meeting on November 19 to amend the PFF constitution as "illegal".

The PSB has demanded that the NC halt any actions that exceed its assigned role, warning that failure to do so would force the PSB to escalate the matter to FIFA.

In a letter addressed to NC chairman Haroon Malik, the PSB also informed FIFA Secretary General Matthias Graftström, seeking to ensure FIFA is fully apprised of the PSB's concerns over the NC's actions and their potential impact on the future of democratic governance in Pakistan football.

The NC, which FIFA established five years ago to oversee elections within the PFF, has yet to complete the electoral process. Nevertheless, it has decided to convene a special meeting of the PFF Congress on November 19 to amend the PFF constitution — a move that the PSB has strongly opposed.

The PSB's letter, dated November 11, raises alarms over the potential conflict of interest, particularly with regards to NC chairman Haroon Malik's eligibility to run for the PFF presidency, should the amendments pass.

The letter states: "Football stakeholders are understandably concerned that these constitutional changes may be designed to facilitate your candidacy for the PFF presidency, creating a clear conflict of interest and violating the International Olympic Committee's principles of good governance."

The PSB further criticised the NC for overstepping its mandate.

While the NC was originally tasked by FIFA in 2019 with overseeing daily operations, ensuring accurate club registration, drafting an electoral code, and organising fair elections at all levels, the PSB claims that convening a Congress meeting to amend the PFF constitution is a direct violation of the NC's original mandate.

The PSB highlighted that the proposed amendments, specifically those to Article 38 of the PFF constitution, would effectively transform the NC into a policymaking body rather than a transitional entity focused on restoring democracy within the PFF.

The letter also pointed out widespread dissatisfaction among football stakeholders in Pakistan, who believe the NC's approach lacks transparency and inclusivity.

"The sentiment within the football community is that these amendments, though presented as a means of promoting inclusivity, fail to engage clubs and players, further distancing them from a fair and unbiased electoral process," it read.

Additionally, the PSB raised concerns over the involvement of a FIFA and AFC delegation, which is expected to attend the Congress meeting.

The PSB fears that external oversight could be used as a cover to endorse controversial amendments that may benefit specific factions.

The letter also reminded the NC that under Article 22(3) of the PFF Constitution, the president must conduct Congress meetings in accordance with standing orders.

Given the absence of a legally recognised PFF president, the call for this extraordinary Congress meeting was deemed a clear violation of the PFF constitution.



SHAHEENS batter Ali Zaryab plays a shot during the first four-day match against Sri Lanka 'A' at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium.

Sri Lanka 'A' take solid start after Shaheens earn lead

SPORTS DESK

RAWALPINDI: Sri Lanka 'A' made a solid start to their second innings on the second day of the first four-day match against Pakistan Shaheens who posted 258 in their first innings here at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium on Tuesday.

Sri Lanka closed the day at 77-1 in their second innings, still trailing by 66 runs.

Earlier, gritty half-centuries from Hussain Talat (56), Rohail Nazir (55) and Ali Zaryab (55) helped Shaheens take a solid 143-run lead on the first innings.

The hosts had started the day at the overnight score of 66-2.

After Mohammad Suleman and Haider Ali returned to the dugout with the scorecard reading 90-4, Ali (55) combined with

Hussain to add 42 runs for the fifth wicket. Hussain then joined forces with

No. 7 batter Rohail Nazir to stitch a 72-run sixth-wicket partnership to steer the Shaheens out of trouble before the former departed.

Rohail, who brought up his 11th first-class half-centu-

ry, also added valuable 29 runs for the ninth wicket with Sameen Gul (13). Test fast bowler Vishwa Fernando spearheaded the Sri Lanka 'A' attack with four scalps while Isitha Wijesundara and Nisala Tharaka bagged two wickets each.

Khurram Shahzad, who picked up four wickets in the first innings, struck in the first over to remove Oshada Fernando for a five-ball duck.

Ahan Wickramasinghe (48 not out) and Nipun Dhananjaya (23 not out) did the repair work for Sri Lanka 'A' as they partnered for an unbeaten 76-run second-wicket stand.

Scores in brief: SRI LANKA 'A' 115 in 33.1 overs (Sonal Dinusha 30, Pasindu Sooriyabandara 28; Kashif Ali 5-31, Khurram Shahzad 4-32) and 77-1 in 20 overs (Ahan Wickramasinghe 48 not out, Nipun Dhananjaya 23 not out; Khurram Shahzad 1-19); PAKISTAN SHAHEENS 258 in 82.1 overs (Hussain Talat 56, Rohail Nazir 55, Ali Zaryab 55, Abdul Faseeh 26, Mohammad Suleman 24; Vishwa Fernando 4-44, Isitha Wijesundara 2-49, Nisala Tharaka 2-57).

No need to imitate Warner's rapid-scoring approach, Khawaja tells McSweeney

SPORTS DESK

MELBOURNE: Australia's Usman Khawaja said his new opening partner Nathan McSweeney should not feel the need to imitate the quick-scoring approach of David Warner in the test series against India.

McSweeney will make his test debut in the series opener in Perth next week, the 25-year-old given the chance to make the role his own following Warner's retirement earlier this year.

Steve Smith had first go at replacing Warner but failed to fire in his stint at the top of the order and is returning to his preferred slot at number four.

Warner's 70-plus strike rate in first class cricket is significantly higher than McSweeney's 41.92 but Khawaja said there were other ways a test opener can build an innings.

"I don't know where this myth started that you need someone to score really fast to do well," Khawaja said. "You've got five days to do it ... I don't know why you need to score fast."

"Opening's as much about scoring runs as it is about being able to absorb."

Warner dominated all three formats of the game with his take-no-prisoners batting, which often put Australia in charge early in a test match.

"Davey was special, he could score runs while absorbing but he didn't do it (score fast) every time," Khawaja said.

"He was consistent, out there and setting a platform, and Nathan does that very well."

South Australia number three McSweeney will have to adapt to a new role in the five-test series against India but Khawaja expected it to be a smooth transition.

"There's no guarantees in cricket ... but he doesn't have to do anything different," he said.

"Just repeat the process. He's been able to handle the pressure at Shield level.

"When you look at his demeanour, the way he plays, you do kind of feel over a longer period of time he'll be able to handle the scrutiny, the pressure of test cricket."

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Chief editor Syed Mumtaz Shah

Printed and Published By Syed Kamran Mumtaz
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United stance

BYOND rhetoric, unity is rare within the Muslim world. Yet it was reassuring to see Muslim states speak with one voice at the extraordinary OIC-Arab League summit in Riyadh on Monday, specifically concerning the genocidal wars that Israel has unleashed in Palestine and Lebanon.

Although it would have been better if the Muslim bloc had announced practical measures to punish Israel and its supporters for their murder of tens of thousands of Palestinian and Lebanese civilians, in the current circumstances, even coming together on one platform to denounce the genocidal violence is an achievement. Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman vowed to stand by “our brothers in Palestine and Lebanon”, while warning Israel to respect Iran’s sovereignty.

In view of the acrimony that has often marked ties between the kingdom and the Islamic republic, this show of solidarity is creditable. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif sought an arms embargo against Israel; indeed, such an embargo, as well as Muslim states’ freezing of economic and diplomatic ties with Israel, should have happened as soon as Tel Aviv began its butchery in Gaza. The summit also reiterated the need for Israel to vacate all occupied Arab land, including the held Palestinian territories and the Golan Heights.

As the Muslim-Arab bloc was pledging solidarity with Palestine in Riyadh, the Israelis were busy pouring cold water over any prospect of a sovereign Palestinian state. The new Israeli foreign minister said that statehood was not a “realistic” position, while Tel Aviv’s extremist finance minister has asserted that plans are ready to annex the occupied West Bank. This is a clear message that the Israelis are not ready for peace and Tel Aviv’s bloodthirsty, expansionist policies will continue.

Moreover, Donald Trump is assembling a mortifying line-up of pro-Israel, anti-Iran hawks to head positions in the UN and the State Department. It is safe to say that peace-making will not be a priority, unless this ‘peace’ entails total capitulation of the Arab side.

Exactly 50 years ago, Yasser Arafat told the world while speaking at the UN that he held forth an olive branch as well as a freedom fighter’s gun. “Do not let the olive branch fall from my hand,” Arafat warned. Sadly, in their arrogance, the Israelis have effectively cut off the hand holding the olive branch, which has left the Palestinians clasping only a gun.

What occurred on Oct 7, 2023, was the result of the Israelis repeatedly dismissing the olive branch. Today, Gaza is a massive graveyard, Lebanon is on fire and the entire Middle East is on the brink of a conflagration. The only solution is for Israel to stop its slaughter, and recognise the reality that Palestine cannot be erased.

By Zahid Hussain

A summit to nowhere

AFTER silently watching Israel’s genocidal war in Gaza for the past one year, the leaders of the Arab and Muslim countries have once more met in Riyadh to discuss the escalating conflict.

The so-called international alliance conceived by Saudi Arabia, with its aim of pressing for the establishment of a Palestinian state, failed to formulate a concrete plan of action to stop the Israeli invasion that has been extended to Lebanon.

Interestingly, the resolution issued at the conclusion of the joint summit of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation and Arab League is restricted to the usual condemnation of Israeli aggression. It doesn’t even plainly describe the ongoing Israeli military action in Gaza, which has killed more than 43,000 people, mostly women and children, as a genocide.

There is no suggestion to sever the diplomatic and trade ties with Israel that some of these countries continue to have, despite the war crimes being committed by the Zionist forces. With the complete blockade of the Gaza Strip, more than a million people face death by starvation and disease. Mere condemnation cannot stop Israel’s genocidal war. It is nothing short of a betrayal of the hapless people of Palestine.

In fact, the inaction of the Muslim world has given impunity to the Zionist state, which is now threatening to annihilate the entire occupied territory. The latest summit was held a year after a similar gathering in Riyadh. Then, too, the leaders had merely condemned the Israeli military action in Gaza. They could not agree on even a minimum plan of action to stop Israeli atrocities. The OIC-Arab League resolution does not go beyond the usual condemnation of Israel.

They did not even leverage their oil and economic capabilities to apply pressure on countries supplying arms to Israel to stop the war. One year of war crimes doesn’t seem to have brought any change in their position, which can be described as capitulation. The resolution is as toothless as the previous one.

The most shocking part of the resolution is the decision “to affirm support and express appreciation for the tireless efforts made by the Arab Republic of Egypt and the State of Qatar in cooperation with the United

States of America to achieve an immediate and permanent ceasefire in the Gaza Strip... “. It couldn’t get more outrageous given that the ongoing genocide in Gaza is essentially supported by the US. It is massive American military aid that has helped Israel sustain its war.

Notwithstanding the occasional rebuke by US officials, there has never been any real American pressure on Israel to implement a ceasefire. In fact, the Biden administration has repeatedly vetoed resolutions in the UN calling for one. Some of the Arab rulers are believed to have tacitly supported what Israel has described as its war against Hamas. Moreover, America has its bases in Arab countries, and concerns have been raised that they could have supplied Israel with weapons to kill Palestinians. These countries have not prohibited the use of these bases.

Significantly, the latest summit took place soon after Donald Trump’s victory, which has been hailed by some member countries, prompting observers to conclude that it was meant to send a message to the incoming US administration. It seems that the ‘international alliance’ is now pinning its hopes on the incoming Trump administration to get Israel to agree to a ceasefire and accept the creation of a Palestinian state.

For instance, while addressing a Council of Foreign Ministers preparatory meeting a day before the summit, Pakistan’s Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar expressed the hope that the incoming US administration would “lend its weight to reinvigorate efforts for peace in the Middle East”. His remarks show his utter ignorance about Trump’s hard-line approach to the Middle East conflict. Such expectations from the president-elect, who is considered even more pro-Israel than the outgoing Biden administration, are unrealistic. During his election campaign, Trump had called on Israel to finish the offensive and “get the job done”. He has stated that he would “defend our friend and ally in the State of Israel like nobody has ever”.

How can one forget that in his previous term he shifted the American embassy to occupied Jerusalem? The move defied Washington’s earlier position of not recognising one of the most sacred of Islam’s holy places as Israel’s capital.

By Mahir Ali

Trumped again

DONKEYS are reputed to be stubborn beasts. That possible misinterpretation of their instinct for self-preservation characterises a party that has utilised *Equus asinus* as a symbol since Andrew Jackson embraced a hostile description of himself as a jackass back in 1828.

The Democrats’ election symbol might be an insult to a species whose intelligence has been underrated since donkeys were domesticated 6,000 years ago, but its traditional implications accurately reflect the party hierarchy’s mindset after last week’s devastating defeat.

The post-mortems began pouring in as soon as it became obvious that Kamala Harris had been trounced by Donald Trump. Yesterday, the president-elect was due to be hosted in the Oval Office by a man who had described him as a dire threat to democracy.

Joe Biden’s claim wasn’t exactly inaccurate, but it ignored his own party’s contribution to the promotion of plutocracy. It may not have been initiated by the Democrats, but they ran with the neoliberal trend exemplified by the Reagan administration.

The Democrats have enabled him once more.

Bill Clinton and Barack Obama lent their imagined heft to the Harris campaign, and both ignored the issues whereby their presidencies led, respectively, to George W. Bush and Trump. The Clinton presidency did not deviate all that much from the Reagan era, and Obama effectively pursued both the neoconservatism and neoliberalism of his Republican predecessor.

No one can claim with any certainty that the 2024 result would have

been different had Biden butted out after the 2022 midterm elections, in which the Democrats did not fare quite as badly as the polls and the mainstream media projected, but they might have made amends that bolstered their support two years later. No such luck. Biden did propose some healthy measures on the economic and renewable energy fronts, but they made no immediate difference to most of those who were suffering from the consequences of the Covid pandemic and its inflationary aftermath.

The Democrats offered no alternative to the status quo beyond gradual improvement over the years, bolstered by pundits who proclaimed that the economy was going gangbusters, with rising employment and declining inflation. Too many voters did not feel the joy that Harris sought to project, recalling that their grocery bills were lower before Biden took over. Among the many promises Trump is unlikely to fulfil, he vowed to bring down grocery bills, cut taxes and end all wars.

Back in 2016, he emerged as a potential disruptor of a status quo that wasn’t working for most Americans. He could not reclaim the perch in 2020, after four years in power. That he was able to achieve a far more convincing victory than eight years ago is a testament to the decrepitude of the Democrats.

That does not only mean that Biden ought to have ruled himself out a couple of years ago on the basis of his senescence, but also that his successor should have diverged from a self-defeating formula by offering viable alternatives to both an economy whose supposedly thriving aspects are not trickling down to most voters, and to a for-

eign policy that involves prolonging a nasty war in Europe and promoting a genocide in the Middle East.

Harris focused, instead, on slamming Trump and saying that she wasn’t Biden — the latter of which was obvious given her gender and ethnicity, but less so when it came to her ideology. Much of the Democratic elite that has ridiculed Bernie Sanders for accurately claiming that the working class was only returning the favour when it deserted the Democrats have also claimed that Harris ran a wonderful campaign but was derailed by unavoidable obstacles. That’s nonsense. It’s true she had only 100 days to stake her claim, thanks to her geriatric chieftain’s obduracy and his party’s inexplicable obeisance, but her rallying cries consisted of little more than hollow platitudes, and her oratorical skills don’t match those of Barack Obama.

Sanders consistently reminds the electorate that real wages haven’t increased since the 1970s, the minimum wage is far too low, and it’s a travesty that so many citizens of the world’s richest nation live in poverty despite full-time jobs, and struggle to pay their medical bills and education debts.

While the Republicans’ ridiculous response is to privatise everything, the Democrats are petrified by the prospect of proposing anything more than a bit of tinkering on the edges of neoliberalism.

It’s easy to empathise with the likeliest victims of Trump’s non-consecutive second term, an achievement previously pulled off only by Grover Cleveland in the 19th century. And he was a Democrat back when the Republican Party was relatively progressive.

DAILY MIRROR

Asad Qaiser asserts Khan's imminent release, vows to continue protest

INP

SWAT: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) senior leader Asad Qaiser has expressed hope that PTI founder Imran Khan will be released soon, claiming that he cannot be kept in jail for much longer despite court orders.

Speaking to a private TV Channel program, Qaiser criticized the current government, which he described as a product of Form 47, and accused it of operating in a manner that disregards the will of the people.

Qaiser, who was part of a PTI delegation attempting to meet Khan in jail, revealed that the group had received an order from the Islamabad High Court allowing them to meet the former Prime Minister. Despite this, he said, PTI leaders were met with police resistance.

"We were abused, pushed, and not allowed to meet Imran Khan," he stated, adding that the police misrepresented the situation. He also pointed out that they were following the court's directive and did not violate Section 144.

He further slammed senior government officials, accusing Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Maryam Nawaz of treating the country as their personal

domain, and questioned the qualifications of the Islamabad Inspector General of Police, referring to him as a "doctor" but expressing doubts about the authenticity of his degree.

Qaiser announced that PTI would file a First Information Report (FIR) against the Inspector General of Police and other officials involved in blocking their meeting with Khan. The PTI leader also vowed to summon them before the Parliament's Human Rights Committee, stressing that the country should be governed according to the law, not through the personal preferences of a few individuals.

"The government is a product of Form 47 and will follow any order it receives. The country is being run by a few people according to their will," Qaiser remarked. He emphasized that the path to progress lies in the equal treatment of all citizens.

Regarding PTI's political position, Qaiser reiterated that despite the alleged theft of their electoral mandate, PTI remains the largest political party both in the National Assembly and in Punjab.

"PTI is the largest party in both the National and Provincial Assemblies. Our

workers are with us, they understand our leadership," he said, underscoring that the party would continue to challenge the status quo.

He also announced plans for continued protests, both in the streets and in the courts, within the framework of the constitution. "No party has struggled for three years as PTI has. Our protests will continue. We will face cases in courts, but we will not back down," he added.

In a direct challenge to the leadership of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), Qaiser dared Nawaz and Shehbaz Sharif, along with Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah, to contest elections in any constituency, promising that PTI would field ordinary workers as candidates. However, he insisted that a "level playing field" and transparent elections are a prerequisite for any electoral contest.

"If we don't win under these conditions, we will leave politics," he declared. Qaiser concluded by expressing his

belief that Imran Khan's release is imminent, stating, "He cannot be kept in jail for long. We hope to see him free soon."



QUETTA: Deputy Chairman Senate Syedaal Khan visited Quetta's Trauma Center to inquire about the health of those injured in the recent railway station incident.

Attack on Dukki construction camp leaves 3 workers missing, equipment torched

NEWS DESK

QUETTA: A terror attack on a construction camp near the Ghrawas area in Duki, Balochistan, has left three workers missing, while equipment at the site was set ablaze by unidentified armed assailants on Wednesday.

Local police officials said the attackers set fire to various construction items in the camp, including generators and other equipment, reducing them to ashes.

Following the attack, three workers were reported missing. Police identified them as Naseebullah, Noor Muhammad, and Hikmatullah, who are all residents of Kuchlak.

The missing workers were part of a team working on the under-construction road from Duki to Chamalang.

Local police said that the missing workers belong to the Pashtun and Mariani communities but could not confirm whether they were kidnapped or are simply unaccounted for after the incident.

According to the Duki police, an investigation of the terror incident was underway.

NA Speaker commends security forces for successful operation against terrorists

APP

ISLAMABAD: National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq on Wednesday lauded the security forces for their successful operation in the Kech district, which resulted in the elimination of four terrorists. In a statement, Sadiq applauded the professional expertise of the security forces, emphasizing that terrorists are enemies of the nation who seek to spread chaos and disrupt peace and development.

The speaker reaffirmed the nation's commitment to eradicating terrorism, stating that the entire nation stands united against terrorism and supports the security forces in their efforts to eliminate this menace. The entire nation remains steadfast in its support for the security forces as they work tirelessly to protect Pakistan's citizens and territories. Pakistan's cuisine He reiterated his resolve to continue operations against terrorists until terrorism is completely eradicated.

Interior Minister meets Swiss, EU migration ministers, discusses human trafficking challenge

By Zahid Ahmed Khan

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Syed Mohsin Naqvi on Wednesday held meetings with heads and ministers of Switzerland, European Union and International Migration Organization.

During his visit to Budapest, capital of Hungary, Mohsin Naqvi met Switzerland's Minister of Migration Christine Schraner Burener and Johannes Luchner, Head of Migration and Internal Affairs of the European Union. Michael Spindelegger, head of International Center for Migration Policy Development also met Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi. The bilateral issues of mutual interest were discussed in details during the meetings and a detailed discussion was held on curbing illegal migration and human trafficking.

All members of the meeting emphasised

the need to take joint measures to tackle illegal migration issue.

On the occasion, Interior Minister Syed Mohsin Naqvi told the participants that human trafficking has become a multifaceted challenge and no country can deal with the nexus of international mafias alone.

He said globalization policy has to be adopted to deal with the global challenge. Pakistan will welcome EU and migration policy development cooperation to address illegal migration and human trafficking.

Interior Minister suggested the world leaders that "by taking sustainable actions today, we can leave a relatively better future for new generations". He said in this regard, "mutual delegations should be exchanged and partnership should be increased to increase the capacity of the institutions".

Gilani calls for creating more social cohesiveness to boost investors' confidence

APP

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate and former Prime Minister, Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani on Wednesday called for creating more social cohesiveness to boost investors' confidence and strengthening democratic credentials.

Addressing the inaugural session of Margalla Dialogue 2024, of Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) here, he underscored the need to re-equip youth with education to make them a capable workforce in a changing and competitive world order, said a press release.

He said that new realities are shaping the world at large, and we are living in an era of alliances, including those that are breeding conflict and militarization such as AUKUS and QUAD in the region and beyond.

The Chairman Senate said that Pakistan looks forward to more democratisation, and an inclusive order where in economic resilience and security decorum come to adjust transitional changes. Pakistan's cuisine He referred to the Founder of the

Nation, Muhammad Ali Jinnah and said that "Pakistan is the pivot of the world," and even our existence at such an important geographic crossroads had proved vitality for our neighbours.

He talked about global tensions echoing in the region, and touch-based on internal security and challenges that Pakistan faces in the form of terrorism.

Gilani said that Pakistan's vision is based on strength and strategic location, along with resilient people and good governance.

Earlier, President IPRI Amb. Dr Raza Muhammad introduced the audience about the journey that his think tank has undertaken and the meticulous process of holding one of Pakistan's finest dialogue, Margalla Dialogue. He said that Indian arrogance of not talking to Pakistan is at the root cause of problems, and said that we are living in an era where trade with Russia looms large despite sanctions on several member states of the region. He talked about the emerging realities of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Pakistan's cuisine.

Govt spreading sorrow, hatred among people: Sheikh Rashid

INP

ISLAMABAD: Awami Muslim League chief Sheikh Rashid Ahmed on Wednesday criticised the government for spreading sorrow and hatred among the people.

Speaking to media outside the sessions court, Rashid said that businesses were already on the brink of collapse, and now, due to smog, daily life had come to a standstill.

He added that the rulers had no idea of the hardships the poor were enduring. He stressed that the government had only caused further distress and division among the people. The former interior minister also commented that Nawaz Sharif was hit with eggs and tomatoes. "Should the public throw you roses instead?"

Gas production from Dera Bugti well begins with 5MMSCFD

INP

QUETTA: The Oil and Gas Development Company Limited (OGDCL) has commenced gas production from a newly drilled well located in Dera Bugti, Balochistan, says in media reports.

This development marks a significant contribution to Pakistan's natural gas output.

According to a letter from OGDCL to the Pakistan Stock Exchange, the Uch-35 well is producing an impressive five million standard cubic feet of gas per day (MMSCFD).

The gas output has been successfully integrated into the Uch Gas Processing Plant, which will aid in streamlining and distributing the additional gas supply. OGDCL, the country's largest exploration and production company, holds complete ownership of the Dera Bugti well, as confirmed in its letter to the PSX.

On Nov 12, Pakistan decided to stop the purchase of imported liquefied natural gas (LNG) and redirect it to domestic consumers, following a reduction in electricity consumption.

According to documents from the Ministry of Petroleum, providing LNG to domestic consumers will require an investment of Rs163 billion. Sources said that the imported LNG is increasing pressure on pipelines on a daily basis.

Sources confirmed that the power sector had been using 600 million cubic feet per day (MMcfd) of LNG.

With the closure of captive power plants, 150MMcfd of LNG will now become surplus, while the gas sector is also earning a revenue of Rs400 billion from captive power.

Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed, Moroccan Air Force inspector general resolve to strengthen military cooperation

ONLINE

ISLAMABAD: Inspector Royal Moroccan Air Force Major General Mohammed Gadhi met with Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Babar Sidhu on Wednesday at the Air Headquarters in Islamabad, to discuss enhancing military cooperation between the two countries.

The visit, which focused on joint training, air power collaboration, and industrial cooperation, reflects the long-standing historical ties between Morocco and Pakistan.

A statement issued by the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) noted that a smartly turned-out contingent of Pakistan Air Force personnel presented a Guard of Honour to Major General Gadhi upon his arrival.

The meeting was described as "productive," with both leaders reaffirming their commitment to strengthening military cooperation.

Air Chief Marshal Sidhu welcomed Major General Gadhi and conveyed his best wishes on his maiden visit to Pakistan.

He emphasised the importance of joint training initiatives, highlighting opportunities for Moroccan Air Force personnel to undergo both basic and tactical level training alongside their Pakistani counterparts.

Sidhu expressed his belief that such

programs would enhance operational efficiency for both forces and foster deeper bilateral ties.

During the discussions, Major General Gadhi commended the technological advancements of the Pakistan Air Force and expressed keen interest in the PAF's achievements in the aerospace industry.

He specifically praised the technological infrastructure at the National Aerospace Science

& Technology Park and indicated Morocco's interest in learning from Pakistan's capabilities to strengthen its own aerospace sector.

The meeting also saw discussions about potential areas for collaboration in joint military

exercises, industrial cooperation, and the exchange of knowledge in air power applications.

Major General Gadhi further visited key installations at Air Headquarters, including the National ISR & Integrated Air Operations Centre and the PAF Cyber Command, to witness firsthand the advancements in Pakistan's defense and technological capabilities.

Both sides expressed a strong desire to expand their existing cooperation, particularly in training, military exercises, and industrial advancements, marking another step toward a deeper partnership in the defense sector.



BAKU Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif meets President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev on the sidelines of COP29 Climate Action Summit in Baku.

Privatisation board rejects bid for PIA, proposes new plan for airline sale

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: The Privatisation Commission Board of Pakistan has rejected the latest bid for Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) and presented new proposals for the airline's privatisation, which will now be forwarded to the cabinet committee and the federal cabinet for approval.

The decision came during a meeting led by Privatisation Minister Aleem Khan, which reviewed several privatisation initiatives and approved key recommendations. Addressing the meeting on Wednesday, Khan stressed that all privatisation efforts, including those for PIA, must adhere to legal protocols while prioritising the national interest.

"The final decision on the privatisation of institutions like PIA rests with the cabinet committee," he stated, adding that steps must be taken to enhance future bidding processes.

Khan also directed officials to expedite the privatisation of PIA and other public entities, noting, "We are bound by our oath to undertake whatever actions are necessary for the welfare of the country and its people."

He emphasised the importance of learning from the current PIA privatisation process to improve future efforts. The board also considered significant aspects related to the privatisation of other state-owned projects, marking further steps towards Pakistan's broader privatisation agenda.

Azam Tarar chairs meeting to review remission policies and address non-bailable offenses under Narcotics Act

APP

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Minister for Law & Justice and Human Rights Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar Wednesday presided over a meeting to review remission policies and address non-bailable offenses under the Narcotics Substances Act, 1997.

The meeting included Provincial AIGs of Prisons, the Secretary of Human Rights, and representatives from the Anti-Narcotics Force, said a press release.

The primary focus of the meeting was on assessing the potential for granting special remission to specific categories of prisoners, with an emphasis on balancing public welfare, justice, and rehabilitation.

The minister underscored the importance of adopting a reformatory approach that ensures effective inmate rehabilitation while safeguarding the rights of victims and maintaining community safety. Participants reviewed proposed remission guidelines to confirm they are fair, just, and adhere to strict eligibility criteria, maintaining a balanced strategy that addresses both rehabilitation needs and victims' rights.

The committee underscored that overcrowding in prisons should not be used

as a justification for special remission, noting that indiscriminate practices in the past have led to increase crime rates and further overcrowding. It was recommended that federal and provincial governments exercise their powers judiciously, benefiting genuinely repentant inmates or those facing challenging circumstances.

Azam Tarar highlighted the importance of long-term rehabilitation and directed the Secretary of Human Rights to form a dedicated committee focused on the rehabilitation and reintegration of eligible inmates.

This committee is to include the Inspector General of Prisons and the Secretary of Health, ensuring a comprehensive approach that combines correctional oversight with healthcare provisions.

The committee will be responsible for developing strategies to facilitate inmates' transition back into society and reduce recidivism rates.

The minister further emphasized that remission policies must strike an essential balance between justice for victims and opportunities for inmate rehabilitation. These policies should be designed to promote genuine reform while safeguarding the principles of fairness and community safety.



Inspector Royal Moroccan Air Force, Major General Mohammed Gadhi called on Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Babar Sidhu at Air Headquarters, Islamabad.