

Quetta
Karachi

DAILY MIRROR

mirrorqta@gmail.com

Chief editor Syed Mumtaz Shah

Saturday, November, 30, 2024

Jumada-Al-Awal, 28, 1446

Few anti-state elements poisoning youth to rebel: Sarfaraz Bugti

APP

QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfaraz Bugti said on Friday that a conspiracy was being hatched against Pakistan through social media, emphasising that people of Pakistan must thwart all attempts made to tarnish Pakistan's reputation.

Speaking at a ceremony at Quetta Girls College, the Balochistan CM claimed that a few people living outside Pakistan were fuelling hatred in youth to stand against the state while stressing the need to bust the myths being spun by anti-state elements.

Recalling recent attack on children in Mastung, Bugti said those who were planning to block the route to education could never succeed.

During his speech, the CM also urged young attendants to become his eyes and ears if they ever see corruption in the government departments of Balochistan.

Lauding women's contribution in Balochistan's bureaucracy, he said, "I have appointed five deputy commissioners who

are way better than their male contemporaries.

The Balochistan CM also green-lit availability of new jobs for women in several departments saying that the provincial.

The chief minister said that the government has striving hard to educate the youth especially girls of the province and they will play their pivotal role for the betterment of the society.

He added that the dream of women empowerment was becoming a reality in Balochistan as the government was committed to empower women in every sector to provide equal opportunities for development.

Sarfaraz Bugti said 5 women deputy commissioners are appointed in Balochistan who are doing better than 30 other male deputy commissioners.

The Chief Minister said that organized conspiracies are being hatched against Pakistan and the youth are being brainwashed against the state due to unbalanced development.



Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Asim Munir interacts with the participants of Pak-China Joint Exercise Warrior-VIII between Pakistan Army and Peoples Liberation Army of China held at National Counter Terrorism Center (NCTC) in Pabbi.

PTI confirms 12 killed in Islamabad protest despite earlier claims of higher death toll

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has confirmed that at least 12 individuals have died during the Islamabad protest, following earlier claims of a significant death toll.

Speaking at a press conference with Opposition Leader Omar Ayub in Peshawar on Friday, PTI's central spokesperson, Waqas Akram Sheikh, described the government's actions as unprecedented in Pakistan's history of protests.

He alleged that reporting journalists about the fatalities during the Islamabad protest have been imprisoned, and that many others remain missing with no information about their whereabouts.

He revealed that while the police are pro-

viding some figures, PTI has also gathered its own data on the arrests. "Twelve individuals have died during the protest," Sheikh confirmed. "The actual number is higher, but we are sharing only the confirmed figures with the media."

He added that the bodies of the deceased were withheld for three days before being returned to their families. "The government is attempting to conceal both the bodies and evidence, but these things cannot be hidden more."

During the press conference, Sheikh also criticised the government for demanding names and proof of the deaths, as hospitals were pressured not to share lists with the media.

"Which law allows shooting unarmed people?" he asked.

FM highlights importance of digital economy

INP

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb chaired a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Release of IMT Spectrum for Improvement of Next Generation Mobile Broadband Services in Pakistan at the Finance Division today.

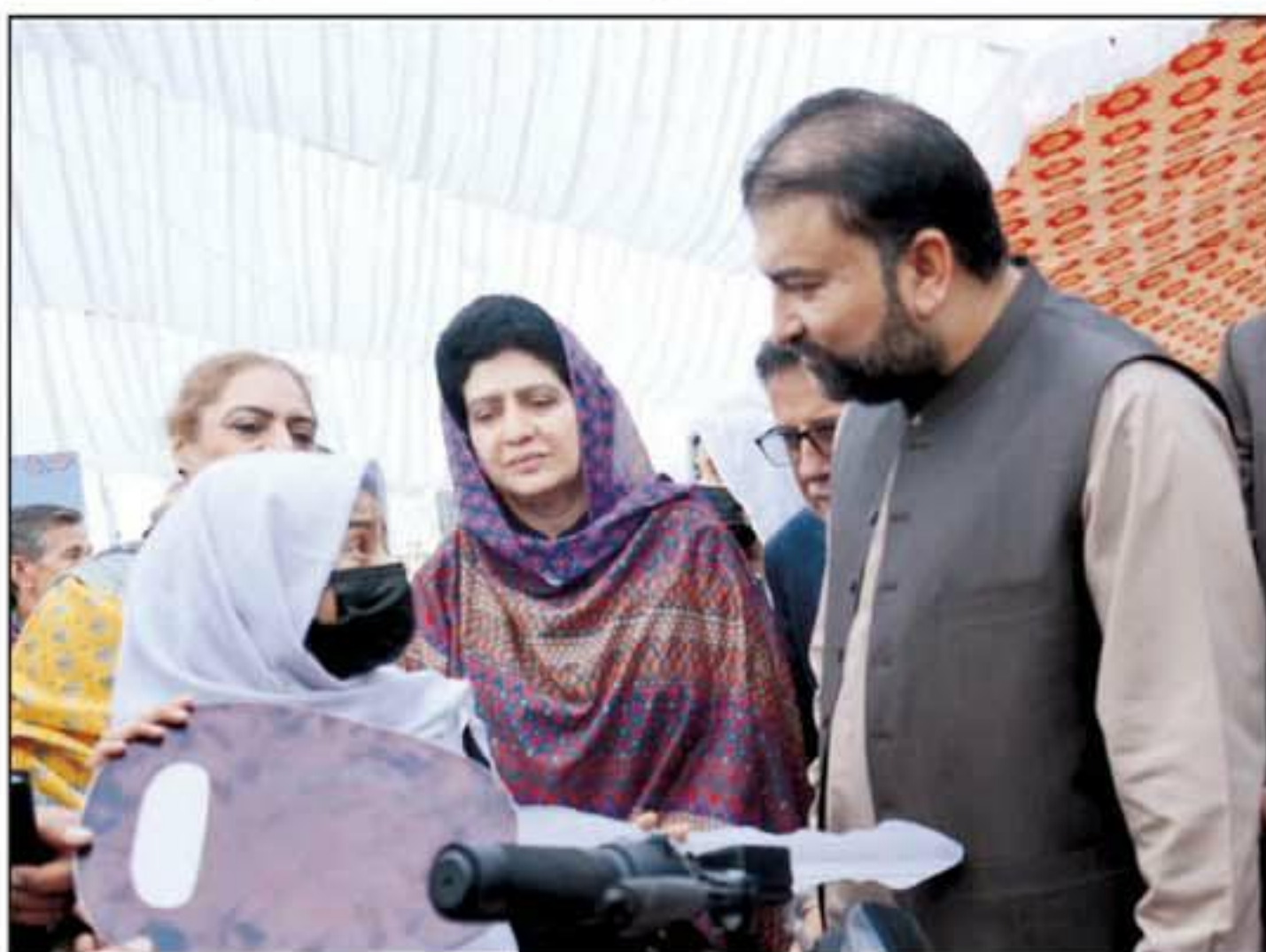
The meeting was attended by Minister for Industries and Production Rana Tanveer Hussain.

Minister of State for Information Technology and Telecommunication of Pakistan Shaza Fatima Khawaja (virtual), Chairman PTA, Secretary Ministry of Information Technology, Secretary Ministry of Law and senior officers from concerned ministries and departments.

The meeting discussed various issues and reviewed the progress of work done by the

US-based consultant firm NERA hired by the PTA as per PPRA Rules / EPADS in November 2024 to study and assess the Pakistan market, undertake consultation with stakeholders and prepare policy recommendations regarding sector reforms and a roadmap for a successful spectrum auction by April next year.

Finance Minister Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb highlighted the importance of digital economy and digital integration as a critical component of the economic transformation of the country. He said the government was determined to enhance connectivity and improve digital infrastructure to ensure mass adoption of emerging digital technologies and innovative applications for cross-sector socio-economic development, transformation of economic activities and achievement of sustainable development goals.



Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfaraz Bugti talking to a girl student after provision of pin scooter to her.

PM Shehbaz condemns violent protests, calls actions from K-P 'unprecedented'

Premier accuses PTI-led K-P govt of focusing on unrest in Islamabad instead of halting bloodshed in province

APP

ISLAMABAD: While condemning the violent protests in the federal capital, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said that the actions of the group from Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) are unprecedented whose spectacle cannot be expressed in words.

He was addressing a high-level meeting on law and order in Islamabad on Friday, which was attended by Chief of Army Staff General Asim Munir, senior military officials, federal ministers, and other key figures.

The prime minister stated that a well-equipped group from K-P arrived in Islamabad with the intention of causing disruption. He highlighted that the protesters engaged in widespread vandalism, resulting in significant damage to the economy. "The spectacle they created cannot be put into words," he remarked.

PM Shehbaz said that the protesters fired gunshots, leading to the deaths of three Rangers personnel and one police officer. The group also attempted to disrupt the SCO (Shanghai Cooperation Organization) conference and targeted the visit of the President of Belarus, he added.

This marked the third such attack on Islamabad, he noted, highlighting the economic toll of the protests, which caused daily losses of Rs190 billion to Pakistan's economy.

The premier further criticised the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf-led (PTI) government of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa for its lack of focus on addressing the ongoing violence in the region, particularly in Peshawar, where over 100 lives have been lost.

He accused the PTI government of prioritising unrest in Islamabad rather than working to stop the bloodshed in K-P.

EASA lifts ban on PIA flights to Europe: Khawaja Asif

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: Defence and Aviation Minister Khawaja Asif Friday confirmed that the European Commission and the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) lifted the ban on PIA flights to Europe.

Calling it a historic day, the federal minister credited the success to the Ministry of Aviation's focused efforts and adherence to international safety standards set by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

EASA had suspended PIA flights to European countries on June 30, 2020, following revelations of fake pilot licenses.

However, after government efforts, the suspension was temporarily eased, allowing PIA to operate flights until July 3, 2020.

Talking to a private TV channel, the defence minister stated, "We are aiming to resume operations as soon as possible. While I cannot provide an exact date, it's only a matter of time." He further explained that PIA, which is in the process of privatisation, needs new aircraft for its fleet before it can restart services to Europe. "PIA is facing a significant shortage of aircraft for these new routes," Asif said, adding that this would also assist in the airline's financial.

COAS reviews Pak-China joint exercise 'Warrior-VIII' in Pabbi

APP

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Asim Munir visited National Counter Terrorism Center (NCTC), Pabbi, on Friday and interacted with the participants of joint exercise "Warrior-VIII" between Pakistan Army and Peoples' Liberation Army of China, said ISPR.

COAS was briefed on the scope and conduct of the exercise. He

appreciated the professionalism and high morale of participants being displayed during the joint exercise.

The joint military exercise commenced on 19 November 2024. The three weeks long exercise in counter terrorism domain is eighth in the series of bilateral exercise being conducted annually. Earlier upon arrival at NCTC Pabbi, COAS was received by Rawalpindi Corps Commander.

Pakistan calls for immediate ceasefire in Gaza

INP

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has reaffirmed unwavering support for inalienable right to self-determination of Palestinian people facing Israeli aggression for over a year now.

In his message, President Asif Ali Zardari strongly condemned the unabated Israel's aggression. He reiterated the call for the international community's role for an immediate ceasefire and end to the genocide of Palestinian people. In his message, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said the Palestinian people have been bravely enduring a campaign of unending genocidal violence. He said Israel has carried out the blatant slaughter of over 43,000

innocent men, women, and children in the occupied Palestine.

Shehbaz Sharif reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to continue to stand by the valiant and resilient Palestinian people in their just struggle.

Foreign Secretary Anna Baloch also reaffirmed Pakistan's steadfast commitment to the Palestinian cause. Speaking at the second meeting of the Global Alliance for the Implementation of the Two-State Solution, held in Belgium, she called for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and advocated for a comprehensive resolution to the Palestinian issue. She highlighted the importance of establishing a sovereign and independent State of Palestine based on the pre-1967 borders, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

ECP announces schedule for NA-262 Quetta by-election

INP

RAWALPINDI: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has released the election schedule for the vacant NA-262 Quetta seat.

The seat became vacant following the disqualification of Adil Bazai, a member of PML-N, due to his defection. According to the Election Commission, polling will take place on January 16, 2025.

Public notice by Returning Officer will be issued on December 2 while nomination papers submission date will be from Dec 4 to Dec 6. The initial candidate list will be released on Dec 7 while scrutiny of nominations will be held on Dec 12. The final candidate list will be released Dec 22 while election symbols allotted will be list on Dec 24.

The by-election in NA-262 will take place on Thursday, January 16, with the complete process guided by the Election Commission's official notification.

Participation of foreign nationals in Pakistan's political activities unacceptable: FO Spokesperson

APP

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Office Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch on Friday said participation of foreign nationals in any political activity in Pakistan was illegal and unacceptable. Pakistan's cuisine

With regards to the participation of Afghan nationals in the protest this week, the spokesperson said "We expect all foreigners in Pakistan to respect Pakistani laws and customs.

In her weekly media briefing, the spokesperson told that last week, four Kashmiri civilians were subjected to severe torture at an Indian Army Camp in Chas area of Mughal Maidan, Kishtwar in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), causing significant outrage across IIOJK, the incident is the latest in a series of similar abuses spread over the last several decades. "We express grave concern over this disturbing incident, and demand that the perpetrators of the custodial torture are held accountable," she added.

As regards the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, she reaffirmed Pakistan's unwavering solidarity and support for the people of Palestine in their pursuit of justice, freedom, and dignity. "We also reaffirm our strong support for the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent state with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital, based on pre-1967 borders."

She said Pakistan welcomed the recent ceasefire agreement in Lebanon and called on all parties to fully uphold and implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701. "We firmly support Lebanon's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and stability; and stress the urgent need for humanitarian assistance to those affected; the safe return of displaced persons; and facilitating the reconstruction of conflict-affected areas."

She said Pakistan believed this ceasefire was a critical step towards de-escalating tensions and preventing a broader conflict in the region. Pakistan hopes that the ceasefire agreement will set the stage for an immediate and unconditional ceasefire in Gaza Strip and other occupied Palestinian territories; an end to genocide in Gaza; and humanitarian relief to the Palestinian people.

With respect to the visit of President of Belarus Aleksandr Lukashenko, she informed that during his visit to Islamabad, President Lukashenko held extensive talks with the Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif. "The two sides discussed areas of bilateral cooperation and engagement; and key regional and global developments. The two sides reaffirmed the commitment to promote mutually beneficial cooperation, deepen political dialogue, strengthen inter-parliamentary exchanges, and enhance trade and economic cooperation."

She said the two leaders signed several agreements and Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) focusing on cooperation in environmental protection, disaster management, halal trade, financial intelligence sharing, vocational education and science & technology.

The spokesperson said that speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, was on an official visit to Moscow, on a special invitation of his Russian counterpart, Chairman of the State Duma of the Russian Federation, Volodin Vyacheslav Viktorovich. The visit aims to further strengthen and expand friendly ties between the governments.

9000 teachers to be recruited on merit basis in Balochistan: Shahid

APP

Quetta: Balochistan government spokesperson Shahid Rind on Friday said that 9000 more teachers would be recruited under the contract policy on merit basis in order to achieve target of quality education in the province. He expressed these views while addressing a press conference at Chief Minister Secretariat here. Shahid Rind said that the provincial government has formulated a clear strategy to solve other governance problems in a short period of time.

He said that significant steps were being taken to improve quality of education through more recruitment of teachers to reopen several closed schools in respective area of the province which were closed by shortage of educators.

He said that on which the provincial government decided to recruit teachers at the local level under the contract policy and merit was determined by comparing the marks of the candidate's educational degrees.

Seeing this merit system, many people started trying to obtain degrees with the highest marks and we had received

some complaints that efforts have been made to obtain fake degrees, he complained.

He said that initially, these complaints were received from Kohlu and Dera Bugti, on which Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Bugti took notice of it and directed Anti-Corruption Establishment to investigate the case of fake degrees in the areas.

The spokesperson said that important decisions have been taken in a high-level meeting chaired by Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Bugti to prevent the scourge of cheating in the province.

He said that it has been decided in the meeting to appoint superintendents in examination centers from administrative officers instead of teachers, besides CCTV cameras in 430 examination centers across Balochistan would be installed as well as to hire the services of Frontier Corps (FC).

If any unrelated persons other than the candidates are found within 300 meters of the examination centers, an FIR will be registered against them, he said.

Shahid Rind said that the number of contract teachers mentioned for recruitment is about 4,000, in addition,

orders for the appointment of about 3,891 teachers under the test interviews conducted under the administration of Sardar Bahadur Khan Women University would also be issued by next week.

He said that as soon as this phase is completed, Phase 2 of teacher recruitment would be started in which about 9000 more teachers to be recruited under the contract policy on merit.

The provincial government has decided to improve the salary package of these contract teachers so that the teachers focus on providing education with full effort and attention, he said.

He marked that merit could be ensured in all these phases and if at any stage any candidate is found guilty of fake degree or any illegal act,

he would not only be disqualified from any government job for three years but legal action would also be taken against him. Shahid Rind added that the continuity of educational reforms would be maintained in Balochistan and the media and the public could be kept informed about the steps that would be taken in this regard from time to time for betterment of education.

The first online international media tech conference organized by Shah Roh Technologies



Press Release
Lahore: The first online international media tech conference organized by Shah Roh Technologies was successfully held, in which experts and speakers from different countries participated. The theme of the conference was "Emerging Trends in Media Tech", which discussed the changing aspects of media through modern technology.

ious important topics in the conference, including the role of artificial intelligence in media tech, the need for high-speed internet for media tech, ethical norms for social media, and international cooperation and media diplomacy. The experts highlighted the changes in media creation, research and broadcasting through artificial intelligence, the importance of high-speed internet for modern media needs, the need to adhere to ethical principles during social media, and increasing cooperation through media at the global level. Experts and speakers from different countries participated online and shared their experiences and views. This conference not only proved to be a significant step in the field of media tech but also served as a platform for bringing together diverse perspectives on a global scale.

Ethiopian envoy calls on SAPM Fahad Haroon

APP
ISLAMABAD: Ethiopian Ambassador to Pakistan, Dr. Jamal Beker Abdula on Friday called on Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Digital Media Fahad Haroon and exchanged the views on the evolving media and digital media landscapes. During the meeting, both sides identified areas of mutual interest and collaboration. Ethiopian envoy calls on SAPM Fahad Haroon. Their discussion encompassed both the opportunities and challenges in the realm of media and digital communication. They also discussed positive aspects including transformative potential of digital platforms in fostering global connectivity, promoting cultural understanding and enabling the timely dissemination of accurate information.



Police officials are standing high alert to avoid untoward incident during the funeral prayer of Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) supporters who were died in a protest in Islamabad, in Peshawar.

BISP aims to improve lives of its beneficiaries through providing technical training: Chairperson BISP

INP
ISLAMABAD: Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) Senator Rubina Khalid Monday said that BISP is aimed at improving the lives of its beneficiaries through providing technical training, ensuring their employability. She was chaired a review meeting at BISP Headquarters to follow up on her recent visit to London. The meeting assessed progress on key discussions held during her trip, where she, along with Secretary BISP Amer Ali Ahmad, engaged with representatives from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), Lives & Livelihoods Fund (LLF), Islamic Development Bank (IDB), Karandaaz, and the State Bank of Pakistan.



Commissioner and Administrator Quetta, Hamza Shafiq along with others inspecting cleaning works after downpour of winter season, at Mali Bagh and Pashtunabad in Quetta

MPA Ubaidullah thanks workers of PPP, people for supporting in hard time

APP
Quetta: Pakistan People's Party (PPP)'s Member of Provincial Assembly Mir Ubaidullah Gorgage on Friday thanked workers of PPP and people of the constituency for supporting him in every difficult time. He said this while talking to party provincial leaders Akhtar Baloch, Labour Bureau Provincial President Shahjahan Gujjar, Asrar Shahwani, Bashir Lango, Elahi Bakhs Lehri and others called on

him after the Supreme Court of Pakistan upheld his victory from constituency PB-44 at Gurgage House. The party leaders congratulated MPA Ubaidullah Gorgage on the Supreme Court's decision. Mir Ubaidullah Gorgage said that the people of constituency PB-44 voted in the general elections and made him successful with a huge majority, on which the opponents approached the Election Tribunal. He said that we challenged the decision of the Election

Tribunal in the Supreme Court and we prevailed in the Supreme Court. He said that the PPP has done record development work in the constituency in a short period of time and development work is still going on in the constituency which would help in providing basic facilities to the people. He said that we would deliver the message of PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and President Asif Ali Zardari to every door and serve the people regardless of color and race.

GTA Delegation Visits SESA Secretariat, Congratulates Newly Elected Cabinet

Press Release
Quetta: A delegation from the Government Teachers Association (GTA) visited the central secretariat of the Senior Educational Staff Association (SESA) Balochistan yesterday to congratulate the newly elected central cabinet of SESA Balochistan on their electoral success and extend their best wishes. The GTA delegation was led by Haji Muhammad Yunus Kakar and Sajjad Rind Sahib. During the visit, Haji Yunus Kakar commended the transparent conduct of the elections, highlighting it as a significant

step towards the collective interests of officers and teachers. SESA's newly elected President, Muhammad Hanif Bangulzai, warmly welcomed the GTA delegation. In his address, he expressed gratitude to the GTA delegates and assured them that SESA Balochistan would collaborate with all educational organizations to enhance the welfare of officers, teachers, and the education system. He stated, "We will make every effort to resolve the issues of teachers and employees together."



Commuters are passing through a road during the downpour of winter season, in Quetta.



ICC talks continue on fate of Pakistan Champions Trophy: report

SPORTS DESK
The International Cricket Council (ICC) said on Friday talks were continuing to settle uncertainty around next year's Champions Trophy, sources told AFP, after India refused to travel to host nation Pakistan. The event's fate has been hanging in the balance since earlier this month when the ICC said India had declined to visit Pakistan for the eight-team tournament. The nuclear-armed neighbours have fought three wars since being carved out of the subcontinent's partition in 1947 and that rivalry is often reflected on the cricket field.

A meeting by the Dubai-headquartered ICC was held briefly on Friday but adjourned without a decision, according to several sources with knowledge of the talks who were not authorised to speak to the media. "All parties continue to work towards a positive resolution," said one source, adding that "it is expected that the board will reconvene in the next few days". The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has previously ruled out proposals allowing India to play in a neutral third country, insisting the full schedule from February 19 to March 9 must be staged on their turf. Another source said the "Pakistani stance remains the same" following today's brief meeting. On Thursday, PCB Chairman Mohsin Naqvi assured that the board would protect the best interests of cricket in Pakistan during today's meeting. On Tuesday, a spokesman told AFP they could "confirm an ICC meeting on Friday" where the issue will be on the agenda, without providing further details. Pakistan, who won the last edition of the Champions Trophy staged in England in 2017, will host the Feb 19-March 9 tournament. Due to their soured political relations, India have not visited Pakistan since 2008 and the rivals play each other only at multi-team events.



Kagiso Rabada (C) celebrates with teammates after the dismissal of Sri Lanka's Dimuth Karunaratne (R) during the second day of the first Test cricket match between South Africa and Sri Lanka at the Kingsmead stadium in Durban.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Executive Engineer Communication Department District Quetta invites sealed percentage tender based on composite schedule of rates 2023, Government of Balochistan, from interested contractors / firms for the works listed below: **Earnest Money (2%) in shape of call deposit, Tender Fee Rs.1500 in head of account C-02716** and Time limit 30-06-2025 for each work

S#	Name of Work	E/Cost
1.	CONSTRUCTION OF BT ROAD WITH DRAINS TAREEN SHEHAR HASHAM COLONY WARD NO-50 QUETTA. PSDP NO 33 Z2023.0259 TSE-242511596993	29.714 M
2.	CONSTRUCTION OF BT ROAD AND SIDE DRAIN FROM MUSLIMABAD PHATAK TO BILAL MASJID VIASHAKARZAI WARD NO 51 QUETTA. PSDP NO 31 Z2023.0260 TSE-242511597313	39.618 M
3.	CONSTRUCTION OF BT ROAD WITH DRAIN IN SAHIBZADA AREA, WAPDA COLONY NEAR TAREEN SHEHAR WARD -50 NAWAKILLI QUETTA. PSDP NO 32 Z2023.0261 TSE-242511597353	39.619 M
4.	CONSTRUCTION OF BT ROAD KILLI UMER MAIN WITH LINKS STREETS QUETTA. PSDP NO 03 Z2023.0733 TSE-242511597593	29.714 M
5.	CONSTRUCTION OF BT ROAD NAWAKILLI MAIN ROAD WARD NO-50 QUETTA. PSDP NO 34 Z2023.3173 TSE-242511597603	29.712 M

Procurement shall be carried out in accordance with Balochistan Public Procurement Regulatory Authority rules, 2014. **ELIGIBILITY:** The Contractor must have valid registration with Pakistan Engineering Council in relevant Category C-5 & above in relevant discipline i.e. CE01 & CE09 registration with tax authorities i.e. (NTN, BRA and Sales Tax Department), where applicable. Three Years Relevant Work Experience. Turn-over of last three years. **BID SECURITY:** The bid must accompany bid security in the form of call deposit of amount specified above in the name of the undersigned from a scheduled bank. **TENDER DOCUMENTS:** The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the undersigned upon payment (non-refundable) bidding documents fee mentioned above through green challan deposited in the head of account C-02716 civil work through Govt. Treasury/National Bank of Pakistan and bidding documents can also be downloaded from www.bppra.gov.pk under TSE No. given above against each scheme. **ISSUANCE OF TENDER DOCUMENTS:** The tender documents will be issued from the date of publication of this NIT till date of submission i.e. 16-12-2024 during office hours. **DEADLINE OF BID SUBMISSION:** The technical and financial proposals from intending contractors / firms sealed in two separate envelopes clearly marked with work title and tender proposal must be submitted latest by 16-12-2024 at 1:00 PM at the office of the undersigned. **TENDER OPENING:** The Envelope containing technical bids will be opened on the same day i.e 16-12-2024 at 2:00 PM in the office of the undersigned before procurement committee in the presence of contractors or their authorized representatives. Second envelope containing financial bids of technically qualified bidders will be opened later the date and time of which will be communicated after evaluation of technical bids. **PLACE OF ISSUANCE AND SUBMISSION WILL BE:** -Address: Office of the Executive Engineer Communication Department Mir Jaffer Khan Jamali Road Chaman Pattak Quetta. Telephone No.081-9203275 E-mail Address: secretarycwbalochistan@gmail.com **BID VALIDITY PERIOD:** Ninety (90) Days.

Executive Engineer Communication
CW PP&H Department, District
Quetta

PRQ No.2147/29-11-2024
www.dprgob.pk @dpr_gob dprgob @dprbalochistan

Sri Lanka collapse to their lowest Test score of 42 as Jansen stars

SPORTS DESK
DURBAN: Sri Lanka were dismissed for their lowest test total of 42 after South Africa's Marco Jansen produced bowling heroics to help the hosts take a firm grip on the first Test by opening a 281-run lead by the close of play on the second day. The lanky Jansen took a career best 7-13 as Sri Lanka were all out inside 14 overs as 19 wickets fell on a lively surface at Kingsmead on Thursday. South Africa, put in to bat and 80-4 overnight, were bowled out for 191 by lunch in their first innings but were on 132-3 in their second as they chase victory to stay on track for a place in the World Test Championship final at Lords next June. Jansen, 24, is only the second bowler to take seven wickets inside seven overs of a Test innings, emulating former Australia captain Hugh Trumble, whose 7-28 in 6.5 overs, including a hat-trick, bowled them to victory over England in Melbourne in 1904. Jansen's haul also took only 41 balls after clean

bowling three Sri Lan-kans, having three more caught in the slips and finishing off the inn-ings with a caught and bowled as last man Asitha Fer-na-ndo struck a delivery high into the sky. Sri Lankas score was the tied-ninth lowest innings in Test his-tory and their own worse total by 29 runs after their previous low of 71 against Pakistan. It was also the lowest Test inn-ings total at the Durban venue, eclipsing the 53 scored.

EXTENSION
Refer advertisement hoisted on BPPR-A Websites (www.bppra.gov.pk) and published in Newspapers on 28th November, 2024 under PRQ No.2118/27-11-2024, wherein proposal / bid submission and opening date was fixed on 9th December, 2024 at the office of the Assistant Director Local Government Gwadar is hereby extended upto 16th December, 2024. All other terms and conditions of the tender documents will remain unchanged.

Assistant Director
Local Government Rural &
Dev: Department District
Gwadar

PRQ No.2151/29-11-2024
www.dprgob.pk @dpr_gob dprgob @dprbalochistan

CANCELLATION
The tenders called by this office vide TSE No. 242511585813 PRQ no. 1809/05-11-2024 are hereby cancelled due to technical issues in bidding documents. Note: The new date for the tenders will be intimated accordingly.

Executive Engineer (Roads)
CWPP&H Department District
Pishin

PRQ No.2163/29-11-2024
www.dprgob.pk @dpr_gob dprgob @dprbalochistan

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

TSE-242511597573 Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. The Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Sherani invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2023 on Percentage Rates Tender fee Rs.1000/- and Bid Security 3%

S.No	Name of Work/s	E/Cost
1	CONSTRUCTION OF FLOOD PROTECTION WALL KILLI UMARABAD DISTRICT SHERANI	30,000,000

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. **Eligibility of Bidders:** Presence in Active Tax Payer List The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required The bidder must have completed 2 Assignment of similar nature of work Registration with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) C-5 and above (Upto 65 million) In Relevant Category And Specialized Code is CE04(ii) (Irrigation & Flood Control Systems). Turn over of at least 21,000,000 PKR Amount in 2 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm 3 No's Projects of similar nature (i.e Protection wall) Completed in Last 5 Years Minimum value of each project is 20.00 Million. Under taking on judicial stamp paper that the firm was never black listed by any Government / Semi Government Organization. Bank Credit Line from a scheduled bank of Pakistan 20 Million Credit Line Limit or Above. **Procedure of Procurement:** Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure **Bid Security:** The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Guarantee, Deposit at Call of 3% specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. **Tender Documents:** The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the under-signed, 1,000 PKR Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 16 December, 2024 during office hours on working days **Last Date of bid submission:** The Tenders must be submitted latest by 16 December, 2024 till 11:00 AM. **Tender opening:** All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the under- signed at 12:00 PM **Address:** Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Sherani at zhub Phone no: 3136323338 Fax no: 3136323338 Email: xensherani@gmail.com

Executive Engineer
Irrigation Division Sherani

PRQ No.2152/29-11-2024
www.dprgob.pk @dpr_gob dprgob @dprbalochistan

Member APNS

Daily Mirror

Chief editor Syed Mumtaz Shah

Printed and Published By Syed Kamran Mumtaz
For MEM Publications (Pvt) Ltd, 4-A Model Town Hali Road Quetta Cantt.
Phone, No. 081-2829164, Fax No. 081-2835934

By Zafar Mirza

Women's health

THE health of women in Pakistan is in jeopardy. We are talking about the health of 120.7 million citizens of the country, ie, 50 per cent of the population, according to the 2023 census. It is the largest crisis within the broader crisis of overall healthcare in the country.

Women's health suffers more than men's health for two reasons: one, because of, unfortunately, the lower status of women in society; and two, because of their reproductive healthcare needs.

The lower status of women in society is indeed tragic. There are alarming disparities faced by women in every aspect of life at every age. One dubious distinction we have earned globally in 2024 is that out of 146 countries Pakistan has been ranked the second last in terms of gender gap. According to the 18th edition of the Global Gender Gap Report published this year, and produced since 2006 by the World Economic Forum, Pakistan's gender gap index stands at 0.57.

The index ranges between zero and one. A country with no gender gap would have an index of one. It is calculated with the help of data across four important dimensions of women's lives: economic participation and opportunity; educational attainment; health and survival; and political empowerment. The index, of course, is a way of reflecting the situation; the actual crisis is far worse. The reasons for the poor status of women in society are multidimensional, intricate and intertwined.

Lack of attention to the health of women, including their reproductive healthcare needs, is one of the causes as well as a consequence of women's poor status. Poor health further weakens the ability of women to develop and to take charge of their lives. The poor health of the girl child lowers the chances of her education, which determines the course of the rest of her life. She becomes more prone to domestic violence and sexual abuse and follows a destiny decided by others in terms of an early marriage, the number of children she will have, and even decisions about her children's lives.

The poor health of girls and women negatively affects their chances in life to become part of the workforce, be economically independent, participate in decision-making at all levels, assume leadership positions, and appropriately nurture the next generation. And as it happens, the broad base of this pyramid is firmly cemented in poverty. Poverty and disease are in a vicious relationship — one feeds on the other.

The precarious state of the health of women in Pakistan is evident throughout their life course.

The precarious health of women in Pakistan is evident throughout their life course. The quality of health information is generally poor in Pakistan, and gender disaggregation of health data is scant and of low quality. However, on the basis of what information is available, it is clear that women's health in Pakistan is in bad shape. Let us look at the situation a bit more closely.

Around half of the 40pc of stunted children in Pakistan are girls. The percentage of children with low weight for their height (wasting) and low weight for their age (underweight) in Sindh is as high as 23.3pc and 41.3pc respectively — the highest figures among the four provinces. Half of these children are girls.

More than half the children under five years of age in Pakistan are anaemic, while 56.6pc of adolescent girls are anaemic. One in seven women (14.4pc) in the reproductive age bracket (15 to 49 years) is undernourished and as a result, underweight for her age. Sindh has the highest percentage (22.6pc) of underweight women. They give birth to underweight children who are malnourished and thus become stunted. About 41.7pc to 57pc of women in the reproductive age bracket are anaemic. Around 30pc deliveries are conducted by untrained birth attendants, and around 34pc of deliveries take place at home.

The total fertility rate in Pakistan is 3.6 births per woman. Mothers living in the rural areas, on average, bear one more child than mothers in the urban areas. This is one of the highest TFRs in Asia.

The contraceptive prevalence rate is only 34pc among the currently married women from 15 to 49 years; 66pc are not using any contraceptive. Every fourth woman who undergoes childbirth also suffers from perinatal depression, which in 90pc of the cases remains untreated.

Pakistan has the highest rate of breast cancer in Asia. Every ninth woman is in danger of developing breast cancer. Years lived with disability due to breast cancer in girls and women aged 10 to 24 years in Pakistan are the highest in the world and the burden is increasing across female age groups.

Apart from reproductive health issues, women suffer due to communicable diseases and non-communicable diseases just as much as men, if not more, due to their weaker status.

Almost all the above conditions are preventable and can be managed effectively if diagnosed at an early stage. The situation of women's poor health, as depicted by the abysmal indicators above, and many others, is embedded in societal and cultural norms and practices, patriarchy, poverty and the chronic neglect of women care.

These are societal and systemic issues that require a comprehensive and sustained response.

Apart from the moral argument, this means huge social and economic opportunity losses which are difficult to quantify. However, two aspects of women's lack of development are evident from the fact that only 23pc of women are part of the workforce in Pakistan and women and girls earn 10pc to 30pc less than men for the same work.

To improve women's health, the overall healthcare system has to improve in terms of its governance,

financing, responsiveness and delivery, while becoming more sensitive to women's health needs. Gender biases in healthcare must be frontally addressed.

By Syed M. Ilyas

Clean-up needed

A POPULAR saying I have been hearing since childhood is: "Safai nisf iman hai" (cleanliness is half the faith). Today, the 'Queen of the East', as Karachi was once dubbed by Sir Charles Napier, has lost its faith. It needs a good scrub.

When it comes to rankings, the city certainly flies high or trails far behind, whichever way you prefer to put it. Not too long ago, the Economist's Intelligence Unit evaluated 173 cities in the world in terms of their livability. Environment and infrastructure were two factors among others that were taken into account. Karachi ranked 169th.

In terms of pollution by solid waste, the city has the worst record in the country. Solid waste makes the city unliveable and also has a negative aesthetic dimension. Karachi generates 16,500 tons of solid waste every day, but barely two-thirds of it is collected to be sent to the handful of landfill sites on the outskirts of the city. The remaining waste adorns street corners and open plots and can also be seen in the middle of the road. The Sindh Solid Waste Management Board set up in 2014 has failed to do its job. Its poor performance is on public display.

Not enough has been written about the impact of urban pollution on human health.

Even the Pakistan Medical Association seems to have resigned itself to people learning to live with urban waste in their vicinity.

So focused is the medical profession on the curative approach that most of its practitioners fail to mention that a cleaner city would mean fewer illnesses and less out-of-

pocket expenditure for patients.

They should also sort out the waste they generate in their homes.

One point of view is that the solid waste problem is a class issue. In his South Asian Idea (a web-based periodical) Anjum Altaf writes about the future of the city in South Asia. He does not hold out much hope for our cities: "...each South Asian city has split into two — the rich enclaves and the poor slums. At the same time, the discovery that disease is spread by germs not polluted air has shifted the focus from collective sanitation reforms to protection of the individual through immunisation. The rich have thus also isolated themselves from the diseases of the poor. As a result, there is no powerful lobby of influential citizens behind urban reform that benefits the entire city."

He asks: "Is the South Asian city doomed to a schizophrenic and split future?"

However, Karachi does not exactly fit this description. The metropolis is certainly divided into localities inhabited by people from different income groups. But these areas are not totally detached from one another.

In fact, the more affluent among them are often ringed by squatters' settlements that supply menial labour to serve rich households. Hence our society may be schizophrenic but not the city.

Defence Housing Authority, the most affluent and ostentatious of all residential areas, also has its share of solid waste heaps and dilapidated roads.

The residents' problems are no different from those of their kin in Nazimabad and Gulshan in this respect.

The problems of the rich, however, are much smaller in size and

complexity. Moreover, money solves a number of them. Still, the problems exist, testifying to the parity that marks Pakistanis' temperament vis-à-vis 'rubbish'.

From where do we begin Operation Clean-up? While the removal of primary waste from public collection points and transporting the solid waste to the dump is obviously the duty of the municipal authorities, the people also have a role to play. Our disregard for cleanliness in public places knows no class barriers. I have seen the richest of rich lower the window of their air-conditioned Pajero and hurl a bagful of kit---ch---en waste towards a garbage can on the road corner. Needless to say, the aim was not perfect.

On their part, the people should help by not littering public places. They should also sort out the waste they generate in their homes into three categories: organic kitchen waste for composting, paper and glass for recycling, and plastic waste that is given a decent burial. The local government should take over at this point, and provide practical collection points from where the waste, sorted out, is carried to the correct destination.

Once I was told by my host in a Southeast Asian country that children taught the virtues of cleanliness in school learn fast. This practice teaches the child the dignity of labour as well.

The only school in Karachi I know that does this is The Garage School that celebrated its silver jubilee last week. Its premises are spick and span as the students sweep their classrooms themselves. Other schools should be doing the same to create a vested interest in cleanliness in those who spend their time there.

Solidarity with Palestine

THE people of occupied Palestine have been struggling for over seven decades to free their homeland, and have bravely resisted countless blood-soaked Israeli pogroms designed to make them abandon their just cause.

The ongoing genocidal campaign in Gaza is only the latest Zionist project intended to break the Palestinian spirit. Yet their perseverance in the face of unspeakable adversity has won the Palestinian people and their cause supporters the world over. In 1977, the UN General Assembly called for the observance on Nov 29 as the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.

The date marks the adoption in 1947 by the UNGA of Resolution 181 (II), which paved the way for the partition of Mandatory Palestine. Even though the resolution led to the Nakba, it is noteworthy, nonetheless, that the multilateral body has chosen the day to express solidarity with Palestine.

There are many factors behind global support for Palestine. Primarily, the wretched of the earth see in the Arab struggle against Israel a mirror of themselves: a weakened and dominated people seeking to regain their land and their dignity, in the face of a powerful and merciless enemy. They see what is perhaps the last colonial settler state trying to erase an indigenous population from their native land. They see a resilient people with few resources confronting an adversary that has the support of the greatest military machine — and some of the most powerful economies — on earth.

It is because of these factors that people with no religious, cultural or geographical links to Palestine have been marching in solidarity with the besieged people of Gaza and the West Bank. In fact, all people of conscience across the world recognise the Palestinian struggle as just. In the memorable words of Nelson Mandela, "our freedom is incomplete without the freedom of the Palestinians".

In the Muslim world, including Pakistan, the ties of faith inspire support for Palestine. While some Muslim governments may be shy about openly supporting the Palestinian struggle, the 'Muslim street' stands firmly in Palestine's corner. Moreover, there is genuine concern that Israeli extremists — including some in government — are trying to harm the Al Aqsa mosque, one of Islam's most sacred sites, and turning the Palestinian struggle into a religious war.

The people of the world see that the 'defence of Israel' cannot justify the mass murder in Gaza, and therefore, are rightly calling it out for what it is: a genocidal campaign of ethnic cleansing. But difficult as it may be to watch the people of Gaza endure unspeakable atrocities, it is hoped their suffering will not be in vain, and that one day, Palestinians.

DAILY MIRROR

Rana Sanaulah says deaths of PTI protesters do not reach 'double figures'

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: Adviser to the Prime Minister on Political and Public Affairs Rana Sanaulah has said that the "official number" of deaths of PTI workers in the Islamabad protest did not reach double figures, as compared to the various figures coming out from the party.

A day of pitched battles between security forces and PTI protesters across the federal capital ended in a hasty retreat of the party's top leadership and supporters from the Red Zone in the early hours of Wednesday.

At least six lives were lost in the three days of protests, which included a policeman and three Rangers officials who were knocked down by a speeding vehicle, officials and hospital sources said. Claims and counter-claims over deaths purportedly caused by law-enforcement action against the PTI marchers remained a major bone of contention between the government and the opposition party on Wednesday.

Speaking in an interview on ARY News programme '11th Hour' on Thursday, Sanaulah said: "I think the official number is around four to five. Three dead bodies were confirmed who had funerals, according to reports. There could be two or three more. But double-figures are not observed."

Sanaulah said the PTI's claims about the alleged death toll would cause a backlash for the party.

"The kind of perception that PTI leaders are making, that is not possible. The reason for that is there might definitely have been some loss [of life] as six to eight personnel of law enforcement agencies were martyred so it is no big deal if political workers were hit."

He claimed that "15,000-20,000" protesters were brought from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa by PTI leaders, saying "damages" from the crackdown operation might have been high enough as the figures being quoted by the PTI if the demonstrator had remained at the protest venue.

Sanaulah said PTI leaders fled when the shelling began despite attempts by workers to stop them.

"No such violence happened there that would have caused 20, 100, 200 or more deaths. This is PTI propaganda."

He added that the call for the protest itself was wrong. "PTI founder put the party, workers and the leaders in an awkward situation where they could not have been successful."

"Even without the crackdown, the protesters would have been there for two to three days," he said, adding, "They had no arrangements. What would they

have done after reaching D-chowk?"

Sanaulah's remarks regarding the deaths of PTI protesters mark a divergence from the claims by the government and its ministers so far.

A day ago, Information Minister Attaullah Tarar said both major hospitals in the capital — Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences and Polyclinic — had denied receiving any bodies or people with gunshot wounds.

Besides, he added, the Ministry of National Health Services also issued a statement denying the PTI's claim that its workers were killed in security forces' firing.

The minister stated that a list circulating on social media regarding the death of protesters had been declared fake.

Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi has also categorically said that there was no loss of life in the law enforcement action taken to disperse marchers.

Normally, after any major incident such as a terrorist attack, natural disaster or other such happening, health authorities and institutions issue official lists of the number of dead and injured people who were brought to hospital.

But this time around, healthcare authorities have not issued any such lists, and information being shared by journalists and social media users seems to be based on anonymous reports with nothing concrete to back them up.



Prime Minister, Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a high level meeting regarding law and order, in Islamabad

Balochistan's youth valuable asset of PPP: Jamal Raisani

INP

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Member of the National Assembly Nawabzada Jamal Khan Raisani has said that the people of Balochistan, particularly the youth, are not only a source of strength for the party but also a guarantee of its bright future.

In his message on the occasion of PPP's 57th Foundation Day, Jamal Raisani praised the visionary leadership of President Asif Ali Zardari and Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

He said that their far-sighted decisions have instilled confidence in the people of Balochistan that PPP is the only party capable of addressing their genuine issues.

Jamal Raisani highlighted that PPP has consistently worked to integrate the people of Balochistan into the national mainstream and raised its voice for their rights.

He said that under the leadership of Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, young people are being provided ample opportunities to showcase their talents and play a pivotal role in the country's development.

He said that under the leadership of Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, young people are being provided ample opportunities to showcase their talents and play a pivotal role in the country's development.

Chairman IIC calls for unity against Polio propaganda

INP

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of the Islamic Ideology Council, Allama Dr. Muhammad Raghob Hussain Naemi Friday appealed to Ulema and researchers for joint efforts, urging them to take immediate action to counter the malicious propaganda surrounding polio vaccination.

In an interview with pvt news, Dr. Naemi emphasized that Islam unequivocally supports the prevention and control of diseases and that it is our collective responsibility to protect our communities from the scourge of polio.

He stressed that lady health workers, who are the backbone of polio eradication efforts, deserve our respect, appreciation, and cooperation.

Dr. Naemi appealed to the public to behave kindly and generously towards these dedicated workers during polio drives. The Chairman of the Islamic Ideology Council warned that the spread of misinformation and conspiracy theories about polio

Commissioner visits Quetta's areas in rain for facilitating people

APP

Quetta: Commissioner Quetta Division, Administrator Metropolitan Corporation Quetta Muhammad Hamza Shafiq visited different areas of Quetta city during the rains to provide facilities to people in the area on Friday. He inspected the overall activities of the Metropolitan Corporation staff and met the people regarding the cleanliness campaign and other related matters.

On which the people informed the Administrator Metropolitan Corporation about their problems and difficulties.

On this occasion, he took feedback about the cleanliness operation and also supervised the cleaning and silting operation of drains in Pashtoonabad area of Quetta.

While talking to the people, he said that Pashtoonabad has been the most neglected area for so many years but now we have given maximum time and resources for its improvement.

He said that immediate steps are being

taken for the drainage of rain water, the rainwater collected on the roads would be cleaned as soon as possible.

He reviewed the arrangements for the drainage of rainwater and got it removed with the help of a suction machine under his supervision.

He said that machinery and water pumps are being used for drainage - the work of removing obstacles and cleaning to ensure the flow of rainwater is also underway.

He directed staff to prepare a special emergency plan for the city's choking points and low-lying areas so that the citizens would not face any kind of problem during the rains.

He said that all possible measures are being taken to facilitate the public during the rains.

On this occasion, he issued instructions to the subordinate field staff and directed them to remain present in the low-lying areas with heavy machinery during the rains and to utilize all available resources until the water is completely drained.

Bloodshed continues in KP while Gandpur govt busy setting fires in Islamabad: Kundi

ONLINE

CHARSADDA: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi, on Friday warned that the violence from Afghanistan could spread across the country if not addressed properly, and called for a sustainable solution to the situation.

"The fire that started from Afghanistan can spread to other provinces, and it needs to be dealt with effectively," he added.

He said this while talking to media after a meeting with Awami National Party (ANP) chief Aimal Wali Khan here at Wali Bagh to extend invitation to join All Parties Conference (APC) to be held in first week of December at Governor House in Peshawar regarding security issues and province's rights with federation.

Following the meeting, Kundi addressed the media, sharing his concerns about the ongoing security situation in the province.

The Governor criticized the provincial

government's actions, saying, "Bloodshed continues in the province, while the provincial government is busy setting fires in Islamabad."

He expressed his concerns about the deteriorating law and order situation, and in response, he announced his decision to convene an APC to address the growing security challenges in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, including in the volatile region of Kurram.

Regarding the political turmoil, Kundi accused the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party of utilizing state resources to facilitate the release of their party's founder and former chairman.

He also mentioned that the leadership of PTI from Punjab had sought refuge in the Chief Minister's House Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The Governor also raised concerns about the political fragmentation in the province, saying, "Currently, there are two Chief Ministers in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa one, Ali Amin Gandapur and the other, Bushra Bibi."

Quetta, other areas of Balochistan receive first winter rain

APP

Quetta: Quetta along with parts of Balochistan received first winter rain on Friday which turned weather pleasant and cold.

According to report, Mastung, Dasht, Kalat, Chaman and other areas of the province received rain.

The rain also created some problems for the people during traveling on roads in the Quetta City because rain water covered roads due to closing of drainage system.

Partly cloudy/cloudy weather with chances of drizzle/light rain and light snow over mountains forecast for Balochistan including Quetta, Zhob, Ziarat, Pishin, Killa Saifullah, Killa Abdullah, Musakhail, Chagai, Kalat and Khuzdar. Whereas, partly cloudy conditions with light rain/drizzle would prevail in Gwadar, Panjgur and Kech (Turbat), Washuk districts during next 24 Hours.

According to the Met Office, the minimum temperature in Quetta was recorded at 4.0 degree centigrade and 1.5 degree centigrade in Kalat on Friday..

Kurram death toll jumps to 122 after 12 more killed in clashes

INP

KURRAM: Firing incidents in various areas of District Kurram have claimed 12 more lives and left 17 injured on the ninth day of ongoing tribal clashes, police said on Friday.

Despite a recent ceasefire agreement, violence persists, bringing the total death toll to 122 and the number of injured to 168.

According to the district administration, the main Peshawar-Parachinar highway remains closed for the eighth consecutive day, disrupting daily life and trade activities.

The Deputy Commissioner of Kurram, Javedullah Mehsud, confirmed that the road closure has also halted trade at the Kharlachi border with Afghanistan, further exacerbating the economic impact on the region.

Additionally, due to the tense situation, internet and mobile phone services have been suspended, causing severe difficulties for residents, limiting their access to communication and essential services. On Thursday, the death toll in the clashes had reached 107, with five additional fatalities and nine injuries reported despite claims of a ceasefire deal.

A 10-day truce was brokered earlier in the week, but intermittent violence has rendered it ineffective.

Pakistan wants to enhance economic, trade ties with Russian Federation: NA Speaker

INP

ISLAMABAD: National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq has said that Pakistan wanted to enhance its economic and trade ties with Russian Federation.

The Speaker along with a parliamentary delegation called on the Speaker of the Federal Council of the Russian Federation, Ms. Valentina Matvienko, at the Federal Assembly of Russia, said a press release received here on Friday

The parliamentary delegation comprised Members of the National Assembly Rana Muhammad Hayat Khan, Syed Agha Rafiullah, Abdul Qadir Patel, Dr. Muhammad Farooq Sattar, and Sher Ali Arbab.

During his meeting, Ayaz Sadiq has expressed gratitude for the warm reception extended by Ms. Valentina Matvienko to him and his delegation.

Ms. Valentina Matvienko, referencing her recent visit to Pakistan, lauded the hospitality and reception extended to her by Pakistan's parliament.

Ayaz Sadiq while underscoring the significance of strengthening Pak-

Russia parliamentary ties said that parliamentary cooperation could play a pivotal role in solidifying ties between both the countries.

He appreciated the participation and support of his Russian counterpart at the first Speakers' Conference held at Islamabad under the auspices of the National Assembly of Pakistan in 2014.

Ayaz Sadiq also said that the invitation extended to him by his Russian counterpart to officially visit Russia is an important step towards strengthening parliamentary ties.

The Speaker expressed satisfaction with the growing ties between the two countries at the parliamentary, diplomatic, and governmental levels.

He highlighted recent high-level engagements, including meetings between the Presidents and Prime Ministers of both nations, the visit of Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister to Russia, Ms. Matvienko's visit to Pakistan, and visits by Pakistan's Federal Ministers for Energy and Privatization to Russia, as encouraging developments.

Ayaz Sadiq emphasized the need to enhance interactions between the parliamentarians of both nations.



Quetta: Balochistan government spokesman Shahid Rind addressing a press conference .

JMC to set new standards of healthcare, research in capital: Ahsan Iqbal

APP

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal has chaired a meeting to review progress on the Jinnah Medical Complex (JMC) project, which would set new standards of healthcare and research in the Federal Capital.

Key officials, including Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Health Dr Malik Mukhtar Ahmad Bharath, Secretary National Health Services Prof. Khalid Saeed Akhtar, CDA chairman and representatives from Bostan Consultants, attended the meeting, a news release said on Friday.

A detailed presentation on the project's master plan was given by Bostan

Consultants, followed by a thorough discussion.

The committee approved the plan, and Ahsan Iqbal proposed renaming the project as the Jinnah Medical Research Center to reflect its focus on advanced medical research and healthcare.

The minister emphasized the importance of modern designs, green building principles, and combining traditional construction methods with advanced techniques like precast structures to ensure top-quality construction.

The Pakistan Kidney and Liver Institute (PKLI) will finalize the project's design by February 2025, with necessary approvals expected by April 2025.

JI condemns Govt's suppression of constitutional rights, calls for release of journalists

INP

LAHORE: Jamaat-e-Islami's Ameer, Hafiz Naem-ur-Rehman, strongly condemned the government's recent actions against the people's constitutional and democratic rights, specifically in Islamabad.

In a statement issued from Mansoura, Rehman denounced the brutal tactics employed by the government to suppress freedom of expression, including the kidnapping of journalists and their subsequent imprisonment on false charges.

"The Form 47 government has no right to undermine the constitution and democracy or turn the country into a spectacle," said Rehman, referring to the current government. He demanded the immediate release of journalists, including Matiuallah Jan, who have been falsely charged and incarcerated. The Jamaat-e-Islami chief further stated that the government's attempt to demonstrate fascism to the people of Pakistan will not be accepted under any circumstances. "This country was built through the struggle of the people, and they are its true heirs," Rehman asserted, emphasizing that the voices of the people cannot be silenced by oppression.

Rehman criticized the government's attempt to obscure the truth regarding

events in Islamabad and expressed concern over the restriction of access to information. He pointed out that access to information is a fundamental constitutional right, and restricting it, especially from critical institutions like hospitals, does not prevent the truth from emerging. "It only leads to the spread of rumors and forces people to form their own conclusions," he said.

Rehman also reiterated Jamaat-e-Islami's long-standing demand for a genuinely elected government. "The country will only progress when the real representatives of the people are in power," he said, calling for the formation of a judicial commission based on Form 45 to bring in a truly elected government. He further demanded the release of all political prisoners and the annulment of the 26th Constitutional Amendment.

On economic issues, Rehman urged the government to prioritize the welfare of the people over compliance with the IMF's conditions. He called for a reduction in the prices of electricity, petrol, and essential food items. He also suggested using the benefits from IPP agreements to decrease electricity costs. Jamaat-e-Islami pledged to continue its struggle for the rights of the people and to stand firm in opposing any actions that undermine democracy.



Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb chaired a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Release of IMT Spectrum for Improvement of Next Generation Mobile Broadband Services in Pakistan held at Finance Division in Islamabad.