

DAILY MIRROR

Quetta
Karachi

mirrorqta@gmail.com

Chief editor Syed Mumtaz Shah

Saturday, December, 07, 2024

Jumada-Al-Thani, 04, 1446

Bilawal castigates KP gov't's 'extremist politics, ignorance' of key responsibilities

PPP chief hails Governor Kundi's initiative aimed at "creating political consensus" and addressing KP people's difficulties

ONLINE

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari on Friday slammed the PTI-led Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) government for practising "extremist politics" and ignoring its core responsibility of serving the people.

The ex-foreign minister's remarks came a day after the former ruling party boycotted the all-parties conference (APC), summoned by KP Governor Faisal Karim Kundi over recent tribal clashes that claimed at least 133 lives and injured 186 others.

The Imran Khan-founded party was of the view: "The PPP has no mandate in KP [...] it wants to hold a lifeless exhibitory meeting to portray itself as a democratic party."

Taking to X, formerly known as Twitter, Bilawal hailed PPP-backed Governor Kundi's initiative aimed at "creating political consensus" and addressing difficulties

faced by the people of KP.

"Dialogue between political forces is the most effective means to not only address political, economic and security challenges but forge the political consensus and stability required to achieve results."

Castigating the firebrand Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur-led provincial government, the PPP chief said: "It is unfortunate that the government with executive authority & primary responsibility to address these issues have not even spent one day since they formed government doing what they are meant to. Sever the people of their province."

He added, "They have been busy practicing their extremist politics at the expense of the people of Pakhtunkhwa."

Censuring the PTI's decision to skip the APC, the PPP top leader said: "Despite having been invited, they refused to attend or contribute to this APC as well."



Prime Minister, Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif addresses during the closing ceremony of the 7th Maritime Security Workshop in Pakistan Navy War College, in Lahore.

PM vows to eradicate scourge of terrorism from country

APP

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has reiterated government's resolve to eradicate the scourge of terrorism from the country.

Addressing the closing ceremony of the 7th Maritime Security Workshop at Pakistan Navy War College in Lahore, he said that Pakistan has paid a heavy price of terrorism.

He said that eighty thousand people lost their lives while economy suffered losses worth billions of dollars during war against terrorism. Shehbaz Sharif said that previous PML N Government had eliminated this menace in 2018, however unfortunately terrorism has once again sprung out.

He vowed not to sit idle till the complete eradication of terrorism from the country.

He said that several meetings of Apex Committee have been held to ensure maintenance of law and order. Shehbaz Sharif said that great sacrifices are being offered by officers and jawans of the armed forces to ensure security of the country and their sacrifices will not go in vain.

Talking about Pakistan Navy's capabilities, the Prime Minister said Pak Navy's officers and sailors have

commitment and capacity to deal with entire spectrum of threats making Pakistan Navy a formidable force capable of ensuring the maritime security of the country.

He said that Pakistan Navy is providing support to reap the benefits of the marine resources. He said that Pakistan's development and progress is possible only through harnessing the blue economy.

The Prime Minister said that China is also providing support to Pakistan in maritime sector. He said that Pakistan will become more prosperous when Gwadar Port will become fully functional.

He said that Pakistan's development and progress is possible only through harnessing the blue economy.

The Prime Minister said that China is also providing support to Pakistan in maritime sector. He said that Pakistan will become more prosperous when Gwadar Port will become fully functional.

He said that Pakistan's development and progress is possible only through harnessing the blue economy.

The Prime Minister said that China is also providing support to Pakistan in maritime sector. He said that Pakistan will become more prosperous when Gwadar Port will become fully functional.

He said that Pakistan's development and progress is possible only through harnessing the blue economy.

The Prime Minister said that China is also providing support to Pakistan in maritime sector. He said that Pakistan will become more prosperous when Gwadar Port will become fully functional.

He said that Pakistan's development and progress is possible only through harnessing the blue economy.

The Prime Minister said that China is also providing support to Pakistan in maritime sector. He said that Pakistan will become more prosperous when Gwadar Port will become fully functional.

He said that Pakistan's development and progress is possible only through harnessing the blue economy.

The Prime Minister said that China is also providing support to Pakistan in maritime sector. He said that Pakistan will become more prosperous when Gwadar Port will become fully functional.

He said that Pakistan's development and progress is possible only through harnessing the blue economy.

The Prime Minister said that China is also providing support to Pakistan in maritime sector. He said that Pakistan will become more prosperous when Gwadar Port will become fully functional.

He said that Pakistan's development and progress is possible only through harnessing the blue economy.

The Prime Minister said that China is also providing support to Pakistan in maritime sector. He said that Pakistan will become more prosperous when Gwadar Port will become fully functional.

He said that Pakistan's development and progress is possible only through harnessing the blue economy.

The Prime Minister said that China is also providing support to Pakistan in maritime sector. He said that Pakistan will become more prosperous when Gwadar Port will become fully functional.

He said that Pakistan's development and progress is possible only through harnessing the blue economy.

The Prime Minister said that China is also providing support to Pakistan in maritime sector. He said that Pakistan will become more prosperous when Gwadar Port will become fully functional.

He said that Pakistan's development and progress is possible only through harnessing the blue economy.

The Prime Minister said that China is also providing support to Pakistan in maritime sector. He said that Pakistan will become more prosperous when Gwadar Port will become fully functional.

He said that Pakistan's development and progress is possible only through harnessing the blue economy.

The Prime Minister said that China is also providing support to Pakistan in maritime sector. He said that Pakistan will become more prosperous when Gwadar Port will become fully functional.

He said that Pakistan's development and progress is possible only through harnessing the blue economy.

The Prime Minister said that China is also providing support to Pakistan in maritime sector. He said that Pakistan will become more prosperous when Gwadar Port will become fully functional.

He said that Pakistan's development and progress is possible only through harnessing the blue economy.

The Prime Minister said that China is also providing support to Pakistan in maritime sector. He said that Pakistan will become more prosperous when Gwadar Port will become fully functional.

He said that Pakistan's development and progress is possible only through harnessing the blue economy.

The Prime Minister said that China is also providing support to Pakistan in maritime sector. He said that Pakistan will become more prosperous when Gwadar Port will become fully functional.

He said that Pakistan's development and progress is possible only through harnessing the blue economy.

The Prime Minister said that China is also providing support to Pakistan in maritime sector. He said that Pakistan will become more prosperous when Gwadar Port will become fully functional.

He said that Pakistan's development and progress is possible only through harnessing the blue economy.

The Prime Minister said that China is also providing support to Pakistan in maritime sector. He said that Pakistan will become more prosperous when Gwadar Port will become fully functional.

He said that Pakistan's development and progress is possible only through harnessing the blue economy.

The Prime Minister said that China is also providing support to Pakistan in maritime sector. He said that Pakistan will become more prosperous when Gwadar Port will become fully functional.

PM assures Maulana Fazl of removing all reservations over Madaris Bill

ONLINE

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz rang up JUI chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman on Friday and assured him of removing all his reservations regarding Madaris Registration Bill.

The phone call came hours after JUI issued a deadline and threatened to launch a march on Islamabad after the Madaris Registration Bill does not become a law.

During the telephonic conversation, Maulana Fazl conveyed his party's reservations to the prime minister over the bill.

The JUI chief cautioned the government to refrain from making the bill controversial.

JUI gives Dec 8 deadline to govt

Earlier in the day, the JUI gave the government December 8 deadline to pass the madrasah bill.

JUI Senator Maulana Abdul Ghafoor

Haideri said that in case of government's failure to pass the bill then they have no other option but to march towards Islamabad.

Maulana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri further said that they are religious people and don't want to move towards Islamabad because their country cannot afford such kind of situation.

He said that the current government wanted to create differences among religious parties and forcing them to march towards Islamabad. He said that Bilawal Bhutto Zardari assured him that he will definitely raise the issue with his father President Asif Ali Zardari to get the parliament's nod about the bill.

He said that Maulana Fazlur Rehman will take a final decision regarding march towards Islamabad. He said that this bill not only belonged to JUI but it has representation of all madaris.

Jam Kamal Khan calls on Balochistan Governor

APP

Quetta: Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan called on Governor Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandokhail at Governor House Quetta on Friday.

During the meeting, matters of mutual interest including the overall situation of the country were discussed.

Meanwhile, a joint strategy was also discussed to promote trade and development in Balochistan and the commitment made to improve infrastructure and connectivity in the province.

On this occasion, Governor Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandokhail emphasized on cooperation to fully benefit from the socio-economic development of the area.

He said that more dialogue is needed at the federal and provincial levels for the development of Balochistan.

Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan assured that Balochistan would be full supported from the federation to make it the economic and trade hub of the entire area.

Law ministry concludes training of customs prosecutors

INP

ISLAMABAD: Ministry of Law and Justice, in collaboration with the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), successfully concluded a transformative three-day training program for customs prosecutors.

The training program was held at the National Institute of Banking and Finance (NIBAF), which aimed to enhance prosecutors' professional capabilities, equipping them to address emerging challenges in combating smuggling, enforcing trade laws, and ensuring legitimate trade practices.

The training covered critical topics, including trade-based money laundering, customs laws, prosecu-

torial skills, evidence handling, trial procedures, and international trade compliance. Specialized sessions focused on tariff structures, customs valuation, civil proceedings against goods, and appeals and revisions, fostering a comprehensive understanding of customs-related legal frameworks.

Distinguished keynote speakers from the Federal Board Revenue, the Attorney General's office, the Federal Judicial Academy, and the Ministry of Law and Justice enriched the program with their expertise. Participants gained practical insights into identifying and prosecuting customs offences, drafting and presenting cases, and inter-agency collaboration.

The event was organized by Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP), said a press release. Pakistan's cuisine

Finance Minister stressed the need for private sector to work with SECP to steer progress with Ministry of Finance acting as a host.

The conference drew participation from international delegates, esteemed Justices of all High Courts, renowned lawyers, regulators and policy makers.

In his opening remarks, the Chairman SECP highlighted the critical importance of effective insolvency and debt enforcement frameworks for fostering economic stability and growth.

He also urged the minister to form working groups for both insolvency and debt enforcement related regulations in Pakistan.

Honourable judges from Lahore High Court, Sindh High Court, Islamabad High Court, Peshawar High Court and Balochistan High Court graced the occasion and offered invaluable insights into the legal dimensions of insolvency and debt enforcement.

Their collective expertise played a crucial role in shaping the discussions, fostering a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities in enhancing the country's legal and regulatory frameworks.

Mr. Sergio Ariel Muro, Finance Sector Specialist (Insolvency) at the World Bank, shared international best practices and emphasized the importance of insolvency in promoting economic resilience.

The conference also featured expert panel discussions on key issues such as strengthening institutional frameworks for debt enforcement, bridging gaps in insolvency legislation, and enhancing coordination among stakeholders for effective dispute resolution.

The discussions provided a platform for local and international experts to share perspectives on policy reform and innovative solutions tailored to Pakistan's context.

The visit concluded with chamber officials presenting a commemorative shield to the federal minister.

The event concluded with the QCCI presenting a commemorative shield to the federal minister in recognition of his efforts to support Balochistan's business community.

The minister highlighted the lack of industrial growth in the province, which has resulted in dependence on government jobs and higher costs for electricity and gas. He stressed the need for collaborative efforts to develop small and medium enterprises and improve infrastructure in industrial zones like the Bostan Special Economic Zone.

Chamber officials, including President Haji Muhammad Ayub Maryani, urged the minister to address key issues such as resolving land disputes in Bostan, building an expo center, and organizing a trilateral trade exhibition with Pakistan, Iran, and Afghanistan.

He also requested tax valuation discounts on Iranian imports and expedited clearance of delayed shipments.

Jam Kamal assured that the federal government is committed to supporting economic initiatives in Balochistan. He mentioned ongoing reviews of economic zones under Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's directives and called for joint efforts to ensure sustainable growth.

Bushra Bibi resurfaces after PTI protest, says she 'did not run away'

NEWS DESK

CHARSADDA: Bushra Bibi, the wife of former prime minister and PTI founder Imran Khan, clarified her position on Friday regarding her departure from the recent PTI protest held in Islamabad.

On Nov 13, Imran issued a "final call" for nationwide protests on Nov 24, demanding the restoration of the PTI's electoral mandate, the release of detained party members, and the reversal of the 26th Amendment which he said had strengthened a "dictatorial regime".

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 Nov 27.

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.

Meanwhile, top PTI leaders met Imran Khan in Adi-ala Jail on Monday and officially cla-imed the death of 12 of its supporters during the protest.

Today, Bushra alongside MNA Faisal Amin Khan Gandapur, and PTI spokesperson Raoof Hasan visited the families of the deceased protesters, Mohammad Ali and Tajuddin, in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Charsadda.

Speaking to reporters, Bushra said, "I am not someone who runs away and especially could not leave those who came onto the streets for [Imran] Khan."



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan Speaking to the media and business community.

Balochistan can be a Global Business Gateway: Commerce Minister

APP

QUETTA: Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan on Friday emphasized Balochistan's strategic importance as a global business gateway during a meeting with officials and members of the Quetta Chamber of Commerce and Industry (QCCI).

Speaking to the media and business community, he outlined the province's potential as a hub for trade with Central Asia and Europe, facilitated by its geographical advantages and natural resources.

The minister highlighted Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's dedicated focus on Balochistan's development, stressing that inclusive growth and robust economic planning are critical for the province's economic prosperity.

"Without economic development, we cannot achieve sustainable prosperity in Balochistan. We need to move beyond superficial Public Sector Development Programs (PSDP) and initiate projects that benefit all," he said.

Jam Kamal pointed out the need for enhanced infrastructure in Balochistan's industrial zones, citing the lack of basic facilities like water, electricity, and gas as major obstacles to industrial growth.

He noted that while Hub Industrial Zone near Karachi has flourished, others, such as the Quetta Industrial Zone and the Bostan Special Economic Zone, remain underutilized.

He called for urgent attention to establish projects like expo centers, special economic zones, and border markets.

The minister also addressed challenges related to ownership of industrial and trade initiatives post-18th Amendment, urging provincial representatives to take proactive measures.

He stressed the importance of export promotion and collaboration between federal and provincial governments to create a conducive environment for businesses.

The QCCI leadership, including President Muhammad Ayub Mariani and other officials, shared specific concerns, such as maintaining tax exemptions for exporters and importers, addressing land disputes at the Bostan Special Economic Zone, and ensuring proper infrastructure for the export center.

They also called for measures to improve trade relations with neighboring countries like Iran and Afghanistan, including organizing a trilateral trade exhibition.

In response, Jam Kamal assured the business community of the federal government's support. He highlighted ongoing efforts such as reviving the domestic commerce policy, promoting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and enhancing collaboration with the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP).

"Balochistan holds immense transit potential and is a vital link for global trade routes. However, economic growth requires collective effort from all stakeholders. Without

industrial development, challenges like unemployment and reliance on government jobs will persist," he added.

The event concluded with the QCCI presenting a commemorative shield to the federal minister in recognition of his efforts to support Balochistan's business community.

The minister highlighted the lack of industrial growth in the province, which has resulted in dependence on government jobs and higher costs for electricity and gas. He stressed the need for collaborative efforts to develop small and medium enterprises and improve infrastructure in industrial zones like the Bostan Special Economic Zone.

Chamber officials, including President Haji Muhammad Ayub Maryani, urged the minister to address key issues such as resolving land disputes in Bostan, building an expo center, and organizing a trilateral trade exhibition with Pakistan, Iran, and Afghanistan.

He also requested tax valuation discounts on Iranian imports and expedited clearance of delayed shipments.

Jam Kamal assured that the federal government is committed to supporting economic initiatives in Balochistan. He mentioned ongoing reviews of economic zones under Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's directives and called for joint efforts to ensure sustainable growth.

The visit concluded with chamber officials presenting a commemorative shield to the federal minister.

Asif says 'selective sense of justice' doesn't suit stature of Justice Mansoor Shah

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: Defence Minister Khawaja Asif said that "selective sense of justice" doesn't suit the stature of senior Supreme Court judge Mansoor Ali Shah.

Taking to X, formerly Twitter, the senior PML-N leader reacted to the letter written by Justice Mansoor Ali Shah to Chief Justice of Pakistan.

Justice Mansoor Ali Shah had penned a letter to Chief Justice of Pakistan Yahya Afridi, urging the postponement of the Judicial Commission's December 6 meeting, citing concerns over its constitutional validity.

"Respected Mansoor Ali Shah said that the public trust on judiciary could be eroded if there is no implementation on his letter," said Khawaja Asif.

He added that Justice Shah is associated with the higher judiciary since several years and he is eyewitness to many historical developments.

Many judges including Saqib Nisar, Asif Saeed Khosa, Ijaz-ul-Ahsan and Mazahar Naqvi damaged the dignity of higher judiciary, he added. "Why didn't Justice Shah speak at that time," questioned Khawaja Asif.

"Are you complaining due to any personal reason," the defence minister questioned.

"You are holding a high office. Such a selective sense of justice doesn't suit you," the veteran politician said.

In his letter to CJP, Justice Shah had highlighted the pending petitions challenging the 26th Constitutional Amendment, which reconstituted the Judicial Commission.

Justice Shah cautioned that if the amendment is invalidated, it would undermine the decisions made by the reconstituted Judicial Commission, leading to potential embarrassment for the judiciary and its members.

Finance Minister expresses commitment for creating conducive environment for business

INP

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb on Friday emphasized the government's commitment to creating a conducive business environment to attain sustainable economic growth and development in the country.

Addressing a two-day consultative conference on insolvency and debt enforcement related laws, the minister agreed to the idea of forming working group.

The event was organized by Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP), said a press release. Pakistan's cuisine

Finance Minister stressed the need for private sector to work with SECP to steer progress with Ministry of Finance acting as a host.

The conference drew participation from international delegates, esteemed Justices of all High Courts, renowned lawyers, regulators and policy makers.

In his opening remarks, the Chairman SECP highlighted the critical importance of effective insolvency and debt enforcement frameworks for fostering economic stability and growth.

He also urged the minister to form working groups for both insolvency and debt enforcement related regulations in Pakistan.

Honourable judges from Lahore High Court, Sindh High Court, Islamabad High Court, Peshawar High Court and Balochistan High Court graced the occasion and offered invaluable insights into the legal dimensions of insolvency and debt enforcement.

Their collective expertise played a crucial role in shaping the discussions, fostering a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities in enhancing the country's legal and regulatory frameworks.

Mr. Sergio Ariel Muro, Finance Sector Specialist (Insolvency) at the World Bank, shared international best practices and emphasized the importance of insolvency in promoting economic resilience.

The conference also featured expert panel discussions on key issues such as strengthening institutional frameworks for debt enforcement, bridging gaps in insolvency legislation, and enhancing coordination among stakeholders for effective dispute resolution.

The discussions provided a platform for local and international experts to share perspectives on policy reform and innovative solutions tailored to Pakistan's context.

The visit concluded with chamber officials presenting a commemorative shield to the federal minister.

The event concluded with the QCCI presenting a commemorative shield to the federal minister in recognition of his efforts to support Balochistan's business community.

The minister highlighted the lack of industrial growth in the province, which has resulted in dependence on government jobs and higher costs for electricity and gas. He stressed the need for collaborative efforts to develop small and medium enterprises and improve infrastructure in industrial zones like the Bostan Special Economic Zone.

Chamber officials, including President Haji Muhammad Ayub Maryani, urged the minister to address key issues such as resolving land disputes in Bostan, building an expo center, and organizing a trilateral trade exhibition with Pakistan, Iran, and Afghanistan.

Sheikh jaffar khan mandokhail to inaugurate governor balochistan trophy sprint canoeing national championship quetta 2024 on sunday

NEWS DESK

Quetta, Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail will inaugurate the Governor Balochistan Trophy Sprint Canoeing National Championship 2024 on Sunday, December 8, 2024, at Hanna Lake, Quetta. The prestigious event will feature 65 male and female canoe and kayak athletes from across Pakistan, showcasing their talent and passion for the sport. Mr. Hayatullah Khan Durrani, the recipient of the prestigious Pride-of-Performance Award and secretary Pakistan Canoe and Kayak Federation accompanied by Abdul Sattar Khan Durrani Advocate who holds the distinguished positions of Patron of Hayat Durrani Water Sports Academy International (HDWSA) at Hanna Lake Quetta.

During the productive meeting Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail lauded the significant contributions made by Mr. Hayatullah Khan Durrani in fostering the development of Canoe Kayak, Rowing, Mountaineering and Caving Adventure Sports at both the

national and international levels, recognizing his unwavering dedication and excellence in the sport of canoeing.

In light of the outstanding accomplishments, it was decided to organize prestigious "Governor Balochistan Trophy Sprint Canoeing National Championship 2004 at the Headquarters of renowned Hayat Durrani Water Sports Academy International (Pvt, Ltd) and its sprawling ranch in Hanna Lake Quetta, in collaboration with the Pakistan Canoe and Kayak Federation and Balochistan Canoeing Association.

Mr. Hayatullah Khan Durrani presented a comprehensive overview of the upcoming Championship, providing valuable insights into the diverse activities organized by HDWSA International in conjunction with the Pakistan Canoe and Kayak Federation. Governor Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail expressed his resolute commitment and he eagerly anticipates inaugurating the National canoeing Championship, contributing to the spirited and sportive celebration for the youth of Balochistan.



Quetta, Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail in a meeting with Mr. Hayatullah Khan Durrani.

Zia Syed visited the Belarus Embassy on the special invitation of Belarusian Ambassador Andrei Metlitsa

By Khawaja Farooq

Gujranwala: A delegation led by Zia Syed visited the Belarus Embassy on the special invitation of Belarusian Ambassador Andrei Metlitsa.

According to details, on the special invitation of Ambassador Andrei Metlitsa, a delegation of the All Pakistan Federation of United Trade Unions (APFUTU) visited the Belarus Embassy in Islamabad. Upon their arrival, the ambassador warmly welcomed the delegation, which included the federation's president Samina Ashraf Comrade, General Secretary Zia Syed, Joint Secretary Zulfiqar Ali Bajwa, and Youth and Social Media Chairman Syed Fasih-ul-Hassan.

During the meeting, Ambassador Andrei Metlitsa said that the government of Belarus is actively working

to strengthen bilateral relations with Pakistan. He expressed the desire for further improvement in these relations. The ambassador highlighted the availability of excellent employment opportunities in Belarusian industries for skilled individuals and emphasized their efforts to ensure that educated and skilled workers from Pakistan secure these opportunities.

He stated that the Belarusian government prefers individuals from Pakistan seeking education and employment in Belarus to have at least a basic understanding of the Belarusian language to ease their integration. To promote the



Belarusian language in Pakistan, steps are being considered to send a delegation of Pakistani teachers to Belarus. These teachers would receive training in the Belarusian language and culture and then return to Pakistan to promote these skills, aiding individuals who plan to work or study in Belarus in the future.

The ambassador added that 2,700 Belarus-made tractors will be assembled in Pakistan next year to meet local demand.

AShaza calls for joint Efforts to ensure Online Safety

APP

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for IT and Telecommunication, Shaza Fatima Khawaja has said that online safety is a significant challenge requiring collective efforts to address online threats.

"Children are particularly vulnerable to online dangers. Online safety is a big challenge, and joint efforts are crucial to counter these threats. We must unite to combat online threats," she said during a meeting with Miranda Sissons, Global Human Rights Policy Lead for Meta.

According to a press release, the meeting focused on matters of mutual interest, particularly digital safety. Meta's Public Policy Head in Pakistan, Dania Mukhtar, also attended the meeting. Pakistan's cuisine Shaza Fatima highlighted the growing risks associated with online threats in today's digital age, particularly for children and young people. "The increasing prevalence of online threats places internet users, especially children, at greater risk," she added.

The minister reiterated the government's commitment to strengthening cybersecurity and improving the digital ecosystem nationwide. She also stressed the importance of ensuring the availability of quality content on social media platforms.

Pakistan warns its citizens against unnecessarily travelling to Syria

INP

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Friday warned its citizens against unnecessarily travelling to Syria amid the ongoing conflict between rebels and Syrian government.

"In view of the recent developments and evolving situation in Syria, Pakistan nationals are advised to avoid unnecessary travel or visit to Syria until the situation improves," the Foreign Office said in a travel advisory.

It added that those currently in Syria are advised to exercise extreme caution and remain in contact with the Embassy of Pakistan in Damascus. The Foreign Office also provided contact details through which the embassy can be approached. Cell/Whatsapp: +963 987 127 822; +963 990 138 972; Email: parepdamascus@mofa.gov.ok.

Gwadar Airport to be operational by month-end

INP

GWADAR: New Gwadar International Airport operationalization preparations enter final Stages and acting Director General (DG) PAA Zeeshan Saeed Visited New Gwadar International Airport.

According to PAA new Gwadar International Airport to be operational by end of this month. During the DG's visit, Project Director Faizullah Khattak briefed him on airport operational preparations. New Gwadar International Airport project team also briefs airport stakeholders. Project team gave detailed briefing on business opportunities and economic zones at airport. Acting Director General expressed satisfaction on operational preparations of Gwadar Airport.

The airport equipped with modern facilities has cost \$246 million including Chinese grant. Equipped with a large runway and modern terminal building, the airport is suitable for all types of large aircraft.



Metropolitan Corporation Deputy Director Health, Dr. Nousheen Khan along with Maria Shamoon, Assistant Commissioner inspecting the different dairy farms during their visit, in Quetta.

MNA Jamal vows to address Sariab library issues soon

APP

Quetta: Pakistan Peoples Party Member of National Assembly Nawabzada Jamal Khan Raisani on Friday said that measures would be taken to address issues of Sariab Library soon for wider interest of students' future.

He said this while talking to a delegation led by PPP leader Haji Lal Muhammad Jatak met with him at Sarawan House Quetta. The meeting discussed the political situation and con-

stituency issues.

The PPP delegation identified issues regarding the Sariab Library to which PPP Member of National Assembly Nawabzada Jamal Khan Raisani assured to resolve the library issues soon.

He said that the young generation is our future and asset saying that his doors are always open for all possible assistance to them. Nawabzada Jamal Khan Raisani said that he would pay the college and university fees of those poor and needy students of his constituency.



Balochistan Students Organization (BSO-Pajjar) Leader, Azhar Baloch along with Tahir Shah Kakar, Leader PSF addressing a press conference, at Quetta press club.



BCCI turns down renewed proposal by PCB as deadlock over Champions Trophy continues

SPORTS DESK

KARACHI: Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) representatives on Thursday turned down the Pakistan Cricket Board's (PCB) proposal of adopting the "partnership formula" for the next three years as part of efforts of breaking the ongoing deadlock between the two parties over next year's ICC Champions Trophy, sources have revealed.

With the BCCI having unofficially communicated to the tournament organisers International Cricket Council (ICC) last month about the Indian government's refusal to allow the country's cricket team to visit host Pakistan, a hybrid model was reported to have been agreed upon earlier this week.

The model, in its originality would have seen India play their Champions Trophy matches at a neutral venue, while the rest of the tournament is held in Pakistan. The PCB, however, had added a tit-for-tat condition to it; Pakistan would also play their matches at neutral venues when India host an ICC tournament in the future — it being dubbed as the "partnership formula".

PCB initially wanted the condition to be applied until the end of the current Future Tours Programme cycle of the ICC, which culminates with the 2031 Cricket World Cup. With the BCCI disagreeing to it, its Pakistan counterpart proposed the same for the next three years.

On Thursday, just ahead of yet another scheduled ICC board meeting in Dubai to resolve the issue, PCB chairman Mohsin Naqvi, who was in the emirate, had made an enquiry if the BCCI would agree with the latest proposition.

With the answer in negative, Mohsin de-iced there was no purpose behind engaging and hence the meeting was postponed, further delaying clarity over the fate of the Champions Trophy, which is scheduled to be held in Karachi, Lahore and Rawalpindi from Feb 19-Mar 9 next year.

Amid political tensions between the two neighbours, the BCCI has stood firm by the Indian government's policy of not engaging with Pakistan in terms of bilateral cricket over the years.

However, after having played the last bilateral series against each other in 2012, Pakistan and India have competed in ICC tournaments and the Asia Cup. Pakistan, in fact, visited India to feature in the ICC World Cup last year.



Australian bowler Mitchell Starc (L) celebrates dismissing Indian batsman KL Rahul (R) on the first day of the second cricket Test match between Australia and India at the Adelaide Oval in Adelaide.

Australia on top in 2nd India Test after Starc takes six

SPORTS DESK

Australia lost opener Usman Khawaja but took first day honours at the day-night second Test in Adelaide Friday after a Mitchell Starc onslaught saw India crumble to 180 all out.

At the close, the hosts were 86-1 with Nathan McSweeney not out 38 from 97 balls and Marnus Labuschagne on 20 after the visitors were dismissed on the cusp of tea after winning the toss and opting to bat.

A menacing Starc was India's chief destroyer. He gave the hosts a dream start in removing Yashviji Jaiswal with the first ball of the match and ended with 6-48 — his best Test figures.

In reply, Australia weathered 10 overs of the pink ball at dusk before Jasprit Bumrah's persistence paid off, finding extra movement and with it a thick edge from Khawaja (13) that carried to Rohit Sharma at slip.

Fellow opener McSweeney took 17 balls to get off the mark and had a life on three when dropped by wicket-keeper Rishabh Pant.

But he made the most of his fortune, showing maturity in his second Test, while Labuschagne survived a nervy start as he targets a big score after a lean spell.

India came into the clash riding high after a 295-run victory at the first Test in Perth, but Australia have a formidable record in Adelaide, winning all seven pink-ball Tests they have played at the venue.

The visitors retained Jaiswal and KL Rahul as openers in preference to Rohit, who missed the first Test on paternity leave and came in at six.

But the plan backfired as Starc sensationally trapped Jaiswal lbw from a swinging first ball, with the left-armer's pumped-up celebration showing how much it

meant.

Jaiswal scored 161 in his last innings.

The returning Shubman Gill then stroked two boundaries in an eventful first over.

But the runs dried up and Rahul was at the crease for 40 minutes without scoring when he was given out, caught behind off Scott Boland.

Rahul was walking off, but a no-ball was called and he survived.

Five balls later and he had another let-off, dropped by Khawaja.

Undeterred, he battled on before Starc wove his magic again to remove him for 37 with McSweeney holding a catch low at gully.

Virat Kohli roared back to form in Perth with an unbeaten century but he was no match for Starc this time, out for seven when Steve Smith collected a slip catch.

Gill weathered the storm, but his luck ran out just before the first break when he fell lbw on 31 to the relentless Boland.

Six wickets tumbled in the second session, including Rohit (3) and Pant (21).

Pant should have gone for five, but McSweeney spilled a sharp chance in the gully off Boland, in the side for the injured Josh Hazlewood.

But the 35-year-old got his reward four balls later, beating Rohit's bat to trap him lbw.

Pant fell to a vicious climbing ball from Pat Cummins before a hostile Starc returned and took care of Ravichandran Ashwin (22) and Harshit Rana (0) in the space of four balls. With India in trouble, Nitish Kumar Reddy took charge, clobbering two big sixes in one Boland over for his highest Test score of 42 before he and Bumrah fell to Starc and Cummins respectively.

Mbappe admits penalty miss 'big mistake' as Real slump at Bilbao

SPORTS DESK

BILBAO: Kylian Mbappe said he will take full responsibility for a "big mistake" after the striker missed another penalty in champions Real Madrid's 2-1 defeat at Athletic Bilbao in La Liga.

A week after the French superstar failed from the spot in the Champions League against Liverpool, he endured further misery from 12 yards as Los Blancos allowed leaders Barcelona to retain their four-point advantage.

Barca who top the standings on 37 points, four ahead of second-placed Real who have a game in hand. Bilbao are fourth on 29 points.

Alejandro Berenguer fired Bilbao ahead early in the second half, with Jude Bellingham levelling for Real after Mbappe's penalty miss.

However, substitute Gorka Guruzeta snatched fourth-placed Athletic victory in the 80th minute after a Fede Valverde error.

The defeat and Mbappe's penalty miss will heap further pressure on the former Paris Saint-Germain striker's shoulders after plenty of criticism in recent weeks.

"A big mistake in a match where every detail counts. I take full responsibility for it," said Mbappe in a post on social media network Instagram. "A difficult moment but it's the best time to change this situation and show who I am." Mbappe arrived with sky-high expectations to boost a stellar Real squad who won last season's La Liga and Champions League titles, but so he has been a shadow of his old self, looking tentative and out of sync from the rest of the team. He has scored 10 goals in Real's 21 games, only seven from open play.

"He is at a lot more than just 1% (of his potential), but he's not at his best," Real coach Carlo Ancelotti told a press conference. "However, we have to give him time to adapt [to Real Madrid]. He has scored 10 goals and is working hard to improve and to do better. I haven't spoken to him yet. It was a complicated, even, hard-fought, competitive game. We missed a penalty... I don't evaluate a player's game because of a missed penalty... sometimes you score and sometimes you miss. Obviously he's sad, disappointed, but we have to keep going."



BILBAO: Real Madrid's Kylian Mbappe is comforted by team-mate Jude Bellingham after failing to score during the penalty spot against Athletic Bilbao during their La Liga match at the San Mames Stadium.

EXTENSION OF DATE / CORRIGENDUM

Only Electronic bid will be submitted, No Physical bid required

With reference to the advertisement published in the National and Local Newspapers vide PRQ No. 2159/29-11-2024 on dated 30 November 2024 having TSE No. 242511597971. The following amendments are made:

Changed Area.

1. Eligibility Criteria
2. Data Sheet
3. Case Schedule has been Changed.

Date of Submission of Tenders: 19/12/2024 10:30am
Date of Opening of Tenders: 19/12/2024 11:30am
Note: The other terms and conditions of the tender shall remain same.

DIRECTOR GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES BALOCHISTAN
QUETTA

PRQ No.2254/06-12-2024
www.dpr.gov.pk @dpr_gob dpr.gov @dpr.balochistan

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

Gaza genocide

THERE is little else one can add to the stark conclusion reached by the Amnesty International secretary general regarding the situation in Gaza: “this is genocide. It must stop now.”

Amnesty has documented Israel’s savage campaign in the occupied Palestinian territory and published the findings in a report titled ‘You Feel Like You Are Subhuman’: Israel’s Genocide Against Palestinians in Gaza. The findings rip to shreds the argument Israel’s powerful Western friends proffer to justify the genocide: that Tel Aviv is acting in self-defence.

As the report notes, Israel’s civilian and military leaders have made genocidal statements calling for or justifying genocidal acts against the Palestinians; it has recorded over 100 such declarations. And as the data contained in the report highlights, the Israeli war machine has done its best to translate genocidal intent into action in Gaza.

The report covers the period between October 2023 and June 2024. It meticulously records the testimonies of victims and witnesses, health workers, as well as analysing visual and digital evidence. What emerges is a picture of mediaeval brutality unleashed upon the civilian population of Gaza by the Israeli state. It says: “Israel has treated Palestinians in Gaza as a subhuman group unworthy of human rights and dignity.”

During this brutal slaughter, Israel has killed over 13,000 children. Independent tallies suggest over 44,000 people have been killed during the rampage, while thousands more are likely buried under the rubble. It should be noted that this is not the first time solid evidence of Israel’s genocidal practices has emerged; two UN reports arrived at the same conclusion — that there is sufficient evidence that Tel Aviv is committing genocide in Gaza.

The solution, in Amnesty’s view, is “an immediate, sustained ceasefire”. Voices from across the globe have been calling for a ceasefire, but apart from a brief truce last year, Israel refuses to silence its guns, and continues to mercilessly pound Gaza. And with the US constantly coming to its rescue in the UN Security Council, Tel Aviv knows it can get away with murder.

The Amnesty report also censures the US, Germany and the UK for “violating their obligation to prevent genocide” by continuing to ship arms to Israel.

Unless these states, and others, cease their unflinching support to Israel, the genocide is unlikely to end. In this regard, the UN General Assembly has recently passed a resolution calling for Israel to withdraw from the occupied Palestinian territories. Many powerful actors may be underplaying the genocide in Gaza, but thanks to independent voices like Amnesty, the truth has become quite clear.

The Israelis are replicating the horrors their forefathers were subjected to by the Third Reich in Gaza, and must be confronted by people of conscience globally to end the slaughter.

By Jan-e-Alam Khaki

About preachers

RELIGIOUS preaching is a very responsible profession, requiring utmost care for what one says or does. Preaching can build bridges between communities, as many of our saints did, or it can actually cause great discord within society. As there is a code of conduct for most human disciplines, it is all the more important for religious preachers to follow certain principles. The da’wa literature is replete with important guidelines for preachers, but how many actually know or follow them is uncertain.

This code of conduct may involve many points. But to be brief, we focus on two: high moral behaviour, and knowledge and wisdom of not only religion but of the world and the times we live in.

Personal and moral qualities are universal: truthfulness, honesty, good manners, respect for the audience. Prophets, imams, and inspired walis had exemplary behaviour. Preachers who follow their mission are expected to be models of excellence. Admittedly, humans are imperfect, and nobody expects preachers to be perfect. They are as liable as any other to mistakes. But what is of prime importance is to admit this fact and be humble and not arrogant.

While there may be some ‘model’ preachers, sadly, we see many lacking these qualities. Using abusive language, shouting at their audiences at the top of their voice while delivering sermons is a usual occurrence. They tend to arouse people emotionally rather than encouraging them to think.

Preachers are expected to be models of excellence.

Let us remind ourselves of selected guidelines provided by the Quran for inviting people to God’s path (sabilillah). One of the most vocal verses advises, “Invite (all) to the way of thy Lord with wisdom and beautiful preaching; and argue with them in ways that are best and most gracious...” (16:125).

The verse highlights at least two important qualities: wisdom, and beautiful preaching (maw’iza al-hasana). A preacher should have wisdom about how best to invite people towards the Lord. The word ‘wisdom’ is very broad, and may cover all possible aspects related to inviting people to good. This may include, as per a Prophetic advice, to speak to the people according to their intellect. It is simply common sense to do this.

Another cardinal principle of preaching the Quran outlines is that one should practise before preaching. The

Quran twice (in Surah Baqara as well as in Surah Saffat) puts humans to shame by asking them why they preach to others what they themselves do not do! “Do ye enjoin right conduct on the people, and forget (to practise it) yourselves and yet ye study the Scripture? Will ye not understand?” (2:44). And then, in Surah Saffat, Allah again reminds: “O ye who believe! Why say ye that which ye do not [do]? Grievously odious is it in the sight of Allah that ye say that which ye do not [do]” (61:2-3).

The second area a preacher has to be qualified in is the one he is going to talk about. The knowledge of religion and its important areas, such as its critical history, complex teachings, ethical underpinnings, and some sense of comparative study of religions are important. In case of Islam, deep knowledge of the Arabic language and Quranic perspectives — both exoteric and esoteric view of a particular issue — is important.

In addition, in today’s pluralistic world, we need to respect inter- and intra-religious diversity within and outside Islam. Similarly, respecting women (rejecting misogynistic attitudes) and youngsters and not making derogatory comments about any section of society are necessary. The role and responsibilities of preachers of faith require extraordinary sensitivity to questions that people ask. At no time should preachers shame those who dare ask frank questions.

Moreover, it needs to be kept in mind that times have radically changed; preachers cannot assume that the audience in front of them are barely literate. Today, at least some part of the audience is often better informed thanks to the internet and social media. Much of even religious knowledge is on their smartphones and they access it frequently. Today, knowledge and truth both are diffused; no one can claim to have the final truth. Each reality can be interpreted in multiple ways. We should remember Mawlana Jalaluddin Rumi’s marvellous advice: tu barai wasl kardan aamadi; ney barai fasl kardan aamadi. (You have been created [O humans!] to unite humanity, not to divide it!) It is difficult if not impossible to impose a code of conduct on the preachers though some countries are effectively doing it. It is only in the interest of society at large that those who mount the pulpit be sane and wise. As time passes, hopefully, more educated preachers would join this important forum and reflect a more well-informed background when talking about religion(s).

By Aasim Sajjad Akhtar

Sowing hate

THE dust had barely settled on the crackdown by the state’s coercive apparatus against the PTI on the night of Nov 26 that the ruling regime embarked on a campaign of racial profiling with reckless abandon. Immediately after the protest route was wiped clean, the interior minister alleged that the PTI had mobilised ‘illegal’ Afghan refugees and that strict action was to follow.

Over the next few days, Islamabad’s police went into overdrive, randomly arresting any working-class Pakhtun they could lay their hands on, from drivers at check-posts to street vendors in the city’s bazaars. Charged under anti-terrorist legislation, those detained were presented in the courts with their heads covered by black cloth, reminiscent of the show trials that took place in the US military’s infamous Guantánamo internment centre at the height of the so-called ‘war on terror’. The crackdown has even seen young men randomly stopped and having their phones checked so as to identify PTI supporters.

Such scare tactics have been deployed in the federal capital before. In 2015, the then PML-N government, armed by an order of the Islamabad High Court and assisted by the ever-willing bureaucratic behemoth that is the Capital Development Authority, ruthlessly bulldozed a 30-year-old katchi abadi in Islamabad’s I-11 sector. The settlement was home to some 25,000 working-class Pakhtuns, the vast majority of whom made their living in the nearby Sabzi Mandi. The lead-up to the operation featured incessant propaganda that the abadi housed illegal Afghans, with the settlement even being given the

moniker ‘Afghan Basti’ by the CDA.

In fact, most of the residents were second- or third-generation residents of Islam-abad whose forefathers had migrated from the Mohmand, Mardan and Charsadda districts. After the violent eviction, both Islam-abad and Rawalpindi police made public announcements warning property owners nearby against renting to ‘illegal’ Afghans. Then too, anyone who spoke up against the government’s rank racism and classism was subject to repression.

It was the rank-and-file PTI political worker that bore the brunt.

Fast forward almost a decade and a PML-N government, propped up by the establishment, is back at it. It has been scapegoating Afghan refugees for the best part of two years, and is now ratcheting up the hate against politically vulnerable Pakhtun populations in the name of countering the PTI.

It goes without saying that the regime’s desperate and grotesque measures will do nothing to suppress PTI’s popularity. It will only fan the flames of ethnic discontent in a country that is already tearing at the seams particularly in the war-ravaged Baloch and Pakhtun peripheries.

The PTI’s own leadership is not offering an alternative political imaginary that counters the seeds of hate. Most of its mass mobilisations since the February 2024 elections have featured a disproportionately large Pakhtun component, with the KP government providing the material infrastructure required. On this occasion, too, there was very little representation from other parts of the country, Punjab most notably. A party is, of course, entitled to

mobilise from wherever it wants, but the narratives peddled by PTI online media accounts invoking the ‘martial’ qualities of the Pakhtun nation felt like a throwback to colonial-era orientalism.

Of course, not all Pakhtuns are being targeted as the government pulls out all the stops. There is a clear class angle to all that is taking place, as is almost always the case when it comes to mainstream politics. As Abbas Nasir noted in his most recent column, it was the rank-and-file (Pakhtun) PTI political worker that bore the brunt of the violent crackdown, while the leaders that otherwise talk a big talk ended up beating a rapid retreat. While the PTI leadership has spoken out to an extent, other mainstream party leaderships have done nothing to resist the post-protest clampdown on working-class Pakhtuns.

The PML-N, still reeling from the decisions made by voters in Lahore and some of its other major stomping grounds in Punjab in the general election, is doing its best to stoke majoritarian sentiment that has been the bane of democracy and federalism for the best part of Pakistan’s existence. Meanwhile, the PPP, with all of its claims to progressive ideals, has little else to say about the Pakhtun national question than to have some of its highest profile leaders wax lyrical about the Afghan Taliban.

It is left to genuine anti-establishment progressives, both within the Pakhtun nation and more broadly, to push back against the sowing of hate. Among others, members of the legal community are resisting the criminalisation of Pakhtun workers. They are the moral conscience of a society wilting under the weight of state-sponsored hate.

Senate committee reviews missing files, connectivity issues

By Zahid Ahmed Khan

ISLAMABAD: Senator Abdul Shakoor Khan chaired a meeting of the Senate Functional Committee on Government Assurances held today at Parliament House. The Senate Committee deliberated on the missing files of houses located in the I-10/4 and F-11/3 sectors of Islamabad. The CDA presented their stance, claiming they have initiated an internal inquiry and are re-verifying all cases. Upon verification, they found the allotment of plot in I-10/4 to be fake. The Secretary Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs stated that this is a sensitive matter and, therefore, the issue must be revisited by analyzing the initial court orders to determine whether an appeal was filed.

However, the Chairman of the Committee expressed dissatisfaction with the CDA's handling of the matter. He further stated that if the file is not found within a specified time frame, the issue will be escalated to the Chairman Senate. Similarly, the issue of missing file of the plot in Sector F-11/3 was also discussed. The Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs remarked that this issue had not been discussed as assurance in the House and proper procedure within the mandate of the Senate Committee should be followed. The

Chairman of the Committee, in consensus with the members, stated that the case should be routed through proper channel.

The Committee also discussed the assurance given by the Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication during the Senate sitting held on 04 August 2022, regarding the non-availability of 4G data and voice call services in the Dheri Mera area, district Abbottabad.

Senator Kamran Murtaza, who raised this issue, expressed his frustration that the matter remains unresolved and that the situation has not improved. Other Committee members also lamented that areas in Balochistan and Waziristan face even worse conditions and recommended that regions with connectivity issues across Pakistan be included in the list of recommendations. An update on this matter will be reconsidered at the next meeting.

Additionally, the Committee reviewed the assurance given by the Minister for National Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination during the Senate sitting held on 04 January 2022, regarding the provision of an MRI machine at the Federal Government Polyclinic Hospital and the repair of the MRI machine at the Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS), Islamabad. It was reported that the MRI machine at PIMS has been in working condition since September 2023.

The MRI machine for the Polyclinic Hospital, however, will be installed in February 2025, as per negotiations with the Government of Japan. It was noted that the machine has already arrived at the hospital, but due to the current circumstances in the country, the installation was delayed by the Government of Japan. The installation is now scheduled for February next year.

Furthermore, the issue regarding the cumbersome and difficult claims process provided by Jubilee Insurance for the employees of Bahria University, Islamabad, was also discussed. The Higher Education Commission (HEC) reported that out of 5,706 cases, 5,693 have been approved, with only 13 cases remaining, which are expected to be resolved within 10 working days.

Similarly, the issue of a road constructed by the Capital Development Authority (CDA) on Quaid-e-Azam University's land was addressed. It was reported that the compensatory land has now been allocated.

In attendance were Senators Gurdeep Singh, Kamran Murtaza, Dost Muhammad Khan, Kamil Ali Agha, Haji Hidayatullah Khan, Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Special Secretary, Ministry of Interior, Special Secretary, Ministry of National Health Services.



Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari addresses during the opening ceremony of Sindh Pink Football Tournament, at Static Football Ground located on Lyari in Karachi.

Nomination papers of Sardar Sarbuland submits for vacant NA-262

APP

Quetta: The nomination papers of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) central leader Sardar Sarbuland Jozgezi for the vacant National Assembly seat from Quetta, NA-262 submitted to the Returning Officer on Friday.

The PPP leaders Haji Rabbani Khilji, Nadeem Ahmed Khan, Malik Zeeshan submitted his papers to the Returning Officer Naimatullah.

On this occasion, the PPP leaders Romil Khan, Naeemullah Baloch, Mir Babul Bangulzai, Malik Aziz Zarkoon, Malik Ismat Kiazi, Faizan Ahmed Khan and others were also present with them.

Talking to reporters after submitting his nomination papers, The PPP leaders Haji Rabbani Khilji, Nadeem Ahmed Khan and Malik Zeeshan Khan said that the Pakistan Peoples Party believed in serving of the people saying that under the leadership of party chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, the party is struggling for the rights of the common men.

They said that the nomination papers of the PPP central leader Sardar Sarbuland Jozgezi for the National Assembly seat vacated from Quetta, NA-262, have been submitted to the Returning Officer.

They said that Insha Allah, the PPP would participate in the elections and achieve a resounding victory.

Both leaders said that in case of victory, Pakistan Peoples Party would lay a network of developmental works on equal footing in the constituency and could take steps on a priority basis to provide basic facilities to the people.

The leaders of the party said that in the by-elections, the people would reject the tested representatives and make the candidate who is dedicated to serving the people succeed.

Establishment Division promotes 1,875 officers, abolishes 61 posts in efficiency drive: Senate body

APP

ISLAMABAD: The Senate Standing Committee on Cabinet Secretariat informed on Friday that, over the past four years, the establishment division has promoted 1,875 officers out of 4,943 and eliminated 61 posts as part of a right-sizing initiative designed to enhance efficiency.

The Senate Standing Committee on Cabinet Secretariat, chaired by Senator Rana Mahmood ul Hassan, reviewed and discussed reforms aimed at strengthening the civil service and governance. The forum noted that significant progress was made on various key legislative issues and ongoing reforms within the federal bureaucracy.

The meeting examined the Establishment Division's current initiatives to enhance governance. Special Secretary Sara Saeed provided updates on the successful completion of the Establishment Division's transition to an e-office system.

Sara Saeed, in response to senators' questions, emphasized the creation of a Civil Services Reform Committee, comprising federal ministers such as Ahsan Iqbal and Musadik Malik, as well as sen-

ior secretaries.

This committee is tasked with identifying systemic issues and suggesting improvements to strengthen the public service sector.

The Standing Committee also held an in-depth discussion on the performance evaluation practices for civil servants. Senator Sadia Abbasi voiced concerns about the existing methods, highlighting their detrimental effect on the efficiency of the civil service.

"The current system for assessing civil servants has significantly impacted performance, and courts have consistently raised objections to this approach. A more effective system for evaluating officers' performance is needed," Senator Abbasi stated.

Among the notable items on the agenda, the Civil Servants Amendment Bill 2024 introduced by Senator Qurat-ul-Ain Marri, sparked considerable debate.

The bill, which proposes a 10% quota for women and 5% for minorities in the civil service, aims to promote inclusivity and diversity within Pakistan's public administration. The Committee decided to seek the final opinion of the Establishment Division on this bill in the next meeting.

Hamza for banning on 4-stroke petrol rickshaws to prevent pollution

APP

Quetta: Commissioner Quetta Division and Chairman Regional Transport Authority (RTA) Muhammad Hamza Shafiqat decided to impose a complete ban on four-stroke petrol rickshaws in Quetta city in view of increasing environmental pollution and traffic problems.

Under this decision, the movement of four-stroke petrol rickshaws would not be allowed on any route across the city. Along with this, the Commissioner Quetta has also approved the launch of electric shuttle services for public convenience and environmental protection.

This service will provide modern and eco-friendly travel facilities and will play an important role in keeping the city's atmosphere free from pollution.

On this occasion, Commissioner Quetta Muhammad Hamza Shafiqat said

that this decision reflects the commitment to provide modern and safe travel facilities to the citizens.

He said that the electric shuttle service is not only better for the environment but also provides an easy, safe and cost-effective travel facility for the citizens saying that we expect the citizens to take this initiative positively and cooperate.

The Commissioner said that the divisional administration has assured that full facilities would be provided for electric shuttle services and the route planning to be finalized soon so that the public would not face any problem.

He appealed to the citizens to fully cooperate in the implementation of the government decision and play a role in making Quetta a clean and environmentally safe city, for more information in this regard, contact the RTA Quetta office.

Quetta, other parts of Balochistan in grip of cold weather

INP

QUETTA: Cold weather swept over Quetta and most areas of Northern Balochistan, with temperatures plummeting to freezing levels.

According to details, in Ziarat, the temperature dropped three degrees below freezing point, while in Kalat, it reached minus two degrees Celsius. Quetta recorded a temperature of minus one degree Celsius.

According to the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD), the intensity of the cold weather would remain in Northern Balochistan from December 7 to 9.

Areas like Gwadar, Awaran, Kech, and Panjgur would also experience strong winds, along with regions including Washuk, Kharan, Chagai, Surab, Kalat, Bolan, and Mastung, where strong winds were expected.

Pishin, Qilla Abdullah, Zhob, Qilla Saifullah, and surrounding areas would witness dust storms and strong winds.

Authorities warned that these winds could create conditions similar to sandstorms, and temperatures in some areas could drop between minus three and minus five degrees Celsius. Additionally, strong winds were forecasted for coastal areas.

Punish if I'm guilty, grant relief if innocent: PTI's Shah Mahmood Qureshi

INP

LAHORE: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) senior leader Shah Mahmood Qureshi has called for justice as he has been behind bars for one-and-a-half years.

"If I am guilty, punish me... if I am innocent, grant me relief," said Qureshi during an informal media talk at an anti-terrorism court (ATC) in Lahore on Friday. He is currently incarcerated in Kot Lakhpat Jail in Lahore.

Qureshi, the former foreign minister, criticised the government's approach to handling political dissent and called for dialogue. "The PTI is a major political party, and banning it would be foolish," he said.

Qureshi further demanded a judicial commission to investigate the events of May 9, 2023, ensuring accountability for those responsible. During the protests on May 9, miscreants targeted the civil and military installations including Jinnah House and the General Headquarters (GHQ) in Rawalpindi. The military termed May 9 "Black Day" and decided to try the PTI protesters under the Army Act.

IHC's Justice Arbab Tahir expresses dismay over arrests of 'innocent' people in wake of PTI protest

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad High Court's (IHC) Justice Arbab Muhammad Tahir on Friday expressed his dismay over the apprehension of civilians not involved in last week's PTI protest, following which the capital and Rawalpindi police arrested more than 1,400 suspects.

The remarks come amid claims by the PTI that the police have been discriminating against and racially profiling Pakhtuns as well as invading citizens' privacy by conducting mobile checks of ordinary citizens to trace party supporters.

On Nov 13, Imran issued a "final call" for nationwide protests on Nov 24, demanding the restoration of the PTI's electoral mandate, the release of detained party members, and the reversal of the 26th Amendment which he said had strengthened a "dictatorial regime". In the wake of the protest, human rights organisation Amnesty International demanded a transparent investigation of the state's "deadly crackdown" to disperse PTI supporters from Islamabad's D-Chowk, where they had gathered on Nov 26.

Numerous PTI workers were arrested in the ensuing crackdown while multiple cases were filed against the party leader-

ship and supporters. According to the federal capital's police chief, more than 1,400 suspects have been arrested by the Islamabad and Rawalpindi police.

Justice Tahir today took up a writ petition filed by Saeed Ahmed, brother of Sameer Ahmed, a vegetable vendor who the plea said was arrested from Islamabad's F-10 and sent on judicial remand.

The petition stated that Sameer was sent to Adiala Jail after being taken into custody in connection with a case filed at Tarnol police station, in which he was not nominated but considered among the unidentified suspects.

It further alleged that Saeed and his father Zahoor Islam were threatened by the police of being arrested when they inquired about the case against Sameer.

Advocate Riasat Ali Azaad, president of the Islamabad High Court Bar Association (IHCBA), as well as the brother and father of the detained vendor, appeared before the court today.

During the hearing, Justice Tahir questioned how the police could "arrest people who were not even part of the protest", asserting it was "totally wrong". The judge then disposed of the petition, ordering Advocate Azaad to plead the case as the complainant's counsel and directing the police to oversee the matter.



Commissioner and Administrator Quetta, Hamza Shafiqat inspecting the cleaning drive during his visit to Pashtunabad in Quetta

Rights Given to Women by Islam Cannot be Imagined in West: Samina

APP

QUETTA: Chairperson of Senate Standing Committee on Human Rights, Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri on Friday said that the rights given to women by the religion of Islam could not be imagined in the West.

In her statement issued here, she said that women in the society are facing various problems

for which we have to make comprehensive policy at every level and take steps to implement them.

She said that we believe in democratic values and the focus of our politics is the welfare of the people and the same rapid development.

She noted that country needs a strong and stable political and economic system at this time, for us, Pakistan's interests should come first and promoting constructive.

Positive and tolerant politics away from the politics of anarchy and chaos is the need of the hour, she added.

Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri said that Pakistani women especially women of Balochistan are knowledgeable, brave and educated and are playing their role in every section of society including politics.

She said that women are an important part of the society and a lot of work is being done for the rights of women in Balochistan.

Abbasi calls for political stability, accountability in Pakistan

INP

ISLAMABAD: Former Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi has emphasized the need for political stability and national unity to resolve Pakistan's ongoing crises.

Speaking to a private TV channel, Abbasi warned that the country's problems, including its economic challenges, cannot be solved until political chaos subsides. He stressed that the national interest should take precedence over personal ambitions and political positions.

Abbasi, commenting on the current political climate, stated that the leadership of Pakistan's political, military, and judiciary institutions is crucial in navigating the country out of its ongoing crisis. "Only these leaders can bring the country out of the current situation," he said, expressing hope that Allah would guide them towards success.

He also acknowledged that the dispute between the state and former Prime Minister Imran Khan must be resolved, but made it clear that the public should not be blamed for the political turmoil.

The former Prime Minister also addressed the country's economic issues, noting that the recent decline in global oil prices could help ease inflation. However, he dismissed the idea that falling oil prices were a panacea for

Pakistan's deeper economic troubles. "This is not the solution to the problems. As long as there is political chaos, the economic situation will not improve," he explained.

Abbasi further criticized the government's handling of the situation, pointing out that incidents of violence, such as the ones recently witnessed in Korea, were absent from countries with stable political environments. He lamented that in Pakistan, political leaders are not willing to sit together, but instead, the country suffers due to their inability to put national interests first.

Reflecting on the past, Abbasi reminded viewers of the 2014 sit-in at Islamabad's D-Chowk, led by Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI). He noted that despite the prolonged protests lasting 126 days, there were no violent clashes or bullets fired, which he said highlighted the possibility of peaceful political discourse.

Abbasi also addressed the issue of Imran Khan's legal troubles, asserting that Khan should not be released but that his crimes should be made clear to the public.

"The case should be prosecuted by filing charges," Abbasi stated, emphasizing that delays in the legal process would undermine the credibility of any eventual decision.



Pashtunkhwa Milli Awami Party (PKMAP) Provincial President, Qahhar Khan along with others addressing a press conference, at Quetta press club