

DAILY MIRROR

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PM Shehbaz gives approval to restructuring of PARC

PM directs to improve supply chain of petroleum imports

APP

ISLAMABAD: A meeting chaired by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in Islamabad today gave approval in principle to the restructuring of Pakistan Agricultural Research Council.

The Prime Minister instructed that a comprehensive plan for PARC's restructuring be prepared with a clear timeline.

He directed that the PARC be developed into a top agricultural research institution modeled on Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

The Prime Minister emphasized that agricultural research plays a key role in the development of the country's agriculture and food security.

During the meeting, a detailed briefing was given on making the PARC a dynamic institution aligned with the modern demands of agricultural research.

There, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has directed the Minister for Petroleum to be more proactive in improving the supply chain of Pakistan's petroleum imports.

He was chairing a review meeting in Islamabad today regarding implementation of fuel-saving and austerity measures in light of regional situation.

Shehbaz Sharif emphasized that all relevant departments should remain prepared for emergency measures until the situation improves.

The meeting was informed that entire situation is being monitored and records of petroleum products are being maintained to immediately detect any irregularities.

It was informed that the country has an adequate stock of petroleum products to meet requirements. Implementation of the instructions issued by the Prime Minister is being ensured.



Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif Chairs Meeting on Austerity Measures Amid Regional and Global Challenges at PM House in Islamabad

Ali Larijani was killed in an attack yesterday: US President

Ali Larijani was responsible for the massacre of protesters in Iran: Trump

MONITORING DESK

TEHRAN: Israel said Tuesday it had killed Iran's powerful national security chief, Ali Larijani, in what would be a huge blow to the Islamic republic as fresh strikes rocked the Middle East from Tehran to Baghdad.

Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz said Larijani was "eliminated last night", although this has not been confirmed by Iran.

Earlier Tuesday, Israel's military said Gholamreza Soleimani, head of the Basij paramilitary force of Iran's Revolutionary Guards, was killed Monday in a strike on Tehran.

Reports of their deaths come less than three weeks after US-Israeli strikes on February 28 killed Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Iran's supreme leader since 1989, triggering a war that has engulfed the region.

He was replaced by his son, Mojtaba Khamenei, whose whereabouts and health is the subject of much speculation. US President Donald Trump said Monday that "we don't know... if he's dead or not".

Hundreds of people have been killed and millions have been displaced because of the war,

notably in Lebanon and Iran.

The conflict has also sent oil prices soaring, after Iran's attacks on vessels transiting through the Strait of Hormuz, a waterway that is key to the transit of crude and liquefied natural gas.

Oil prices rose more than five percent early Tuesday after several countries pushed back on Trump's demand they help protect shipping.

Meanwhile, Israel's military said on Tuesday it had killed the head of Iran's Basij paramilitary force in a strike, while Israeli media reported Tehran's national security chief was also targeted for assassination.

"In a precise strike in Tehran: The IDF eliminated the Commander of the Basij Unit," The Israeli military said.

"Yesterday (Monday), the Israeli Air Force, acting on IDF intelligence, targeted and eliminated Gholamreza Soleimani, who operated as commander of the Basij unit for the past six years," it said.

The Basij, a volunteer force under Iran's Revolutionary Guards, "led the main repression operations" by the authorities during recent mass protests in Iran, the Israeli army said.

Govt decides to launch crackdown against money laundering

APP

ISLAMABAD: A high-level meeting, jointly chaired by Federal Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi and Federal Minister for Finance Muhammad Aurangzeb, was held in Lahore today.

The meeting decided to launch a comprehensive crackdown against money laundering and Hawala-Hundi operations.

It was decided that strict action will be taken against major business entities involved in transferring funds abroad through illegal channels. The meeting agreed that no leniency will be shown towards individuals and organizations engaged in money laundering and Hawala-Hundi activities.

It was further decided that funds will only be transferred abroad through banking systems and other legal channels. The participants also agreed to streamline the process of outward remittances through money changers.

Addressing the meeting, the Interior and Finance Ministers reiterated that major money launderers will be brought to justice and emphasized that the business of Hawala-Hundi will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

The meeting also decided to establish a joint working group comprising the State Bank of Pakistan and the Federal Investigation Agency to monitor progress on all related matters.

Governor directs to ensure complete safety of Chinese citizens & projects in Balochistan

APP

Quetta: Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandokhel on Tuesday directed the Ministry of Home of the Government of Balochistan to take strict measures to ensure complete safety of Chinese citizens and projects in Balochistan.

He said that keeping in mind the sensitivity of the situation in the entire region, monitor effective security arrangements would be made and to keep the officials posted on duty on alert.

Governor said the long-standing friendship between Pakistan and China would secure the bright future of the two countries.

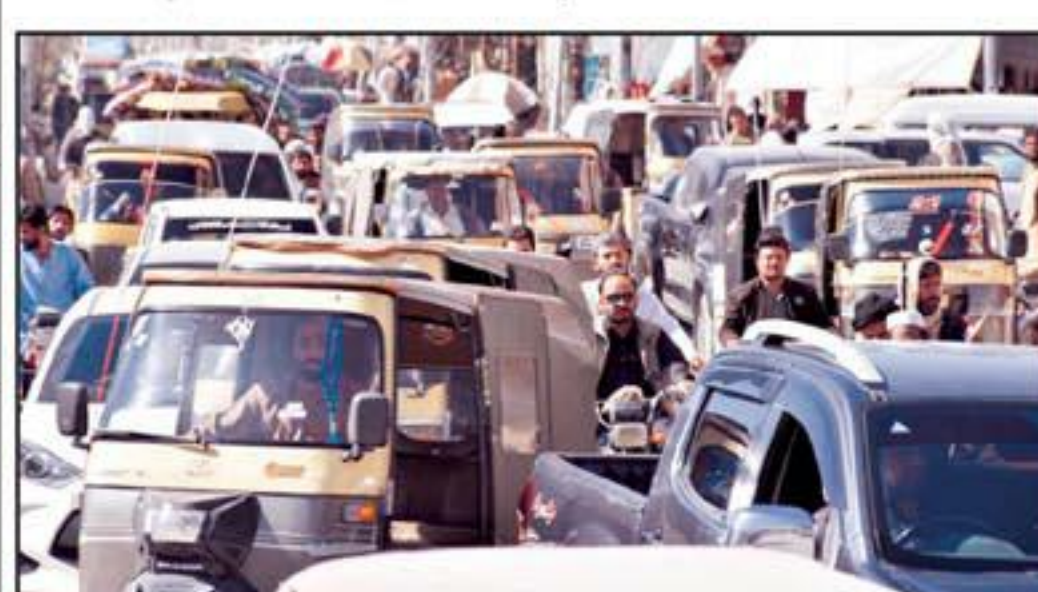
Earlier, the Chinese

Consulate General Karachi contacted the Governor of Balochistan telephonically.

He highlighted that strengthening relations with China can accelerate the pace of development of Balochistan.

Governor Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandokhel urged the people to cooperate in the government's efforts to maintain peace and harmony across the province as only the joint efforts of the government and the people could make Balochistan a cradle of lasting peace and love.

Governor Mandokhel urged the law enforcement agencies to maintain effective communication with each other so that the overall situation of law and order is maintained in the province.



QUETTA: A view of traffic jam due to rush on bazaar.

5615 Pakistani safely returned home from Iran via Gwadar & Chagai since Feb 28 till last night: CM Bugti

APP

Quetta: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti on Tuesday has termed the large-scale repatriation of Pakistani citizens from Iran as a result of an organized and coordinated government effort.

He said on social networking site X that a total of 5615 Pakistani citizens have safely returned home from Iran via Gwadar and Chagai districts since February 28 till last night, while 431 other foreign citizens, including 2117 Iranian drivers, have also entered Pakistan from Iran.

The Balochistan Chief Minister praised the timely and effective performance of the district administrations of Gwadar and

Chagai and said that the arriving passengers were taken care of in the best possible manner, they were provided with accommodation, food and other necessary facilities and their safe transfer was ensured.

He said that the government is fully mobilized for the convenience, safety and comfort of passengers and all the concerned agencies are performing their responsibilities efficiently with mutual coordination.

The Chief Minister reiterated the commitment that the government is utilizing all available resources to ensure effective management of border affairs, provision of public facilities and welfare of passengers at all costs.



Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar he was talking to Iranian Ambassador Reza Amiri Moghaddam, who called on him in Islamabad.

Dar stresses dialogue, diplomacy for achieving regional peace in meeting with Iranian ambassador

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Tuesday stressed that dialogue and diplomacy remained the only viable path to resolving issues and achieving lasting peace and stability in the region.

Dar made the remarks during a meeting with Iran's Ambassador to Pakistan Ambassador Reza Amiri Moghaddam, according to the Foreign Office (FO).

In a post on X, the FO said, the ambassador expressed gratitude for the "strong moral support extended by the people of Pakistan during this challenging time".

"The DPM/FM conveyed his condolences over the loss of precious lives in the conflict and expressed hope for an early resolution.

He underscored that dialogue and diplomacy remain the only viable path to resolving issues and achieving lasting peace and stability in the region," it said.

ing conflict in the Middle East, which began with US-Israeli strikes on Iran on February 28.

In retaliatory strikes, Iran has targeted US assets and bases in Gulf countries. Amid the hostilities, the FO has termed Pakistan's role a "bridge builder".

On Monday, Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi thanked the government and people of Pakistan for extending their "strong solidarity and support" with Iran and its people who he said were facing aggression from the United States and Israel.

In a post in Urdu on X, Araghchi said: "On this blessed, divine, and spiritual day and hour,

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the government and people of Pakistan for their strong

expression of solidarity and support with the people and government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the face of the aggression by America and the Zionist regime."

Pakistan calls India 'the world's biggest Islamophobic state' sponsors anti-Muslim hate

APP

UNITED NATIONS: Pakistan chided India for failing to condemn the rising tide of anti-Muslim hatred at a high-level event commemorating the International Day to Combat Islamophobia, and called on New Delhi to punish those involved in committing "abominable acts" such as lynching of Muslims and destruction of mosques.

"The fact remains that India has the distinction of being the world's biggest Islamophobic state, which has turned against its own minorities including Muslims, Christians and others", Ambassador Asim Iftikhar Ahmad, permanent representative of Pakistan to the UN, told the General Assembly where the event took place.

The high-level event was convened by the United Nations (UN) Alliance of Civilizations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Mission to the UN in New York. Among those who spoke were UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, President of General Assembly Annalena Baerbock, Under-Secretary-General and Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Combating Islamophobia Miguel Angel Moratinos, OIC Secretary General Houssein Ibrahim Taha and Ambassador of Türkiye Ahmet Yıldız.

Earlier, Indian Ambassador Parvathaneni Harish made a general statement condemning violence in the name of religion, not specifically Islam, and accused Pakistan of maltreating its minorities and fabricating tales of Islamophobia as well as weaponizing the OIC against India.

The Pakistani envoy hit back, saying India finds it difficult to

hide its guilt and culpability when it comes to Islamophobia, and slammed it for disrespecting the OIC.

"It was expected that India would join us today in condemning Islamophobia and would also brief the participants about the steps it will take to alleviate the plight of millions of Muslims and other religious minorities suffering from the hate-filled extremist Hindutva ideology in its country," Ambassador Asif Ahmad said.

"India, however, chose to deflect this question and tried to politicize today's debate," he said, adding, "This is a disservice to the victims of Islamophobia and undermines efforts being taken by responsible states of the world to combat this hate-sweeping ideology."

"What stands India apart is that Islamophobia in India is not perpetrated by some fringe elements but under the direct patronage of the Indian state and government," the Pakistan envoy said.

According to OIC's Report on Islamophobia, he said, India represents most significant concentration of Islamophobic incidents globally. Only a couple of days ago, Muslims of Srinagar in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir were barred from offering Friday prayers in the holy month of Ramadan, the 7th year that such restriction has been imposed.

"Public lynching of Muslims, state sponsored destruction of centuries old mosques to be illegally replaced by the Hindu temple, are but a few examples of Islamophobia in India, so well known to the world," the Pakistani envoy told delegates.

"While Muslims constitute the largest minority group suffering from hate crimes, other religious minorities are not spared

either," he said.

Ambassador Asim Ahmad called on Indian government to distance itself from the Islamophobic incidents and discourse and punish those who commit such abominable acts. "India's progress on this subject, should be judged by its visible action, not the hollow rhetoric and lies its representatives peddle in the international forums."

Speaking as Chairman of the OIC Core Group on Combating Islamophobia during the closing session of the High-Level Event, he underscored the solemn significance of the day, and said no individual should be feared, discriminated against, marginalized, or persecuted because of their faith. He said that the day also marks the anniversary of the Christchurch mosque attacks of 15 March 2019, when fifty-one worshippers were killed in a brutal act of religious hatred.

Islamophobia, Ambassador Ahmad noted, has deep historical roots, often arising from ignorance, prejudice, and distorted narratives about Islam and Muslim societies. Geopolitical tensions, long-running conflicts, economic inequalities, foreign occupation, and the rapid spread of disinformation online have exacerbated the problem, he pointed out.

In recent years, he added, Islamophobia has taken pernicious forms, including desecration of the holy Quran, demolition of mosques, hate speech, bans on religious attire, and attacks on the lives and livelihoods of Muslims and other minorities.

The Pakistani envoy stressed that combating Islamophobia is not merely a defense of Muslims but part of humanity's broader struggle against racism, bigotry, xenophobia, intolerance, and hatred.

Govt. calls off Pakistan Day Parade, associated events amid austerity measures post-Gulf oil crisis

APP

ISLAMABAD: The government on Tuesday announced to call off the Pakistan Day Parade and the associated ceremonial events in the aftermath of the ongoing Gulf oil crisis and the consequent austerity measures declared to mark the day with reverence and dignity.

The National, however, would be commemorated with dignity and reverence through a simple flag-hoisting ceremony at appropriate levels, a Prime Minister's Office news release said.

It said the measure was being taken to ensure that the resilience and unwavering commitment of the nation to the ideals of Pakistan Day remain aligned with the broader austerity framework.

The ministries, divisions, and departments are advised to mark the occasion in a solemn and respectful manner, ensuring that the essence of the day is preserved despite the scaled-down celebrations, it added.

DG FIA visits zonal office Quetta, appreciates performance of Balochistan Zone

APP

ISLAMABAD: Director General of the Federal Investigation Agency, Dr. Usman Anwar visited the FIA Balochistan Zone Zonal Office in Quetta on Tuesday.

On the occasion, Director FIA Balochistan Zone, Muhammad Behram Khan briefed the DG FIA on the overall performance of the zone, ongoing renovation and construction work, and various operational initiatives.

The DG FIA reviewed the ongoing renovation and construction activities at the Zonal Office and expressed satisfaction over the progress. He appreciated the overall performance of the Balochistan Zone, particularly its actions against illegal Hawala/Hundi networks, human trafficking, and its role in the campaign against electricity theft.

During the visit, the DG FIA stated that, in addition to other zones, additional budget is also being allocated for the ongoing construction work in Balochistan Zone to further strengthen infrastructure and support more developmental projects in the region.

Dr. Usman Anwar praised the dedication and professionalism of the officers and encouraged them to continue their efforts to strengthen law enforcement and safeguard national interests.

Sanaullah says Imran seeks deal with establishment

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: Adviser to the prime minister, Rana Sanaullah claimed on Tuesday that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan does not intend to hold talks with the political parties but seeks negotiations and a deal with the establishment.

Speaking on the Samaa TV programme 'Nadeem Malik Live', Sanaullah said that as long as Imran Khan remains in jail, the PTI will not engage in dialogue with other political groups. He added that Imran Khan is not rigidly opposed but wishes to negotiate with the establishment and secure a deal.

Sanaullah stated that the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Director General Lieutenant General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry has confirmed that he will not engage with political parties. He said any meeting with the PTI founder cannot be used to support an anti-state narrative, and that PTI should contact the authorities directly if it seeks negotiations.

Regarding Afghanistan, Sanaullah said Pakistan does not intend to occupy territory, adding that operations will continue until Afghanistan provides guarantees, and any bases established will be dismantled if necessary.

He maintained that the Afghan Taliban regime was presented with evidence of terrorist training camps, did not deny the evidence, but expressed reluctance to act against the TTP. "The Taliban were also unwilling to act against Pakistan's operations, and all bases in Afghanistan linked to terrorism in Pakistan have been neutralised," he maintained.

Sanaullah added that both the political and military leadership have fully informed Iran and Saudi Arabia of the situation, and no arrangements have been made with the United States that could give rise to complaints. He said that Pakistan is in a position of confidence with Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the United States.

The program, billions of rupees worth of free treatment facilities will be provided annually to stroke patients, potentially saving thousands of lives

By Maqsood khalid
 LAHORE: The Government of Punjab is continuing significant efforts to implement revolutionary and historic reforms in the healthcare sector, with major progress reported on the Chief Minister's Stroke Program. An important meeting regarding the implementation of the program was held at the Punjab Health Initiative Management Company, chaired by Provincial Health Minister Khawaja Salman Rafique. The meeting was attended by Secretary Specialized Healthcare & Medical Education Azmat Mahmood, Secretary Health & Population Nadia Saqib, CEO PHIMC Dr. Ali Razaq, Executive Director Punjab Institute of Neurosciences Prof. Asif Bashir, and Prof. Qasim Bashir. Medical Director of Children's Hospital Lahore Prof. Tipu Sultan also joined via video link. During the meeting, Prof. Qasim Bashir gave a detailed briefing on the Chief Minister's Stroke Program. Participants

appreciated the initiative and shared valuable suggestions. Speaking on the occasion, Khawaja Salman Rafique said that under the program, billions of rupees worth of free treatment facilities will be provided annually to stroke patients, potentially saving thousands of lives. He added that Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has already approved the establishment of stroke management centers in every district. The minister further stated that the process of appointing neurologists and pediatric neurologists in all District Headquarters (DHQ) hospitals is underway. A comprehensive mechanism is also being developed to train doctors and nurses in stroke management across districts. He highlighted that steps are being taken to launch a telemedicine project for stroke patients, enabling doctors in district hospitals to consult specialists and consultants via telephone for immediate treatment guidance.



QUETTA: Peoples going railway station to leave Quetta going hometown to celebrate Eid Ul Fitr with their loves ones .

Maryam Nawaz serving people of Punjab like a caring mother: Azma Bukhari

INP
 LAHORE: Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari has said that Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz is serving the people of Punjab like a caring mother. In her statement, the provincial minister said that the government in Punjab is now reaching people at their homes. She added that during Ramadan, financial assistance worth billions of rupees has already been delivered to the doorsteps of hundreds of thousands of citizens. She stated that Maryam Nawaz does not make promises but takes practical steps, and their results are also visible. According to her, the era of false promises and political gimmicks in Punjab has passed, adding that in the past governments used to complete projects after many years, whereas now projects in Punjab are being completed every month. Azma Bukhari further said that Maryam Nawaz has set a record by launching more than 100 projects within two years. She added that today no provincial government can compete or compare with Punjab in terms of performance, while those spreading false propaganda against Maryam Nawaz are once again facing embarrassment.

Governor Kundi apprised of tax collection, revenue targets

INP
 PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Faisal Karim Kundi on Tuesday briefed by officials of the Regional Tax Office (RTO) Peshawar on tax collection, performance of zonal offices and revenue targets during a meeting held at Governor House Peshawar. Chief Commissioner RTO Peshawar Muhammad Taqi Qureshi gave a detailed presentation to the Governor on overall tax collection, growth trends and performance of various tax zones across the province. Principal Secretary to Governor, Zubair Arshad, was also present on the occasion. During the briefing, it was informed that the tax collection system in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa comprises seven zones, including Taxpayer Zone, Corporate Zone, Withholding Zone, Mardan, Peshawar, Dera Ismail Khan and Refund Zone.

CTD kills key BLA commander in Karachi operation

INP
 KARACHI: The Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) achieved a major success against the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) in Karachi, as a militant killed during an operation in Shah Latif Town, Malir, turned out to be a key commander of the banned outfit. According to CTD officials, the February 17 operation was launched after intelligence gathered from previously arrested militants. Acting on the information, CTD personnel surrounded a suspected hideout where an intense exchange of fire took place during the operation, resulting in the killing of four highly wanted militants. Officials said that three of the slain militants were identified immediately, while the fourth remained unidentified at the time.



KARACHI: Girls buy fancy shoes at a shop to preparation for the upcoming Eid al-Fitr celebrations, in the Provincial Capital.

CM Punjab's Vision Steering Agriculture Modernization Across Punjab

By Maqsood khalid
 Lahore: Under the vision of Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif, agriculture was being transformed through modern initiatives aimed at facilitating farmers and increasing crop productivity. Acting on the directions of Chief Minister, several farmer-friendly initiatives have been launched, including deployment of agriculture interns, establishment of agriculture malls, construction of lined water channels, bulldozer operations and laser land levelling to provide direct support to farmers. For the first time in Punjab, around 2,000 agriculture graduate

interns are working in the field to guide farmers and provide technical assistance. The presence of these interns is expected to help improve wheat production across the province. Through the CM Agriculture Internship Programme, many interns have also secured employment in the private sector after gaining practical experience in farming and crop management. As part of the initiatives introduced under the leadership of Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif, Model Agriculture Malls have been made operational in four major cities of the province. These malls



provide farmers with essential agricultural services, inputs and guidance under one roof. On the directions of Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif, construction of 10 additional Model Agriculture Malls is underway across Punjab to further facilitate farmers.

BTTN organizes guest lecture in commemoration of Pakistan Day-History & Implications

APP
 Quetta: Balochistan Think Tank Network (BTTN) organized a guest lecture in commemoration of "Pakistan Day - History and Implications." The guest speaker was Brig Agha Ahmad Gul (R), who served as BTTN's founding head from 2021 to 2025. Brig Gul touched upon the rich history, culture, and civilization of the Indus Valley, noting that it was among the oldest inhabited regions in history, the Indus Civilization formed the backbone of many subsequent empires, cultures, and religions, including the Gandhara Civilization

and subsequent Buddhist, Hindu, and Muslim rule. Brig Gul remarked that during the British Raj, the Muslims of India who had hitherto been the rulers of the subcontinent had been relegated to second-class subjects, with the British often siding with the majority Hindus in India while creating and implementing policies. He said that this invariably created a sense of disenfranchisement among Muslims that grew along the way. The Pakistan resolution of 1940 was a commitment by the leaders of Muslim India to establish a state where their rights and dignity would be preserved.



QUETTA: Peoples busy in eid shopping as Eid ul Fitr approaching.



English sides seek redemption from CL reality check

SPORTS DESK
 MANCHESTER: Kings of the league phase, England's six Champions League sides were made to look like paupers in the first legs of the last 16 as they failed to muster a win between them. Manchester City, Chelsea and Tottenham Hotspur have seemingly insurmountable mountains to climb, even with home advantage this week, as they trail by three goals against Real Madrid, Paris St-Germain and Atletico Madrid, respectively. Liverpool and Arsenal will expect to still get past Galatasaray and Bayer Leverkusen, while Newcastle United are dreaming of shocking Barcelona in the Camp Nou after outplaying the Spanish champions in a 1-1 draw at St. James' Park. The Premier League's financial advantage over Europe's other major leagues, thanks to far more lucrative television rights deals, has not been reflected in the latter stages of the Champions League for some time. Only three of the last 13 Champions League winners have come from England. Arsenal were the only Premier League club to reach the last four last season and none reached the semi-finals in the 2023/24 campaign. Fatigue after a gruelling winter schedule is often cited as the main factor for the decline of English sides as the only major league without a winter break and two domestic cup competitions. French great and former UEFA president Michel Platini once referred to English sides as "lions in winter, lambs in spring." "In general, I think it is not helpful for English clubs not to have a winter break," said Liverpool boss Arne Slot. Of the six English sides involved in the Champions League, four of them also made the League Cup semi-finals and five were involved in FA Cup action in the days before their European disappointment last week. Despite the Premier League's collective financial might, in three of the six last-16 ties involving English clubs, they are facing sides with greater revenue. Real Madrid remain the world's richest club and defied recent poor form to blow away Manchester City 3-0 at the Santiago Bernabeu. But City manager Pep Guardiola has insisted "many things can happen" as his side try to overturn the deficit. "It's a football game, many things can happen," Guardiola, speaking at his pre-match press conference on Monday told reporters. "We have to focus and try to win the game and after see what happens. I don't have a specific plan — just try." Guardiola has opted not to train on the day prior to the game as the team recover from the trip to Madrid and their 1-1 draw at West Ham on Saturday which damaged City's Premier League title hopes. "Training won't improve us a lot and we don't have time to train," Guardiola said. "I prefer them to be at home." The Spaniard, who made his name as a player and manager with Real's arch-rivals Barcelona, added: "We will train tomorrow (Tuesday). We will arrive at 2:00 pm (1400 GMT), move the legs a little and go. I've done it two or three times this season."



BELARUS' Aryna Sabalenka poses with the Indian Wells trophy after winning the women's final against Elena Rybakina of Kazakhstan at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden.

Sinner, Sabalenka secure maiden Indian Wells titles

SPORTS DESK
 INDIAN WELLS: Jannik Sinner and Aryna Sabalenka claimed their maiden Indian Wells titles, after gripping matches under the California desert sun. Sinner downed Daniil Medvedev 7-6(8/6), 7-6(7/4) while Sabalenka saved a match point on the way to a 3-6, 6-3, 7-6(8/6) victory over Elena Rybakina. The Italian was imperious throughout, finishing with 28 winners, 10 aces and a perfect eight out of eight net points. He is now only the third player in history to win all six ATP Masters 1000 hard-court titles, joining Novak Djokovic and Roger Federer. Furthermore, with his first title of the year, he became the first player since 1990 to win consecutive Masters 1000 titles without dropping a set and extended his winning streak in this category to 11 matches, dating back to his Paris title last November. "I kept believing and kept pushing," Sinner said after the match. "I went for my shots a little more. A third set, we would have started even, so I tried my best to close it out and I am very happy. It was an incredible ending. "It was a very, very tough match," Sinner said. "It is great to see Daniil back playing this level. I am very happy. I came here from day one, training really hard and this result makes me very happy," he added. Medvedev reached the final in superb form, having stunned the world number one, Carlos Alcaraz, in the semi-finals ending the Australian Open champion's perfect 16-match winning streak at the start of the season. However, he has now lost three Indian Wells finals. Earlier in the women's decider, Sabalenka claimed a long-awaited first Indian Wells title.

Sabalenka ended a frustrating run of finals futility against Rybakina, who had won their last four title clashes starting with a triumph at Indian Wells in 2023 and including a nail-biter at the Australian Open in January. Sabalenka rallied from a break down in the second set and fought off a match point trailing 5-6 in the tiebreaker before finally gaining the longed-for title — and a healthy measure of revenge. "Thanks God I got this trophy," said the Belarusian, who lost to Russian teen Mirra Andreeva in last year's final. She had appeared on her way with a break for 2-1 in the third set. But Rybakina piled on the return pressure to break back for 5-5 and fought off five break points in the next game. Deflated but determined, Sabalenka held at love to force the tiebreaker, rallying from 3-5 down before saving match point with a stunning backhand winner. She won the next point on Rybakina's serve and delivered another massive serve herself to seal it. "On that five-all game, I was really upset each time I would miss her second serve," Sabalenka said. "I felt like I had a lot of opportunities in that game, which I didn't use. I didn't feel my best, for sure, after that game. "But what I'm happy with is that in the next one I was able to pull out great serves to get that game and get into the tiebreaker." Sabalenka said that the "boiling" temperature on court had her "dying" in the tiebreaker, but she could see that Rybakina was affected, too. "I think the first set I played really well, and I was much more with the energy. Second set, big drop," Rybakina said. "Then in the third, I think for both of us was quite difficult."

Iranian women's football team begins journey home after players decline asylum

SPORTS DESK
 KUALA LUMPUR: The Iranian women's football team began making their way home from Malaysia, after five of its players withdrew their claims for asylum in Australia. Australia had granted humanitarian visas to six players and one support staff member from the Iranian squad after they sought asylum, fearing possible persecution if they returned home. Concerns over their safety emerged after the players failed to sing the national anthem at a women's Asian Cup match earlier this month. Five of the group, however, have since changed their minds and decided to return home to Iran, with Australian media reporting the latest withdrawal on Monday. They joined the rest of the squad in Kuala Lumpur where the team had been staying since departing from Sydney last week, with just two remaining in Australia. Australian Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs Matt Thistlethwaite told Sky News the government respected the decision of those who chose to return to Iran while continuing to provide support to the remaining two. "This is a very complex situation," Thistlethwaite said. The team was seen at Kuala Lumpur International Airport on Monday evening checking in on an Oman Air flight, though their destination was unclear. Team waiting for flight connections. The Asian Football Confederation said earlier on Monday the squad would seek to travel to another country from Malaysia as it cannot immediately return to Tehran due to the war in the Middle East. "They are just waiting for the flight connections. When they are going... where to, they have to tell us," AFC General Secretary Windsor John told reporters in Kuala Lumpur. He said he was unable to verify reports that the players' families had come under pressure from authorities in Iran, adding that the players had not expressed any concerns over their safety. "We have spoken to the team officials. We have spoken to the coaches, the head of delegation. They are actually in high spirits," he said.



SEPANG: Members of Iranian women's football team arrive at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport .

Member APNS

Daily Mirror

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Missing in action

NOT exactly known for playing a proactive role in protecting the interests of Muslim nations and populations worldwide, the OIC has, sadly, remained true to form by failing to evolve a clear line on the US-Israeli aggression against Iran and the escalating regional war it has unleashed. Similar lack of action was witnessed during the Gaza genocide. However, Pakistan, which maintains good ties with both Iran and the Arab sheikhdoms, can play a critical role in bringing together Muslim states with differing ideological and geopolitical positions, and forging a united path to confront the perils the entire region is facing.

The usual limp statements have emanated from the OIC in response to the current crisis. Just before the war, the organisation “expressed grave concern” over threats faced by Iran. Later, it condemned Iranian counter-strikes on the Gulf states, Azerbaijan and Turkiye. Yet, there has been no thorough discussion of the root cause of the crisis: the US-Israeli violation of an OIC member state’s sovereignty, the assassination of its leader, and efforts to bring about regime change in Tehran. Iran’s retaliation against its neighbours is certainly ill-advised, but Washington and Tel Aviv are responsible for driving matters to a point where Tehran feels it has no option but to lash out at targets in a battle of survival. The OIC similarly failed to act when foreign aggressors attacked Yemen, Syria, Lebanon etc. Despite OIC states’ wealth and standing armies, the grouping appears powerless as outsiders violate its members’ sovereignty at will. Perhaps if it were not for such disunity within the Muslim world’s ranks, Israel and the US may have thought twice about attacking Iran, or massacring Palestinians in Gaza. That is why the PTI’s call for the OIC to convene an emergency meeting to stop the slide towards a “foreign-imposed and catastrophic conflict” is relevant.

The Trump administration is stuck in a quagmire of its own making. Despite the US leader’s arrogant boasts, the regime in Iran has not fallen, and the Iranians have fought back. The OIC must move now and work for a negotiated solution, joining forces with other relatively neutral actors such as China, which has also called for hostilities to cease. But first, the OIC should be more assertive by strongly condemning the aggression against Iran and demanding guarantees that the US and Israel will not indulge in further aggression. Meanwhile, even as the Arab Gulf reflects on whether the US security umbrella is a blessing or a curse in the long term, Iran should refrain from further attacks on targets in these states. Pakistan has already been active in the diplomatic field, and now, through the OIC platform, it should push for an end to the aggression, and search for permanent peace.

By Barrister Usman Ali, Ph.D.

A War on Iran, A Test for the Muslim World

The Middle East once again stands at a dangerous crossroads, where not only missiles and fighter jets, but global politics, regional interests, and deep divisions within the Muslim world are colliding.

On 28 February 2026, tensions escalated abruptly when the United States and Israel launched coordinated airstrikes on Iran, despite ongoing negotiations over its nuclear program. The strikes targeted military installations and senior leadership. Iran’s Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei was killed along with his infant granddaughter, close relatives and senior officials.

In the early phase of the conflict, a deeply tragic incident shocked global observers: a missile strike hit a girls’ primary school in Minab, killing approximately 165 children aged between seven and twelve. Independent observers and United Nations experts described the attack as a serious violation of international humanitarian law.

As the conflict intensified during the holy month of Ramadan, reports indicated that around 1,500 people, including women and children, were killed, while nearly 20,000 were injured. Critical infrastructure, including hospitals, schools, water systems, and communication networks, suffered extensive damage, displacing hundreds of thousands. Parallel Israeli strikes in Lebanon have compounded the humanitarian toll.

In response, Iran launched retaliatory operations targeting not only Israel but also U.S. interests across the region, particularly military bases. Iranian officials argue that if attacks originate from bases located in third countries, responding to those sites falls within the right of self-defense. Under Article 51 of the UN Charter, states possess the inherent right to self-defense in the event of an armed attack, though its application remains contested.

Yet, while the United Nations moved to condemn Iran’s strikes on U.S. bases in Gulf states, it failed to take effective action to halt the initial attacks. Several Muslim-majority countries also criticized Iran. This uneven response has exposed a deeper reality: a widening divide within the Muslim world, where states increasingly align themselves according to national and geopolitical interests rather than collective principles.

A fundamental question emerges, how has the Muslim world reached a point where its own countries host foreign military

forces that are used against another Muslim state?

Over the past decade, many regional governments have deepened defense and strategic partnerships with the United States. For some, this is seen as a security guarantee; for others, a pathway to diplomatic leverage and economic gain. Joint military exercises, intelligence cooperation, and access to advanced defense systems form the backbone of these relationships.

In parallel, several Muslim-majority countries normalized relations with Israel through the Abraham Accords. The United Arab Emirates and Bahrain formalized ties in 2020, Morocco followed suit, and Egypt and Jordan had long-standing peace agreements. While these arrangements are framed as pragmatic diplomacy, they also reflect a shifting regional order.

However, this architecture carries inherent risks. When a country’s territory is used to launch attacks against another state, it risks becoming a direct participant in the conflict. The current crisis has underscored how quickly such arrangements can draw entire regions into escalation.

Today, the Middle East is visibly divided into competing strategic blocs. Some governments view alignment with the United States and Israel as essential for security and economic stability, while others see it as a departure from regional autonomy and Muslim unity.

At the heart of this tension remains the unresolved Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The devastation in Gaza and other Palestinian areas has drawn global concern, with reports of widespread civilian casualties and destruction of infrastructure. For many observers, this reinforces the perception that Israel enjoys consistent political and military backing from Western powers, particularly the United States.

Washington and Tel Aviv justify the current war by citing concerns over Iran’s potential development of nuclear weapons. Iran, however, has repeatedly denied pursuing such weapons and has consistently engaged in negotiations. Notably, diplomatic talks were ongoing at the very moment the strikes were launched.

This contradiction raises a critical question: why does Israel, widely believed to possess nuclear capability, seek to prevent



Iran from acquiring a similar capacity? Critics argue that this reflects a broader pattern of double standards in international politics, one that undermines both legal norms and diplomatic credibility. This also raises a further question, under what moral or legal authority can any state assume a “policing” role over an entire region? Such contradictions only add to the complexity of the conflict.

More concerning still is the emerging narrative from some officials framing the conflict in religious terms. Such rhetoric risks transforming a geopolitical confrontation into a far more dangerous and polarizing struggle.

Yet, as always, the heaviest burden is borne by ordinary people. Wars and sanctions have weakened economies, displaced millions, and devastated communities across the region. The human cost continues to rise, often far removed from the decisions that trigger such conflicts.

This is no longer just a regional conflict, it is a test of whether international law applies equally to all, or selectively to the powerful.

The reality remains that lasting peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved through military alliances or foreign bases alone. It requires genuine diplomacy, respect for international law, and meaningful efforts to resolve core disputes, particularly the Palestinian issue, while addressing

Israel’s ongoing aggression and broader power imbalances.

Unless regional states move beyond short-term interests and prioritize collective stability and unity, the cycle of retaliation and condemnation will persist. The Middle East risks remaining trapped in a destructive loop where each new conflict grows more complex and more devastating than the last.

At the same time, Muslim societies must remain vigilant against narratives that attempt to recast political conflicts as religious wars. Such framing only deepens divisions and prolongs instability. The only sustainable path forward lies in transcending narrow interests and fostering trust, cooperation, and unity across the region.

By Dr Niaz Murtaza

Ending futile wars

THE quagmire of Middle East wars that has badly hurt all US presidents since Richard Nixon is now ensnaring a clueless Donald Trump. As plucky Iran alone foils American and Israelis might and war costs rise, the illegality and practical futility of their war bites them hard.

The US says it’s acting pre-emptively under UN self-defence laws, given Iran’s nuclear threat. But UN laws allow pre-emption against attacks imminent in the short run — not distant threats. Iran’s unproven nuclear heft or intent to use it failed the imminence test. Israel says such laws cover its attacks on militants in other states too. But, as the verdicts of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) say, they apply clearly to attacks by states, not militants as the two differ.

State attacks come from across borders, mainly use state resources and are controlled by a state. So, culpability is clear and one-sided and there is a legal right to attack it until the UN is informed, as required, and acts. But attacks often come from one’s own soil and involve citizens who use local resources and aid from foreign-based groups whom the other state may not control. Both states fail to evict the terrorists. An attack by one state on another may go on for days. So, self-defence attacks are needed to end it. Many attacks, including suicide attacks, end even before the host state can act, and there may be long gaps before the next one. So, the one-sided culpability of a state for unprovoked attacks is absent.

The ICJ in Congo’s 2005 case against Uganda rejected the latter’s plea that it attacked the former country legally in self-

defence against terrorists based there. It gave strict criteria for UN self-defence laws to apply in such cases: proven control of a state on terrorists (like Serbia’s in 1992), the intensity of their attacks, and the immediacy, proportionality and necessity of one’s counter-attacks on the other state. Such high bars aim to limit more ruinous state wars. State air and artillery responses to smaller attacks may be disproportionate and delayed and the role of the other state and the necessity of one’s own response hard to prove if terrorists don’t cross borders for every attack but largely operate locally.

If illegality was clear from day one, futility is clear by now.

If illegality was clear from day one, futility is clear by now. Unlike Gaza, ‘USrael’ can only fight Iran for a few weeks given its ability to hit them and their allies hard and as war in this region badly affects the global economy.

While their last war on Iran was mainly on its nuclear sites, the aim now is weakening it overall and changing its regime directly or via rebels/ protests.

Two weeks later, this aim seems surreal. So, there is much pressure on the US to end the war from multiple transmission routes — the Gulf and Western allies, Democrats, peace groups, media and above all the economic fallout on US voters and markets.

By appointing the late Ayatollah Khamenei’s son as the new Supreme Leader, Iran has clearly signalled hard-line regime continuity. In fact, it is the two aggressors that may actually suffer regime change. Israel’s prime minister, Benjamin

Netanyahu, may lose the next elections and Trump’s party the mid-term ones as domestic foes mock their failed aims. One opposes Iran’s autocratic misrule but opposes much more the war on it by global gangster states like ‘USrael’.

The war will affect others too. The Gulf states may review their US alliances though they lack viable alternatives.

For us, the war will impact three key economic metrics — inflation, foreign reserves and growth — and three key aspects of foreign policy. Firstly, its unwise to be chummy with a martial egoist like Trump and back him for a Nobel Peace Prize.

We must not be too chummy nor needlessly hostile to a global warlord like the US. Secondly, we must openly discuss and fine-tune the Saudi pact which our officials have referred to once the Saudis were hit.

Our dilemma is that the Saudis are our closest ally but fighting bordering Iran while global tyrants like ‘USrael’ attack it and while we fight the Afghan Taliban as well is dicey. Gulf states have seen a furious blowback for having US bases on their soil, without their even fighting Iran directly.

Thirdly, given the complex legal and utility issues, we’re rightly backing China’s efforts to end our conflict with the Afghan Taliban.

The best way to deal with the TTP is to secure our own border and soil against it without harming the locals. The best way to deal with the Afghan Taliban is not war or talks but applying material pressure on them — by us and other states upset with them — without harming the locals.

DAILY MIRROR

Govt started work on 5th phase of solar energy conversion project by QESCO

APP

Quetta: Quetta Electric Supply Company (QESCO) has started work on the fifth phase (Phase Five) of the solar energy conversion project of agricultural tube-well connections.

According to press release here on Tuesday, the government has also paid about Rs2.486 billion (2.486 billion) to 1243 agricultural consumers included in Phase Five.

After which, the QESCO teams are disconnecting the agricultural connections included in the fifth phase (i.e. Phase Five) and removing the agricultural transformers, electricity poles and other equipment connected to them so that these agricultural connections could not be connected to the QESCO network again.

It further said that the government had launched a solarization project for all agricultural tubewell connections in the province, under which all landowners in the province have been paid money for switching to solar energy in phases under Phase One, Phase Two, Phase Three, Phase Four and Phase Five.

After the government paid Rs. 5.398 billion to the agricultural consumers included in the first phase (i.e. Phase One), 2699 agricultural connections were

disconnected.

After the government released Rs. 7.458 billion to 3729 agricultural consumers under the second phase (i.e. Phase Two) of the project, the said agricultural connections were disconnected from the QESCO network.

Similarly, under the third phase of this project (i.e. Phase Three), after the payment of Rs. 14 billion, QESCO teams disconnected 7000 agricultural connections.

After the government released Rs 24.5 billion for Phase Four of the solarization project, QESCO disconnected 12,250 agricultural connections including phase fours and now after the government paid about Rs 2,486 million (2.486 billion) for Phase Five, QESCO has started the process of disconnecting 1,243 agricultural connections and thus, a total of Rs 53.842 billion has been paid to 26,921 agricultural consumers of Balochistan province in connection with the solar energy transition project by the government.

After switching to solar energy and paying the amount, some agricultural consumers in some areas of the province returned agricultural transformers,

HT poles and their associated electrical equipment to the QESCO, while other agricultural consumers have not yet cooperated and have not handed over the said agricultural transformers, HT poles and their associated electrical

equipment to the QESCO teams.

According to the solarization plan, after the government pays Rs. 2 million to each landowner, agricultural consumers are obliged to return their transformers, poles and other electrical equipment to the QESCO.

For which, the draft Balochistan Agricultural Solarization and Prevention of Electricity Theft Act, 2025, has also been approved by the provincial government and under this law, legal action will be taken against the landowners who have received the money and have not yet returned the transformers, poles and electrical equipment.

So far, 14,447 agricultural transformers and other electrical equipment connected to them have been returned to QESCO by the landowners who have converted to solar energy.

while agricultural consumers in various operation circles have not yet returned 12,474 transformers and other electrical equipment connected to them to QESCO despite receiving funds.

The QESCO has appealed to all agricultural consumers who have converted to solar energy to cooperate with QESCO in the process of returning transformers and other electrical equipment connected to their agricultural connections so that this project can be completed at the earliest.



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandokhel in a meeting with Provincial Minister Mir Asim Kurd Galo.

Pakistan will take all measures to defend its citizens: Info Minister

INP

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Attaullah Tarar, has said Pakistan will continue to take every necessary measure to defend its citizens and deny safe haven to those who wage terror against Pakistan from across the border.

In a post on his X handle, he made it clear that Pakistan, in its ongoing war against terrorism, is engaging only those military and terrorist targets, along with the infrastructure of the Afghan Taliban regime, that are being directly or indirectly used to plan, facilitate, shelter, train, or abet terrorist attacks inside Pakistan.

The Information Minister said the Afghan Taliban regime is peddling yet another falsehood by alleging that Pakistan targeted a drug rehabilitation hospital in Kabul. This claim is entirely baseless.

He said the strikes carried out on the night of 16th March in Kabul and Nangarhar were precise, deliberate, and professional. He said no hospital, no drug rehabilitation centre, and no civilian facility was targeted, emphasizing that the targets were military and terrorist infrastructure, including ammunition and technical equipment storage sites and other installations linked to hostile activity against Pakistan.

He said the visuals leave no room for doubt. The flames and secondary detonations witnessed in Kabul further confirm that the intended ammunition storage site was hit with precision.

Attaullah Tarar said the current propaganda is coming from a regime whose officials have repeatedly relied on false narratives, doctored claims, and the circulation of old visuals to mislead audiences and cover up the truth.

Their latest allegations are part of the same worn-out pattern of deceit.

The Information Minister said Pakistan, the region, and the wider

world continue to face the grave threat of terrorism emanating from territory under the control of the Afghan Taliban regime.

Chairman Senate announces austerity measures to save Rs 700-750 million

APP

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani has announced wide-ranging austerity measures, projecting a reduction of more than 50 percent in the Senate Secretariat's remaining budgetary utilization for the current fiscal year, translating into estimated savings of Rs 700 to 750 million.

The Chairman presided over a high-level meeting at the Senate Secretariat to review and implement austerity measures in light of the prevailing economic situation, focusing on significant cuts in Senate expenditures, beginning with substantial reductions in the budget of the Chairman's Office. Adopting a top-down approach to fiscal discipline, the Chairman directed that austerity measures must begin at the highest level.

Accordingly, significant cuts have been ordered in the operational budget of the Chairman's Office, setting a precedent for all departments to follow.

He issued comprehensive directives for the immediate enforcement of austerity measures across the Secretariat. These include a complete ban on foreign travel, a 50 percent reduction in POL (petrol, oil, and lubricants) consumption, the ground-

ing of 60 percent of official vehicles, a strict ban on non-essential procurements, and the implementation of salary deductions or contributions in line with government policy.

Additionally, administrative arrangements have been introduced for human resource management, including rotation-based pick-and-drop facilities aimed at minimizing operational costs and reducing fuel consumption.

Any future procurement will be subject to review and approval by a dedicated Senate Austerity Committee.

As a result of these measures, the Senate Secretariat expects to reduce more than 50 percent of its remaining budgetary utilization for the current fiscal year, resulting in estimated savings of Rs 700 to 750 million.

Gilani emphasized that public office is a sacred trust requiring the highest standards of financial prudence.

He underscored that transparency, accountability, and fiscal discipline must remain the guiding principles in all administrative and financial matters of the Secretariat. He added that austerity is not merely a policy directive but a collective national responsibility, directing all wings of the

Adviser Hamza for cleanliness of city in view of possible rain on occasion of Eid-ul Fitr

APP

Quetta: Adviser to Chief Minister for Local Government (LG) and Rural Development Nawabzada Amir Hamza Zehri on Tuesday issued directives to make special arrangements for cleanliness in the city in view of possible rains on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr.

He also urged Safa Quetta to improve the cleanliness situation across the city and complete all arrangements before Eid-ul-Fitr.

Nawabzada Amir Hamza Khan Zehri said that it is imperative to ensure cleanliness in Eidgahs, mosques, Eid fairs, main highways and streets so that a clean environment could be provided to the citizens on the occasion of Eid.

He said that complaints are being received from elected public representatives from Quetta regarding the unsatis-

factory cleanliness situation in some areas, therefore, immediate cleanliness measures should be taken in these areas as well on the identification of public representatives.

The Adviser for Local Government and Rural Development directed that the cleaning of the city's rivers and canals should be completed in ahead of Eid-ul-Fitr so that drainage problems would not arise during the possible rains.

He also directed concerned department to cancel the leaves of the concerned employees to make the cleaning process effective on the occasion of Eid.

He instructed the Administrator of the Metropolitan Corporation Quetta to form a special committee to effectively monitor the cleanliness situation in the city so that the cleanliness arrangements could be maintained at all times.

Railways' Special Eid Trains win praise from thousands of travelers

APP

ISLAMABAD: The four Special Trains launched by Pakistan Railways on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr received an overwhelming response, as thousands of passengers traveled to their hometowns to celebrate the festival with their families.

The travelers widely appreciated the initiative, saying that the special Eid trains provided a comfortable, affordable and time-saving travel experience.

Many passengers expressed gratitude to Pakistan Railways for facilitating smooth journeys during the busy holiday season.

The Railway stations across the country witnessed large crowds, with families seen boarding trains in significant numbers.

The passengers commended the railway staff for their helpfulness, particularly in guiding them about train timings, platform details, ticketing, and booking procedures.

Speaking to APP, a passenger, Farzana Kausar, who arrived at Rawalpindi Railway Station from Lahore, said that Pakistan Railways had "won the hearts of passengers" by completing the Eid train operations with noticeable improvements.

PM felicitates President of Kazakhstan on successful constitutional referendum

INP

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Tuesday, held a telephone conversation with President of the Republic of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev and congratulated him on the success of the historic constitutional referendum held in Kazakhstan, on 15 March. "The Prime Minister noted that the overwhelming turnout and support for the new Constitution reflected the trust and confidence of the people of Kazakhstan in President Tokayev's visionary leadership and reform agenda. He expressed confidence that the reforms would further strengthen governance, institutional stability, and national development in Kazakhstan," PM Office Media Wing said in press release.

While fondly recalling President Tokayev's visit to Pakistan last month, the prime minister assured the president that Pakistan was actively following up on the decisions taken during that visit.

In this regard, he said that the two sides would meet soon, to firm up proposed MoUs and agreements.

Several suspects involved in crimes arrested by police during operation in Balochistan: Dr. Sami

APP

Quetta: SSP Serious Crime Investigation Wing Dr Sami Malik has said that during major police operations, several suspects involved in serious crimes have been arrested.

During successful operations by the police and Serious Crime Investigation Wing in different areas of the city, persons involved in murder, robbery and other serious crimes were detained, while weapons, cash, gold and other stolen goods were also recovered.

He said this while giving details in a press conference regarding the successes in several blind and difficult cases conducted by the Serious Crime Investigation Wing. He said that significant progress has been made so far in 10 important cases and the arrests of the suspects. In the Eastern Bypass murder case, the accused Ehsanullah was arrested and weapons were recovered from his possession.

Similarly, in the Khalifa Gali murder case of Sariab, the accused Abdul Manan was also arrested during a professional operation. He said that significant progress has been made in the murder and robbery case of an 80-year-old woman in Nawab Killi, where the accused Nawaz Masih was arrested and gold and cash were recovered.

The accused was also wanted in 11 other cases, out of which he is nominated in 10. 5 accused of a gang that robbed Rs 11.5 crore in police uniform in Cut Piece street were arrested, including Mahmoodul Hassan (Police Constable),

Habibur Rehman, Aurangzeb (DSP CTD) and Abdul Hameed.

During the operation, Rs 28.7 million in cash, weapons and police uniforms were also recovered from their possession.

The SSP further said that in the Sariab robbery case, Abdul Hameed, Khudaiddad, Abdul Manan, Muhammad Saleem and Nasrullah were arrested and gold worth about Rs 1 million, a Prado vehicle, 10 police and Levies uniforms, two rifles, a pistol and handcuffs were recovered from their possession, while in the Zarghun Road robbery case, three accused Muhammad Aslam, Muhammad Asghar and Ali Jan were detained and Rs 2 million in cash and a motorcycle were recovered from their custody. Similarly, in a private bank robbery case in

Hazarganji, the main accused Hamza Baig was arrested, from whose possession Rs 29.8 million was recovered, while the search for more accused is underway. He said that the Serious Crime Investigation Wing arrested the robbery accused Abdul Hadi in the area of Brewery police station and recovered the stolen jewellery.

while in 9 cases, the absconding accused Muhammad Ismail was also arrested. Muhammad Azeem, a member of the four-member gang who snatched a Suzuki on the Eastern Bypass, was arrested and the vehicle was recovered, while the AVLIC arrested the inter-provincial gang and also recovered a rickshaw, a Suzuki and a government Swift vehicle.



QUETTA: Provincial Minister Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran in a meeting with IG Police Balochistan Muhammad Tahir.

Deputy Chairman Senate visits Quetta, offers condolences to bereaved families

By Zahid Ahmed Khan

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Chairman Senate, Syedaal Khan visited Quetta to offer Fatiha on the demise of Malik Saifullah Bazai, grandfather of Member of the National Assembly Malik Adil Khan Bazai and father of Member of the Provincial Assembly Malik Naem Khan Bazai.

He met the bereaved family at their residence, offered Fatiha for the departed soul, and expressed his heartfelt sympathies. The Deputy Chairman spent time with family members, consoling them in their moment of grief.

Expressing his condolences, Syedaal Khan said that parents were among life's most precious blessings, whose love and affection were selfless and everlasting.

He added that the loss of a parent created an irreplaceable void, though death remains an inevitable reality for every human being. Paying tribute to the deceased, he described him as a pious, dignified, and noble individual whose absence will always be deeply felt.

He prayed that Allah Almighty grant the departed soul a high place in His

mercy and bless the family with patience and strength to bear the loss.

Meanwhile, the Deputy Chairman also visited the residence of Balochistan Provincial Health Minister Bakht Muhammad Kakar to offer condolences on the demise of his uncle. He expressed deep sympathy with the bereaved family and offered Fateha.

He said that the loss of a close relative is an irreparable tragedy that could not be adequately expressed in words, and he prayed for the forgiveness of the deceased and strength for the family to endure the loss with patience.

Later, Syedaal Khan visited the residence of Deputy Secretary Local Government, Balochistan, Ayub Qureshi, to offer condolences. He offered prayers for the departed soul and expressed solidarity with the grieving family.

The Deputy Chairman described the late Ayub Qureshi as a hardworking, honest, and dedicated officer who discharged his professional duties with utmost responsibility, adding that his services would be remembered with great respect.

A Shining Example of Humanitarian Service in Hub: Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri Distributes 500 Ration Bags

APP

HUB: In a commendable effort to serve humanity, a significant welfare event was held at Zehri Farmhouse in Hub with the support of the Pakistan Red Crescent. Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri, Chairperson of the Senate Standing Committee on Human Rights and member of the Pakistan Red Crescent Society, attended as the chief guest and personally distributed ration bags among deserving families.

During the event, a total of 500 ration bags were distributed to underprivileged and needy households, bringing relief and happiness to hundreds of families. The ration bags contained essential food items aimed at providing immediate support, particularly during the holy month of Ramadan and amid rising inflation.

Addressing the gathering, Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri emphasized that supporting vulnerable segments of society is a collective responsibility. She noted that the Pakistan Red Crescent has

always stood by the people in times of need and will continue to expand its humanitarian efforts in the future.

She further stated that welfare activities will be extended across Hub, Lasbela, and other areas of Balochistan to ensure that assistance reaches as many deserving individuals as possible. She highlighted that such initiatives are especially crucial in the current economic climate and urged philanthropists to actively contribute to these efforts.

The event was attended by local elders, social figures, and a large number of residents, all of whom appreciated the initiative. Beneficiaries expressed their gratitude to Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri and the Pakistan Red Crescent Society, describing the support as both timely and vital.

Concluding the event, Senator Zehri reaffirmed her commitment to continuing public service and ensuring that all possible assistance is provided to those in need, with the aim of building a welfare-oriented and stable society.



QUETTA: Peoples busy in eid shopping as Eid ul Fitr approaching.