

DAILY MIRROR

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Balochistan Assembly passes key bills, calls for probe into Nushki killing

NEWS DESK

QUETTA: The Balochistan Assembly on Monday approved several pieces of legislation, including the draft laws for the Balochistan Labour and Personnel Court, the SEZ Pakistanis Commission (2026), amendments to the Balochistan Universities Act, and an anti-begging bill.

The session, chaired by Speaker Abdul Khaliq Achakzai, began with a delay of 35 minutes. Lawmakers Zarin Magsi, Saleem Khosa, and Wali Muhammad Noorzai presented three separate draft bills, all of which were unanimously passed by the house.

During the session, members also raised serious concerns over the killing of a young man in Nushki, who had reportedly traveled to donate blood but was allegedly shot dead by police. On a point of order, MPA Agha Umar Ahmed Zai demanded the formation of a committee to investigate the incident.

Lawmakers criticized the actions of the

police's Eagle Squad, with Younis Zehri questioning its authority to use lethal force and stressing that suspects should be presented before courts. Rehmat Saleh Baloch acknowledged police sacrifices in counterterrorism efforts but called for the arrest of those responsible. Samad Gurgaj warned that failure to address such incidents could lead to tribal tensions.

Responding to the concerns, Interior Minister Ziaullah Langove informed the house that the chief minister had taken notice of the incident and assured that action would be taken against those involved.

Chief Minister Sarfaraz Bugti reiterated that an inquiry was underway and justice would be ensured. He said strict action would follow the investigation, while compensation would be provided to the victim's family after completion of legal procedures, including the post-mortem report. He also noted that police performance should be appreciated where warranted.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif addresses a special meeting of the federal cabinet, in the Federal Capital.

All-out efforts still underway to resolve US-Iran conflict: PM Shehbaz

APP

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has said that Pakistan will continue to play a pivotal role in ensuring sustainable peace in the region.

Speaking during a federal cabinet meeting, the prime minister stated that he briefed participants on efforts related to the United States-Iran talks and reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to promoting peace in the region through dialogue and diplomacy. He expressed satisfaction over progress in the US-Iran negotiations and said Pakistan remains hopeful for positive outcomes.

The prime minister noted that Pakistan has emerged as a focal point of global attention by bringing the United States and Iran to the negotiating table after decades. He added that talks between the two countries were held in Islamabad at Pakistan's request, with delegations from both sides attending. Shehbaz Sharif said he was grateful to the presidents of Iran and the United States for accepting the invitation, calling it an honour not just for himself but for the people of Pakistan.

He revealed that both countries agreed to a two-week ceasefire and that high-level delegations from both sides held discussions lasting 21 hours.

He further said that Pakistan was given the opportunity to mediate for the restoration of peace, adding that the ceasefire remains in place and efforts are ongoing to resolve outstanding issues.

He described the development as a historic moment of pride for the nation.

The prime minister added that the Islamabad talks have provided Pakistan with an opportunity to turn the ceasefire into lasting peace, noting that negotiations faced critical moments where talks nearly broke down but were resumed.

Shehbaz Sharif also praised Chief of Defence Forces Field Marshal Asim Munir, commending his leadership, and lauded Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar and his team for their contributions.

He said that during heightened tensions in the Middle East, Field Marshal Asim Munir remained actively engaged, and his strategic foresight played a key role in the implementation of the temporary ceasefire.

Japanese PM phones Shehbaz; assures full support for ME peace process

APP

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday received a telephone call from Prime Minister of Japan Sanae Takaichi, who appreciated Pakistan's diplomatic role in facilitating the ceasefire and talks between the United States of America and Iran.

During their warm and cordial conversation, the two leaders discussed the recently held Islamabad Talks, hosted by Pakistan.

Prime Minister Takaichi expressed Japan's full support for the peace process and its importance for regional stability and global energy security.

While thanking the Japanese prime minister for her good wishes, Prime Minister Shehbaz said that he was

grateful to both the US and Iranian delegations for their extensive discussions in Islamabad and said that Pakistan would continue its efforts to ensure that the ceasefire was maintained.

Prime Minister Shehbaz expressed his desire to further strengthen Pakistan-Japan bilateral cooperation, which was reciprocated by the Japanese premier as well. Both leaders agreed to maintain close coordination.

Protection of plantation, water resources & clean energy promotion top priorities of govt: Adviser

APP

Quetta: Adviser to Chief Minister on Environment and Climate Change Naseem-ur-Rehman Khan Mulakhel on Monday said that protection of plantation, water resources and promotion of clean energy are the top priorities of the government.

He said that Balochistan is under the serious impact of climate change, water scarcity and destruction of agricultural lands have become a major challenge, in view of this situation, the Balochistan government has initiated measures on an emergency basis.

He said that according to Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti: "Balochistan is an environmentally sensitive province, we have to take steps today to prevent future threats. Plantation, protection of water resources and promotion of clean energy are the top priorities of the government."

Pakistan managed situation better despite Middle East crisis: Finance Minister

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb has said that Pakistan managed the situation in a better way despite the ongoing crisis in the Middle East.

Addressing a high-level panel discussion on Pakistan's economy at Harvard University, the finance minister termed the Middle East conflict a major global supply shock for the world economy.

He said Pakistan ensured continuity in energy supply, while after initial subsidies, full transfer of energy prices and targeted subsidies are being maintained.

He added that Pakistan han-

dled the crisis in a more stable manner. Muhammad Aurangzeb said that Eurobond repayment remained a "non-event," reflecting confidence in external payments.

He noted a record increase in transit traffic at Karachi Port, while Roshan Digital Account recorded historic remittances in March.

However, he stressed that remittances are not a sustainable solution and exports need greater focus.

He further said that the real challenge is implementation of reforms, adding that efforts are underway to improve the tax system and increase the tax-to-GDP ratio.

We will destroy Iranian ships if they come close to our blockade: Trump

MONITORING DESK

Washington: US President Donald Trump said that if Iranian ships come even close to our blockade, they will be destroyed. In his statement on social media, US President Donald Trump said that the Iranian navy has sunk to the bottom of the sea, and 158 of Iran's ships have been completely destroyed.

The US President said that we did not target a few small Iranian ships, and that their fast attack ships do not pose much of a threat to us.

Donald Trump said that this is how we take action against drug smuggling boats at sea, this action is swift and very tough.

US President Trump said that 98.2% of drugs entering the United States by sea have been stopped.

The average price for regular gas at US

service stations has exceeded \$4 per gallon for most of April, according to data from GasBuddy. Trump's comments on Sunday came after weeks of asserting that the spike in prices is a short-term phenomenon, though his top advisers are cognisant of the war's economic impacts, officials have said. Trump announced on social media that the US Navy would blockade the Strait of Hormuz and intercept any ship that paid a crossing fee to Iran, after marathon talks between the US and Iran in Pakistan over the weekend did not yield a peace deal.

"No one who pays an illegal toll will have safe passage on the high seas," he wrote on Truth Social. Any US blockade is likely to add more uncertainty to the eventual resolution of the conflict, which is currently subject to a tenuous two-week ceasefire.



KARACHI: President Asif Ali Zardari chairing a briefing on Cadet College Petaro's development plans, academic modernization and institutional priorities at the Chief Minister House, in the Provincial Capital.

President Zardari reaffirms commitment to ensuring equal rights for all communities

INP

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari reaffirmed his commitment to ensuring equal rights for all communities across the country, regardless of their belief, caste or creed.

"The government remains dedicated to upholding the fundamental rights, safety and dignity of all minority communities. We are deeply committed to the socio-economic welfare of our minorities and remain earnest in our duty to protect their lives and property," the president said in a message on the occasion of Vaisakhi/Baisakhi being observed on April 14. The president extended his heartfelt greetings to the Hindu and Sikh communities in Pakistan and around the world on the wonderful and joyous occasion of Vaisakhi/Baisakhi.

"Vaisakhi/Baisakhi serves as a significant religious and cultural milestone, marking the commencement of the Rabi harvest. This season represents a period of

immense joy for the farming community as they reap the fruits of their labour. It is a time characterised by gratitude and reflection on the enduring values of faith, unity and humanitarian service," President Media Wing, in a press release, quoted the president as saying.

In many parts of Pakistan, President Zardari said Vaisakhi/Baisakhi was also marked with respect by neighbours and local communities, reflecting a shared social space shaped by mutual regard.

"The Father of the Nation explicitly articulated a policy of equality, freedom and security for all citizens, regardless of their religious or ethnic background. This fundamental principle is formally enshrined in the Constitution of Pakistan, which guarantees equal rights and comprehensive protection to all communities within the state," he observed. The president said the government continued to facilitate Hindu and Sikh pilgrims and ensure the upkeep and security of gurdwaras across the country, particularly during important religious occasions.

Establishment of UoB campus in Islamabad with cooperation of China to be positive sign of Balochistan Youth: Governor

APP

Quetta: Governor Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandokhel on Monday said that the establishment of the University of Balochistan (UoB) campus in the federal capital Islamabad with the cooperation of China would prove to be a good step towards providing equal, high-quality higher education opportunities to the youth of Balochistan.

He expressed these views while talking to Vice Chancellor University of Balochistan Professor Dr. Zahoor Ahmed Bazai and Chief Executive Officer of Tarqeeqi Foundation and Senate Member of Jamia Balochistan Amjad Rashid at Governor House Quetta.

The Governor said that for this, formal discussions would be held at the federal level with all relevant federal

authorities, including the Higher Education Commission and the Capital Development Authority, for the allotment of suitable land and necessary approvals.

He said that the aim of this initiative is to promote inter-provincial harmony by creating a permanent educational presence of Balochistan in Islamabad. Mr. Jaffar Khan said that it is hoped that for the first time in history we would succeed in establishing the campus, this is a project that could act as a bridge between the aspirations of the province and the intellectual stream of the nation.

The delegation presented a formal proposal to the Governor of Balochistan to establish a campus of the University of Balochistan in the federal capital, Islamabad, the aim of this initiative is to provide quality higher education opportunities to the

students of Balochistan in Islamabad.

Three directors of different centers of the University of Balochistan were also present on the occasion. The said directors apprised the Governor of Balochistan about the educational, research activities and national services of the centers of the university and gave a detailed briefing on the financial issues faced by the centers.

Governor Mandokhel lauded the academic and research efforts of the University of Balochistan and assured all possible cooperation on the proposal

of the Islamabad campus, including resolving the financial issues of the centers.

Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Zahoor Ahmed Bazai thanked the Governor of Balochistan for his deep interest and cooperation in the promotion of higher education in the province.

Bilawal urges public support for nationwide anti-polio campaign

APP

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has termed the launch of the anti-polio campaign in Pakistan a significant step towards ensuring a healthier future for the nation.

In his statement issued by the party secretariat, Bilawal Bhutto said that the ongoing anti-polio drive represents a collective fight against a serious threat to the country's future.

He emphasized that polio, often spread due to negligence, can only be eradicated through increased public awareness and responsibility.

Bilawal Bhutto paid tribute to front-line workers participating in the campaign, calling them "national heroes" who continue to perform their duties despite extreme heat and security challenges.

He also urged parents to play their vital role in the campaign by taking personal responsibility and ensuring that their children receive polio vaccination drops.

DPM/FM Dar, Chinese Amb. Jiang Discuss Recent Developments

APP

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar and Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong, Monday, discussed the recent developments following the Islamabad talks.

The DPM/FM reaffirmed Pakistan's continued resolve to support dialogue and diplomacy.

Ambassador Jiang commended Pakistan's important role in facilitating direct talks between the United States and Iran, the Foreign Office Spokesperson said in a press release.

Both sides reaffirmed the strong Pakistan-China all-weather strategic cooperative partnership.

Separately, Dar also chaired a meeting with Foreign Secretary Amna Baloch and other officers of the foreign ministry, to commend their hardwork, commitment, and professionalism during the "Islamabad Talks".

According to an official statement, Dar "appreciated their contribution in facilitating the dialogue between Iran and United States," which the ministry stated was "an important step towards the constructive engagement and promoting peace and stability."

Senior leaders from the United States and Iran arrived in Islamabad on Saturday for high-stakes negotiations that followed a devastating six-week war that left thousands dead and pushed the global economy to the brink of recession.

Dar, in the aftermath of the talks, stressed that the US and Iran should continue to uphold their commitment to the ceasefire as negotiations ended without an agreement. "It is imperative that the parties continue to uphold their commitment to the ceasefire," Dar said during a presser.

3 cops martyred, 5 injured as assailants open fire on police vehicle in GB's Diamer

NEWS DESK

GILGIT: Three cops were martyred and five others were injured on Monday after unknown assailants opened fire on a police vehicle in Gilgit-Baltistan's Diamer district, local and hospital officials said.

The police team was on its way back from Thor village after destroying poppy cultivation when unidentified assailants opened indiscriminate fire on the vehicle, Caretaker Home Minister Sajid Baig.

As a result, three police officials were martyred and five others, including a deputy superintendent of police (DSP), were injured, according to an incident report issued by the Chilas RHQ Hospital. Three police personnel were brought dead to the hospital, while five injured personnel were shifted to the facility's Emergency Department.

"Among the injured, three individuals are undergoing surgical intervention, while the remaining two sustained minor injuries [and] are being treated at the hospital," the report said. The martyred cops were identified as Abdul Reheem Jami, Muqabil Shah and Hazratullah Musa. The injured personnel comprised DSP Faqeer Muhammad, Rehmatullah, Nakeel Ahmed, Niamat Saeed and Muhammad Nadir.

Following the shooting, an exchange of fire between the police and the miscreants continued for several hours. An additional contingent of police and law enforcement personnel had been sent to the site of the incident, Baig said.



QUETTA: CM Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti addressing a Balochistan Provincial Assembly.

Pakistan sustains fragile US-Iran dialogue in historic diplomatic move: Masood Khan

INP

ISLAMABAD: Former ambassador to the United States and former president of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Masood Khan has described the recent Islamabad talks between the United States and Iran as a landmark diplomatic breakthrough, noting that despite intense pressure and unresolved disputes, both sides chose dialogue over escalation.

Masood Khan, reflecting on the 21-hour marathon negotiations, stated that Pakistan's facilitation enabled meaningful engagement between Washington and Tehran, even as critical disagreements persisted. He noted that while both sides issued positive statements and maintained a constructive tone, two key issues—the nuclear framework and the governance of the Strait of Hormuz—emerged as major sticking points.

He emphasized that the talks did not collapse, nor did either side signal a return to full-scale conflict. Instead, a temporary ceasefire remains in place, providing a fragile but crucial window for continued diplomacy. "This itself is a success," he

remarked, highlighting that both parties departed Islamabad on a more positive footing than when they arrived.

Masood Khan cautioned, however, that parallel developments could undermine progress. Statements regarding a potential blockade of the Strait of Hormuz and threats to target critical Iranian oil infrastructure risk escalating tensions. He noted that such actions could trigger wider conflict, deepen the global economic crisis, and draw in major powers, including China, given its significant energy interests in the region.

He observed that both the United States and Iran perceive themselves to be negotiating from positions of strength—Washington due to its military impact, and Tehran due to its resilience and strategic leverage in the region. This dynamic, he explained, has made compromise more difficult, with both sides reluctant to concede ground.

He also highlighted the broader geopolitical complexities, including external influences and ongoing regional conflicts, particularly in Lebanon, which continue to cast a shadow over the negotiations.



QUETTA; CM Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti in a meeting with Provincial Minister Mir Zia Langov.

Israel seeks to declare Turkiye 'new enemy': FM Hi

MONITORING DESK

TURKEY: Israel "cannot live without an enemy" and its government is now trying to portray Turkiye as one, Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan said on Monday.

"After Iran, Israel cannot live without an enemy," Fidan said in a televised interview with Anadolu Agency.

"We see that not only Netanyahu's administration but also some figures in the opposition — though not all — are seeking to declare Turkiye the new enemy," he said.

"This is a new development in Israel... turning into a state strategy," he added.

Turkiye, a fierce critic of Israel, had joined diplomatic efforts with Pakistan and Egypt aimed at de-escalation during the US-Israeli war on Iran.

Tensions between Turkiye and Israel have steadily escalated since the latter's war on Gaza erupted following Hamas's Oct 7, 2023 attacks.

The dispute entered a new phase over the weekend after President Recep Tayyip Erdogan warned his US counterpart Donald Trump of "possible provocations and sabotage" that could jeopardise an initial ceasefire arrangement in the US-Israeli war on Iran.

Subsequently, on Saturday, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu sharply criticised Erdogan in a post on X and vowed Tel Aviv would continue to confront Tehran and its regional allies. Later on Saturday, Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz also lashed out at Erdogan on X, calling him a "paper tiger". Erdogan "who did not respond to missile fire from Iran into Turkish territory and has proven to be a paper tiger, is now fleeing into the realm of anti-Semitism and calling for show trials in Turkiye against Israel's political and military leadership", Katz said on X. The Turkish foreign ministry then slammed Netanyahu for remarks targeting Erdogan, saying the remarks were a result of "the discomfort caused by the truths we have consistently voiced on every platform".

Pakistan arrests, sentences 3 Indian RAW-linked spies

INP

LAHORE: Pakistani security agencies have arrested and secured convictions against three individuals accused of espionage linked to India's intelligence network, in what officials describe as a major counterintelligence success.

According to security sources, three individuals involved in espionage activities for India's intelligence agency Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) were arrested and later sentenced after the completion of legal proceedings.

Cases were registered against the accused under the Official Secrets Act, and courts handed down sentences following due process.

Investigators revealed that the accused were lured through "honey trap" tactics on social media, where they were reportedly manipulated by women allegedly linked to RAW.

Punjab CM launches Pakistan's first ever govt run dead body transfer service

By Maqsood Khalid

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif on Monday inaugurated a government-run deceased (body) transfer service, marking the first such initiative by any province in Pakistan.

An official handout said that the service will initially be launched in Lahore, Multan and Rawalpindi, where bodies will be transported free of charge from government hospitals to the homes of the deceased. The facility is expected to be expanded to all tehsils across the province by June.

Under the "Deceased Care Service," dedicated ambulances will

be deployed in each tehsil to ensure timely and dignified transportation. During the inauguration ceremony, the chief minister handed over keys of the ambulances for the three cities, inspected the fleet, and interacted with rescue personnel. Speaking on the occasion, Maryam Nawaz directed staff to perform their duties with compassion and professionalism, emphasizing that supporting bereaved families is both a humanitarian obligation and a public service. She also instructed

teams to provide emotional support and basic counselling to families dealing with loss.

Highlighting challenges faced by citizens, the chief minister noted that private transporters often charge excessive fees and in such situations, she strictly directed rescue staff not to accept any payment, even if offered voluntarily.

Provincial Health Minister Khawaja Salman Rafique termed the initiative a major relief measure, stating that it aims to support citizens during times of grief.

KP, Balochistan Face Similar Security Challenges: Governor Kundi

APP

PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi on Monday said that KP and Balochistan were facing similar challenges, particularly terrorism due to their proximity to the Afghan border, stressing the need for intelligence-based operations to ensure lasting peace.

He expressed these views while talking to participants of the 19th National Workshop Balochistan, who visited Governor House Peshawar under the leadership of Brigadier Bilal Ghafoor.

The delegation, comprising students from Balochistan universities, media persons, and members of political and social sectors, discussed with the Governor various issues including the overall situation of the province, NFC Award, and merged districts.

The Governor said that Pakistan's successful facilitation of US-Iran talks in Islamabad

reflected effective diplomacy, adding that the country not only avoided the impact of potential conflict but also brought both sides to the negotiation table, enhancing its global stature.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to inform the general public that my correct name is Ghazanfar Ali. However, due to a clerical/typing mistake, my name has been wrongly recorded as Ghazanfr Ali in my service record and some official documents.

Both names refer to one and the same person. (Ghazanfar Ali)

Karachi records alarming rise in street crimes during March 2026

INP

KARACHI: Karachi has recorded an alarming surge in the street crimes during March 2026, according to a report released by the Citizens Police Liaison Committee, Sindh (CPLC).

According to CPLC report, a total of 3,027 motorcycles were stolen during the month of March, while a further 440 were snatched.

The data shows that citizens were deprived of 1,265 mobile phones. In addition, 140

cars were reported stolen, while 17 were taken through snatching incidents.

A total of 44 murder cases were recorded in March, alongside six incidents of extortion and one case of kidnapping for ransom.

However, no incidents of bank robbery were reported in the city during the month, according to the Citizens-Police Liaison Committee report.



RAWALPINDI: A boy vendor hold umbrella to protect from sun heat while selling shopping bags at Raja Bazar.



McIlroy falters, shares Masters lead with surging Young

SPORTS DESK

AUGUSTA: Rory McIlroy charged back late after squandering a six-stroke edge to share the lead with Cameron Young after a wild third round at the Masters.

A chaotic afternoon at Augusta National saw both men plunk key shots into water on the back nine but finish level atop the leaderboard on 11-under 205 through 54 holes, one stroke ahead of American Sam Burns.

McIlroy, who started the day with a record six-shot lead, carded a one-over-par 73 while Young roared into contention with a scintillating seven-under-par 65.

"I didn't have it today," McIlroy admitted. "I scrambled a lot on the front nine."

Second-ranked McIlroy birdied the 14th and 15th holes to regain the lead but found the trees off the 17th tee on the way to a bogey and his one-over round.

"This golf course has a way of, when you're not quite feeling it, you struggle," McIlroy said. "You have to dig deep."

"I still have a great chance," McIlroy added. "I'm in the final group. That's where I want to be. I need to be better tomorrow. If I'm going to win tomorrow I have to be better than I was today."

McIlroy, a five-time major winner, hopes to match Tiger Woods, Jack Nicklaus and Nick Faldo as the only back-to-back winners of the green jacket.

Third-ranked Young, last month's Players Championship winner, got off to a scorching start with birdies on five of the first 10 holes.

He birdied 13 and 14, his drive at the 13th hitting a tree and landing fortuitously in the fairway, then overcame a watery bogey at 15 by curling in a 27-foot birdie putt at the par-three 16th.

As a result, the 28-year-old American has a prime chance for his first major title.

"There certainly is no lead that's safe out here, but Rory loves it here and no one would be surprised if he had shot 65," Young said. "It's just one of those times that if he doesn't, we have to take advantage and I got myself here today."

Burns carded a 68 and was one stroke in front of Ireland's Shane Lowry.

Lowry aceed the 190-yard par-three sixth hole on his way to a 68 that left him

in fourth on 207, one stroke ahead of Australian Jason Day and England's Justin Rose.



BRITAIN'S Tyson Fury (L) in action during the heavyweight bout against Arslanbek Makhmudov of Russia at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium.

Fury cruises to decision victory over Makhmudov

SPORTS DESK

LONDON: Britain's former heavyweight world champion Tyson Fury outclassed Russia's Arslanbek Makhmudov en route to a comprehensive points win on Saturday and then called for a showdown with compatriot Anthony Joshua.

With Joshua watching from ringside, Fury fought for the first time since his second loss to Oleksandr Usyk in October 2024 in which he failed to regain the WBC belt he lost to the Ukrainian in the first defeat of his career the previous year, weathering an early storm before winning comfortably.

Makhmudov enjoyed occasional success in the early rounds at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium by bull-rushing Fury and forcing him back onto the ropes but struggled to do much damage.

When the 37-year-old Fury started using his jab to control the distance, the writing was on the wall.

Fury began switching stances, bobbing and weaving and aiming to catch his opponent with uppercuts, and when the 36-year-old Russian clinched he was punished with heavy blows to the body and head.

As his opponent tired, the giant Briton began to exert his dominance in the later rounds of the 12-round bout, picking his shots and seldom finding himself in danger. It was enough for all three judges to give him the

decision, with two of them scoring the fight 120-108 and one 119-109.

Fury took the microphone to call out 36-year-old Joshua in his post-fight interview for a fight that would arguably be the biggest in British boxing history.

"Next, I want to give you the fight you've all been waiting for.

I want you AJ, Anthony Joshua, let's give the fight fans what they want, the Battle of Britain. And here's my challenge. I challenge you, Anthony Joshua, to fight me, the Gypsy King, next - do you accept my challenge?" he bellowed.

Given the chance to respond, Joshua refused to take the bait but said he expected the fight to happen if negotiations could be completed successfully.

"Tyson, I've never had a problem getting in the ring with you," Joshua said. "I'll stand across that ring from you in due time. You ain't going to tell me what to do.

"I've been chasing you for the last 10 years. When you're ready, you come and see me and tell me your terms and conditions, and I'll have you in the ring when I'm ready."

Fury, eventually reflecting on Saturday's fight itself, said: "I got 12 rounds against a tough opponent, a knockout specialist. That is better than a one rounder against a bum. I just took out the number five contender in the world with ease."

Gritty Labuschagne inspires Kingsmen to win over United

SPORTS DESK

KARACHI: Inspired by captain Marnus Labuschagne's grit, Hyderabad Kingsmen produced a composed and clinical chase to secure their second successive victory in the HBL Pakistan Super League, defeating Islamabad United by six wickets with 11 balls to spare here at the National Bank Stadium on Sunday night.

The situation could not have been more perfectly set up for Labuschagne to lead from the front.

With the Kingsmen needing a measured pursuit of 154 on a pitch that offered grip and variable bounce, the Australian anchored the innings with a masterful unbeaten 61 off 53 balls.

His calm presence at the crease, combined with intelligent strike rotation and timely boundaries, ensured there was no collapse despite a mid-innings wobble.

It was the kind of innings that defines a leader — gritty, assured and perfectly timed to keep playoff hopes flickering for a side that had endured a difficult start to the campaign.

The chase began explosively. Opener Maaz Sadaqat launched a blistering assault in powerplay, smashing 30 off just 16 balls, including four fours and two sixes. He took particular toll on stand-in captain Chris Green and Imad Wasim, whose opening over leaked 20 runs.

Maaz's aggressive intent set a strong platform, taking the Kingsmen to 50 for no loss inside five overs.

His dismissal in the fifth over, caught at mid-on off Green, brought Saim Ayub to the crease and shifted the momentum towards consolidation.

Labuschagne and Saim then forged a vital 60-run partnership for the second wicket that steadied the innings. Saim,

who struck 35 off 26 balls with two fours and as many sixes, played with fluency, using feet against the spinners and finding gaps with elegant drives.

The duo rotated the strike efficiently, keeping the scoreboard ticking over while ensuring the asking rate never climbed beyond eight.

Labuschagne was content to play the anchor, picking singles and an occasional boundary with precise placement rather than brute force.



HYDERABAD Kingsmen captain Marnus Labuschagne plays a shot during the Pakistan Super League match against Islamabad United at the National Bank Stadium.

EXTENSION

Reference to NIT Published in Daily National Newspapers Under PRQ No: 4337/26-03-2026 & with reference TSE No:2526031007533 uploaded on BPPRA Website against the work "Construction of Boundary wall and additional works for Hostels of Cadet College Kharan BSDI" the Date & Time of Bid Submission Deadline is Extended to 20-04-2026 till 11:00 am, from 13-04-2026. The other terms and conditions will remain the same.

Executive Engineer-Buildings
CWPP& H Department
District Kharan

PRQ No.4594/13-04-2026

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Long, winding road

WHILE not a complete failure, there was no breakthrough in the US-Iran talks that began on Saturday. The two delegations left Islamabad for their respective destinations on Sunday. At the moment, though, the two-week truce facilitated by Pakistan appears to be holding, and an immediate return to hostilities does not seem imminent.

After 40 days of war, sparked by the US-Israeli aggression against Iran, even this minimal progress must be appreciated. True, the American president once more issued threats after the negotiations wrapped up, but he may have been playing to the gallery as he did not immediately announce any military action.

That both sides meant business was reflected in those they sent to Islamabad: the parliament speaker and foreign minister representing Iran, and the vice-president leading the American delegation. While US VP J.D. Vance rued the “bad news” that there was no deal, the Iranian foreign ministry said an agreement was not expected after one session — 21 hours in this case.

Both sides remain far apart on key matters, such as the Iranian nuclear programme, and the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz. However, both also appear to be seeking an off-ramp from this ruinous war, particularly the Americans, who have failed to subdue Iran — or else they would not have sent their top guns to Pakistan to talk peace. Therefore, while mistrust is high, a small window of diplomacy remains open. The opportunity must not be passed up, otherwise, hostilities might resume.

Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar has said that it is “imperative” for both parties to uphold the ceasefire, while Oman, which facilitated the last round of talks that were still ongoing when the US attacked Iran, has similarly endorsed the continuation of the diplomatic process. Regional states realise that if hostilities resume, everyone will suffer, with economic pain compounded due to the constriction of energy and trade flows through the Strait of Hormuz.

Therefore, both the US and Iran should continue the peace process. One way for Washington to earn Tehran’s trust would be to immediately lift sanctions, and unfreeze Iranian assets. Stopping Israel’s barbaric assault on Lebanon would also create conditions for a wider regional peace. Both sides will have to show flexibility, while the Americans must pledge that they and their ally Israel will no longer threaten Iran with more aggression. If these conditions are met, negotiations may result in a meaningful, long-term peace. However, if there is rigidity in the respective positions, the alternative would be more war. That may suit Israel, which is the biggest threat to peace in the region. But the US must ask itself some tough questions, namely: does it want to entangle itself in another ‘forever war’ in the Middle East?

By Aisha Khan

Climate war shock

THE war between the US-Israel and Iran catapulted a regional conflict into a systemic shock within an already fragile global economy, causing a dangerous rupture in the world’s climate trajectory. What made the moment uniquely perilous was not only the scale of military confrontation, but the fact that it was occurring at a time when scientists have repeatedly warned that the window to keep global warming within 1.5 degrees Celsius is rapidly closing effectively by 2030.

Energy lies at the heart of the economic fallout. The disruption of the Strait of Hormuz, through which about 20 per cent to 25pc of global petroleum liquid consumption passes, has triggered one of the sharpest energy shocks in modern history. About 80pc of the oil passing through the strait is destined for Asian markets. Oil prices surged by over 50pc since the war began, while gas prices in Europe and Asia have spiked dramatically. This has translated directly into inflationary pressures across economies. Energy is a foundational input; when fuel costs rise, so do transportation, manufacturing and food prices. Indeed, oil and gas prices can account for up to 50pc of food price variability globally, illustrating how deeply energy shocks penetrate everyday life.

The consequences are profoundly unequal. While the US, as a major energy producer, has been relatively insulated, much of the Global South is experiencing acute distress. Countries like Pakistan, dependent on imported fuel are facing crises, rationing and industrial slowdowns. For economies already grappling with debt and climate vulnerability, this surge in energy costs reduces fiscal space for adaptation — whether in building flood defences, investing in resilient agriculture, or expanding healthcare systems. Inflation is eroding household purchasing power, forcing governments to divert scarce resources towards subsidies rather than long-term climate resilience.

Yet the economic shock is only one

dimension. The war also accelerated the climate crisis in both direct and indirect ways. In just the first two weeks the war generated more than the annual emissions of dozens of low-emitting countries combined. These emissions stemmed not only from fuel-intensive military operations but also from the destruction of infrastructure and the burning of oil facilities. The reconstruction that follows will add yet another layer of carbon output.

The US-Israel war against Iran accelerated the climate crisis in both direct and indirect ways.

Wars in the era of climate change are emblematic of a deeper structural problem: militaries are among the largest institutional emitters in the world, collectively responsible for an estimated 5.5pc of global greenhouse gas emissions. Yet they remain largely exempt from binding reporting requirements under international climate frameworks. The Paris Agreement, heralded as a turning point in 2015, did not mandate full transparency for military emissions. A decade later, this omission appears increasingly untenable. Instead of bending the emissions curve downward, exogenous shocks such as war are pushing it upward, eroding hard-won gains in renewable energy and climate governance.

The indirect climate impacts may be even more damaging. As energy insecurity deepens, countries are reverting to fossil fuels to ensure short-term stability. Europe, for instance, is already reconsidering elements of its climate agenda in response to soaring gas prices and supply disruptions. Such decisions risk locking in carbon-intensive infrastructure for decades, precisely when the global carbon budget is nearing exhaustion. With only around 130 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide remaining for a 50pc chance of limiting warming to 1.5°C, every additional million tonnes emitted today accelerates the timeline towards irreversible climate thresholds.

There is a profound irony here. A war rooted partly in energy geopolitics has

simultaneously intensified dependence on the very fossil fuels that underpin both conflict and climate change. It is, in essence, a feedback loop of destruction — economic, environmental and geopolitical.

Looking ahead, the implications extend beyond the immediate crisis. This conflict has signalled the emergence of new theatres of war where control over energy routes and water systems will define strategic competition. The weaponisation of chokepoints like Hormuz today may be mirrored tomorrow in disputes over river basins, glaciers, and transboundary water flows. For South Asia, which is already one of the most climate-vulnerable regions in the world, this convergence of energy insecurity and water stress is particularly ominous. Glacial melt in the Himalayas, erratic monsoons and rising temperatures are already straining livelihoods; layering geopolitical conflict onto this fragility could prove catastrophic.

The tragedy of the present moment lies not only in the destruction it unleashes, but in its timing. At a point when humanity requires unprecedented cooperation to confront an existential climate threat, it has instead chosen escalation. The cost is being measured not just in lives and economic disruption, but in lost time — time that the planet does not have.

For a nuclear armed South Asia locked in a deadly embrace, the lessons are stark. Survival in the 21st century will not be secured through dominance over energy resources or strategic waterways, but through collective restraint and cooperation.

The carbon emissions in tonnes (US-Israel-Iran War 5.1 million, first 14 days), (Israel-Gaza War 33.2m, 18 months), (Russia-Ukraine War 311m, four years) is enough to estimate how a conflagration in the Third Pole will affect the melting rate of glaciers in the Hindukush Himalaya region. The climate cost of conflict is both palpable and calculable and the risks associated with it are existential.

By Sheikh Moazzam Khan

The Owner at the Door — and the System Inside

In the name of that person of conscience who fears God, and for whom justice is not a choice, but a duty.

This is not a new scene, yet it wounds every time: a citizen—one who has paid taxes, cast a vote, and contributed to sustaining the state—stands outside an office door. Inside sits an officer, and at the threshold stands another layer of the system—the Private Secretary (PS).

It is at this very point that the true face of the state is revealed.

The owner stands at the door... while the employee assumes the authority to decide whether he may enter.

In Pakistan, the common perception is that corruption exists only in large-scale scandals, billion-rupee embezzlements, or high-level political decisions. The reality, however, is far more disturbing. What is hollowing out this country are the small, everyday injustices embedded deep within the system.

And among the key actors in this dysfunction are those who stand at the “gate.”

The PS is no longer merely a position—it has become a “filter,” deciding who will be heard and who will not.

Citizens wait for hours outside. The responses are predictable:

“The officer is in a meeting.”

“The officer is on a call.”

“The officer hasn’t arrived yet.”

While in many cases, the reality inside is entirely different.

This is not merely a waste of time—it is the erosion of a citizen’s dignity. It is the quiet execution of trust that an individual places in the state.

More troubling is the psychological dimension of this behavior. Silence is punished; assertiveness is rewarded. Those who remain patient are humiliated.

Those who raise their voice are suddenly granted access.

An unwritten rule has emerged: “It is not your right that works—it is pressure.” This leads to a question that echoes beyond a single individual: “Either stop everyone, or let everyone through—why this discrimination?”

This is not just a personal grievance; it is an indictment of the entire administrative structure.

If we examine this through a global lens, the contrast is stark. Modern states are

built upon a foundational principle known as the “social contract.” Thinkers such as Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, and Jean-Jacques Rousseau articulated that the legitimacy of the state arises from the consent of its citizens, and its primary obligation is to safeguard their rights—not to obstruct them.

In developed nations—across Europe, North America, and Australia—a citizen approaching a public office is not treated as a “petitioner,” but as a stakeholder.

They are not blocked; they are guided. They are not questioned for their presence; they are asked, “How can we assist you?”

In the United Kingdom, Members of Parliament maintain constituency offices where citizens can directly present their concerns. In Canada, integrated service centers provide multiple public services under one roof, ensuring efficiency and accessibility. In the United Arab Emirates, the “one-window” system has streamlined public services to such an extent that many procedures are completed within minutes.

The distinction is fundamental: there, the system exists for the citizen; here, the citizen appears to exist for the system.

Globally accepted principles of governance rest on three pillars: transparency, accessibility, and accountability.

Accessibility ensures that every citizen can reach state institutions.

Accountability requires that officials answer to the public.

Transparency demands honesty and openness in processes. When a PS blocks access through false pretexts, all three principles are violated simultaneously.

Another harsh reality in Pakistan is that nearly 150 million people have, in one form or another, become “petitioners.” Some seek water. Others electricity. Some struggle to register a police complaint.

Others wait for medical treatment or justice in courts. Everywhere, there are applications, files, and closed doors.

This is a state where citizens are reduced to applicants even for their most basic rights—rights that the state is obligated to provide without demand.

At the same time, a glaring contradiction



emerges. Over the past two decades, individuals who once held modest means have accumulated extraordinary wealth.

Their assets, vehicles, and foreign holdings have grown exponentially.

On the other side stands the ordinary citizen—still waiting in lines for the most basic services.

This is not merely an economic disparity; it is a moral crisis—one that erodes the very foundation of trust between the state and its people.

Public funds, allocated for water supply, healthcare, education, and sanitation, are too often consumed by corruption and inefficiency.

The consequences are devastating: children deprived of medicine, families denied clean water, and futures quietly compromised.

The issue, therefore, is not just corruption—it is the distortion of priorities.

Is the purpose of the state to serve its people, or to construct a system where citizens remain perpetually at the door while decisions are made inside?

The role of a Private Secretary is not to close doors, but to facilitate access. They are meant to be a bridge—not a barrier.

A facilitator—not an obstacle.

But when the bridge turns into a wall, the system stagnates. Justice is delayed, trust is broken, and governance loses its meaning.

This column is not merely a complaint—it is a mirror.

It reflects the system as it has become. If there still exists, within this structure, a person of conscience—someone who holds authority yet retains a sense of humanity—then this is a call to action.

It is time to open the doors.

It is time to restore the citizen’s rightful place.

It is time for the state to return to its foundational purpose.

Otherwise, a day will come when the doors will remain—but those who once stood before them will no longer be there, because trust will have died.

DAILY MIRROR

Available resources being utilized for protection of public in Quetta: Commissioner

APP

Quetta: Commissioner Quetta Division Shahzeb Khan Kakar on Monday said that all available resources are being utilized for the protection of the public and those who disrupt law and order to be dealt with strictly.

He expressed these views while chairing meeting of the Hazara community regarding the overall law and order situation, in which a detailed review of security matters was taken.

The meeting was attended by Member Provincial Assembly (MPA) Abdul Samad Gorgage, DIG Police Quetta Imran Shaukat, Deputy Commissioner Quetta Mehrullah Badini, SSP Operation Asif Khan, SP Security Police Naeem Achakzai, Assistant Commissioner Political Quetta Division and other relevant officers, besides representatives of Balochistan Shia Conference, Hazara Democratic Party, Shia Ulema Council, Hazara Jirga, National Center, Anjuman Tajran and other organizations.

During the meeting, the security plan was reviewed to improve law and order in Quetta city.

On this occasion, it was decided that a control room will be established with the cooperation of the

Hazara community to prevent terrorist incidents, while police patrolling will also be further increased in the city.

The meeting emphasized that the police and other law enforcement agencies are taking joint steps to protect the lives and property of the public.

In addition, instructions were also given to ensure effective patrolling and installation of CCTV cameras on the relevant routes.

Commissioner Quetta Division Shahzeb Khan Kakar, while addressing the meeting, said that all available resources are being utilized for the protection of the public and those who disrupt law and order will be dealt with strictly.

He said that with the cooperation of the Hazara community, security arrangements would be made more effective and foolproof so that such incidents could be prevented in the future.

DIG Police Imran Shaukat said on this occasion that the protection of the public is the first responsibility of the police on which no compromise would be made.

He said that terrorists are targeting innocent citizens through cowardly acts, but the police and law enforcement agencies are taking strong action against them.

He said that operations are underway against terrorists in collaboration with intelligence agencies and all resources are being used to secure the city.

The meeting also issued instructions to provide the best medical facilities to those injured in the recent incidents. Finally, prayers were offered for the souls of those who died in terrorist incidents.



ISLAMABAD: Chinese Ambassador Jiang Zaidong meets Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar in the Federal Capital.

China urges restraint over US blockade of Strait of Hormuz, backs talks

MONITORING DESK

BEIJING: China urged calm and restraint by all sides on Monday, following US President Donald Trump's threat to blockade the Strait of Hormuz after the failure of weekend talks in Islamabad aimed at ending the Iran war.

Before the war, most Iranian oil exports were shipped to China, the top global importer of crude.

Keeping the key Strait of Hormuz waterway safe, stable and unimpeded served the interest of the international community, foreign ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun told a regular press conference, when asked about the blockade threat.

"China hopes the relevant parties will abide by the temporary ceasefire arrangements, remain committed to resolving disputes through political and diplomatic means, and avoid a resumption of hostilities," he said.

China stood ready to "play a positive and constructive role" in resolving the crisis, Guo added, calling the opening talks in the Pakistani capital a step in a direction conducive to easing tension.

After the marathon talks failed, the US Central Command said its forces would begin a blockade of all maritime traffic with Iranian ports from 10 a.m. ET (1400 GMT) on Monday.

China and Pakistan had backed peace talks in March while urging an immediate ceasefire in the Iran war and restoration of normal navigation in the Strait of Hormuz, a conduit for about a fifth of global oil and gas supplies.

Guo rejected reports that China had plans to supply weapons to Iran as "groundless smears and malicious associations".

Last week, Trump threatened immediate tariffs of 50%, with no exemptions, on imports from countries supplying Iran with military weapons.

"China has consistently taken a prudent and responsible approach to arms exports," Guo said, adding that its strict controls were in line with domestic laws and international obligations.

Mohsin Naqvi outlines vision to Modernize FIA by Late 2026

By Zahid Ahmed Khan

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi has announced a sweeping modernization plan for the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA), setting a firm deadline of December 31, 2026, to transform the bureau into a premier, high-tech law enforcement body.

Speaking as the guest of honor at a special conference for FIA officers in the capital, Naqvi engaged in extensive discussions with newly appointed Assistant Directors and Inspectors.

The Minister emphasized that under the "dynamic leadership" of the new Director General, Dr. Usman Anwar, the agency is poised to shed legacy inefficiencies and adopt a more proactive operational stance.

Naqvi identified the FIA as a cornerstone of the national "Hardening the State" policy, describing it as the sole federal entity capable of asserting government writ nationwide.

To meet modern security challenges, he pledged a significant increase in personnel, noting that the agency's current strength largely unchanged since 2008 is

insufficient for contemporary demands.

To support this expansion, the Interior Minister committed to immediate residential plot allocations for the families of FIA martyrs and a comprehensive welfare package covering education and healthcare. He also promised a restructured service framework to ensure timely promotions, which he described as "the right of every employee."

While promising full resources and facility upgrades, the Minister issued a stern warning regarding institutional integrity.

He declared a "zero-tolerance policy" against internal graft, stating that once resources are provided, no leniency will be shown to those involved in corruption. He assured honest personnel of complete protection and job security, stating, "If you stand for truth and justice, the government will stand with you."

The conference was attended by high-ranking officials, including Minister of State for Interior Talal Chaudhry, Federal Secretary Interior Khurram Agha, and DG FIA Dr. Usman Anwar, who also addressed the participants on the agency's upcoming strategic shifts.

Gerry's Visa Services designated sole consular facilitation partner in UK

APP

ISLAMABAD: Gerry's Visa Services Limited has been designated as the sole authorized partner for establishing a network of Facilitation Centres to provide Consular Services across the United Kingdom.

In this respect, the Pakistan High Commission signed a landmark agreement in London today.

The initiative aims to enhance the accessibility and efficiency of consular services for the Pakistani community throughout the country.

It marks a major step forward in the High Commission's commitment to serving the two million strong Pakistani diaspora in the UK. Under the agreement, Gerry's Visa Services Limited will operate the only authorized service centres nationwide, enabling overseas Pakistanis to access a wide range of consular services, including the processing of visas, passports, NADRA related documents, and attestation services.

Speaking on the occasion, Pakistan High Commissioner Dr Muhammad Faisal said this partnership is about putting overseas Pakistanis first.

He added that by decentralizing these essential services through authorized partners like Gerry's, we are eliminating the burden of long distance travel and making consular access faster, safer, and more convenient.

At the same time, a key objective of the agreement is to combat the growing menace of unauthorized and fraudulent visa and NADRA facilitation centres operating across the UK, which have been charging exorbitant fees and perpetrating scams that harm vulnerable applicants. The new framework will also help prevent data pilferage by ensuring that personal information is no longer provided to unapproved entities. Chairman Gerry's Visa Services Limited Afzal Wali Muhammad expressed that the company is honoured to be entrusted as the single authorized partner for this transformative project.

Step afoot to improve quality of education in Harani: DC

APP

Quetta: Deputy Commissioner Harmai Arshad Hussain Jamali on Monday said that measures were being taken to improve quality of education for interest of students in the area.

He said this while visiting Government Boys Model High School Harmai and Girls High School where he also checked the attendance register of the school staff.

He listened to the answers of questions from the students in different classrooms regarding their subjects during his visit.

The schools staff also informed the DC regarding their issues and the schools problems which being faced by them.

The DC also assured them that he would take all possible steps to address issues of schools for standard of education.

He also urged the teachers to ensure their attendance in the schools which is essential for betterment of the education and the student future.

He said that no compromise would be made on attendance of the staff saying that if any staffs remain absent from his duty time, legal action would be taken against him.

He said that he would monitor the educational institutions for promotion of the education because quality knowledge is key sources for progress of the area.

Iran-US talks likely to resume soon: Khawaja Asif

NEWS DSEK

ISLAMABAD: Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has said that a new round of negotiations between Iran and the United States is expected to begin soon.

He stated that chances of renewed dialogue still exist and expressed satisfaction over the outcome of earlier discussions, adding that only positive developments have emerged so far.

The minister emphasised that no negative signals have surfaced regarding the negotiations, indicating a hopeful outlook for future engagement between the two sides.

Responding to a question about regional decision-making, Khawaja Asif remarked that ultimate decisions rest with Allah.

In response to a question about India, he made critical remarks, saying the country was reacting with frustration.

Standing Committee on S&GAD & Law & Parliamentary Affairs decided to formulate its recommendation on 3 bills

APP

Quetta: Standing Committee on S&GAD and Law and Parliamentary Affairs on Monday decided to formulate its recommendations on the three bills and present them to the Balochistan Provincial Assembly for approval. The Meeting was presided over by Standing Committee on S&GAD and Law and Parliamentary Affairs Chairman Zafar Ali Agha in the Committee Room of the Balochistan Provincial Assembly.

The meeting was attended by Member of Assembly Shahida Rauf, Hadiya Nawaz, Secretary Assembly Tahir Shah Kakar, Special Secretary Assembly Abdul Rehman, Additional Secretary S&GAD Noor Hussain Baloch, Deputy Secretary of Law and Parliamentary Affairs Department Ehsan Barkat and Mansoor-ul-Haq Three important bills came under consideration in the meeting, which were decided to be presented in the House with final recommendations after detailed discussion.

The first bill: Balochistan Judicial Academy (Amendment) Bill 2025 The committee was informed that Balochistan The Judicial Academy Act 2010 is already in force, however, in the meeting of the Board of Governors of the Academy on November 14, 2018, the need for amendments was emphasized in it to improve the training system and scope as per the current requirements.

The sub-committee formed in this regard, after several meetings, prepared

a draft of the "Balochistan Judicial Academy (Amendment) Act 2024", which was approved by the provincial cabinet on August 9, 2024 after vetting from the Law and Parliamentary Affairs Department.

The committee, after reviewing the bill, sent its recommendations to the House for approval. The second bill: Balochistan Public Service Commission (Amendment) Bill 2026 It was submitted before the committee that there is no provision for reappointment to the post of Chairman in the Balochistan Public Service Commission Act 1989.

To fill this legal gap, the Governor of Balochistan promulgated an ordinance on February 3, 2026 under Article 128(1) of the Constitution of Pakistan issued. The said ordinance has been presented in the Provincial Assembly in the form of "Balochistan Public Service Commission (Amendment) Bill 2026" in accordance with the constitutional requirements.

The committee, after a detailed review of the bill, decided to formulate its recommendations and present them to the House. Third Bill: Civil Procedure Code (Balochistan Amendment) Bill 2026, the committee was informed that the judicial system is under pressure due to unnecessary and delayed cases. The proposed bill proposes measures to limit unnecessary adjournments, impose costs in malicious cases and provide relief to real parties under amendments to the Civil Procedure Code 1908.



Quetta: Governor Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandokhel He expressed these views while talking to Vice Chancellor University of Balochistan Professor Dr. Zahoor Ahmed Bazai and Chief Executive Officer of Tarqeeqi Foundation and Senate Member of Jamia Balochistan Amjad Rashid at Governor House Quetta.

Pakistan to continue sincere efforts for peace in region: Rizwan

APP

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Ambassador to the US Rizwan Saeed Sheikh has said Pakistan was chosen to act a facilitator in US-Iran negotiations against the backdrop of its decades of positive diplomatic efforts.

Speaking at Pakistan Conference organized at Harvard University, he said Pakistan is grateful for strong expression of trust from both countries and it will continue its sincere efforts.

The Ambassador said Pakistan is an extremely important country due to its geographical location, political history

and decisive role in global affairs.

He said Pakistan's future is bright and in safe hands.

Referring to Pakistan's sacrifices in the war on terrorism, he said we are determined,

with high morale and steadfastness, to defeat this menace.

As regards relations with the US, Rizwan Saeed Sheikh said focus on promoting economic cooperation in bilateral relations is mutually beneficial.

The Ambassador said Pakistan is committed to provide investors with every possible facilitation.

Delivery of Textbooks during Academic Year 2026 in Balochistan Being Completed Rapidly: BTB's Chairman

APP

QUETTA: Balochistan Textbook board (BTB)'s Chairman Dr. Gulab Khan Khilji on Monday said that the process of timely printing and delivery of textbooks during the academic year 2026 in the province is being completed rapidly.

He said that on the demand of the Director Schools, textbooks were printed on a large scale this year, which resulted in the printing of more than 11.5 million books.

He said that all these books have been printed and sent to the relevant districts on time, and so far about 96 percent of the books have been delivered to different districts.

Dr. Gulab Khan Khilji said that complaints of partial shortage of textbooks have been raised in some areas, the main reasons for which include an extraordinary increase in the number of students in government schools.

He further said that more than 96 per-

cent of the textbooks printed by the Balochistan Textbook Board have been delivered to the designated warehouses of the Directorate of Education Schools and have also been provided to the District Education Officers of all districts.

Due to the positive educational policies and admission campaign 2026 launched by the government, a large number of children have entered government schools this year, due to which the number of students has increased significantly compared to the previous year, he said.

The Chairman also explained that the demand for books has also increased significantly in the recent year 2026 due to the rise in the trend of English medium education and the admission of students from some private schools to government educational institutions.

He assured that the delivery of the remaining books would also be completed soon so that the teaching process in any school is not affected.



Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi attended a special conference as a chief guest of FIA officers in Islamabad.