

# DAILY MIRROR

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## Trump claims Iran in 'state of collapse' as Hormuz tensions rise amid peace talks

### MONITORING DESK

WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump has intensified diplomatic pressure on Iran, claiming in a Truth Social post that Tehran has informed Washington it is in a "State of Collapse" and is seeking immediate reopening of the Strait of Hormuz amid internal leadership uncertainty.

Trump wrote: "They want us to 'Open the Hormuz Strait,' as soon as possible, as they try to figure out their leadership situation (Which I believe they will be able to do!)"

Meanwhile, reports suggest President Trump is unhappy with the latest Iranian proposal on resolving the two-month war, dampening hopes for resolution of a conflict that has disrupted energy supplies, fuelled inflation, and killed thousands. Iran's latest proposal would set aside discussion of Iran's nuclear programme until the war, on hold following a ceasefire announced earlier this month, is ended

and disputes over shipping from the Gulf are resolved.

Trump is unhappy with Iran's proposal as he wants nuclear issues dealt with from the outset, said a US official briefed on the president's Monday meeting with his advisers, speaking on condition of anonymity.

White House spokeswoman Olivia Wales said the US has "been clear about our red lines" as it seeks to end the war it began in February alongside Israel.

A previous agreement in 2015 between Iran and multiple other countries including the US sharply curtailed Iran's nuclear programme, which it has long maintained for peaceful, civilian purposes. But that deal fell apart when Trump unilaterally withdrew from it in his first term in office.

Hopes of reviving peace efforts have receded since the US president scrapped a visit planned for last weekend by his special envoy Steve Witkoff and son-in-law Jared Kushner to mediator Pakistan.



ISLAMABAD: A business delegation of European Union called on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

## PM Shehbaz assures efforts to facilitate growth of trade, investment ties with EU

### APP

ISLAMABAD: A delegation of senior officials of the European Union and business representatives from prominent European companies called on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif here on Tuesday, who assured them of his government's continuous serious efforts to facilitate the growth of trade and investment relations with EU.

The prime minister assured the EU delegation of the Government of Pakistan's firm resolve to continue working towards the stabilization of the economy, despite regional challenges, including the recent spike in oil prices due to the situation in the Middle East. The delegation was led by Peteris Ustubs, Director (Asia Pacific) of the European Commission's Directorate General of International Partnerships, and comprised Thourya Triki of the EU Investment Bank and senior executives of top European companies including Manuel Pauser Vice President, Adidas, Vice President of Andritz, Karl Shloegelbauer and Regional Director of IKEA, Dieter Metkke.

The delegation is visiting Pakistan to attend the EU-Pakistan Business Forum. The Ambassador of the European Union to Pakistan Raimundas Karobliis was also present in the meeting.

The prime minister welcomed the EU delegation to Pakistan and thanked them for their participation in the EU-Pakistan Business Forum. He said the EU was Pakistan's largest trading partner and the destination for the highest volume of exports from Pakistan. While appreciating the convening of the EU-Pakistan Business Forum, he expressed the hope that the event would encourage further enhancement of trade and investment ties between Pakistan and the EU.

The prime minister particularly recalled his two recent telephone conversations with EU Council President Antonio Costa, where they discussed in detail, the regional security situation as well as ways to further strengthen Pakistan-EU relations.

Appreciating the prime minister's leading role in peace efforts in the region, the EU delegation expressed deep appreciation to the government for extending full cooperation in hosting the EU-Pakistan Business Forum. The delegation members spoke about their respective experience of investments in Pakistan and stated that there was enormous potential for further growth of these B2B ties between the EU and Pakistan in various sectors, including energy, communications, IT, etc. More than 600 B2B meetings are expected on the sidelines of the EU-Pakistan Business Forum.

## PM Shehbaz, New Zealand PM Luxon discuss Middle East situation, stress peace efforts

### APP

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday received a telephone call from the Prime Minister of New Zealand, Rt Hon Christopher Luxon during which the two leaders exchanged views on the evolving situation in the Middle East. During the "warm and cordial conversation", the prime minister briefed PM Luxon on Pakistan's ongoing diplomatic outreach and efforts, to promote peace and de-escalation in the region, a press release issued by the PM House said.

Prime Minister Luxon expressed deep appreciation for Pakistan's constructive diplomatic initiatives, including its outreach to both Washington and Tehran, and conveyed his best wishes for the success of the mediation efforts.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif thanked Prime Minister Luxon for his support and reaffirmed Pakistan's unwavering commitment to advancing peace, dialogue, and stability in the region and beyond.

The two leaders also agreed to work together to strengthen Pakistan-New Zealand bilateral relations, while expressing their satisfaction at the cordial and friendly ties between the two countries. In this regard, the two prime ministers lauded the role of the Pakistani diaspora in New Zealand.

## Pakistan successfully test-fires indigenously developed Fateh-II missile system: ISPR

### APP

RAWALPINDI: The Army Rocket Force Command on Tuesday conducted a successful training launch of the "indigenously developed" Fateh-II missile system, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said in a statement.

It said that the system was equipped with advanced avionics and state-of-the-art navigational aids.

According to the ISPR, "The training launch was aimed at the training of troops, validating various technical parameters and performance evaluation of different sub-systems incorporated for improved accuracy and enhanced survivability."

"The launch was witnessed

by senior officers from the Strategic

Plans Division, the Army Rocket Force Command and the Pakistan Army, along with scientists and Engineers of Strategic Organizations. The forum commended the successful training fire of the indigenously developed Missile of Fateh Series," said the statement.

President Asif Ali Zardari, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Chief of Defence

Forces and Chief of Army Staff, Field Marshal Asim Munir, and services chiefs "appreciated the technical prowess, dedication and commitment of all those who contributed towards the successful training fire of the missiles," the ISPR concluded.



Launch of the Fateh-II Missile System.

## FinMin says economy set to grow around 4% this fiscal year

### NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb on Tuesday said Pakistan's economic growth will be about four per cent this fiscal year while speaking at the EU-Pakistan High Level Business Forum in Islamabad, according to Radio Pakistan.

He noted that this represents a significant improvement over the previous fiscal year, adding that the country has been consolidating gains in terms of macroeconomic indicators.

Aurangzeb mentioned that our current account surplus was a little over one billion dollars in March this year, expressing satisfaction over IT exports, the positive trajectory of value-added segments, as

well as an increase in remittances.

He added that the country's foreign exchange reserves are expected to reach around \$18 billion by the end of June, providing an import cover of three months.

Also addressing the forum, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Industries and Production Haroon Akhtar Khan underscored that the European Union remains Pakistan's largest export destination, with the GSP Plus framework playing a pivotal role in expanding market access and improving standards.

Under the GSP+ scheme, eligible countries are required to implement 27 international conventions covering human rights, labour rights, environmental protection, and good governance.



SHAOSHAN( Hunan) Province: President Asif Ali Zardari h in a meeting with Li Jiyang Chairman of the Xiangtan Peoples Congress and Zhang Zihui Director of the Shaoshan Administration Bureau of Human during his visited o Mao Zedong memorial Museum.

## Judicial Commission approves transfer of three Islamabad High Court judges

### APP

ISLAMABAD: The Judicial Commission of Pakistan (JCP) on Tuesday approved with majority, the transfer of three judges of the Islamabad High Court to other high courts under Article 200 of the Constitution.

The meeting of the Commission was held at the Supreme Court of Pakistan and chaired by the Chief Justice of Pakistan in his capacity as chairman of the commission. The sessions were convened by the Secretary of the JCP under Article 175A(22) after the chairman declined, citing reasons, to convene a meeting on a requisition by one-third of the commission's members.

In accordance with constitutional provisions, the respective chief justices of the concerned high courts participated in the proceedings as members of the commission while considering each proposed transfer.

According to the decisions taken,

Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kiani will be transferred from the Islamabad High Court to the Lahore High Court, Justice Babar Sattar to the Peshawar High Court, and Justice Saman Rafat Imtiaz to the Sindh High Court. All three transfers were approved by majority vote.

The commission noted that proposals for the transfer of Justice Arbab M. Tahir to the Balochistan High Court and Justice Khadim Hussain Soomro to the Sindh High Court were withdrawn by the members who had earlier requisitioned the meetings.

The JCP also decided, by majority of its total membership, that any vacancy arising as a result of the transfer of a judge from one high court to another would be filled through transfer only, and would not be treated as a vacancy for fresh appointment.

The meeting reflects ongoing efforts to manage judicial resources and address institutional requirements across the country's high courts.

# Govt, private sectors trying to provide education to children in Balochistan: Governor

### APP

Quetta: Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandokhel on Tuesday said that along with government efforts, various private institutions are also trying to provide education to children in Balochistan.

United National International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) is paying special attention to the promotion of primary education as well as teaching modern skills.

He expressed these views while addressing the participants of a ceremony organized by UNICEF.

Provincial Education Minister Raheela Hameed Durrani, Mir Asim Kurd Gelu, Parliamentary Secretary Haji Barkat Rind, UNICEF Chief Field Officer Dr. Humayun Amiri, Member of Provincial Assembly Kulsoom Niaz Baloch, Professor Malik Fayyaz of the University of Cambridge and School, Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz leader Advocate Farid Khan Afghan, Chaudhry Shabbir Ahmed, UNICEF team members Sehrish Nagi, Shazia Nazir and Hamid Baki were also present at the ceremony.

The Governor said that a large majority of children here are

out of school due to extreme poverty and regional backwardness, UNICEF's efforts have helped a large number of these poor children to enroll this year, which is a commendable process.

He said that the support provided to the students of Balochistan by the University of Cambridge and School Kalar Kahar and the Medina Welfare Foundation is commendable.

Governor Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandokhel said that children are sincere in heart, that is why they are very close to my heart, we value every effort to equip students in the province with the jewel of education.

He said that UNICEF is an international organization that is a ray of hope in ensuring the successful life of children in the world, saying that it has always been our strong desire and effort that no child in the province should be deprived of the jewel of education, because education is not just a way to gain knowledge but also a bridge to access available opportunities and facilities.

My message to the new generation is that you dream big and know that our government, UNICEF and Governor House are standing with you at every step because you are the bright

future of Balochistan, he said.

Earlier, the Governor of Balochistan was presented with souvenirs by UNICEF and the University of Cambridge and School of Kalar Kahar.

The governor said the condition of primary education in Balochistan was alarming, pointing out that 2.96 million children are still out of school, depriving a large segment of the population of their basic right to education. He added that many village schools lacked basic infrastructure, electricity, clean drinking water, and proper sanitation facilities.

He stressed that such poor conditions hinder the learning environment and discourage parents from sending their children to school.

"Every conscious person in the world should recognise that every child deserves the opportunity to learn, study, and progress. It is our national responsibility to ensure that no child in Balochistan is left behind in the race of life or deprived of basic facilities.

Together, we can light new lamps of knowledge and awareness and equip our children with quality education and modern skills," the governor concluded.

## Resources being utilized to improve law & order situation in Balochistan: Home Minister

### APP

Quetta: Balochistan Home Minister Mir Ziaullah Langov on Tuesday said that all resources are being utilized to improve law and order situation in the province. He said this while chairing meeting to improve law and order situation in respective areas of the province. Balochistan Education Minister Raheela Durrani also attended the meeting.

Head money policy reviewed in the meeting to arrest most wanted terrorists and criminals. Briefing of Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) Aitzaz Goriya and Home Department officials in the meeting.

The Home Minister said that all resources are being used to restore peace and order, all nefarious design of terrorists would be foiled for interest of development of the province.

The Home Minister also directed the concerned officials that government decision should be followed with clarity, saying that elimination of terrorist activities is essential for progress of the province.

## DPM reviews implementation status of austerity measures, expresses satisfaction on compliance

### APP

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister (DPM/FM) Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Tuesday reviewed the implementation status of austerity measures and expressed satisfaction on its compliance.

The deputy prime minister chaired a meeting of the Cabinet Committee for Monitoring and Implementation of Fuel Conservation and Additional Austerity Measures, a DPM's Office news release said.

The DPM/FM stressed that given the current challenges, it was essential that all sectors practice conservation and austerity until circumstances improve. Minister IT also displayed the dashboard prepared for tracking implementation of the austerity measures.

The DPM/FM further emphasized that only those cases for exemption from these austerity measures be brought to the committee which are essential in carrying out critical and time-bound work of the Government.

The meeting was attended by the Federal Ministers of IT, Climate Change, SAPM Tariq Bajwa, Secretaries of Cabinet Division, National Security Division, Petroleum Division, Planning Division, Chief Secretaries of all provinces and other senior officials from concerned ministries.

## UN chief, Iran envoy commend FM Dar's diplomatic efforts for facilitating peace talks

### NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: Secretary-General of the United Nations, António Guterres, and the Ambassador of Iran to Pakistan, Reza Amiri Moghadam, on Tuesday expressed deep appreciation for Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar for his facilitation of talks with the United States.

According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), FM Dar received a call today from Guterres, during which they discussed the latest regional developments as well as Pakistan's ongoing diplomatic efforts and engagement with the parties. Appreciating Pakistan's ongoing efforts, "the UNSG conveyed the international community's deep appreciation and support for Pakistan's constructive role in regional and international peace and stability," it said.

The ministry further stated that Guterres also expressed the UN's full support for Pakistan's ongoing efforts.

Earlier, in a post on X, Iranian Envoy Moghadam extended his appreciation to the "veteran, competent and career diplomats of the MOFA of Pakistan."

"As trusted harbingers of international harmony, diplomats are the architects of peace, entrusted with navigating the delicate complexities of international relations through the patient craft of dialogue, empathy, and understanding," the ambassador stated. Moghadam added his appreciation to FM Dar and the diplomats of the Foreign Ministry "for their tireless efforts in facilitating, coordinating, and meticulously preparing the arrangements for the delegations and talks, often long before the talks.

CPEC projects create over 7,300 jobs in Balochistan; 10,425 more expected

APP

ISLAMABAD: The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) projects in Balochistan have so far created or engaged 7,313 workers under completed and under-implementation schemes.

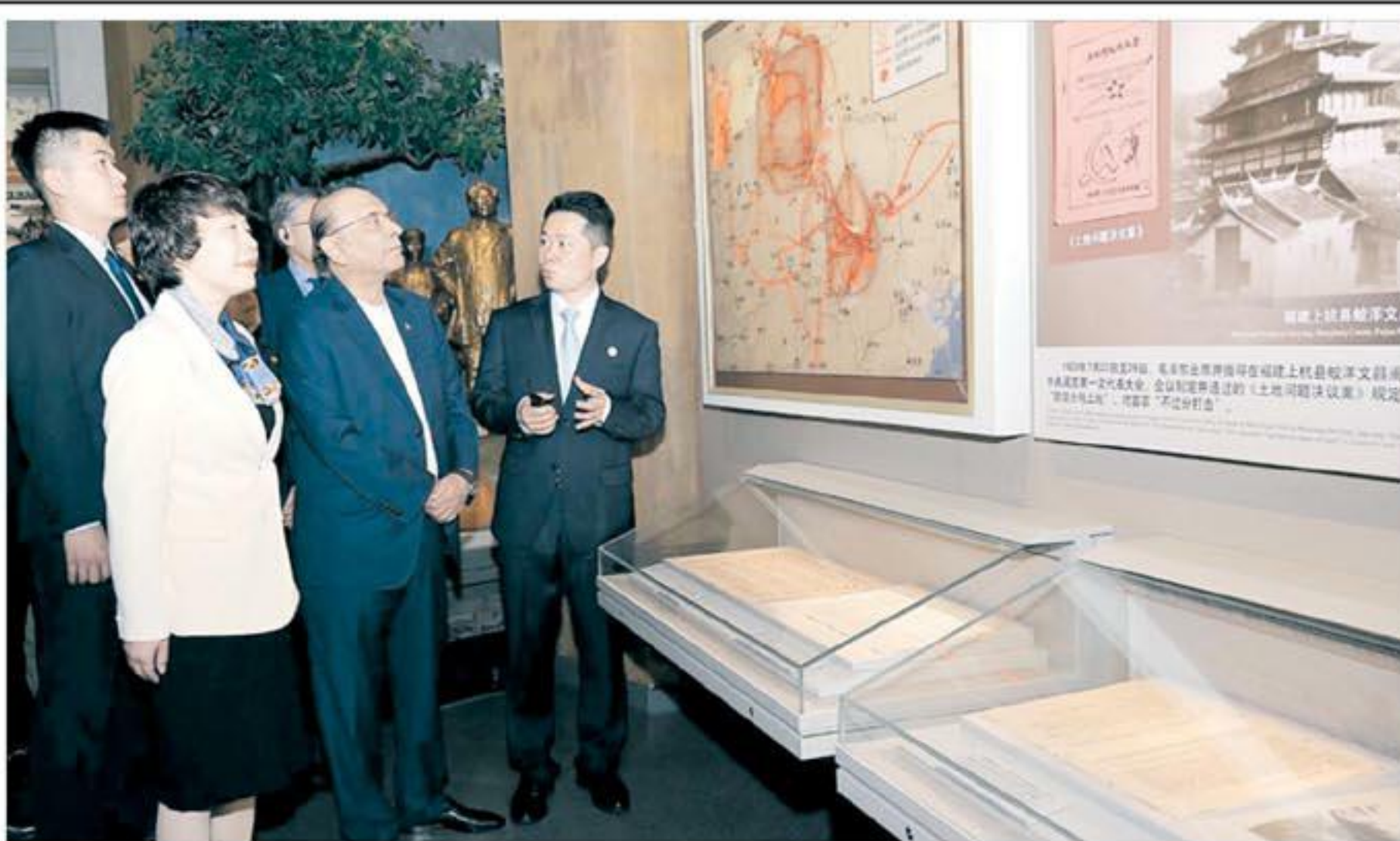
According to official documents available with Wealth Pakistan, the employment figures cover road infrastructure, energy, water, industrial, health, education and port-related projects.

The Nokandi-Mashkail-Panjgur project created 82 temporary jobs during its execution. The HUBCO Coal Power Project

created 627 jobs, of which 170 were provided to Balochistan domicile holders.

The New Gwadar International Airport generated 107 jobs, including 63 employees with Balochistan domicile, exceeding the federal government-prescribed 6% quota.

At the 1.2 MGD Desalination Plant, Gwadar, about 330 workers were engaged during construction, including 165 locals. In the Bostan Special Economic Zone, existing industrial units have generated 426 jobs, all for residents.



SHAOSHAN( Hunan) Province: President Asif Ali Zardari being briefed during his visited o Mao Zedong memorial Museum.

LHC suspends PTI leader's sentence in May 9 case, rejects Ejaz Chaudhry and Mahmoodur Raheed's pleas

NEWS DESK

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court delivered a split verdict on appeals seeking suspension of sentences in the May 9 riot cases on Tuesday, suspending the sentence of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf leader Afzal Azeem Pahat while rejecting similar pleas of Ejaz Chaudhry and Mian Mahmoodur Rasheed.

A two-member bench headed by Justice Shahbaz Rizvi heard the appeals against convictions awarded by an Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) in Lahore, which had sentenced the accused to 10 years imprisonment in cases related to the May 9 unrest.

The court suspended Pahat's sentence in a case of rioting and arson at Sherpao Bridge and ordered his release.

The bench dismissed four applications filed by Chaudhry and one by Rasheed seeking suspension of their sentences in similar cases. During proceedings, defence counsel Barrister Mian Ali Ashfaq argued that the ATC verdicts were contrary to facts and that the convicts had already spent over two and a half years in jail, requesting suspension of sentences until final decisions in the main appeals.

Punjab government committed to worker's welfare: Maryam Nawaz

By Maqsood Khalid

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has said that the Punjab government is fully committed to the health, welfare, and safety of every worker.

In her message on the World Day for Safety and Health at Work, she emphasized the physical and mental well-being of workers employed in factories, industries, and offices.

The Chief Minister directed the Labour Department and other relevant institutions to take strict action against those violating workplace safety laws. She said all industrial and business units must ensure the availability of safety equipment and



protective measures to safeguard workers from any harm.

Maryam Nawaz stressed that strict implementation of safety standards is essential to protect workers from occupational hazards, adding that only a healthy and safe worker can contribute to building a strong nation. She urged industrial owners to prioritize worker safety and take effective measures for their welfare, stating

that the Punjab government is committed to promoting a workplace safety culture as a top priority.

She further stated that amendments are being introduced in labour laws for employee protection, while around 1.4 million workers are already receiving monthly financial assistance through ration cards. Additionally, 50,000 more factory workers will be issued ration cards during the current fiscal year. The Chief Minister said the workforce is a valuable asset of the country and no compromise can be made on their health and safety. She reiterated the government's resolve to ensure a secure working environment where employees feel physically and mentally protected.

PMYP chief announces 35% women quota in new youth jobs policy at SIA Summit

APP

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Prime Minister's Youth Programme Rana Mashood Ahmad Khan on Tuesday announced the federal cabinet's approval of Pakistan's first National Youth Employment Policy targeting at least 35% women's representation in the labour force at the SIA Summit 2.0, urging female youth to lead the country's economic revival amid global re-engagement.

Speaking as chief guest at the Social Innovation Academy's summit titled "Building a Women Led Social Enterprise

Ecosystem in Pakistan" in Islamabad, Khan praised organisers including BPF, UN Women and OGDCL for fostering women led entrepreneurship. He reflected on Pakistan's "pivotal moment of progress," stressing that empowering youth particularly women is central to the economic strategy. Citing Indonesia as an example where boosting women's participation to 50% raised GDP by 4%, Khan called for similar gains in Pakistan. PMYP chief highlighted his past work on women's empowerment under Punjab Chief Minister Shehbaz Sharif, noting the Prime Minister's Youth Business.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman of the Prime Minister's Youth Programme Rana Mashood Ahmad Khan addressing on SIA Summit 2.0 .

Law College Sub-Campus Pishin organizes "Law in Practice Career Fair"

APP

Quetta: A training session titled "Law in Practice Career Fair" was organized for the students of Law College Sub-Campus Pishin under the auspices of the Research Society of International Law and in collaboration with the Asia Foundation on Tuesday.

The special guest of the training session was Registrar Balochistan High Court Nasir Khan Yousafzai, while Consultant and Supreme

Court Lawyer Muhammad Qasim Khan Mandokhel Advocate, Corporate Sector Legal Expert Aimal Kakar Advocate and Female Lawyer Anam Khair Advocate also addressed the participants.

Principal Law College Asmatullah Kakar and Director of Balochistan University Sub-Campus Dr. Naqeebullah, Coordinator Muhammad Tariq Kakar, Fazal Bari Advocate were also present on the occasion.

Pakistan, China reinforce cooperation in health sciences and traditional medicine

INP

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan-China International Conference on Food-Medicine Homology, Nutrition, and Health held here at the Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science and Technology (SZABIST), with the participation of scientists, policymakers, regulators and industry experts from both countries, according to a Gwadar Pro's report.

Federal Minister for Health Syed Mustafa Kamal highlighted China's experience as a model for shifting toward preventive healthcare, saying Pakistan must move beyond a treatment-focused system.

"This is where a global shift is happening. Today, the world is moving toward integrating medicine with nutrition, food, and plant-based.



QUETTA: A view of rush near civil hospital creating problems for patients'.



No team better than PSG: Enrique ahead of Bayern semi

SPORTS DESK

MUNICH: Holders Paris St Germain take on Bayern Munich in a Champions League semi-final clash of two of the top attacking teams in Europe, and while Luis Enrique says the German club are the most consistent, no team is better than his side.

Three of the last four teams, PSG, Bayern and Arsenal, are top of their domestic leagues and the German side have clinched the Bundesliga, losing one game, having also lost once in Europe.

While PSG and Atletico Madrid had to come through the playoffs, Arsenal and Bayern were the top two in the league phase. In the last 16 and quarter-finals, PSG netted 12 goals and Bayern 16.

"It's not just about attacking statistics, but if you look at the defensive ones too, these are the best teams in Europe," Luis Enrique told reporters ahead of Tuesday's first leg at home.

"Arsenal have done an incredible job this season also, in terms of consistency. Bayern are a bit ahead of us because they have only lost two games, but if we speak about what we have shown as a team, we're right up there. "And no team is better than us. I said this after we didn't finish in the top eight in the league phase that I didn't see any teams better than us."

Last season, PSG also finished outside the top eight in the league stage before going on to lift the trophy, and in Ligue 1, having battled with Lens for long periods, they are six points clear.

"Every coach wants to head into the run-in in the best possible conditions," the PSG manager said.

"It's the magic of the Champions League which gives special energy to the players, everyone wants to be there and to make the most of this time."

Luis Enrique is well aware of the attacking threat posed by Bayern, including wingers Luis Diaz and Michael Olise, but that will not change the way his side approach the tie. "We won the Champions League last season with [full-backs] Achraf Hakimi and Nuno Mendes doing what they do," he said.

"Of course they have to defend as well, but we know that they have to attack more than they defend if we want to win. "We know how difficult it will be and we have to know how to defend well."

The French club had long set their sights on winning the Champions League, and having finally realised that dream last season, there is no chance of a less ambitious PSG this time.

"The first run was a relief, now it's a different source of motivation because last year was great," Luis Enrique said. "We made history. And now, we're hungry for more."

KANE PROPELLING BAYERN TO GLORY

For Bayern, the team-first approach of Harry Kane, having decisively ended his own silverware drought with back-to-back Bundesliga titles, has been the key.

Whoever makes it through Bayern's Champions League semi-final against Paris Saint-Germain will be the favourites for the final in Budapest in May.

Last season's Bundesliga title was Kane's maiden team trophy, at the age of 31. Having added another league crown this season, Bayern's habit of hoovering up trophies is already rubbing off on the England captain.



TURIN: Torino's Giovanni Simeone (L) scores past Inter Milan goalkeeper Yann Sommer during their Serie A match at the Olympic Grande Torino Stadium.

Inter's title charge hits bump in road, Milan-Juve clash ends in stalemate

SPORTS DESK

MILAN: Inter Milan's charge to the Serie A title was held up after they threw away a two-goal lead to only draw 2-2 at Torino, while a goalless draw between AC Milan and Juventus left the Champions League race open.

Leading just after the hour mark through two headed goals from Marcus Thuram and Yann Bisseck, Inter looked set to stroll to victory in Turin.

But Giovanni Simeone got Torino back into the match out of nowhere in the 70th minute when he dinked a finish over Yann Sommer, and Nikola Vlasic earned the hosts a point from the penalty spot nine minutes later.

"You think everything is easy and that you have everything under control when you're two goals ahead. Then you concede to make it 2-1 because of a mistake while playing out from the back and you get nervous," Inter coach Cristian Chivu said.

"To be honest it could have been worse."

Sunday's draw should only be a bump in the road for Inter who will secure a 21st league crown if they beat Parma at the San Siro next weekend.

With four games left in the season, Inter are 10 points ahead of their nearest challengers Napoli, who won the Scudetto last year.

Chivu's side will be heavy favourites to seal the deal next weekend in front of their home support as Parma are a team with nothing left to play for this season.

Inter are also on for a domestic double after coming back from two goals down to win a thrilling Italian Cup semi-final with Como on Tuesday.

Luciano Spalletti said that the battle for a top-four spot "will go down to the wire" following a drab match at the San Siro which left Milan and his Juventus team looking over their shoulders.

Juve sit fourth and are three points ahead of both Como, 2-0 winners at Genoa earlier on Sunday, and sixth-placed Roma.

Milan are three points ahead of Juve in third and should have a big enough gap separating them from Como and Roma to return to the Champions League after going without European football this season.

"Roma and Como both won so we still have a few matches we need to win before we can say we deserve our place in that tournament," said Spalletti.

One of the biggest matches of any Serie A season was played out in front of a punchy atmosphere in which Milan's hardcore fans protested a sharp rise in the cost of tickets.

Before kick-off a section of supporters used the torches on their phones to spell out "EUR139" — the cost of a ticket in the traditional cheap seats behind the goal — with a banner underneath which read "for a fairer, working-class football".

Milan's hardcore ultras blasted what they consider "a form of legalised touting" in which fans are encouraged to sell on their season tickets via a club platform in exchange for 60 percent of the resale value in the form of a voucher for future ticket purchases.

There was more action in the stands than on the pitch as Milan and Juve slugged it out in a match which featured precious little artistry.

Khephren Thuram thought he had put Juve ahead in the 36th minute when he slid home Francisco Conceicao's low cross, but his goal was ruled out for offside.

Four minutes later Conceicao shot straight at Milan goalkeeper Mike Maignan after jinking his way into the area, while Alexis Saelemaekers had the hosts' best chance shortly after half-time when he clattered the crossbar from close range.

Three-time champions United, hungry Zalmi set to fight for PSL final spot

By Maqsood Khalid

KARACHI: If Islamabad United are HBL Pakistan Super League (PSL) royalty, Peshawar Zalmi are the dream team of the ongoing season. The sides, respective champions of the first two editions of the competition, lock horns at the National Bank Stadium in the Qualifier here.

The winner shall make it to the final. The loser, though, will have a second bite at the cherry in the Eliminator.

In the decade-long history of the tournament, United repeated their title-winning feat twice since their run for the maiden title. Zalmi, meanwhile, have not even featured in a final for the last five years.

This season, however, the "Yellow Storm" has taken over with brute force, winning eight of their 10 matches in the league stage to finish top of the table ahead of the playoffs -- their last fixture, against Lahore Qalandars, their only loss.

One match ended without a result for the Babar Azam-led side, with rain washing out their clash against United only in the early stages of the season.

Scheduled to play only once against each other in the league stage this time, the two teams finally have the chance to fight for not only a place in the decider, but the tag of the strongest team of this season as well.

While Zalmi have dominated nearly throughout, United have had hiccups, but have shown their ability to fight back after each setback.

Captained by Shadab Khan, their four-wicket win over Multan Sultans on Sunday to book the Qualifier spot along with their eight-wicket drubbing of Hyderabad Kingsmen earlier were statement victories.

But if it is about making a statement, no opportunity to do so can get bigger than the Qualifier against Zalmi, who have managed to build a near-flawless team combination.

Babar is in the midst of it all, sandwiched between the explosive Mohammad Haris and the impeccable Kusal Mendis, the leading run-scorer of the tournament with 500 to his name, just 15 more than Babar.

Getting rid of that heavily-loaded top-order brings forth Michael Bracewell's power.

Aaron Hardie's ruthlessness and the belligerence of Abdul Samad and Ifkhar Ahmed, who has been impressive with the ball as well.



ISLAMABAD United captain Shadab Khan plays a shot during the Pakistan Super League match against Quetta Gladiators at the Gaddafi Stadium.

Member APNS

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## Unlearnt lessons

**T**HE US is undoubtedly the world's top military and economic power at this time. Yet as the Iran quagmire has shown, despite its great wealth and cutting-edge firepower, America has failed to subdue a far less powerful adversary.

In fact, it seems that those that run the US have not heeded the lessons of history, especially in cases where America's involvement in military aggression against other states has resulted in an eventual retreat by Washington — without achieving its aims. These unfulfilled goals have included regime change, 'humanitarian' interventions, as well as punitive measures against states refusing to toe the American line.

In the process, the US has left a trail of destruction across Asia, the Middle East and Latin America. Yet it continues to repeat the same failed policies, thinking that military might alone can punish 'errant' states. The so-called 'Donroe Doctrine' practised by the current administration is part of a long list of flawed foreign policies, though some would argue that President Donald Trump has outdone many of his predecessors where reckless military adventures are concerned.

Observers point out that over the past few decades, the US has taken up the role of Europe's erstwhile imperial powers, which colonised and plundered faraway lands, while maintaining the fiction of 'responsibility to protect' native populations from their own rulers. Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria and Libya offer cautionary tales about just how wrong US military adventurism can go.

Tens of thousands of civilian deaths collectively and broken states and societies have been the primary result of this interventionism. The US has also paid dearly in blood and treasure, with trillions of dollars poured into ruinous wars, and has suffered troop casualties. Earlier, there was the Vietnam debacle and regime change actions in South and Central America. Yet the same folly is being repeated in Iran, while Cuba may be next on the menu.

Regrettably, the American establishment has little idea about the cultures, values and history of the countries it has attacked. It seems that US foreign policy decisions are made by those close to the military-industrial complex — which stands to gain handsomely from endless wars — rather than professional diplomats. The late president

Gen Dwight Eisenhower had, in fact, cautioned against the growing influence of the arms industry in government. His successors in the White House failed to heed this warning.

States all over the world have many internal problems. But that should not mean a role for the US, or any other country for that matter, as global policeman.

Democracy and reform are internal organic processes that cannot be delivered through foreign military intervention. Instead of trying to fix the world, the US needs to look inward, and improve the quality of life for millions of Americans struggling to pay their bills.

By Jawed Naqvi

## Pity the poor man's Rambo

**I**HAVE no memory of ever watching a Rambo movie though one did enjoy wrestler-actor Dara Singh taking on the ferocious dragon with bare hands to save the delicate Mumtaz from becoming its meal. Likewise, one couldn't progress beyond the first 10 minutes of what may be called the poor man's version of Hollywood's Rambo, the Indian movie Dhurandhar. What one could figure out about Sylvester Stallone's legend of Rambo was that wherever the sullen hulk travelled to upstage or bomb America's enemies, in truth America lost that war. Rambo travelled to Vietnam and Afghanistan, for example, to carry out his now clichéd and much copied daredevil missions. In both countries the US military suffered humbling defeats. Rambo, according to write-ups from the 1970s, also went to Burma with similar outcomes. Burma threw itself in a tighter embrace of America's leading rival, China. Dhurandhar, too, comes across as the product of a nationalist reverie being thwarted.

The brooding Indian Rambo exudes a similarly cultivated aloofness as he goes about single-handedly wrecking his nation's enemies in Karachi's feuding districts. My instinct is that the compliment is mutual. Pakistanis have their own genre of movies and narratives diminishing India military like Hollywood movies did with Germans. It was on Aug 14, 1997, one remembers clearly, when a documentary on a TV set in a Lahore hotel showed Pakistan's freedom struggle against the twin challenge of predominantly Hindu Congress Party and British colonialism, the former being the steeper climb. In 1945 in the documentary, the Muslim League was pleased with its cause. America had just dropped atom bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. A villainous looking Congress worker was sharing his desire with party colleagues to drop a similar bomb on Indian Muslims. The storyline thus depicted Gandhi's and Nehru's Congress as vile enough to think in terms of horrendously annihilating Indian Muslims. A similar toxic farce revealed itself upon my return to Delhi. A propaganda film on Kashmir was showing a young Kashmiri woman reassuring her suitor

that it was a great idea that he gave up the gun and his drug addiction with it. The Indian government had offered loans with which they could happily grow walnut and apple orchards. The idyllic theme suggested the Kashmir struggle was one of misled drug addicts.

The targets in Dhurandhar are said to have been identified for the hero by Indian intelligence. As such, the movie could be a cover-up for notable Indian failures in its cloak-and-dagger tête-à-tête with Pakistan. One unforgivable disaster occurred with the 1999 Christmas Eve hijacking of an Indian Airlines plane from Kathmandu. The pilots had cleverly tricked their armed tormentors into letting them land for some 45 crucial minutes at Amritsar. Amid reports of commotion running up and down the political and intelligence hierarchies, the delay resulted in the plane flying away to finally land in Taliban-ruled Kandahar. Dhurandhar opens with the Indian surrender to the hijackers and the freeing of a clutch of Kashmiri prisoners from Indian jails, one of whom would go on to brutally behead American journalist Daniel Pearl. A bunch of fanatics killed him in their Karachi hideout. The entire sequence of events has been conveniently airbrushed from the movie, but these things have happened before.

Muslim actors and film writers have contributed considerably to the rise of a genre of Indian war cinema naming Pakistan as the enemy.

Hollywood's award-winning movie Gandhi by Richard Attenborough carefully excised Bhimrao Ambedkar from the storyline even though the Gandhi story could never be complete without the Dalit icon.

Ambedkar's memory remains the most significant challenge to the Hindu caste system to which Gandhi avowedly subscribed.

The Poona pact between Gandhi and Ambedkar, which the latter always said he was emotionally blackmailed into signing, resulted in the Dalits being legally co-opted into the Hindu fold, a system of beliefs that Ambedkar had rejected with his conversion to Buddhism. The oath he administered to his followers against worshipping Hindu deities is still repeated by his fol-

lowers every year. Ambedkar had a lesson for the communists too whose ideology he otherwise rejected. When Gandhi asked him to join his 'temple entry movement' that would allow Dalits to be welcomed into Hindu temples from where they were barred, Ambedkar declined the offer, saying he was not interested in anything other than the economic and intellectual advancement of his people. That prescription the left could have used in dealing with the Sabarimala dispute about menstruating women being allowed or not allowed into Kerala's jungle shrine at Sabarimala. But pressured by the rise of Hindu right in the state, the communists waded into the realm of religious disputes which they were ill-equipped to handle.

Unsurprisingly in some ways, Muslim actors and film writers have contributed considerably to the rise of a genre of Indian war cinema naming Pakistan as the enemy. Naseeruddin Shah was asked by his brother at the release of the actor's reminiscences in Delhi, why all the terrorists in his movie A Wednesday were Muslims. He replied he was following the script. Shahrulkh Khan,

Salman Khan and Aamir Khan have all joined the duck shoot, probably to keep India's current jingoistic regime in good humour. They made films to broach a friendly India-Pakistan theme but their "balanced it", so to speak, with scurrilous Rambo-like movies with Pakistan in the crosshairs.

There was a time when one couldn't think of India's movie legends like Dilip Kumar, Dev Anand and Raj Kapoor even remotely contributing to a theme that would polarise the Hindu right by conflating Pakistan with Indian Muslims.

Dilip Kumar's Shabnam and Dev Anand's Hum Dono were, in fact, celebrated anti-war movies.

Lycrist Pradeep was partial to religious nationalist motifs, but even he put together a song in the 1950s movie Jagriti that became an anthem against nuclear weapons.

"Atom bamo'n ke zor pe aint hi hai ye duniya/ Barood ke ik dher pe bhaiti hai duniya," the school teacher sang to his cheering students in the movie. That was then.

By Dr Niaz Murtaza

## Struggling at home

**A**S Iran-US talks hit another snag, we must ask if a state with its own problems can successfully facilitate talks by itself on a conflict that persists despite years of strong mediation by many richer states. The losses from Islamabad's closure last week add to the worry, more so as the talks didn't take place given American obduracy. Given the impasse and the rise in our own problems due to the war, we must focus on the latter too — especially as our rulers show unity and speed on global problems but inertia on internal ones. So, the same-page synergy shown in talks hasn't yielded any major steps for durable, broad progress yet since its start in 2022. Investment, exports and growth remain weak but poverty has risen sharply. Industrial growth to ensure jobs for a growing, restless youth population isn't the focus, but areas that may impede it are, for example, mining, cryptocurrency and corporate farming. But pace even on these controversial areas has been glacial.

Inflation had fallen — but through IMF policies that cut growth and increase poverty. The war in the Gulf is refuelling inflation and may further lower growth. Even if talks do succeed, it is doubtful whether the outcome will bring in much investment and growth as there are deep internal problems. We may get more geostrategic rents, but even here, we should remember that the UAE recalled its loans due to the war. New Saudi loan terms may suck

us into new wars. Large American inflows, like the ones in the past, are unlikely despite the bromance between President Donald Trump and the ruling elite here, except perhaps a little in mining that may, in fact, give more pain than gain.

Security remains poor. Conflict with Afghanistan and talks hosted by China have curbed but not ended TTP violence. But the complex legalities around such conflicts, the risks and costs of civilian deaths, and the failure of past talks reduce the efficacy of both options. Violence remains high in Balochistan. For years, force has been used by the state to suppress the symptoms while the root causes haven't been addressed. This only leads to greater discontent and more violence. If war makes Iran unstable, militancy in Balochistan may increase. It may also increase as a result of mining in the province. Insecurity will be further intensified if we unwittingly get sucked into the three Middle East conflicts: Iran-Arab, Israel-Arab and intra-Arab.

Lastly, democracy is being undermined in key axes: electoral, parliamentary, oppositional, judicial, accountability, civilian sway and societal freedom. Even our current role on the international stage cannot hide the fact that thousands of poor residents are being evicted from their homes in the federal capital. There is concern over potential punitive moves — in the form of transfers — against some judges. Lawyer-activist Imaan Mazari-Hazir and her spouse were jailed, under the awful

Peca laws, for simple 'X' posts. These trends may grow as external links with patron states are cemented.

We are acting with speed on global problems, not internal ones.

So, the war and even our role in it may exacerbate matters at home. If talks fail, blowbacks and a loss of face cannot be ruled out. If they succeed, further durable gains for the masses may be few. The global praise that is uplifting a nation which is not used to it and that is making even many level-headed voices ignore long-term costs may fade. A cruel, busy world showers durable praise on states that earn it through progress and peace. Ag-grieved masses may then find themselves facing the ire of the state.

So, our international alacrity and internal inertia are not at odds but synergistic. The inertia is the result of rulers who don't have the capacity to ensure broad progress nor the desire to share their riches, as the reforms require. This lack of change results in economic inertia which, in turn, fuels political grievances that the state then attempts to quell by force.

Not attending to these grievances can lead to unrest and militancy that is met through kinetic measures alone; indeed, one of the main drivers — elite wealth — is not addressed.

The alacrity on external links helps gain geostrategic rents to 'fix' economic inertia, delay reforms and curb dissent. But as such rents are falling and dissent rising, this cycle may not last long. Will a better order or chaos replace it?

# DAILY MIRROR

## Pakistan urges diplomacy, maritime cooperation amid Strait of Hormuz blockade to resolve the crisis

APP

UNITED NATIONS: Amid growing concerns over threats to shipping and freedom of navigation in global waterways, Pakistan has called for diplomacy and maritime cooperation to resolve the Strait of Hormuz crisis, citing its efforts to foster regional peace and stability.

"Any disruptions to the routine traffic at sea gravely impact international trade with negative repercussions for global economy, and breed volatility that imperils international peace and security," Ambassador Asim Ifikhar Ahmad, permanent representative of Pakistan to the United Nations, told the UN Security Council on Monday.

Speaking in a high-level debate on maritime security organized by Bahrain, which holds the 15-member Council's presidency for April, he cited closure of the Strait of Hormuz and its cascading effects on food and energy security, and supply-chain disruption as a case in point.

Opening the debate, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called on nations restricting ship movement through the Strait of Hormuz to "let the global economy breathe."

"The economic shock has been immediate," the UN chief said, stressing disruption of shipping has caused surging transport and insurance costs "in the

worst supply chain disruption since COVID-19 and the war in Ukraine".

In his comments, Ambassador Asim Ahmad, the Pakistani envoy, said if the crisis persisted developing countries would be most affected. That was because the first order impacts issues related to the procurement of oil and gas, and essential commodities such as fertilizers and their pricing trends, will increasingly translate into second and third order impacts on inflation, growth, current account and balance of payment issues.

"Most significantly, these developments have brought home the point that resilience of global governance architecture and strategic stability are now being tested by the safety and openness of maritime waterways," he said.

"As a littoral state of the Indian Ocean Region with proximity to global maritime chokepoints and overwhelming reliance on sea-borne trade, Pakistan is fully cognizant of the paramount importance of safety and protection of global waterways."

Like many developing countries from the region and beyond, he said Pakistan is concerned, and directly impacted by the closure of Strait of Hormuz.

Pakistan, supported by China, Saudi Arabia, Turkiye and Egypt, Ambassador Asim Ahmad said has spearheaded diplomatic efforts for de-escalation and the broader pursuit of stability between the United States and Iran

— a reference to Pakistani leadership's mediatory role in promoting a peaceful settlement of the US-Israel war on Iran.

"In its ongoing efforts to facilitate an enduring resolution of this crisis, Pakistan remains firm in its faith in diplomacy and dialogue, and will continue to resolutely undertake all possible measures towards that end."

Ambassador Asim Ahmad also called for protecting and promoting universally the legal order established by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), a most important pillar of international maritime order. Earlier this year, Pakistan assumed the command of Combined Task Force 150 for conducting maritime security operations outside the Arabian Gulf to protect commercial shipping.

Last year, Pakistan also commanded CTF-151 tasked to suppress piracy and to ensure free flow of maritime trade.

"We have also launched our own Regional Maritime Security Patrols to ensure a safe and secure environment in the seas," he said.

As a maritime State with "unwavering faith in international law and diplomacy", Pakistan will continue to engage with the Security Council and with all like-minded countries for preserving hard-won gains in strengthening global governance — "both in the gentle tides of peace and amity and amid the rising storms of conflict and conflagration".



Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb, speaks during the High-Level European Union-Pakistan Business Forum (EU-PKBF) in Islamabad

**Health minister says 84,000 registered HIV cases in Pakistan; raises concerns over funding, oversight**

INP

ISLAMABAD: Health Minister Mustafa Kamal said on Tuesday that Pakistan had 84,000 registered HIV cases, out of which 61,000 patients were currently under treatment, while the remaining 23,000 "could not be traced" as they were not receiving medical care.

Addressing a press conference in Islamabad, the minister said the government was providing free treatment for HIV at public health facilities and rejected the perception that AIDS was incurable.

"HIV is not a death sentence, and it is treatable if patients continue medication throughout life," he said, adding that stigma and secrecy were contributing to the spread of the disease.

He further noted that the estimated number of HIV cases in Pakistan should have been around 369,000 based on population trends. However, he said the current registered prevalence rate of 0.1% was lower than the global average of 0.5%.

Screening and testing data Providing comparative data, the minister said that in 2020, 37,944 people were screened across 49 centres, out of which 6,910 tested positive. In 2025, the number of testing centres increased to 97, with 374,126 tests conducted and 14,182 positive cases reported.

He said the HIV case graph in the country remained stable, with no sudden surge observed. Funding concerns The minister also raised concerns over the use of international funds for HIV programmes. He said a \$65 million HIV programme had allocated \$61.1 million to UNDP and an NGO named "Nai Zindagi," which was not registered with the Ministry of Economic Affairs.

He added that out of the total funding between 2024 and 2026, only \$3.9 million was directly provided to the Ministry of Health. "NGOs are not providing details of fund utilisation, and the ministry is being denied information, which is a matter of concern," he said.

Regional data and treatment updates Kamal said there were 618 registered HIV cases in Islamabad, including 208 local patients and 408 referred from other regions, including Rawalpindi, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, Gilgit-Baltistan.

## Role of C&W essential for development & prosperity of Balochistan: Babar Khan

APP

Quetta: Secretary Communications and Works (C&W) Babar Khan on Tuesday said that the role of the Communications and Works Department is very important in the development and prosperity of the province.

He said that the improvement of infrastructure in the province and sustainable development depend on the effective performance of the department.

Secretary Babar Khan expressed these views while chairing a review meeting on the progress of ongoing strategic projects in the province.

The meeting was attended by Chief Engineers, Superintending Engineers and District Executive Engineers of all six zones via Zoom.

During the meeting, engineers from different districts gave a detailed briefing on the progress of ongoing strategic projects in their respective areas and

informed about the financial and technical issues facing the projects.

Secretary Communications and Works directed that no kind of slowness would be tolerated in the completion of important projects.

He said that time is short and challenges are high, so all engineers should ensure that timely completion of projects remains the top priority of the department.

He further ordered that all technical issues being faced by the projects should be resolved immediately, while development works should be carried out, there should be no compromise on quality.

Babar Khan directed the Chief Engineers and SEs to visit the projects themselves regularly and submit progress reports every two weeks, these reports should also include the identification of technical issues so that the pace of the projects is not affected and the work continues without interruption.

## Speaker Abdul Khaliq hands over two new modern ambulances for Chaman Health Dept

APP

Quetta: Speaker Balochistan Assembly Captain (R) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai presented two new modern ambulances equipped with modern facilities for the Chaman Health Department to DHO Chaman Dr. Naveed Badini and MS Dr. Owais.

On this occasion, DC Chaman Habib Ahmed Bangulzai, DHO Chaman Dr. Naveed Badini,

MS New DHQ Hospital Chaman Dr. Owais, other senior officers and media representatives were present.

DC Chaman Habib Ahmed Bangulzai and DHO Chaman termed the provision of ambulances for the Chaman Health Department and New DHQ Hospital Chaman as a commendable initiative and thanked the Speaker Balochistan Assembly and termed them very important for the Chaman Health Department.

On this occasion, Speaker Balochistan Assembly Captain (R) Abdul Khaliq

Achakzai said that these ambulances should be used for the New and Old DHQ Hospital Chaman and the Chaman Health Department anywhere for medical services to the public.

He said that in line with the vision of Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti,

the Health Department of Balochistan and Chaman should be developed on modern lines, we would work day and night diligently to provide relief to the people.

He said that these ambulances should be provided free of cost to all the people of Chaman, especially the poor people.

He said that these are ambulances equipped with modern facilities, which have oxygen and other necessary emergency equipment and facilities, and doctors should take advantage of this and use it in the treatment and care of patients so that it would be possible to reach the hospital on time and provide treatment and care to the patients.

## Ishaq Dar calls for swift development of Autism Centre of Excellence

APP

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister (DPM/FM), Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar on Tuesday expressed satisfaction over the finalization of the Centre of Excellence for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)'s location and directed that the planning and development process should be expedited alongside quality service delivery, trained professionals, and specialized architecture.

The DPM chaired a meeting of the Advisory Board for the Centre of Excellence for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), where he took stock of the progress made so far, a DPM's Office news release said.

DPM Dar also emphasized upon the adoption of international best practices to ensure education, therapeutic services, and research in Autism Spectrum Disorder.

The meeting was attended by SAPM Tariq Bajwa, Secretary Education, Secretary Health, Special Secretary Finance, senior officials from concerned ministries, and other experts in the field.

## Pakistan capable of brokering agreements, ensuring their implementation: Rizwan Sheikh

INP

WASHINGTON: Pakistan's Ambassador to the United States, Rizwan Saeed Sheikh, has said that Pakistan is seen globally as capable of brokering agreements and ensuring their implementation.

He emphasized that this role highlights not only the country's diplomatic influence but also its defense capabilities.

Ambassador Sheikh stated that Pakistan did not interfere in the internal affairs of other countries but aimed to create constructive outcomes.

He noted that Pakistan has historically played a significant role in the Middle East and will continue to do so.

He added that Pakistan acted as a mediator with the trust of multiple global actors, including the United States, China, Russia, Iran, Gulf countries, Turkey, Egypt, and the European Union.

Reflecting on Pakistan-US relations, Ambassador Sheikh said that the eight-decade-long partnership has faced ups and downs, including critical and challenging periods, but its strength is evident in Pakistan's ability to overcome these obstacles.

## Imran Khan administered fourth eye injection during follow-up at Pims

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan was administered a fourth intravitreal eye injection at the Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (Pims) on Tuesday as part of his ongoing follow-up treatment, with hospital authorities saying he remained clinically stable throughout the procedure.

According to a medical update issued by Pims, Khan, currently incarcerated at Rawalpindi's Adiala jail, was brought to the hospital for the fourth dose of intravitreal injection as part of his scheduled eye treatment. Before the procedure, ophthalmologists examined him and found him clinically stable, while an Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) scan showed signs of clinical improvement, the hospital said.

Following informed consent and under standard monitoring, surgeons administered the injection under microscopic guidance in the operation theatre while adopting all standard precautionary measures and protocols, according to the statement.

Pims said the procedure was performed as a day-care surgery, and Khan remained vitally stable before, during and after the treatment.

He was later discharged with instructions for further care, follow-up advice and related medical documentation, the

statement added.

Tuesday's procedure marks the latest phase in his eye care. He was earlier shifted to the hospital from Adiala jail on March 23, when he received the third dose following a comprehensive examination.

On March 18, his medical check-up was completed by a newly formed board comprising five doctors and staffers at Adiala jail following instructions from the Islamabad High Court (IHC).

The jailed PTI founder was diagnosed with central retinal vein occlusion (CRVO), a serious eye condition, according to a report submitted to the Supreme Court by his lawyer and the court's amicus curiae, Salman Safdar.

The condition occurs when the main vein draining blood from the retina becomes blocked and is often associated with cardiovascular risk factors such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes and heart disease.

SC report

The PTI founder's health emerged as the latest point of contention between the government and the opposition comprising PTI and the TTAP alliance after a report, submitted to the Supreme Court by his lawyer and SC's amicus curiae Barrister Salman Safdar.

The report revealed that the PTI founder was diagnosed with a serious eye condition known as central retinal vein occlusion (CRVO).



Quetta: Balochistan Home Minister Mir Ziaullah Langov in a meeting with Provincial Education Minister Raheela Hameed Khan Durrani.

## Operation Ghazab lil-Haq: Pakistan Army destroys Afghan Taliban posts in Chaman sector

NEWS DESK

RAWALPINDI: Pakistan's military, in response to unprovoked aggression by Afghan Taliban forces and Fitna al-Khawarij along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border, carried out retaliatory strikes on multiple Afghan posts in the Chaman sector.

According to security sources, Pakistani forces are continuing "full-scale actions" under the operation Ghazab lil-Haq against Afghan Taliban aggression, with several enemy posts destroyed.

Sources said Pakistani troops successfully targeted the Sarshan, Al-Marjan and Edhi posts, as well as an Afghan vehicle and other installations during the operation.

Security sources said Pakistan's armed forces remain unwavering in their resolve to defend the homeland and would foil the designs of terrorists and their facilitators.

"The designs of terrorists and their patrons will be reduced to dust," security sources said, adding that Operation Ghazab Lil Haq would continue until all designated objectives are achieved.

## Khalil George, others pay tribute to PM, Field Marshal Asim Munir for saving world from 3rd war

APP

Quetta: Former Federal Minister Khalil George, former member of Balochistan Assembly Ambroze Jan, Sana Intezar and Pastor Asif paid tribute to Prime Minister of Pakistan Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif and Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir for saving world from third war.

They said that due to their tireless work, dedication and sincerity, the world was saved from the horrors of the third world war, it would be written in golden letters in history that the guarantor of peace is Pakistan and its political and military leadership.

the ceasefire between Iran and America has made the flag of Pakistan proud all over the world.

They said this while addressing a ceremony titled "Pakistan as the Guarantor of Peace" at the Quetta Press Club here.

They said that the role played by Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir in establishing peace in the world would be written in golden letters in history, the flag of Pakistan has been raised all over the world due to efforts to establish peace.

They said that the nation is proud of its leadership, which, with foresight and prudence, brought the parties of many decades to one table, with the agreement between the United States and Iran, the economy in the world would once again

move in the right direction.

They said that after the victory in the battle of Haq,

Allah Almighty has given Pakistan great honor and success on the global diplomatic and regional fronts, Pakistan's efforts to mediate in the Iran-US war are encouraging. Iran-US talks were possible only through the effective leadership of Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif and Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir.

They said that the whole world is paying tribute to Pakistan's excellent foreign policy, Pakistan has always played a positive role in establishing peace in the region and in recent days, important diplomatic efforts have also been made to reduce tensions between the US and Iran.

Pakistan played a bridge role in restoring contacts between the two countries and paving the

way for negotiations, and Pakistan has once again emerged as an ambassador of peace at the global level.

The speakers said that the world was saved from a major disaster due to the joint efforts of the Prime Minister and the military leadership, Pakistan played an important and effective role in establishing peace in the region and brokered a ceasefire between Iran and the US, which saved the region from a major disaster. Pakistan's positive and constructive diplomacy has proven effective at the global level.



QUETTA: A view of rush near civil hospital creating problems for patients'.