



ISLAMABAD: Country Director Asian Development Bank (ADB) Yevgeny Zhukov presenting a souvenir to Caretaker Federal Minister for Water Resources, Ahmad Irfan Aslam during the launching ceremony of the National Master plan on flood telemetry at local hotel.

Bridging gap between policy, laws and practice key to lessen gender based violence: Advisor

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister's Special Assistant for Human Rights and Women Empowerment Mashaal Hussein Mullick Tuesday stressed the need for bridging gap between women empowerment laws and practice for lessening the gender discrimination and violence against them in the society. She was addressing a national conference of service providers on gender based violence here.

She said, rape was being used as a ferocious tool of weapon against Kashmiri women in order to demoralize them and suppress Kashmiris' just cause for

the right to self-determination. Indian state authorities not only condone such condemnable acts but also encourage such nefarious crimes as a state policy, she added. Mashaal Mullick said that being the daughter of Kashmir, she had the true realization of the state of women rights in IIOJK which led her decision to become powerful voice of Kashmiri women.

Asghar condemns incident of burning of goods' trawler

Independent Report
CHAMAN: The Provincial president of Awami National Party (ANP), Asghar Khan Achakzai has strongly condemned the incident of burning of a goods' trawler by unknown miscreants in Loralai area couple of days back.

Mr. Achakzai asserted that we would not accept such incidents at all nor would sabotage the Pak-Afghan trader.

He also asked the government to compensate the losses caused due to the incident and take solid steps for prevention of such untoward incidents in future.

Meanwhile, taking notice of the incident, ANP's leader talked to the Additional Chief Secretary Home Saleh Muhammad Nasar on the issue and sought his immediate response for taking the culprits to task.

On this, the ACS Home contracted the Deputy Commissioner Loralai and directed him to take action against the culprits.



QUETTA: A delegation led by Chairman Minority Commission Mukhi Sham Lal meeting with Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar

Directives of caretaker PM: Work on rehabilitation of roads and bridges started on emergent basis: Akbar

Independent Report
QUETTA: The Secretary Communications and Works (C&W), Ali Akbar Baloch has stated that the work was started on rehabilitation of the highways and bridges affected due to the recent flood and rains in the province, on an emergent basis. He was chairing a meeting to review the steps taken for safety of the basic infrastructure and communications in the province, here on Tuesday.

He said that the heavy damages were caused to all important highways and bridges due to the recent rains and flashfloods, disrupting the communication network and traffic blockade in different parts of the province and to rest of the country.

However, the C&W department together with NHA started work on the affected highways and bridges on emergent basis. However, still, there is a need of complete rehabilitation of the important highways in the province.

During the course of meeting, C&W department high ups provided details to the NHA about rehabilitation of the highways of the province.



QUETTA: A view of 3-day training workshop regarding Role of Media in Promoting Anti-corruption Practices and Good Governance.

Caretaker Federal Minister says: Pak needs to invest more in flood management, early warning amid growing vulnerability

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Water Resources Ahmed Irfan Aslam on Tuesday said the country during the 2022 monster monsoon floods bore \$30 billion in economic and infrastructure losses that demanded to invest more resources in flood management and early warning systems for better disaster preparedness.

The Interim Minister delivered his keynote address at the launching ceremony of the National Master Plan on Flood Telemetry and National Consultation on Updated National Flood Protection Plan-IV which was supported by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Minister Ahmed Irfan Aslam said globally some \$2.93 trillion was lost due to natural disasters whereas during the 2022 monsoon floods, Pakistan faced huge economic losses as mentioned above and these were staggering statistics.

He said, "If we are to grow as a nation, as an economy we need to have strategic flood management plans. Water-related natural disasters can be managed through informed forecast which is not possible without modern flood telemetry systems," he added.

Aslam said the flood-related departments were silently working without any recognition like the Federal Flood Commission (FFC) which should be acknowledged and appreciated. He also extended his gratitude to the ADB for supporting the upgradation of the National Flood Protection Plan-IV as the government had initiated the endeavour based on the lessons learned during the floods of 2022.

Secretary of Water Resources Division Syed Ali Murtaza in his opening remarks said that the country was highly vulnerable due to floods. However,

the recurring floods had incurred huge economic losses to the country whereas information and prevention of floods was a key driver for the country to ensure convincing flood management strategies on the ground.

The Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD), Irrigation Departments of respective provinces, and other relevant departments realized the proactive role and devised the flood management plan.

He added that it would help take endeavours that were informed and the telemetry systems were to help monitor river flows.

He informed that the implementation process would include a total of 707 telemetry systems and some 457 systems would be installed in all the provinces and federating units of the country.

The Secretary thanked the technical and financial support to develop the master plan for telemetry systems and updated Flood Protection Plan-IV.

He felicitated all stakeholders on the success of the intervention.



KARACHI: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki offer Fateha at Mazar-e-Quaid

Caretaker CM visits Mazar-e-Quaid; pays homage to Father of Nation

Independent Report
QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki visited the Mausoleum of Father of Nation, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah in Karachi on Tuesday.

He offered fateha for the departed soul of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah.

Speaking on the occasion, the caretaker Chief Minister said that he is feeling immense pleasure and satisfaction by visiting the Mazar-e-Quaid.

He said that we have to create spirit of love and service to Pakistan by our heart and soul for paying homage to the Father of Nation in true meaning.

He said that the whole Pakistani Nation is proud of their great leader, and they would never forget his legacy.

He also written his comments in the guests' book at the mausoleum.

Later, speaking to the media persons, Mir Ali Mardan Domki referred to the recent visit of caretaker Prime Minister Anwarul Haq Kakar to Quetta and said that there was no Prime Minister in the history, who spent three days and three nights in Quetta after.

He commented that the caretaker Prime Minister kept on holding meetings about the development of province and resolution of the issues of people during his stay.



ISLAMABAD: PIO/MD APP, Muhammad Asim Khichi in a group photo with the participants of the Training Workshop for the journalists of Balochistan organized by PFUJ Workers at PID.

Pakistan to submit VNR report at SDG summit next month

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan is all set to present its Voluntary National Review (VNR) report at a mid-term summit on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), scheduled to take place in September 2023 in New York.

The session was convened by the SDGs Support Unit of the Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives while Chief SDGs, Dr. Ali Kemal presented an overview of Pakistan's progress on SDGs.

He said that Pakistan was reporting on 133 out of 247 indicators and has integrated the SDGs into its national development plans and policies. He also highlighted the role of various stakeholders in advancing the SDGs agenda in Pakistan, such as universities, private sector, civil society and media.

Dr. Kemal also discussed the major challenges faced by Pakistan in implementing the SDGs, such as macroeconomic and political economy challenges, uncertain global economic and demand outlook, increased frequency of natural disasters and weak governance system.

The aim of the session was to evaluate the performance and outcomes of SDGs implementation, identify the challenges faced and devise a roadmap for accelerated SDGs implementation.

The consultative session was attended by representatives from various ministries, provincial governments, UN agencies, development partners, academia, private sector, civil society and media.

UNGA adopts Pak-backed resolution declaring Jan 26 clean energy day

UNITED NATIONS (APP): The UN General Assembly has adopted a Panamanian resolution, co-sponsored by Pakistan, proclaiming January 26 as the International Day of Clean Energy.

The text, which was adopted without a vote, underlined the 193-member Assembly's commitment to protecting the environment.

January 26 will become a platform to drive the adoption of policies and practices to promote awareness on the sustainable use of energy resources and to strengthen collaboration and cooperation to promote the global energy transition. Introducing the draft, Panamanian delegate Markova Concepcion Jaramillo said that transitioning to clean and renewable energy sources was essential to face current environmental and socio-economic challenges and guarantee human survival and well-being on the planet.

The US representative said her delegation joined the consensus.



ISLAMABAD: EU Ambassador Dr. Riina Kionka called on caretaker Federal Minister for Health Dr. Nadeem Jan.

AJK PM urges world to take stringent notice of Indian atrocities in IIOJK

MIRPUR (AJK (APP): Azad Jammu and Kashmir Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq on Tuesday emphasized upon the international human rights organizations to take stringent notice of the atrocities committed by the Indian occupational forces on civilians in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK). In a statement, the PM, while voicing his grave concern over the fast-deteriorating political and human rights situation in the Indian-occupied territory of Jammu and Kashmir, said that Indian forces have crossed all limits of barbarism and savagery in Kashmir.

While urging the international community to come up with a solid plan of action to stop the bloodshed of innocent civilians at the hands of the Indian occupational forces, the PM said it was high time that the global community should influence the government of India to fulfill the promises and commitments its leaders have made via a settlement of the Kashmir dispute at the international level.

He said that it was the Prime Minister of India who took the issue of Kashmir to the United Nations. He said that it was quite unfortunate that India has not only backtracked from its commitments but also violated the UNSC resolutions that call for holding a referendum in Kashmir. He said that Kashmiris have associated their future with Pakistan. He said that accession to Pakistan was the Kashmiris' ultimate objective, for which they have been struggling at all levels with absolute determination and dedication.

Govt to utilize all available resources for polio-free country: Minister

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Health Minister Dr. Nadeem Jan said on Tuesday that the interim government was committed to actively implementing a special emergency response plan to eradicate all forms of polio in the country and reach children in remote areas.

in the number of polio cases in the country.

"All the provinces would ask to pay special attention to ensure that every child is reached by the polio programme," he added. He said that the Ministry of Health is actively involved in the polio program and we will ensure that the focus on polio remains unwavering.

Talking to a private news channel, he said that the polio vaccination campaign in remote areas and Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) was considered a major reason for the significant reduction

In response to a question, he said that the present government will maintain zero tolerance regarding the provision of quality medicines to patients in government hospitals.

Ji urges SC to direct ECP for ensuring elections within 90 days

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) has formally requested the Supreme Court to direct the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) to ensure the holding of elections within 90 days of the dissolution of the National Assembly.

The petition filed with the apex court was filed by JI leader Liaquat Baloch on Tuesday. The petition pleaded with the court to direct ECP to ensure the holding of general elections in the country within 90 days.

It is pertinent to mention that this is the third petition filed with the apex court. Earlier, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and Supreme Court Bar Association President Abid S. Zubairi had filed the same petition in the apex court.

The PTI plea stated that Supreme Court should also direct the ECP to issue the schedule for upcoming general elections.

The top court was urged to declare the CCI decision regarding the delimitation and the census 2023 null and void.



Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) leaders speaking during a press conference in Islamabad

SP Manzoor says Sugar smuggling bid foiled, 8000 bags of sugars seized from 15 trucks in Shiran

QUETTA (APP) Superintendent of Police (SP) Shirani Mir Manzoor Ahmed Buledi on Tuesday said that on special directive of IG of Police Balochistan and DIG General Police Zhob Range, actions were taken against sugar smugglers and 8000 sacks of sugars were recovered from 15 trucks at Dhanasar check post.

He expressed these views while giving details about sugar smugglers to the media representatives.

Today's action is also a continuation of the same operation where the operation was conducted at the Dhana Sar check post.

He reiterated that he would never allow traffickers to create problems for the public, strict measures would be taken to prevent smuggling for interest of public.