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PM directs to curb smuggling by enhancing surveillance at irregular border crossings

Emphasizes utilization of country's immense natural resources; Says main constitutional responsibility of caretaker government is to provide assistance in elections

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Tuesday directed the Customs authorities to establish a monitoring system at irregular border crossings to prevent smuggling in the country.

He was chairing a meeting to discuss measures for discouraging smuggling and promoting trade through legal channels. He was given a detailed briefing by the Ministry of Commerce.

PM Kakar was informed about proposed plans to enhance exports volume, besides possible steps to curb smuggling.

Different modalities of trade under the Afghanistan Transit Trade Agreement were also reviewed. It was

recommended to improve the system for scanning and monitoring of the traded goods.

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar has underlined the need for taking more steps to fully utilize the potential of country's immense natural resources.

Chairing a high-level meeting to review performance of Petroleum Division in Islamabad Tuesday, he said road infrastructure needs to be improved to access the natural resources.

The Prime Minister directed to take strict measures against illegal mining. He also instructed to complete all legal requirements at the earliest for appointment of the head of Oil and Gas Development Authority.

On the occasion, Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar was given detailed briefing regarding the performance of the Petroleum Division.

The meeting was informed that apart from exploring more natural resources in country, the Petroleum Division is working on a program to increase oil and gas production in the country. It was further briefed that projects related to laying down pipelines are being prioritized to supply oil and gas from various reservoirs.

The meeting was apprised that Petroleum Division is preparing a Mineral Sector Development Framework for exploration of oil and gas. It was told

that a significant progress is being witnessed to promote foreign investment in mining sector.

Online adds: Caretaker Prime Minister (PM) Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar said that primary constitutional responsibility of the caretaker government is to provide assistance in elections.

"We cannot go beyond our constitutional mandate. We can't give any time frame for elections. Government has good relations with army and both are working together for economic recovery. The modern weapons left after withdrawal of US and allied forces in Afghanistan are threat to regional peace and stability, he said this while talking to representa-

tives of foreign media here Tuesday.

Caretaker Prime Minister Anwar Haq Kakar said that this is my first conversation with foreign media as caretaker Prime Minister (PM), the main constitutional responsibility of caretaker government is to provide assistance in elections. Constitutionally, we cannot make major changes in the government system.

Constituencies are required under the Constitution after the census, he added.

All political parties registered with the Election Commission will have equal opportunities to participate in the general elections without discrimination, he remarked.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs a meeting on Petroleum.

Messages on Defence day of Pakistan: We have to make pledge on Defence Day not to let sacrifices of martyrs waste: CM Domki

Governor calls for creating spirit of September 6, 1965 to tackle today circumstances facing country: Says "let's make conscious efforts for stability and development of the country together after forgetting our mutual differences"

Independent Report

QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has stated that we have to make pledge on this Defence Day of Pakistan not to let waste the great sacrifices of our martyrs, and would always play our role as patriotic Pakistani for defence, development and stability of the country.

This was stated by the caretaker Chief Minister in a statement issued here marking the Defence Day of Pakistan observed today (Wednesday). The caretaker Chief Minister said that 6th September is such a day in history of Pakistan that gives us lesson to maintain national spirit and resolve for safety, stability and defence of our beloved country, which has been demonstrated by the whole nation during the war of September 6, 1965.

He said that on that day, our brave armed forces and whole nation had proved with unity that the majority of weapons or number don't have mean-

ing in front of the unity and power of belief.

Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki also said that that was the historic day when our armed forces had defeated the enemy defending successfully the country.

He said that the Pak army had foiled the nefarious designs of the Indian army by successfully defending the geographic frontiers of the country.

He said that our brave forces have been rendering sacrifices for the country and nation since its inception, and thus saved it.

He also said that the people of Balochistan are also the strong arms of brave forces and security agencies. He also paid homage to all martyrs of the country on Defence Day.

He said that it is our resolve to provide peaceful and conducive environment for conducting free and fair general elections in the province.

Meanwhile the Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has stressed that the circumstances being faced by the

country today requires that the whole nation may create the same spirit, unity and solidarity again, which was demonstrated during the war of 1965.

The Governor stated so in a message issued here on eve of the Defence day of Pakistan being observed today (Wednesday).

In his message, the Governor said that we are observing the day today when our brave and daring armed forces had successfully defended the country by knocking out the enemy on its aggression against it.

Our brave forces had then created a new history and the whole nation had fought against the naked aggression of the enemy together with the armed forces.

The nation had demonstrated complete unity and backed its armed forces, adding the Governor recalled. Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar said that the today's circumstances of country make requirement of that the whole nation demonstrate the same spirit and unity once again.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Interior Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti chairs a review meeting.

Interior Minister vows to tackle illegal immigration

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Interior Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti Tuesday vowed to tackle the illegal immigration issue and provide foolproof security to the foreigners.

He was chairing a meeting on law and order situation in the country here, which was attended by senior officials from the police, security agencies, and the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA).

The minister said that maintaining law and order was the top priority of the government and that migrant activities by any individual or group would not be tolerated.

He directed the authorities to formulate a comprehensive strategy for the return of foreigners living illegally in Pakistan.

Sarfraz Bugti also ordered completion of the action plan to open three more border crossings on the Pakistan-Iran border.

The minister stressed the need to clearly define the scope of police and security agencies in order to improve their performance.

He also directed the authorities to provide state-of-the-art training and resources to the civil armed forces.

Regarding the security of foreigners, the minister directed the authorities concerned to ensure the implementation of the code of conduct by finalizing it.

He also ordered the provision of all possible facilities to visa applicants for business and investment.

The minister called another meeting next week to review the implementation of the National Action Plan.

Governor discuss political situation, law & order with Chairman Senate

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar met the Chairman Senate, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani here at the Governor House on Tuesday.

During the course of meeting, they discussed the matters about the latest political situation as well as the measures taken for protection of public life and property in the province.

In addition to this, the matters pertaining to pro-



motion of higher education and other matters of mutual interests were also discussed threadbare during the meeting between Chairman Senate and Governor Balochistan. Speaking on the occasion, the Governor stressed that we have to take practical steps to get rid of the backwardness and remove sense of deprivations among prevailing among them at the public level.

Both the leaders expressed satisfaction over that at present there are pleasant relations among the center and provinces, however, more efforts are necessary for strengthening these relations.

ECP notifies 20 victorious candidates for reserve seats in Balochistan district councils

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) Tuesday notified the names of 20 elected members for women's reserved seats in the local government elections held on August 23, 2023, encompassing the district council seats in six Balochistan's districts.

The notification includes the following districts: Pishin, Nushki, Dera Bugti, Kacchi, Kalat, and Panjgur.

The returned candidate for the District Council in Pishin includes Bibi Hajira, daughter of Ihsan Ullah, representing JUI-P. Bibi Guldasta, daughter of Syed Abdul Kabeer from PKMAP, and Bibi Sajida, daughter of Rozi Khan from JUI-P, have also been notified.

In the case of the Dera Bugti District Council, the female candidates who have been officially notified are Shehzadi, an Independent candidate and daughter of Sher Dil, as well as Bakht Bibi and Salehat, both from BAP and daughters of Dhalak Khan and Raja respectively.

Additionally, Bibi Salma, daughter of Noor Uddin, Bibi Rubina Tareen,

FM sends to IMF new plan regarding relief in electricity bills

ISLAMABAD (Online): Finance Ministry has sent new plan regarding relief in electricity bills to IMF through which IMF has been assured that no relief out of budget will be provided.

According to government sources the additional amount allocated for IPPs can be adjusted for extending relief to electricity consumers.

Sources said over Rs 15 billion will be allocated for IPPs again on receipt of installations of the bill.

According to finance ministry sources finance ministry authorities will again talk to IMF ON NEW PLAN. In new plan IMF has been assured for not providing relief out of budget.

Earlier IMF had rejected government plan on extending relief to people on electricity bills.

Elahi arrested again after being released from police line

ISLAMABAD (Online): Tehreek-e-Insaf President and former Punjab Chief Minister Ch. Parvez Elahi was arrested again after being released from the police line. According to the spokesperson of the Capital Police, Pervaiz Elahi has been arrested in the case number 3/23 registered in the police station CTD.

According to sources, PTI president will be transferred to CTD police station. Parvez Elahi came out of the police lines in the car of Sardar Abdul Razaq Advocate, his lawyer Sardar Abdul Razeq Advocate and the driver were taken down and Parvez Elahi was taken along with the car.

Govt to pay compensation to heirs of deceased youngster, assures Jan Achakzai

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Provincial government would pay the financial compensation to the deceased youngster killed allegedly during firing incident near Imdad chowk in Quetta the other day.

This assurance was made by the caretaker Provincial Minister for Information, Jan Achakzai while speaking to the protestors who blocked the Airport road against the incident on Tuesday afternoon.

The protestors including heirs were protesting against the killing of a youngster as a result of firing.

While the airport road was blocked by the protestors, long queues of vehicles were seen there causing disruption in traffic.

The people particularly the students and passengers faced problems due to suspension of traffic due to protest.

However, the road was opened and traffic restored after successful negotiations between the caretaker Minister Information and protestors.

Jan Achakzai said that the protestors have been assured to meet their demands.

Pakistan to mark Defence Day with national spirit, pay homage to nation's martyrs

ISLAMABAD (APP): Determined to thwart any aggression against the motherland, the nation will hold the annual 'Defence Day of Pakistan' celebrations on Wednesday with a reinvigorated pledge to safeguard its geographical and ideological boundaries in every situation and at all cost.

The historic day of September 6 will be commemorated with an unmitigated vigor and enthusiasm, sending a message loud and clear to hostile India that the Pakistani nation and armed forces were fully prepared to frustrate any designs against the country's sovereignty and integrity.

A number of activities will be held across the country, reaffirming the nation's resolve not to let anyone cast an evil eye at the homeland, achieved on August 14, 1947 after great sacrifices rendered by Muslims of the sub-continent.

The day will dawn with special prayers in the mosques for the well-being and prosperity of the country, besides 31-gun salute at the federal capital and 21-gun salute at provincial capitals.

The change of guard ceremony will take place at the Mazar-e-Quaid in Karachi in the morning. 'Fateha' and Quran Khawani will be held for all those who sacrificed their



QUETTA: Senator Danesh Kumar meeting with Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki

SC reserves judgment in NAB amendment case

ISLAMABAD (Online): Supreme Court (SC) has reserved judgment on PTI chairman Imran Khan petition against NAB amendment.

The CJP remarked one amendment came in May and second in June in section 23 of NAB law. The references which were returned before May are still held by NAB. Who will give reply to these questions from NAB side.

NAB special prosecutor said in his reply to question that additional prosecutor general will reach within some time.

Khawaja Haris said several pending cases were returned after amendments.

The CJP remarked too much work of NAB has been finished after amendment. The CJP inquired has NAB legal powers to send the cases. Lawyer Khawaja Haris replied NAB has no powers to deal with the cases after NAB amendments. NAB has no legal powers to send the cases.

Justice Mansoor Ali Shah remarked it is not so that if cases are finished in NAB then accused can go home. Will the matter not go to respective forum if murder is committed in NAB office. There is no need of any law to send the cases. What cases have been made will go to some forum.

The other two members of bench are Justice Ijaz ul Ahsan and Justice Mansoor Ali Shah. At the inception of hearing of the case counsel for chairman PTI told the court written submissions have been filed.

The CJP Umar Ata Bandial while inquiring remarked have you read NAB report. NAB has told the reasons in respect of the references which were returned till May. It can be assessed from the reasons for returning the reference till is towards here. All have come on record the references of which personalities have been returned.



QUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Information Minister Jan Achakzai distributing awards among heirs of Shahuda during Shah-e-Pakistan CM Award 2023 ceremony

Daily Voice of Masses
Independent

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GB unrest

Away from the glare of mainstream media, trouble has been brewing in Gilgit-Baltistan in recent weeks. Demonstrations and counter-protests have been held in the mountainous region, with key thoroughfares blocked and mobile internet shut, as sectarian hatreds have returned to cast a long shadow over the area.

According to reports, action was sought against a religious leader belonging to one school of thought, who had made a controversial statement last month. After protests in Chilas and elsewhere, a case was registered against the said cleric. This led to protests in Skardu and other towns, while allegedly derogatory remarks were made by another cleric, resulting in the filing of a case against this individual. Communal differences may only be a trigger for the protests, as there are several underlying factors in GB fuelling disaffection. However, the state's bulldozing of the Criminal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2023, through parliament has certainly breathed new life into sectarian discourses that were largely dormant. GB may only be the first area where narrow communalism is being revived, thanks to this debatable legislation, and unless democratic forces and enlightened clerics speak up, the fire of hatred may spread, especially to those spots in the country where sectarian tensions are already high.

There are signs that matters are improving, as the region's chief minister met both Shia and Sunni clerics, who have promised to maintain calm. The caretaker federal information minister has said the area is experiencing "peace and stability", while adding that the military had been called in only to maintain peace during Chehllum. Though GB has witnessed sporadic sectarian violence over the past several decades, matters, over the past few years, had been improving where inter-communal relations are concerned. Therefore, the local administration, as well as clerics from both sects, need to support efforts for peace-building and shunning those who promote divisive agendas.

In particular, hate groups must not be allowed to spread their toxic views in an effort to fan communal flames. But beyond GB, unless the bill in question, specifically the amendments to the blasphemy law, is reconsidered, it will only add to extremism and widen fault lines in society. As this paper has argued before, blasphemy cannot be condoned, and all religious figures should be respected. But bringing complicated theological and historical issues before parliament — which are better addressed by subject specialists and scholars of the highest calibre — and then rushing them through without any debate will only add to divisions in the country.

Such sensitive issues should not be codified in law in such a haphazard manner. For over four decades, Pakistan has been reeling from the effects of terrifying sectarian violence. To prevent the misuse of blasphemy laws, and the violence this begets, the amendments need to be rethought.



Arifa Noor

The countdown has begun, already — on how long the caretaker set-up can last, and what will replace it, if elections are not called. The first question was always going to be asked, for no one had any doubts that the caretakers would be around for longer than three months. However, few had predicted the rapidity with which the second question would pop up.

Indeed, the pressure on journalists and commentary in general notwithstanding, it is still safe to say the caretaker set-up has not filled many with hope and promise, for the present or future. The oath-taking of the prime minister and the cabinet was about as celebratory as the birth of the second child to the royal family; there is

wee relief but at the back of the mind is a feeling of foreboding of what the spare's efforts to find meaning in life will bring to the family. Margaret, Andrew and now Harry — they all followed the same course.

In our case, the caretakers may be well-meaning men and women, but none of them bring technocratic reputations to ease the worry of the rich, nor do they bring the charisma of a popular leader who can promise better times to a people crushed by inflation. And neither do they enjoy the kind of authority that, say, Musharraf did, which allowed him to promise reform.

As a result, the continuing rumours of delayed elections and the caretaker set-up being in power for some time are now filling people with dread. Even part of the business community, which had pinned its hopes on a technocratic and apolitical caretaker set-up, is now trying to figure out what faraway dream basket they can drop their eggs in.

To be fair, the caretakers were dealt a Titanic though they appear equipped to sail a paper

boat. Consider their short track record, thus far.

They began their stint by encouraging — or perhaps asking for — media attention, lending further credence to concerns of a lengthy stay. (When was the last time a caretaker prime minister made so many public appearances or gave so many speeches on live television?) As a result, the mistakes were made in the full glare of TV channels.

Consider the biggest one, so far. When the electricity bills crisis came, they swung into action. A briefing of the energy secretary was held with journalists, which didn't achieve much. This was followed by a publicised emergency meeting in a bid to figure out short-term relief. The meeting stretched over days and then ended with a vague message that a solution was being found. That is still awaited, although there are few indications anyone is now pinning any hopes on it.

In between has come a flurry of statements which ended up causing so much confusion that they needed clarifications. There was the finance minister

who apparently said she was wondering why she had taken on this impossible job and the prime minister who commented about the magnitude of the bijli protests. And third was the storm in the teacup about the prime minister's visit to Kenya.

While the rest of the clarifications are only of interest to hacks, it is the electricity issue which has led to the perception of the new set-up being uninspiring as well as clueless as those who came before. For those who had pinned their hopes on the caretaker set-up, it was in reality a belief that those behind the scenes would have a plan, which would be executed once those who are simply here for a bit of caretaking were in position. But this 'plan' remained far more invisible than those who are babysitting the caretakers.

Consequently, the run on the rupee continued, while the people took to the streets to protest against their bills. The dreaded implosion seemed to have finally reached the steep slope.

No wonder then that by the end of the weekend,

came tweets galore about the meeting between the 'seniorist' military official and the business community. That all is well has to be said again, shows the realisation of providing assurance and those who have to provide the assurance.

The assurances provided, according to these tweets, were rather reassuring. As was the deadline, again provided in the same message: within six months all would be fixed — from smuggling to the tax base to corruption, which we had always assumed the PTI was so silly to focus on. Even the game-changing investment from friendly countries will arrive within months. Some of the promises brought a sense of déjà vu, reminding me of the many weight-loss diets I had embarked on and abandoned. But as hope wins over experience, let's not be entirely sceptical.

However, there remain a couple of nagging questions. One was mentioned in the beginning of the piece. How easy will it be to keep providing assurances from behind, especially if those officially taking care do not improve their game? For if the eco-

nomic deterioration continues, would this caretaking façade not be dumped, as others have been, for a more direct fixing effort? Or will public opinion and scepticism simply be ignored? It is a question which is being asked with rapidity.

The second question, I tentatively ask: isn't this our third hybrid effort? After all, the PTI and Imran Khan were the first to be 'selected' and they proved inadequate.

So inadequate that the 'change' was replaced by the experienced; Shehbaz Sharif and his Punjab speed were given the chance and he, one has to admit, was far better at keeping everyone happy, from the coalition members to the powerful ones. So much so that the PDM government was christened Hybrid 2.0. But on the economy, he was only successful in making Imran Khan more popular. Has anyone in the PML-N heard the story of the Trojan horse?

So now there has been yet another selection. Third time's a charm, though some are being far too literal and want to know if it's the fourth or the fifth. -- Courtesy Dawn

The Kakar formula

How can the law help domestic workers?



Mehnaz Akber Aziz

Slogans of banning child domestic workers are making headlines once again in public seminars and media, gaining attention of the wider civil society due to two ghastly incidents recently.

Rizwana, a 14-year-old domestic maid, was skinned from the head that was left to be infested with maggots. The extent of her suffering is harrowing — her frail body had the weight of multiple painful injuries: fractured teeth, ribs and visible strangulation marks. The employer — wife of a judge and resident of Islamabad — tortured the girl for months who was given in bonded labour by her parents.

Within weeks, there was a second case — in Khairpur Sindh — that left the whole country

shocked. A 10-year-old domestic maid, Fatima, could be seen in a CCTV video, writhing in pain and dying in the house of an influential local 'pir', the employer. Beaten and tortured, the death was caused due to rape multiple times.

The abuse meted out to child and women domestic workers is not new and time and again media picks up a case and it gains momentum publicly. A study by the International Labor Organization (ILO) determines that one in every four households in Pakistan hires a child domestic worker. According to another ILO survey, 8.5 million domestic workers are employed in the country who lack basic education or skills to find alternative employment, so they opt for this mode of earning to escape abject poverty and to earn bread and butter for their families. Domestic work is generally undervalued, invisible and informal as most of these workers belong to most underprivileged communities. They are always susceptible to discrimination with regards to forced or child labour, working condi-

tions, terms of employment, denial of rightful wages, lack of inspection and law enforcement involvement.

The constitution of Pakistan clearly provides a range of provisions with regard to labour or domestic workers rights. Article 11 of the constitution prohibits all forms of slavery, forced labour, services of cruel nature and children (below the age of 14 years) engaged in any "factory or mine or any other hazardous employment". Article 23 provides protection to every person against being deprived of their property. This article is against the bonded labour system that is also prohibited under the Bonded Labour Act.

Article 25 lays down the right of equality of all the citizens before the law and prohibition of discrimination on the grounds of sex alone. Similarly, Article 37(e) obligates the state to make provisions for securing just and humane conditions of work, "ensuring that children and women are not employed in settings unsuited to their age or sex". Moreover, Article 38(a) obligates the state to pro-

mote social and economic well-being of people by "equitable rights of employers and employees".

Consequently, there has been a country-wide realization to undertake concrete policy reforms, legal steps and compliance to protect domestic workers, especially children. In this context, the Punjab Domestic Workers Act 2019, complying with global norms and International Labor Organization's agreements was enacted by the provincial assembly of Punjab.

In similar vein, to cater for a huge number of domestic workers living in the Capital Territory of Islamabad and an increasing number of incidents involving abuses and ill-treatment against them, parliament enacted the Islamabad Capital Territory Domestic Workers Act, 2022 which was moved by this author and that entrenched a legal and contractual mechanism to regulate and protect the rights as well as employment conditions of domestic workers.

As a much-needed initiative, I introduced the Act that recognized the eco-

nomic and social value of thousands of domestic workers residing in Islamabad by bringing them into the mainstream as against their previous exclusion from labour and social protection coverage. Most importantly, the Act banned children under the age of 15 years from being employed. Prior to the Act domestic workers were considered as "invisible", with their employment status not more than "modern-day slaves", while the Act introduced key injunctions given as below:

One, the Act prohibits working of a child below the age of 15 years in a household. Two, the Act allows children under the age of 18 years to do light work in a household, which entails domestic work that is part time in nature and is not likely to harm the child's health, safety and education. Three, the Act further restricts bonded labour or partly forced labour.

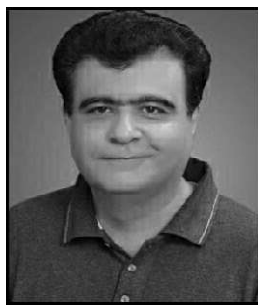
Four, an employer cannot assign extra work to the domestic worker without his/her free will. Five, the Act extends benefits for a domestic worker, including medical care for not only the worker but also his/

her dependents. Six, other benefits include any contribution by the employer in respect of persons employed with him under any scheme of the Employees Social Security Ordinance 1965.

Seven, under the Act every time a domestic worker is hired, a letter of employment, should be drafted, which clearly states the terms and conditions of his/her employment, including the nature of work and the amount of wage. Eight, domestic workers are also restricted from working for more than eight hours a day unless they are paid overtime.

In conclusion, I want to share my earnest concern that the rules that were coordinated by the author and jointly drafted by the Ministry of Law and Justice, International Labour Organization and Unicef, are still lying unattended in government corridors. All the media hype, seminars and pledges are yet to transform into a strong political will to implement the Act that is already in place by immediate passage of the rules and their unmitigated implementation with full commitment. -- Courtesy TheNews

Political prisoner?



Dr Niaz Murtaza

In 2019, I wrote, under the same title, a column on whether Nawaz Sharif was a political prisoner under the then PTI-establishment hybrid regime. Events since then have shown the weak basis of his convictions. But such is the merry-go-round of politics that I must now write to see whether Imran Khan today is a political prisoner under the PDM-establishment-caretaker hybrid regime. Ironically, PTM leaders may be perpetual political prisoners under all hybrid regimes given their unwillingness to compromise on their principles and strike a deal.

The Council of Europe defines political prisoners as those jailed by rulers via unfair trials due to political enmity, eg. M.K. Gandhi and Nelson Mandela. It may seem odd to call our flawed politicians so. However, credible sources labelled lesser mortals like Brazil's Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva and Malaysia's Anwar Ibrahim so too. Stature and perceived dishonesty matter not under global definitions, but only whether a person is being punished due to political reasons via dubious means. Many say Nawaz Sharif had disputes with the security establishment on ties with India and jihadis, which is cited as a reason behind his dubious disqualification. Many say Imran Khan, too, irked the establishment on appointments and governance, which resulted in

the end of its political support for him, leading to his fall. Some say the frictions between Sharif and the establishment related to foreign and security blunders, while those with Khan related to his mercurial actions. But even such pundits feel that Khan's legal woes relate more to his fallout with the establishment than the weight of his alleged crimes.

Like Sharif, he, too, has been disqualified for mis-declaring his assets. With Sharif, the guilty verdict was deemed dubious as it related to receivable assets which are treated as such only under accrual accounting but not under the equally legal cash accounting system. With Khan, the verdict may be correct as he did mis-declare some gift assets. Still, many find the punishment (disqualification and incarceration) very harsh, as the mis-declaration had no major crime; they feel that a fine would have been enough punishment.

Many also highlight process issues during the trial even though they may not change the final verdict. Oddly, online research suggests that Pakistan and Thailand are perhaps the only states that disqualify and jail politicians for an asset mis-declaration even if it hides no major crime. It is hoped that these issues will be considered at appeal stage.

Some other cases against Khan seem weak too. The cipher case charges him with leaking official secrets. Diplomatic ciphers are all categorised as secret documents but many, perhaps most, don't necessarily carry major secrets whose deliberate leakage can harm Pakistan and benefit its enemies.

One may argue, in fact, that its reported contents show the haughty ways in which US treats us. The question arises in rational minds whether a

person can be tried for leaking state secrets when actually no secret was leaked and there was no harm done. To many, it seems like a politically motivated trial. True, just as rational minds question the strength of the state's cipher case against Khan, they question the strength of his cipher US conspiracy story too. But even so, that is a political rather than legal issue.

Accusations that the May 9 mayhem aimed to cause a mutiny seem far-fetched too to many. How could admittedly condemnable street protests cause a rebellion within, even in Lahore, let alone nationally? Many say it was a law and order issue and those engaging in serious crimes like arson and assault must be tried through civilian courts for those specific crimes, while those guilty of lesser crimes like trespassing can be fined. But there seems little justification for cases in military courts. Thus, today, the leaders of both the largest political parties stand dubiously disqualified from politics for irking the establishment. Scores of PTI workers are languishing unfairly in jail.

While the fortunes of these larger parties fluctuate depending on whether they are the establishment's ladla or pet child, or not at any given time, other leftist activists like Ali Wazir and Imaan Mazari remain permanent sautelas (stepchildren). The only temporary and partial respite they get is when the powers that be are distracted enough to clamp down on the increasingly frequent rebellion by a former right-wing favourite.

Thus, it appears to many that Pakistan's justice system is being manoeuvred to commit injustices against political opponents rather than delivering justice to the people. -- Courtesy Dawn

Darkness to light



Mohammad Ali Babakhel

Growing violence on educational campuses has debunked the myth that extremism is somehow confined to religious seminars. It is true that, along with other factors, a lack of education is a potential driver for radicalisation. However, education is also one of the most effective mediums for extremists to penetrate youthful minds. Repeated incidents in our educational spaces reflect the disquieting fact that they are now confronted with both physical and psychological insecurity.

After the Brussels attacks of 2016, radicalisation in schools has become a priority area for policymakers and educators. Tackling violent extremism (VE) through interventions in education is part of a broader shift towards countering extremism through efforts that address environments favourable for the spread of hateful ideologies. Through such interventions, schools are expected to create a secure environment for their students, promote tolerance and social inclusion, discourage discrimination, and prevent violence.

Building the faculty's capacity to resolve conflicts and understand the push and pull factors leading to VE is equally important. At school, young people should be taught how to tackle polarisation and respect diversity. Children should be introduced to logic, critical thinking, problem-solving and nego-

tiation skills. Empowering students to think critically, teaching them to challenge ideas, construct rational thoughts, and engage in meaningful debate proves helpful in preventing violent extremism (PVE).

A few societies have focused their activities on the psycho-social theory of Fathali M. Moghaddam in The Staircase to Terrorism. This explores psychological factors that lead an individual to commit a terrorist act. Among the factors are the psychological injustice of material conditions, perceived options to fight unfair treatment, displacement and aggression, moral engagement and polarisation. To apprehend any adverse situation, training teachers to detect early signs of radicalisation is critical. However, for their best interests, teachers should not be viewed as informants, which can undermine their relations with students' families and their community. Community engagement in children's education and building trust between schools and communities should be clear aims of counter violent extremism (CVE) programmes.

Teachers should be on the front line of teaching students how to save themselves from extremists' influence. Discussion meetings between parents, teachers, psychologists, and social workers on the role of psychosocial services for students and breaking of taboos in the individual-psychologist relationship are important. Reintegration of children from conflict areas through special educational programmes delivered via public schools is another neglected area that requires the policymakers' attention. While dealing with P/CVE, teachers should be equipped to raise students' awareness of the risks of extremism and encourage critical thinking. They should educate students about democratic values, and political, religious and ethnic tolerance. They

must create a safe environment for dialogue about controversial topics in class. Ideally, teachers should also provide alternative narratives to extremist propaganda, and teach students how to build a safe online culture.

Social media provides a fertile ground for extremists to recruit new talent. Teachers should be aware of online platforms used by young people and their potential dangers. They should have knowledge about the threats on the internet, especially when it comes to the recruitment of young people by extremists, and about how extremists disseminate propaganda online. They should educate students about the dynamics of hate speech and fake news, as students may be unaware of the messages behind provocative content that is being disseminated in virtual spaces.

If a student disseminates extremist ideologies and distributes hate material among classmates, educationists should be trained on how to deal with such situations. They should be trained on how to work with parents, social services, and police. Responding to the threat of extremism warrants the creation of an appropriate classroom atmosphere and a democratic school culture. Students should be trained on how to identify bias, and teachers should provide a safe space where students feel comfortable expressing their opinions.

Our teachers can perform an immense national service if they help students enhance their awareness and build resilience against radicalisation. Knowing how to identify and respond to signs of radicalisation, engaging constructively in conflict resolution, and facilitating communication can help many vulnerable souls make the journey from darkness to light. -- Courtesy Dawn



September 6: A day of national pride in Pakistan's military history



On September 6, 1965, Pakistan faced a grave challenge to the sovereignty and integrity, which the nation and its valiant armed forces met with great courage and determination, defeating the sinister designs of much-larger enemy – India.

Since then, the nation has been observing the Defence Day every year with great zeal, seeking Allah Almighty's blessing and support for the country's integrity, prosperity and independence.

The day is commemorated to revive the national spirit and renew the pledge of defending the country against all sorts of threats, paying homage to the sons and daughters of the soil who laid down their lives and endured the vagaries of war in defending the motherland.

Fifty-five years back, it was the first full-fledged war with India after a clash in 1947-48 on the core issue of Kashmir, which unfortunately still remained unresolved even after the passage of more than 70 years, besides becoming a nuclear war flashpoint. Later, the two armies also fought in 1971 and 1999 and remained eyeball-to-eyeball several times.



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The latest episode took place in February, 2019 when Indian aircraft intruded Pakistani airspace after the Pulwama incident, whom the Pakistan Air Force gave a befitting reply by gunning down its two fighter jets and arresting a pilot.

Initially, the Indian forces intruded Pakistani area in the Rann of Kutch in April 1965, whom was ejected in a sharp and short conflict. Both the armies had fully mobilized, with eyeball-to-eyeball contact. Pakistan proposed cease-fire, India accepted, following which an agreement was signed and the forces were disengaged.

Past midnight on September 5-6, without a formal declaration of war, Indian army crossed the international border and attacked Lahore and Kasur fronts. Pakistan Army and Air Force halted the attack in its tracks, inflicting heavy casualties on the aggressor. On September 7, a single Pakistan Air Force (PAF) Pilot, Squadron Leader Muhammad Mahmood Alam, Sitar-i-Juraat, in his F-86 Sabre, shot down five Indian Air Force (IAF) attacking Hunter aircraft in a single sortie, an unbeaten world record till date.

On September 6-7

night, three teams of Pakistan's Special Services Groups were parachuted on the IAF bases at Pathankot, Adampur and Halwara to neutralize them.

To relieve pressure on Lahore front, on September 7-8 night, after crossing two major water obstacles in a bold thrust, Pakistan's armoured and mechanized formations supported by artillery and PAF overran area Khem Karn, six to eight miles inside Indian territory. Vital Indian positions at Sulemanki and across Rajasthan and Sindh were also captured in bold and swift attacks.

On the same night, one Corps of Indian Army launched its main effort east of Sialkot with one armoured and three infantry divisions on Pakistan's extended 15 Division front, screened only by gallant 3 Frontier Force and B Company 13 Frontier Force (Reconnaissance & Support). The 24 Infantry Brigade, led by Brigadier A.A. Malik, Hilal-i-Juraat, which was on the move in area Pasrur, rushed 25 Cavalry under Lieutenant Colonel Nisar Ahmad, Sitar-i-Juraat, on 8 September to delay and disrupt enemy thrusts.

As soon as the pres-

ence of India's one Armoured Division was confirmed, Pakistan Army rushed forward to stop the onslaught on a 30-mile front. The biggest tank battle since World War-II was fought on the Chawinda front by 6 Armoured Division, under command 24 Infantry Brigade Groups and valiantly supported by 4 Corps Artillery led by Brigadier A.A.K. Choudhry, Hilal-i-Juraat.

Pakistan Air Force (PAF) support helped turn the tide of the battle. Before a counter offensive by 6 Armoured Division on 22 September could be launched, India asked for cease-fire in the United Nations. India's aggression against Pakistan's international borders without a formal declaration of war, had cost it, apart from heavy personnel, material and

extraordinary role in defending the Lahore Bedian area in 1965.

Where the country's armed forces proved their mettle, despite being short in number and having limited resources, the whole nation stood by them shoulder-to-shoulder in thwarting the attack.

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Defence Day: For honour and inspiration



By Arif Iftikhar

Very often we take for granted our freedoms as citizens of an independent country and the peaceful surroundings of our city and other places in Pakistan that we visit. This freedom and peace is ensured by the military and security agencies that work round the clock to protect our country from foreign and other kinds of domestic threats. Their role is to work for the defence and security of the country under the guidance of the civilian government; and their personnel make great sacrifices, if necessary, in the course of their duty.

The contributions of the defence services provided by our military forces are marked by the annual celebration of the national Defence Day in our country.

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The contributions of the defence services provided by our military forces are marked by the annual celebration of the national Defence Day in our country. Defence Day, as the name suggests, commemorates the day when our national armed forces successfully defended the attack of Indian forces on our country in the 1965 war. It is a tribute to our armed forces and all the martyrs of the war. It is celebrated on September 6 each year. The enemy attacked

our borders on September 6, 1965, with a view to invade the attacked areas. It was a reaction to stop the advance of Pakistani military in India Occupied Kashmir. They mainly attacked the regions of Lahore, Sialkot and the desert areas of Sindh. The battle lasted till September 22, 1965, when both sides accepted the United Nations-administered ceasefire.

Our military was successful in defending not only the areas attacked but also in protecting the lives of thousands of civilians and their homes. As such, we owe a duty to honour and respect all the military personnel of our country who gave up their lives so that we, our relatives and our fellow countrymen could live peacefully. This respect and honour should also extend to all those military personnel who supported our martyrs, risked their lives and lived to tell the tale.

Many of our martyred national heroes were given awards for their gallantry and bravery. The highest military award of Nishan-i-Haider was awarded to Major Raja Aziz Bhatti, for his extraordinary role in defending the Lahore Bedian area in 1965.

He is among a handful of other gallant and brave military personnel who were martyred and awarded the same award in other battles and wars. They gave the ultimate sacrifice of their lives in the defence of Pakistan.

Reminiscing the 1965 War

By Taj MKhattak

President Ayub Khan's brief address to the nation on 6th September 1965 was a moment when history of Pakistan took a turn. It was a moment we remember for exactly what we were doing and where we were when it



happened. On that day, a few minutes past eleven in the morning, and barely seventeen years old, I found myself entering office of the President Inter Services Selection Board Kohat as an officer candidate. Just then Ayub's authoritative words "Mere aziz hum watano" (my dear countrymen) from a small transistor boomed across the room – words which electrified an entire nation for defense of their motherland.

President Ayub spoke of how Indian army had attacked Lahore that morning at three different places with an infantry division, three armor regiments and that Pakistan was at war with India. But the Indian attack

was blunted and attackers were stopped dead in their tracks by a much smaller force.

At sea Pakistan Navy was about to write history of its own as every ships in its flotilla - PNS Babur (with Captain M AK Lodhi in command), Khaibar (Captain

A Hanif), Badr (Commander IH Malik), Tippu Sultan (Commander Amir Aslam), Jahangir (Commander K M Hussain), Shah Jahan (Commander Zafar Shamsie) and Alamgir (Commander IF Qadir) left harbor in the morning almost immediately after receiving orders to proceed to their pre-assigned war stations under overall command of Commodore S M Anwar who was the Commodore Commanding PN Flotilla.

PNS Tughril was the only ship left in harbor as it was undergoing a re-fit program. It goes to the credit of officers and men of technical services whose dedication ensured such a feat with old and steam driven ships – an

Kutch emergency, had worked up the ships to the pinnacle of operational readiness, which is why their response was so swift and speedy.

accomplishment which will be hard to match today. From the operations branch, if there is one person who deserves a mention, it would be Commodore Saleemi, who as the previous Commodore Commanding Pakistan Navy Flotilla during Rann of

Kutch emergency, had worked up the ships to the pinnacle of operational readiness, which is why their response was so swift and speedy.

Pakistan Navy's only submarine PNS/M Ghazi (with Commander K R Niazi in command) had sailed from Karachi three days earlier on 3rd September and on 4th September, she was ordered to shift her patrol to within a radius of 50 miles off Bombay (Mumbai). Pakistan Navy was the first to field a submarine in Indian Ocean in 1965 just as it was the first in the world in 1973 to induct Exocet missiles on its helicopters in its nascent naval aviation which dramatically altered battlefield disposi-

tion. This speaks volumes about vision of naval leadership as prudent deployment of Ghazi radiated strategic effects and kept Indian Navy bottled up in various ports and naval bases for entire duration of the war.

Just as war clouds were gathering in August 1965, intelligence reports suggested presence of Indian Navy heavy cruiser INS Mysore, Frigates Beas and Brahmaputra at Calcutta. Soon they were ordered to proceed to west coast to join other destroyers and frigates and were tracked by PN through HF/DF all the way till Cochin. The aircraft carrier INS Vikrant and another heavy cruiser INS Delhi were refitting at Bombay while carrier borne aircraft had all been shifted to Jammagar by 5th September.

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Around noon on 7th September, all PN ships at sea were alerted about an attack on Dwarka that night, which was about 200 nautical miles from Karachi. They were ordered to assembly point by sunset from where they were to proceed towards Dwarka and on completion of shore bombardment, withdraw to their arc of patrol off Karachi. The force was cautioned about possible presence of some enemy surface combatants and air threat.

There has been some debate as to why Dwarka was chosen for the strike. The intended objectives in the preva-

lent environments of 1965 were, a) to draw enemy units out into barrier laid by PNS/M Ghazi, b) destroy the IAF's only bomber guidance beamer in the area for directing strikes from Jammagar against Karachi, c) to cause alarm and confusion along the Indian coast since Dwarka was the centre business in the region, d) possible diversion of air effort from land operations towards seaward defense of Indian coast and lastly to gain psychological advantage by striking deep into Indian territorial waters. This was a perfectly logical rationale as within 36 hours after the war broke out, Pakistan Navy struck deep into Indian territorial waters, wrested the initiative as well as psychological advantage and put an end to all further air attacks on Karachi by destroying radar and beamer installations at Dwarka.

To achieve this, it was essential to retain an element of surprise. By using a combination of restrictions and relaxations in Electronic Emission Policy on various communication circuits and radars, the force succeeded in keeping its location disguised as it steamed towards target on a south easterly heading at best possible speed. There was no luxury of GPS in those days and war records mentions circumcumulus clouds scudding across the sky making it impossible to do an evening star shoot. With darkened ships,

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worked out for air defense based on ships weaponry and gun ranges. The task force finally approached firing position a few minutes past midnight and after sorting out ranging issues one last time, 'Operation Somnath' was executed which authorized each ship to fire fifty rounds of high explosive ammunition. Those who participated in the operation remember the firing as disciplined which on an average, took three minutes to complete. There were some flashes from shore which were initially assumed as coming from Indian shore battery but later evaluated as own HEDA fall of shots.

The Indian Navy official version acknowledged the damage caused as a result of this action. The report stated that around midnight on



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8th September some shells fell directly on Naval Radar Facility destroying most of the infrastructure. About fifty persons were officially reported dead with many more injured. The Naval Air Station at Dwarka used for test flights for INS Vikrant also received shells on the runway and was rendered ineffective for the next two months.

After the war, questions were asked in Indian parliament as to why Indian Navy didn't respond to this daring attack by Pakistan Navy, especially after President's Ayub's speech left no doubt that Pakistan was at war with India. The Indian Defense ministry maintained that defense of Andaman and Nicobar Islands against an attack from Indonesia was more important than engaging Pakistan Navy.

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ISLAMABAD: Commander of the Turkish Naval Forces, Admiral Erçument Tatlıoğlu, along with the members of his delegation, called on President Dr. Arif Alvi, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Pak, Turkiye reiterate resolve to strengthen bilateral cooperation

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan and Turkiye on Tuesday reiterated their resolve to further strengthen bilateral cooperation in diverse areas for the mutual benefit of the two brotherly countries.

This bilateral ties were discussed in a meeting between President Dr Arif Alvi and the visiting Commander of the Turkish Naval Forces, Admiral Erçument Tatlıoğlu, who along with his delegation called on the president at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

The meeting was also attended by Pakistan's

Chief of Naval Staff, Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi, Ambassador of Turkiye in Pakistan, Dr Mehmet Pacaci, and government officials of both sides. Welcoming the Commander of Turkish Naval Forces, the president said that both countries enjoyed excellent relations which were based on common religion, historical bonds, besides having similar stance on various issues.

He emphasised the need to further improve bilateral cooperation in diverse areas, including the maritime and defence cooperation. President Alvi recalled his visit to Turkiye in August 2021 to participate in the launching ceremony of the first of the four MILGEM corvettes for Pakistan Navy.

He lauded the regular participation of the navies of the two brotherly countries in bilateral and multi-lateral exercises, adding that the close naval cooperation was a manifestation of strong relations between Pakistan and Turkiye.

During the meeting, the president highlighted the atrocities being committed by the Indian security forces against the Muslims in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), besides expressing concern over persecution of minorities in India. He stressed that the international community should take notice of the human rights abuses in IIOJK as well as the persecution of minorities in India.

The president appreciated the Turkish support to Pakistan's principled stance on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

Speaking on the occasion, Commander of the Turkish Naval Forces said

Pakistan's request to Iran to overcome the shortage of medicines

ISLAMABAD (Online): Ambassador of Islamic Republic of Iran to Pakistan Dr. Reza Amiri Mughdam met Federal Minister of Health Dr. Nadeem Jan.

Dr. Nadeem Jan welcomed the Iranian Ambassador and expressed his determination to further strengthen the relationship.

The Iranian envoy said that he wishes the supervisor good wishes and you will significantly improve the health sector.

Iran wants to invest from Pakistan in the field of medicines. Nadeem Jan, the Federal Minister of Health, said that Pakistan and Iran have deep ceremonies and strong relations spanning centuries.

Pakistan and Iran will benefit from each other's experiences to improve the health sector. In the field of



success in assuming the portfolio of health. The appointment of a world-renowned health expert like

Ejaz directs WASA to increase revenue; take steps for water supply

Independent Report
QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Public Health Engineering (PHE), Sardar Ejaz Ahmed Jaffar has directed the Balochistan-WASA to take practical steps for provision of water to the citizens on priority basis and increase its revenue by adopting strategy on war footing grounds.

The caretaker Minister was speaking on occasion of the briefing conducted by the Managing Director WASA, Hamid Latif Rana and Project Director



QUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Information Minister Jan Achakzai talking with people protesting against Customs

Bilawal terms Sept 6 as metaphor for Pakistan's courage

KARACHI (APP): Chairman of Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has termed the September 6 as a metaphor for Pakistan's national courage & bravery and said that the nation is united and always ready to defend its homeland.

In his message to the nation on the occasion of Defense Day, he saluted the armed forces for their bravery and sacrifices. He has also paid glowing tribute to the families of the martyrs of the armed forces for their courage and patience.

The PPP Chairman said that it is a matter of pride for him that the performance of PPP leadership and its governments in the defense of the country has been historic and wonderful.

He reminded that laying the foundations of the nuclear program to make



QUETTA: Provincial Advisor Irrigation Mir Danish Lango meeting with Caretaker Provincial Education Minister Dr. Qadir Bakhsh Baloch

Pakistan keen to promote cooperation with Iran in fields of media, film: Solangi

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi said on Tuesday that Pakistan was keen to promote cooperation with Iran in the fields of media, film and drama.

During a meeting with Iranian Ambassador Reza Amiri Moghaddam, who called on him here, the minister said, "Cooperation between the two countries in the fields of media is the need of the hour."

The minister and the ambassador discussed issues of mutual interest, fraternal relations between the two countries and promotion of cooperation in the field of media.

"Cooperation between the two countries in the field of media is indispensable," Murtaza Solangi said.

A memorandum of understanding had already been signed between the Associated Press of Paki-

Final date about return of Nawaz to Pak: Nawaz, Shehbaz make consultation

LONDON (Online): PML-N supremo Nawaz Sharif and former Prime Minister (PM) Shehbaz Sharif have made consultations on the final date about return of Nawaz Sharif to Pakistan in a meeting.

Shehbaz Sharif is likely to announce date regarding return of Nawaz Sharif soon.

On the other hand consultations are underway among party leaders in connection with announcement of final date with reference to return of Nawaz Sharif to Pakistan.

An important meeting of PML-N will be convened ahead of announcement about final date. During the meeting telephonic contacts will be made with PML-N leaders available in Pakistan.

Italian Navy ship visits Pakistan, conducts sea exercise

KARACHI (APP): Italian Navy Ship MOROSINI on Tuesday visited Karachi and conducted bilateral exercise with Pakistan Navy.

Upon arrival at Karachi Port, the Italian Navy Ship was warmly welcomed by senior officials of the Pakistan Navy and the Ambassador of Italy, a Pakistan Navy news release said.

On completion of the port visit, Pakistan Navy Ship SHAHJAHAN with embarked helicopter and PAF fighters carried out a sea exercise with a visiting Italian ship to enhance interoperability between both navies.

Decision to give relief people from IPPs' money

ISLAMABAD (Online): It has been decided to give relief to the public with the money of IPPs, more than 15 billion of IPPs will be used to give relief in electricity bills.

According to the Ministry of Finance sources, a new plan for relief in electricity bills has been sent to the IMF by the Ministry of Finance.

More than 15 billion was earmarked for the payments to IPPs for the current financial year, the additional amount allocated to IPPs can be adjusted to provide relief in electricity bills.

6th September is day to remember national spirit and enthusiasm: Jamali

Independent Report
QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Home, Mir Zubair Jamali has stated that the day of 6th September is a historic day for the whole nation when our armed forces had made it clear to the enemy that Pakistan nation and armed forces know very well how to protect the freedom. In a message issued here on Defence Day of Pakistan being observed today



QUETTA: Provincial Advisor Shania Khan meeting with Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki

Caretaker Minister Health vows to bring reforms in Health department

Independent Report
QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Health, Dr. Amir Muhammad Khan Jozgezi has pledged that the reforms would be brought about in health department making it center of public service.

He was addressing the introductory meeting with the Secretary Health, Asfandiyar Khan and other officers of Health department here on Tuesday.

The Special Secretary Health, Dawood Bazai, Additional Secretary Health, Atiqullah Khan, Additional Secretary, Arif Achakzai, Deputy Secretary Riasat Ali, Deputy Secretary

Dr Rubaba hails establishment of anti-rape crises cell

QUETTA (APP): Former Parliamentary Secretary and Chairperson Women Parliamentary Caucus Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi Tuesday hailed the establishment of Anti-Rape Crises cell in hospitals of 34 districts in Balochistan.

She expressed the hope that concrete steps would be taken to complete the construction of forensic lab project proposed in the previous regime.

Ex Parliamentary Secretary Law and Parliamentary Affairs made these remarks here on Tuesday.

Dr. Rubaba Khan said that the establishment of an Anti-Rape Crises cell in the district headquarters hospitals of Balochistan would provide medical assistance to the rape victims more effectively.

Through functioning of this cell, she hoped carrying out legal affairs will be easier, ensuring the victims to get speedy justice at the local level.

She noted that the government had agreed to set up a forensic lab under a public-private partnership during the visit of Syed Kaleem Imam, a former senior police officer who served prominently in the police department and anti-crime academic at Quaid-e-Azam University. She also hailed that active role of other organizations for protecting women rights, including Shirkat Gah, Forum for Dignity Initiatives Pakistan, Commission on Status of Women, Aurat Foundation.

AC wraps up Babar Awan bail petition in 190 m pounds scandal

ISLAMABAD (Online): Accountability Court (AC) has disposed of PTI leader and lawyer Babar Awan bail petition in 190 million pounds scandal in the light of investigation officer statement.

Babar Awan appeared before judge Muhammad Bashir of AC Islamabad on the matter of extension in his bail in 190 million pounds scandal case.

NAB prosecutor told the court arrest warrants of Babar Awan have not been issued.

Judge Muhammad Bashir said according to NAB your arrest is not required. Therefore, warrants have not been issued.

Babar Awan argued I received notice whereby NAB had summoned me. I sent reply I had no document in respect of 190 million pounds and I was outside the country. Second notice was received by me from NAB.

Daroo Khan says Balochistan possesses unique opportunities to improve country's economic prospects

QUETTA (APP): Pakistan Business Forum (PBF) Balochistan Chairman Engr. Daroo Khan Achakzai said that Pakistan's economic progress and development have been primarily dependent on its agriculture sector and effective reform of the agriculture sector is urgently required.

As the country's largest province by area, Balochistan holds unique opportunities to improve the country's economic prospects, he expressed these views while talking to APP here on Tuesday.

PBF Balochistan Chairman, Engr. Daroo Khan Achakzai stated that tourism is central to the economy of southern Balochistan where clean, eye-catching beaches have not been explored fully.

The province has a coastline 750 kilometers long. Fishing is a good source of income for the people who dwell in this part of the province. According to recent estimations, fishery resources have a value of over \$1 billion, he maintained.

He said that then there are beautiful date gardens in the Makran division, i.e., Gwadar, Kech and Panjgur, the only modern date-processing plant in Pakistan is

Digital media activists meet Jamal Raisani

Independent Report
QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs, Nawabzada Jamal Raisani has exhorted the digital media activists to bring the positive face of the province before the world in order expose the elements doing negative agenda against the province.

The caretaker Minister was in introductory meeting with the digital media activists who called on him here at his office on Tuesday.

The digital media activists informed the caretaker Minister about the issues of people associated with the digital media besides other related matters.

Jamal Raisani said that it is his endeavor to extend every possible cooperation to the influencers and bloggers of the province so as to show the positive face of the province to the country and world.

Speaker GB Legislative Assembly calls on NA Speaker

ISLAMABAD (APP): Speaker Gilgit-Baltistan Legislative Assembly Nazir Ahmed here on Tuesday calls on National Assembly Speaker Raja Pervez Ashraf in Parliament House, Raja Pervez Ashraf said that Gilgit Baltistan (GB) was blessed with unmatched natural sceneries which rendered the region a potentially great destination, said a news release. He also assured all legislative and administrative support to newly established Gilgit Baltistan Assembly. The speaker also said that supporting staff and members of GB Legislative Assembly would be provided training.



QUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Minister for Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Nawabzada Mir Jamal Khan Raisani being briefed by Secretary Sports Ishaq Jamali regarding departmental affairs

Daroo Khan says Balochistan possesses unique opportunities to improve country's economic prospects

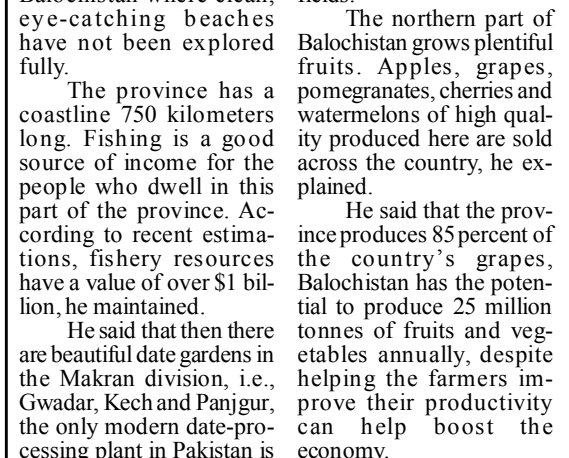
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The northern part of Balochistan grows plentiful fruits. Apples, grapes, pomegranates, cherries and watermelons of high quality produced here are sold across the country, he explained.

He said that the province produces 85 percent of the country's grapes, Balochistan has the potential to produce 25 million tonnes of fruits and vegetables annually, despite helping the farmers improve their productivity can help boost the economy.



QUETTA: Balochistan National Party (BNP) Chairman, Sardar Akhtar Jan Mengal addressing to media persons during press conference.

Balochistan govt converts 220 water supply schemes to solar energy

QUETTA (APP): Addressing the meeting, the caretaker provincial minister said that the projects should be executed despite limited to paper work and all resources will be utilized for uninterrupted supply of clean drinking water to the people across the province.

He said such kind projects should be initiated which can benefit maximum number of people.

He urged the official to ensure the timely completion of the projects and directed to prepare and submit the PC-1 on new projects by September 30.

The caretaker provincial minister said that the water pipeline affected by the flood should be replaced and repaired immediately.