

# Independent

dailyindisb@gmail.com Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah www.dailyindependent.com.pk Gwadar

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## Deportation process applies to all illegal foreigners: PM Kakar

LAHORE (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Monday reiterated that as per government's policy and relevant laws, they were sending back all the illegal aliens and foreigners from the soil of Pakistan as the set deadline of October 31 under the repatriation process draws nearer. He said that such policy was not centric to only illegal Afghan nationals that had been staying inside the country but encompassed all those undocumented and illegal foreigners.

In an interaction with the students of Lahore University of Management

Sciences (LUMS) during a special session, the prime minister elaborated that Pakistan had hosted more than 4 million Afghan refugees on its soil for the last 40 years under the Geneva Convention, despite the fact that it was not a signatory to that.

He said more than 1 million foreigners had been categorized as illegal who had been staying in Pakistan without legal and valid documents. They were being encouraged to return back to their native countries, he said, adding if they wanted to return to Pakistan with the required legal documents and valid vi-

sas, there would be no restriction. Replying to a question regarding an incident involving Afghan nationals, the caretaker prime minister said that he had already given direction to the relevant authorities of the interior ministry to ensure dignity of the repatriated women and children as there might be vulnerable groups.

The prime minister said that Pakistan had entertained on its soil for decades those Afghans that had been registered as refugees and compared the treatment meted out to immigrants' boats in the Mediterranean Sea.



QUETTA: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki addressing participants of National Security Workshop (NSW) to Chief Minister's Secretariat

## Caretaker govt has no political agenda: Solangi

Locals helping undocumented immigrants will be dealt with iron hand: Bugti

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi on Monday said that the caretaker government was strictly adhered to its constitutional role of holding free, fair and transparent elections in the country.

"We are not a political government, and we do not have any political agenda. Political parties do not need us for establishing contacts with each other. The Election Commission is in contact with all the political parties," the minister said while addressing a press conference after a meeting

## Geo-political importance of Balochistan not hidden from anyone, says caretaker CM

Domki says interim Govt endeavouring to restore peace of the past; around 40 precious minerals resources discovered so far, which are enough to meet 50 to 100 years needs of country; facilitation centres established for immigrants repatriating to their country on voluntary basis

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prevention of the smuggling in Balochistan.

In addition to this, joint check posts have also been established all over the province, he added.

While on the other hand, marked reduction has been made in prices of the edibles following measures taken for control of the prices. Regarding the repatriation of illegal immigrants, special centres have been established for their assistance in the border areas, adding he informed. He also said that every possible assistance is being provided to the immigrants repatriating to their country voluntarily. The action would be started for repatriation of the illegal immigrants after the given deadline, adding he asserted.

About potential of the province in natural resources, the Chief Minister mentioned that the reservoirs of around 40 precious minerals have been discovered so far in the province. These resources are enough to meet the 50 to 100 years needs of the country.

The Chief Minister said that massive economic activities for the investment and means of employment for local population could be generated in the mineral resources sector.

He said that it is the endeavour of interim government to restore exemplary peace of the past and provide protection to the life and property of the masses.



ISLAMABAD: The Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs a meeting of the Caretaker Federal Cabinet.

## Decision of repatriation of illegal immigrants in interest of country's security & betterment: Achakzai

Says interim Government fully prepared to send foreigners back to their homeland

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QUETTA: The caretaker Provincial Minister for Information, Jan Achakzai has categorically stated that the decision about repatriation of the illegal immigrants to their respective countries has been taken in the interest of country's security and betterment.

The Minister Information was addressing the conference on the issue of repatriation of the illegal immigrants here at the civil secretariat on Monday.

The prominent religious leaders including the central khateeb, Maulana Anwarul Haq Haqqani and others participated in the conference.

The conference was organized by the Information Department. Government of Balochistan in collaboration with an organization.

## Fierce clashes in Gaza as Israeli forces expand ground offensive

**Monitoring Desk**

GAZA/JERUSALEM: Fierce air and artillery strikes rang out in Gaza early on Monday as Israeli troops backed by tanks pressed into the Palestinian enclave with a ground assault that prompted more international calls for civilians to be protected. Israel's military said it had struck more than 600 militant targets over the past few days as it expanded ground operations in the Gaza Strip, where Palestinian civilians are in dire need of fuel, food and clean water as the war enters its fourth week.

"IDF troops killed dozens of terrorists who barricaded themselves in buildings and tunnels, and attempted to attack the troops," a military statement said. Israel began a major push into Gaza on Friday and reiterated calls for civilians to move from the north of the tiny coastal enclave to the south as it tries to root out Hamas militants.

## Political Party's sit-in outside Parliament to be addressed through negotiations: Bugti

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Minister for Interior, Senator Sarfraz Bugti Monday emphasized the need for negotiations to resolve ongoing sit-in outside the Parliament, led by the political party BNP-M and civil society members.

Speaking here at the Senate, he said that while the BNP-M had initially been granted permission for a press conference and a token protest at the Islamabad Press Club, adding they subsequently moved their demonstration to the Red Zone, where they continued to stage their sit-in.

Bugti underscored the prominent role of seasoned Politician Akhtar Khan Mengal in the protest, considering his party's involvement in various governmental capacities over the last decade.

Senator Raza Rabbani, addressing the issue during the Senate session, highlighted the protesters' concerns, particularly regarding the chronic problem of missing persons and alleged death squads operating in Balochistan.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman of Balochistan National Party Sardar Akhtar Mengal along with Pakistani human rights activist Amina Masood Janjua and others participate in the protest of the missing persons outside Parliament House in Federal Capital.

## Justice Mansoor issues dissenting note in NAB amendment case

ISLAMABAD (APP): Supreme Court (SC)'s Justice Mansoor Ali Shah on Monday issued 27-pages dissenting note in judgment pertaining to the NAB amendments. Justice Shah wrote that judiciary could review a legislation only when it contradicted with fundamental human rights.

It said that examining the legislation by keeping the interest of the legislators in front was tantamount to undermining the parliament and democracy.

The note said that the court had to give judgments according to the constitution and law even if it goes against the public sentiment.

The balance between the institutions could be maintained only if there was a mutual relationship of respect, it said, adding that the judiciary should show tolerance as long as the constitutional limits were not violated.

## Two soldiers embrace martyrdom in Awaran District

**RAWALPINDI (APP):** Two soldiers embraced martyrdom during an exchange of fire with terrorists in the general area Khoro, Awaran District of Balochistan, on Sunday. According to an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) press release, the troops effectively engaged the terrorists' location and resultantly two terrorists were sent to hell, while two got injured.

However, during an intense exchange of fire, Naib Subedar Asif Irfan (age 37 years, resident of District Okara) and Sepoy Irfan Ali (age 22 years, resident of District Sargodha) having fought gallantly, embraced 'Shahadat'. Sanitization of the area is being carried out to eliminate any terrorists found in the area. The security forces are determined to eliminate the menace of terrorism and such sacrifices of our brave soldiers further strengthen our resolve, the ISPR press release added.



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar addressing at ceremony of Religious Affairs & Interfaith Harmony.

## Governor emphasizes on promotion of inter-faith & religious harmony

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QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has emphasized upon promotion of the inter-faith and religious harmony in the province.

The Governor was addressing the inter-faith and religion harmony held here at the Sikandar Jamali auditorium in civil secretariat on Monday.

The caretaker provincial Minister for Information, Jan Muhammad Achakzai, Sardar Zainul Abidin, prominent religious scholar and leaders besides representatives of civil society, and people belonging to different walks of the life.

The Governor said that we have to ensure the rights and powers of all the citizens on the equal basis without any discrimination.

He said that the constitution of Pakistan ensures giving equal rights to all citizens with freedom of expression and religion.

He expressed pleasure over holding of the inter faith and religion harmony.



ISLAMABAD: Chief Guest of the event Caretaker Interior Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti cut the cake along with Ambassador of Turkey to Pakistan Mehmet Pacaci, Governor Sindh Kamran Tessori and others during the celebrations of the 100th Anniversary of the Proclamation of the Republic of Turkey, at local hotel in Federal Capital.

## Special anti-polio campaign kicks off in 10 districts of Balochistan

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QUETTA: The special anti-polio campaign started in 10 districts of Balochistan on Monday.

According to the Emergency Operation Center (EOC), the campaign started in Awaran, Dera Bugti, Gwadar, Usta Muhammad, Hub, Jaffarabad, Khuzdar, Lasbela, Naseerabad and Sohbatpur.

The special polio immunization campaign, however, has been postponed in four high risk districts of the province including

## Electricity price likely to be increased by Rs 1.30

ISLAMABAD (INP): The price of electricity is likely to increase as the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) is considering a proposal to increase the price of electricity by one rupee and 30 paise. The proposal would put an additional burden of 22 billion 56 crore rupees on consumers.

The increase is being proposed to cover the cost of electricity theft and line losses, as well as to increase electricity consumption.

## Decision to deport illegal foreigners in line with sovereign laws, int'l norms: FO

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Foreign Office on Monday said the decision to deport the illegal foreigners residing in Pakistan was in line with the sovereign domestic laws and international principles.

**Spokesperson** Mumtaz Zahra Baloch, in response to a statement by the United Nations High Commissioner (UNHCR), said the decision was "in exercise of Pakistan's sovereign domestic laws, and compliant with applicable international norms and principles."

The UNHCR had appealed to the Pakistani authorities to suspend the deportations as a November 1 deadline looms. "We have seen the press statement by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights."

The Illegal Foreigners Repatriation Plan (IFRP) applies to all illegal foreigners residing in Pakistan, irrespective of their nationality and country of origin," she said in a statement. Baloch said all foreign nationals legally residing or registered in Pakistan were beyond the purview of this Plan.

"The Government of Pakistan takes its commitments towards protection and safety needs of those in vulnerable situations with utmost seriousness," she said. She mentioned that the country's record of the last 40 years in hosting millions of the Afghan brothers and sisters spoke for itself.

The FO spokesperson urged the international community to scale up collective efforts to address protracted refugee situations through advancing durable solutions as a matter of priority. "Pakistan will continue to work with our international partners to this end," she said.



NOWSHERA: Illegal immigrants families living in Pakistan arrived outside the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) repatriation center to voluntarily return to Afghanistan following Pakistan's government decision to deport all illegally staying foreigners from the country after October 31st.





## President for promoting tele-medicine and tele-health services in Pakistan

Says doctors should bridge up awareness gap to overcome health challenges

KARACHI (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi has called for promoting tele-medicine and tele-healthcare platforms to improve the outreach of healthcare services to low-income areas of the country. He said that digital platforms could enhance the reach of health services to far-flung areas, besides providing timely advice to people and helping promote preventive healthcare solutions in Pakistan.

The President made these remarks while addressing a ceremony titled "Spirit of Female Entrepreneurship and Medical Leadership of Female Doctors" organised by Sehat Kahani, in Karachi. Sehat Kahani's CEO, Sara Saeed Khurram, COO & Co-founder of Sehat Kahani, Dr Ifrat Zafar, and other medical professionals working in the field of tele-healthcare services attended the event.

Addressing the event, the President said that nations failed due to lack of education and health facilities, adding that Pakistan needed to focus more on disease prevention rather than curing the diseases. He also regretted that 28 million children were out of school in the country.

The President highlighted that women in our country faced different hurdles in society towards their participation in mainstream economic activities. He stressed the role of institutions in creating greater opportunities to empower and educate women. President Dr Arif Alvi appreciated Sehat Kahani's active role in transforming society with better opportunities for female doctors.

He also acknowledged Sehat Kahani's role in providing a pathway for women to serve their coun-

try, besides lauding their focus on tele-medicine and tele-health care services. The President said that communication was the key to bringing betterment to society. He also emphasized initiating conversations at home as a step towards the solutions of issues such as mental health and well-being and other health-related issues. He said that the government launched a helpline through an application titled 'Hamraaz' to meet the challenge of mental health and the people, who were facing mental illness or any depression condition could use it. He said that Hamraaz was launched during the tenure of the previous government. The President also presented shields to the doctors in the field of medicine, from various specialisations, serving all across Pakistan.



KARACHI: President Dr. Arif Alvi addressing during an event on the Spirit of female Entrepreneurship and Medical Leadership of female doctors organized by Sehat Kahani.

## Court gives one week time to federation to file reply on matter of audio leaks

ISLAMABAD (Online): Islamabad High Court (IHC) has given one month time to federal government to file reply on the matter of audio leaks.

Justice Babar Sattar remarked how is electronic surveillance being conducted. Who is doing it. Pakistan Communication Authority (PCA) is saying it has not given permission to any one. The audio of judge of Supreme Court (SC) and family of former chief justice leaked. Doing it without taking state into confidence is horrific decision. Who is competent authority with reference to audio tape.

It has been said in Prime Minister (PM) office

report it does not see daily matters of secret agencies.

Justice Babar Sattar of IHC heard the petitions against summoning of Najam ul Saqib son of former Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) by parliamentary committee in audio leaks case and summoning of Bushra Bibi in FIA on the matter of audio leak of Bushra Bibi with Zulfi Bukhari by clubbing the both.

Amicus curie Raza Rabbani filed written reply saying court should not see this matter. The matter should have been returned to committee. With the dissolution of assemblies, all the orders of committees become ineffective.

## Pakistan, US enjoying long-lasting educational ties: Masood

WASHINGTON (INP): Pakistan's Ambassador to the United States Masood Khan has stated that Pakistan and United States have long-standing educational ties and have been making efforts to strengthen their partnership in critical areas.

Interacting with a group of 15 mid-career Pakistani professionals in Washington, from public and private sector, who are currently visiting the United States under Hubert Humphrey Fellowship Program and pursuing their studies in various disciplines in leading US universities.

He said it is a great opportunity for Pakistani students and professionals to visit the United States and benefit from globally

recognized seats of learning and hone their skills for better service delivery.

On Pak-US relations, the Ambassador said that the two countries have recalibrated their relations after post-withdrawal period and have been making efforts to strengthen their partnership in critical areas.

The Ambassador urged the public sector professional to keenly observe study and learn best practices, being followed by the US public sector institutions for improved service delivery.

The Program brings mid-career professionals from developing countries, including Pakistan, to the United States for a year of study and professional experiences.

## Gwadar Port, CPEC playing great role in region's growth, change: Janjua

LAHORE (APP): Gwadar Port and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) are playing increasingly important roles in the region's growth and change.

HI (M) Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Nasser Khan Janjua expressed these views in an interactive session on "CPEC-Global perspective & Place of Pakistan" here at at PCJCCI (Pak-China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry) Secretariat on Monday.

Janjua said, "Gwadar is the gift of Allah to all of us; to the entire Asia and the world. We have to reap the benefit of this gift of God and we have to make things happen. CPEC is half of the dream another half resides in Afghanistan, Central Asian republics and Russia and another half goes to Europe."

Pakistan is connecting around 86 countries and especially Balochistan can become an "Industrial

Hub" of Asia. He said that connecting Gwadar Port with the northwestern part of China is the goal of the CPEC, a large-scale infrastructure project framework.

Transportation, energy, communications, and even cross-industry collaboration are all included. With an expected investment of billions of dollars, the CPEC aims at modernizing energy infrastructure, construct industrial zones, and connect various modes of transportation, he added. He said that Balochistan is richly endowed with natural resources. The province possesses many minerals including coal, sulphur, chromium, iron ore, barytes, marble, quartzite, and limestone. Balochistan has the largest reserves of copper and gold in the world and is also blessed with huge oil reserves. Though rich in mineral resources, so far Baluchistan's contribution to the economy of Pakistan has not been high, he added.

HI (M) Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Nasser Khan Janjua mentioned, "We can develop four cities on the

coastal line of Balochistan and it will definitely help us in maintaining the economic stability of Pakistan. Balochistan can also boost its export competitiveness and achieve sustained economic development by taking advantage of the trade and investment possibilities brought forth by Gwadar Port and the CPEC." He concluded by saying that Gwadar is not only the heart of CPEC, it is also the heart of Asia. It is a doorway, a gateway to Asia and combined with Chahbahar these are only two entries to Asia.

"So we should initiate rapid development in this region so that it can boost trade relations," he added.

Nasser Khan Janjua also expressed solidarity with Palestine and condemned Israel for violating Geneva Conventions grossly with relentless barbaric and inhuman bombardment on civilians. He said that the entire nation of Pakistan stands with the innocent people of Palestine and would support them to the last.



QUETTA: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki and Major General Muhammad Raza exchanging souvenirs during visit of participants of National Security Workshop (NSW) to Chief Minister's Secretariat

## Prince Ahmed chairs CFP meeting to enable Govt to deliver services faster

QUETTA (APP)-Provincial Caretaker Minister of Excise and Small Industries Prince Ahmed Ali Ahmadzai on Monday the Provincial Cloud First Policy (CFP) Meeting in which the cloud-first policy was reviewed to enable governments to deliver services faster and more efficiently with increased transparency and collaboration.

Caretaker Provincial Minister for Information and Public Relations Jan Achakzai, Caretaker Adviser for Minerals Muhammad Umair Muhammad Hassani, Secretary Science and Technology Muhammad Ayaz Mandukhel, Secretary Planning Lal Jan Jaffer, Additional Secretary Finance Hameedullah Nasir attended the meeting.

The meeting was given a detailed briefing on cloud policy.

Addressing the meeting, Prince Ahmed Ali said that the adoption of cloud-first policy by the government and public sector agencies would transform public sector services, saying that it has the potential to improve service delivery and reduce the cost of taxpayer funds.

He said that the aim of the policy is to attract domestic and foreign investment in digital services and supporting IT investment and streamlining IT procurement in the province, which may allow departments to adopt a cloud model.

He said that the approval of the policy reflects the government's continuous efforts to digitize Pakistan, which has seen rapid growth in recent years, for public administration, the policy is a welcome step towards better performance and citizen service delivery.

## Pak, Russia agree to strengthen cultural ties

ISLAMABAD (APP): Russian Ambassador to Pakistan, Danila V. Ganich, met with the Caretaker Federal Minister for National Heritage and Culture, Jamal Shah and discussed matters of mutual interest related to the cultural relations between Pakistan and Russia.

Speaking on the occasion, Jamal Shah said substantial potential exists for collaboration between the two nations.



QUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Minister for Information Jan Achakzai inspecting class room during his visit to Pak Girls High School



QUETTA: Secretary Health Abdullah Khan meeting with Caretaker Provincial Minister for Health Dr. Amir Muhammad Khan Jogezei

## CEC, CM Punjab jointly chair meeting about election

LAHORE (APP): Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sikandar Sultan Raja convened a meeting on Monday with Chief Minister Punjab Mohsin Naqvi and cabinet members to deliberate on ensuring free, fair and impartial elections.

The meeting, jointly chaired by CM Punjab Mohsin Naqvi and CEC Sikandar Sultan Raja at the CM Office, was also attended by ministers. A comprehensive review was conducted, assessing the arrangements made by the Election Commission and gauging the readiness of the Punjab government for the upcoming general elections. Participants were briefed on the security measures in

place. The caretaker Punjab government and the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) affirmed their commitment to ensure peaceful, impartial, and fair elections. It was decided that the Punjab government would designate a focal person for coordination with the ECP.

CEC Sikandar Sultan Raja underscored the proximity of general elections, emphasizing the collective responsibility to ensure that they are conducted freely and fairly within the stipulated time frame. The caretaker Punjab government will receive complete support in conducting transparent elections.

## PTDC planning to establish TIC at Gwadar airport for tourists

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) was planning to establish a modern Tourist Information Center (TIC) at New Gwadar International Airport to facilitate the foreign and local tourists about their destination.

Talking to APP here on Monday, a PTDC official said the establishment of TIC would provide comprehensive information to tourists thronging to Pakistan from various countries to enjoy the beauty of recreational sites of Balochistan. An official said that TIC would not only play a pivotal role in promoting tourism globally but would also emphasize the need for state-of-the-art facilities. He highlighted the growing significance of Gwadar as a tourist destination, attracting visitors from across the country and around the world. He said that Caretaker Minister of State for Tourism Wasi Shah was committed to construct Tourist Information Center at Gwadar airport.

## Haneef Khalid a 'shining star of media community': Solangi

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Murtaza Solangi said on Monday that senior journalist Haneef Khalid was the "shining star of the journalist community" and recognition of his services was overdue. Addressing a special ceremony at the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) to confer the Life-

time Award on Haneef Khalid, the minister said he started his over 50 years illustrious journalistic career as a reporter and desk editor.

Along with being a representative of the journalist community, Haneef Khalid was a "business ambassador" for the media industry and he performed that role in the best possible manner, he added.

## Five thieves held stolen rice cost of Rs, mln along with truck in Pishin

QUETTA (APP)-Levies force arrested five thieves and recovered stolen rice worth of Rs, million along with stolen truck from their possession in a Karizat Dheeraj Kalra area of Pishi district on Monday.

According to Levies sources, on special directive of Deputy Commissioner Pishin Captain Retired Jameel Ahmed Baloch, Levies Force team led by Assistant Commissioner con-

## Raja pays tributes to forces for successful operation

ISLAMABAD (APP): Speaker National Assembly Raja Pervez Ashraf on Monday paid tributes to security forces for conducting successful operation against terrorists in Kharo, Balochistan. He in his message issued here, paid homage to Naib Subedar, Asif Irfan and Sepoy Irfan Ali who martyred while bravely fighting against the terrorists. He extended his condolence and sympathy to the families of the martyrs and prayed high ranks for martyrs.

While on the other hand, seven transformers were removed in Loralai, Pishin and Khaliqabad areas of the province.

In all, 53 more shunt and tempered meters were also removed in the Quetta city.

Similarly, Rs. 1.2 billion were also recovered from 56,546 defaulters so far.

The campaign against the power pilferers and defaulters would remain continued in the province in future as well, the spokesman maintained.



LAHORE: Caretaker Minister of Punjab Cabinet led by Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi meeting with Chief Election Commissioner Sikandar Sultan Raja. ECP members of provinces are also present

## Senate voices concern for Gaza, calls for immediate ceasefire, humanitarian aid

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Senate on Monday expressed concerns over Israeli atrocities against innocent people of Palestine and urged for immediate ceasefire and providing essential humanitarian aid to alleviate their suffering.

The House reiterated the necessity for international bodies to uphold justice and support the establishment of a free Palestine.

of Geneva Convention and UN Resolution on Palestine, and especially barbaric Israeli airstrikes on Al-Ahli Hospital in Gaza hence hundreds of innocent people, patients and Hospital staff were died.

It also reiterated the government of Pakistan to describe efforts made by Pakistan in this scenario. Taking part in debate, Leader of the House Senator Ishaq Dar brought attention to the urgent Gaza issue, underscoring his proactive efforts to address the matter. He revealed that he had dispatched a letter on October 19, advocating for a Senate session dedicated to the Gaza crisis.

The Senator emphasized the pressing need for immediate action, urging all stakeholders, including the

United Nations and other international agencies, to actively engage in resolving the conflict and supporting the people of Palestine.

Highlighting the escalating humanitarian crisis, he stressed the importance of granting the people of Palestine the fundamental right to live in peace within an independent state. Expressing solidarity with the Palestinian cause, Senator Dar condemned the relentless Israeli bombing, which had led to the tragic loss of over 8,000 lives, predominantly comprising innocent children and women. He lamented the recent bombing on a hospital, resulting in the devastating loss of more than 500 individuals, including patients and medical staff, calling it a stark violation of humanitarian norms.