

# Independent

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## CTD SHO martyred, two injured in Khuzdar blast

Caretaker PM, Interior Minister strongly condemns blast

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: An official of Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) was martyred while two others sustained injuries after their vehicle was hit by a magnetic improvised explosive device (IED) in Khuzdar on Sunday noon.

The police sources informed that, CTD Station House Officer Mohammad Murad embraced martyrdom in the blast after his car was targeted on the Sultan Ibrahim road in Khuzdar city. Two others also sustained injuries.

Meanwhile, the wounded were shifted to the Khuzdar Teaching Hospital.

The area police and local administration reached



the spot and cordoned off the area. Investigations have been started by the local police.

Following the incident, caretaker Federal Minister of Interior Sarfaraz Bugti said that the whole nation

## Caretaker CM condemns Khuzdar blast; seeks report from authorities

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: The caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki has strongly condemned the incident of blast in Khuzdar on Sunday, which claimed life of a local police officer and left two others injured.

In an official condemnation issued here on Sunday, the Chief Minister sought report of the explosion from the concerned authorities and ordered an inquiry into it.

He said that it is a condemnable act to attack the

## Senate Chairman accepts Shaukat Tarin's resignation

ISLAMABAD (INP): Senate Chairman Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani has officially accepted the resignation of former Finance Minister Shaukat Tareen from his Senate membership.



The Senate Secretariat issued a statement confirming that Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani, who had traveled to Dubai from Iraq, met with Shaukat Tareen during the visit. In this meeting, Shaukat Tareen tendered his resignation to the Chairman Senate, and after due consideration, Chairman Senate Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani approved the resignation.

## Elections can be postponed in areas under security threat, suggests Qadir Baloch

ISLAMABAD (INP): PPP leader and former federal minister Abdul Qadir Baloch has suggested postponing elections in areas that are under security threat instead of delaying polls entirely.

Last month, the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) and President Arif Alvi agreed on February 8, 2024 as the date for polls. The development stirred activities in the camps of most political parties.

However, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Ghulam Ali recently said it was difficult to carry out political activities in parts

has to fight the war against terrorism as it is becoming a great challenge.

APP adds: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Sunday while strongly condemning a blast in Khuzdar, expressed his deep grief and sorrow over Shahadat of Counter-Terrorism Department, SHO Muhammad Murad.

The prime minister expressed his condolence with the bereaved family and prayed for the high ranks of the departed soul, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

The caretaker Federal Minister for Interior, Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti, strongly condemned the explosion in Khuzdar on

Sunday.

He expressed deep sorrow and regret over the martyrdom of CTD SHO Muhammad Murad in the explosion while expressing his condolences to the martyr's family.

security forces deployed for protection of life and property of the masses and restoration of peace.

He directed the concerned authorities to present inquiry report of the explosion.

The Chief Minister also directed to take the culprits involved in the terrorism act to task.

Moreover, Mir Ali Mardan Domki also paid homage to the martyr police officer besides expressing sympathy and condolence with his bereaved family.



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar giving away laptop to a young candidate of Entry Test of IT Initiative Program at BUTTEMS

## Accuses Sharif family of trying to buy PIA Bilawal says his political rivals are contesting polls to save themselves from jail

Says neither any player nor anyone else can compete with me in politics; PPP contesting election to provide maximum relief to underprivileged: Bilawal

KOHAT (Agencies): Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has said that he does not have any political rivals as "neither any player nor anyone else" can compete with him in politics.

Addressing the party's rally in Kohat district on Sunday, the PPP chief took a veiled jibe at his political opponents, saying that they



KOHAT: Chairman Pakistan People's Party Bilawal Bhutto Zardari addressing to workers convention at Captain Zahoorul Islam Shaheed Football Stadium Babri Banda.

## Syed Farooq Shah pays glowing tribute to Rehmat Shah Afridi

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: The Editor-in-Chief of Independent Group of Newspapers Syed Farooq Shah expressed his sorrow over the death of Rehmat Shah Afridi, founder and Editor-in-Chief of 'The Frontier Post' and paid a glowing tribute to him for his services in journalism.

He said that the services rendered by Rehmat Shah Afridi in the field of journalism will be remembered for long. He prayed for peace to the departed soul and courage to the bereaved family to bear the irreparable loss.

## All projects to be completed by December 30: Pace of work expedited on ongoing development projects under QDP

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: The pace of work on the ongoing development projects has been expedited under Quetta Development Package thanks to the frequent visits paid by the caretaker Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Domki.

The concerned authorities have given deadline of 30th December for completion of the projects.

The Chief Minister Delivery Unit has issued the review report of the progress of ongoing communication sectors continued under the Quetta Development Package, in light of the data provided by the concerned authorities.

According to the report, 95 percent work has been completed on Sariab road while 92 percent work completed on Ansonb road.

Similarly, 92 percent has been completed on the link Badini road with 84 percent completed on Sabzal road and 84 percent completed on the Radio tower link road.

The Commissioner Quetta, Muhammad Hamza Shafiqat said that the opinion of Islamic Ideological Council has been taken about the mosques affected under the Quetta Development Package.

## Army Chief off to US on official visit

RAWALPINDI (APP): Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir has left on Sunday for United States of America (USA) on his maiden official visit.

During his visit, General Syed Asim Munir is scheduled to meet the senior military and other government officials of USA, an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said.

## ECP refutes claims of issuing general elections' schedule

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has categorically denied the issuance of any schedule for the upcoming general elections. A spokesman of ECP, strongly denied a news item published in daily Jang is unfounded and having no basis.

The spokesperson clarified that the schedule circulating on social media is fraudulent. The Election Commission spokesperson noted that false information about the election is consistently appearing in both print and electronic media.

He said pay attention only to statements from the official spokesperson of the Election Commission, and disregard any others claiming to be from the Commission. Applications filed in the Commission underwent no consultations, clarified the spokesperson. Additionally, such statements should not be construed as policy declarations of the Election Commission, as per the spokesperson.

## Rehmat Shah Afridi laid to rest

PESHAWAR (APP): Funeral prayer of Rehmat Shah Afridi, Editor-in-Chief of Frontier Post Peshawar was offered here on Sunday. Funeral prayer of the deceased was held at Hayatabad Peshawar and was attended by a large number of people, journalists, civil society members and well wishers.



Rehmat Shah Afridi was later laid to rest at his ancestral graveyard. He passed away last night due to a protected illness. The people are coming to his residence and offering Fateha.

## General elections must for breaking status-quo in politics: Jam Kamal

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: The former Chief Minister Balochistan, Jam Kamal Khan has stated that holding general elections is very necessary to break the status-quo in country's politics and every party must have right to participate in them.

Jam Kamal Khan was speaking during his visit to Dhadhar, Bolan on Sunday. Upon reaching Dhadhar, the tribal and political elder Muhammad Waris Barda welcomed Jam Kamal Khan.

Speaking on the occasion, the former Chief Minister said that holding general elections are need of the hour to break the political status-quo.

He insisted that the general elections must be conducted in time.



GWADAR: Caretaker Provincial Minister for Sports and Culture Nawabzada Mir Jamal Khan Raisani presiding over a meeting regarding Gwadar Youth Festival

## IT industry embarked upon for first time in Balochistan at public level: Governor

More than 3,000 candidates appear in entry test of Governor Balochistan IT Initiative for AI Web 3.0 & Metaverse free AI & other IT courses

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar has stated that by the grace of Allah Almighty, Information Technology industry has embarked upon for the first time at public level in the province, and it would pave the way for revolution in IT sector.

The Governor was speaking on occasion of the entry test conducted for Governor Balochistan IT Initiative for AI Web 3.0 & Metaverse free AI & other IT courses at the Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering and Management Sciences (BUIITEMS), here on Sunday.

More than 3,000 male and female candidates appeared in the entry test.

The eligible candidates would be imparted training in different courses including AI Web 3.0 & Metaverse free AI & other IT.

Top 100 candidates would also be given lap top free of cost.

The Governor noted with pleasure and contentment to see over 3,000 candidates appearing in the entry test. He said that this belief was strengthened that our youth are determined to cope with challenges of new era.

He appreciated the efforts of vice chancellors of all public sector universities of the province, Chief Executive Officer of Ultra Software System, Asif Naeem and other concerned for making the IT Initiative Programme successful.



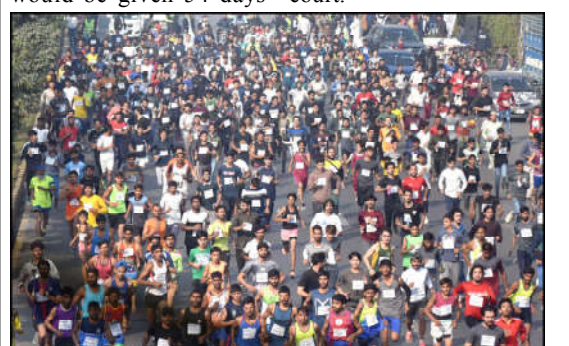
QUETTA: Balochistan Caretaker Minister for Information Jan Achakzai and Balochistan Caretaker Minister for Minerals Umeer Muhammad Hosani distributing shields on the occasion of International Human Rights Day organized by Youth Forum Far Kashmir.

## Intense political rhetoric testament to in-time elections: Solangi

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Minister for Information and Broadcasting and Parliamentary Affairs Murtaza Solangi on Sunday said the intense political rhetoric in the country was a testament to the conduct of the election on a date announced by the electoral watchdog.

"With the will of the Almighty, the elections will take place on Thursday, February 8, 2024," said the minister while talking to a private media channel on a TV talk show.

The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) would issue the general election schedule, he said, adding all political parties would be given 54 days



LAHORE: Participants take part in the Marathon to express their solidarity with Palestinians, at Jail road to Liberty Chowk in Provincial Capital.

## GoB to establish solid waste energy plant in Quetta

QUETTA (APP): On the direction of Chief Minister Ali Mardan Khan Domki, the Balochistan government was making efforts to establish a solid waste energy plant on a public-private partnership basis in the provincial capital to generate electricity and biogas from domestic waste.

The Secretary of Local Government, Administrator of Quetta Metropolitan Corporation and District administration have been working to establish a solid waste energy plant in the city and reviewed various proposals regarding the project.

A feasibility study will be conducted regarding the waste supply, recycling and other factors of the solid waste energy plant.

The Metropolitan Corporation Quetta would conduct a survey and compile data to provide waste to the plant daily so that the plant could run smoothly.

Talking to APP, Commissioner Quetta Division Muhammad Hamza Shafiqat said that the city has produced thousands of tons of waste daily, which can be used to meet energy and other needs, and the city will also remain clean.

He said projects like solid waste management plants and energy plants will make the city clean and free from garbage and it will also generate substantial revenue for the government.

He said that a solid waste energy plant would enhance the energy production in Quetta as the city produces around 1.5 million tons of garbage annually.





