

Independent

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Karachi

Ph: 0300-3898091 Vol: 06. No. 11 Rajab 13, 1445 AH Thursday January 25, 2024 Pages 04 Price Rs. 12.00

PM for rejecting, collectively fighting enemies' propaganda against Pakistan

Pakistan's successes in the war against terrorism would not have been possible without the participation and support of the youth

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Wednesday affirmed that as responsible citizens, the people of Pakistan must reject and collectively fight the vicious propaganda onslaught unleashed by the enemies against Pakistan in the recent past.

The prime minister, addressing the Pakistan National Youth Convention 2024 as the chief guest, said the youth could play a constructive role in dealing with

this emerging national security challenge provided they remained focused, and fact checked all details through authentic information from the state institutions rather than falling prey to the propaganda.

Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Asim Munir, NI (M), was the guest of honour.

"We, as a nation, have fought the menace of terrorism most valiantly, offering unparalleled sacrifices," he said.

Prime Minister Kakar appreciated the role of armed forces in the fight against the menace of terrorism with full commitment and professional excellence.

"Pakistan's successes in the war against terrorism would not have been possible without the participation and support of the youth who make 65% of our population," he added.

Addressing the conference, the COAS underscored that the youth were

Pakistan's biggest asset, and all optimism of a brighter future was associated with them.

Conveying the message of hope, the COAS asked the youth to shun despondency.

He referred to the historic role played by the youth in creation and development of Pakistan and exhorted them to partake in building the nation through discipline, honest toil and a genuine quest for knowledge.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar and Chief of the Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir addressing the participants of Pakistan National Youth Conference.



SARGODHA: Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari addresses to his supporters during public gathering meeting regarding Election Campaign in connection of the General Election 2024 coming ahead, held in Sargodha.

AI's role needs interdisciplinary discourse to promote unconventional thinking: CM Baqar

KARACHI (INP): Sindh Caretaker Chief Minister Justice (Retd) Maqbool Baqar has said that in everyday life, technological advancement, energy conservation, alternate energy resources and the pivotal role of artificial intelligence (AI) have made it essential to carry out such interdisciplinary discourse for promotion of unconventional thinking, breaking the silos and challenging the norms which are gradually becoming obsolete.

These views were expressed by him while addressing a Two-day international conference on 'Blurring the Barriers: Interdisciplinary of Architecture', organized by Dawood University of Engineering and Technology here Wednesday.

Secretary U&B Noor Samoo, Vice Chancellor Engr Prof. Dr Samreen Hussain, Chairman Sindh Higher Education Commission Dr. Tariq Rafi, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Prof Abdul Waheed Bhutto and others attended the event.

Maqbool Baqar said that the University was the first institution in Pakistan to introduce Degree programs in disciplines like Electronic Engineering and Industrial Engineering and Management, almost 63 years ago. "The University has produced great Alumni who contributed to the establishment of PTV, Radio Pakistan, SUPARCO, PTCL and such other organizations. "On a global front, they established their worth in the field of Architecture and remained part of team-built Dubai and other landmark infrastructures across the world," he said.

The caretaker chief minister said that somehow, this institution lost its way and got off the path of glory it deserved. "Vision, integrity, commitment and delivery can turn every situation around, he said and added that he was satisfied to see the rebuilding of Dawood University and emerging as a quality-conscious institution. Justice Baqar said that he was moved by the title of the conference 'Blurring the Barriers, but I delved further to know more and was happily shocked to see some real out-of-the-box thinking. The titles of plenary sessions of the conference presenting 180-degree contrast disciplines yet are important to be clubbed together for better design considerations, the CM said and added the Technological advancement, energy conservation, alternate energy resources, and the pivotal role of artificial intelligence (AI) in everyday routine life has made it essential to carry out such interdisciplinary discourse.

Solangi for improving fact check mechanism to counter misinformation

LAHORE (APP): Caretaker Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting and Parliamentary Affairs Murtaza Solangi Wednesday said that the mechanism for fact-checking will have to be improved in the arena of digital media to counter fake news and misinformation.

Delivering his speech at the 2nd International Media and Communication Conference here, he said that the year 2024 was the year of elections in different countries including Pakistan, India, Indonesia, United States of America.

"Journalism is primarily about defending the public's right to know," Murtaza Solangi maintained. The minister said the challenges of the digital age were also great as artificial intelligence, deep fake, voice cloning and misinformation factories have made it difficult to sift fact from fiction.

He said that besides the benefits of modern technology in media, there were many risks also involved. He said that many tasks are being done by using artificial intelligence and voice cloning. The fundamental principle of journalism was the gatekeeper system to verify the facts but the new media had ignored "the gatekeeper".

IMF to 'send' review mission to Pakistan after elections 2024

ISLAMABAD (INP): Following Pakistan's assurance to impose new taxes, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Wednesday 'decided' to send its review mission to Pakistan after election 2024, sources said.

IMF will continue further talks on the Standby Arrangement (SBA) programme with the newly elected government of Pakistan after highly anticipated general elections.

66 kids die of pneumonia across Punjab in current month

MULTAN (APP): A total of 66 kids died of pneumonia in public hospitals across South Punjab in the current month while 2,847 patients reported to health facilities. Health Department South Punjab Spokesperson Assad Ullah Shahzad told APP on Wednesday that 41 deaths were reported from Children Complex Multan, nine from Bahawal Victoria Hospital Bahawalpur, 14 from Allama Iqbal Teaching Hospital DG Khan, and one each from Sheikh Zayed Hospital Rahim Yar Khan and Sir Sadiq Abbasi Hospital Bahawalpur while no death was reported from Nishtar Hospital Multan by January 23.



LAHORE: Caretaker Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Murtaza Solangi addressing the Second International Media and Communication Conference at University of Management and Technology.

Would prefer to form govt with independent candidates if elected: Bilawal

LAHORE (INP): In an interview with Reuters in Larkana, Bilawal said, "You know, lots of independent politicians, probably the highest (number) in our history, are taking part in the coming elections."

It should be noted that after the PTI was stripped of its iconic 'bat' symbol, most of the independents would comprise PTI leaders who are contesting the upcoming elections as independent candidates. Party leader Gohar Khan has also expressed fears of horse-trading and floor crossing.

Positioning himself as an alternate to the PML-N and PTI, Bilawal had recently called on supporters of ex-PM Imran Khan to vote for him while their leader is in jail.

In the 2013 elections, the PPP came second after

PML-N, garnering 42 of the 342 seats up for grabs. In 2018, with 54 seats, it was runner-up to the parties of both Nawaz and Imran.

However, Bilawal ruled out joining hands with either contender saying he preferred to form a government with independent candidates.

The PPP chairman spoke to Reuters in an interview during a gruelling four-week campaign that took him to more than 33 towns, while other parties began canvassing just last week.

Youth appeal and ambitious plans to combat climate change form the core of his effort to become the prime minister, which, if successful, would make him its youngest premier since his mother Benazir Bhutto was in office.

Sindh Governor meets head of One-Man Commission on Minorities Rights

KARACHI (APP): Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori met head of the One-Man Commission on Minorities Rights Shoaib Suddle at the Governor's House here Wednesday.

Various issues related to the rights of minorities in Pakistan were discussed in the meeting.

The Governor said that the minorities had played an important role in the making and the development of the country.

Kamran Khan Tessori said that all minorities including Christians, Hindus and Sikhs were living peacefully in Pakistan with full freedom.



KARACHI: Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori meeting a delegation of Ministers from Gilgit-Baltistan at the Governor House.

Sindh Police takes proactive measures to safeguard minority rights

KARACHI (APP): Inspector General of Police (IGP) Sindh, Riffat Mukhtar Raja, and Chairman of the One-Man Commission, Dr. Shoaib Suddle, convened a meeting on Wednesday with police officers at the Central Police Office to discuss the implementation of the Supreme Court of Pakistan's decision concerning the protection of minority rights.

In the course of the session, it was disclosed that police officers would be immediately recruited under the minority quota to address existing vacancies within the Sindh Police Department. Additionally, a dedicated Special Police Force within the Sindh Police, aimed at safeguarding minority worship places, is set to be established soon.

The head of the one-man commission received a detailed briefing on the implementation of the Supreme Court's decision concerning the protection of minority rights during the meeting.

IGP Sindh, on this occasion, emphasized the steadfast commitment of the Sindh Police to serve and protect all citizens without discrimination, particularly prioritizing and respecting the rights of the minority community. The meticulous execution of security measures for religious places aligns with the directives of the Supreme Court. Dr. Shoaib Suddle outlined the commission's aims and objectives, emphasizing the crucial role of protecting minority rights in achieving enduring law and order.

He instructed all district police officers to establish a dedicated minority desk, appoint an officer from the minority community to their office staff, and form special investigation teams comprising minority officers.

COAS says Purpose of social media, propaganda is to spread uncertainty, chaos, despair

Pakistan's forces always ready to tackle any kind of threat and conspiracy; Youth, guardians of the bright and sublime traditions of the nation and country, the epitome of Allama Iqbal and Quaid-e-Azam's visionary leadership:

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir on Wednesday said youth were the guardians of the bright and sublime traditions of the nation and country, the epitome of Allama Iqbal and Quaid-e-Azam's visionary leadership.

Addressing 'Pakistan National Youth Conference' at Jinnah Convention Center, he said: "It gives me great pleasure to address the future builders of Pakistan and Shaheen of Iqbal."

The Army Chief said the establishment of Pakistan

highlighted the core issue that Islamic culture and civilization were different from Hindus in all respects and Muslims might not adopt Western civilization and culture.

The youth, he said should have immense confidence in their country, nation, culture, civilization and themselves. "The youth should be sure that they are scion of a great homeland and nation," he added.

He said Pakistan Army could fight against terrorists, but the cooperation of the entire nation

was imperative in that regard.

The COAS said that the main objective of social media and propaganda was to spread uncertainty, chaos and despair, whereas social media news verification was critical as without research and positive thinking, society remained chaotic.

Citing verses of the Holy Quran on disinformation, he said news: "Allah Almighty says: 'O believers! If a transgressor brings news, you should firstly confirm it.'"



KARACHI: Caretaker Sindh Chief Minister Justice (Retd) Maqbool Baqar addressing inaugural session of 2-day International Conference at Dawood University.

Bilawal's Hyderabad public meeting to be milestone for general elections: Nisar Khuhro

HYDERABAD (APP): The Pakistan People's Party Sindh President Senator Nisar Ahmed Khuhro Wednesday said the public meeting of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari in Hyderabad on February 4 will be historic and people will warmly welcome their young leader.

He expressed these views while visiting various places of Hyderabad city in connection with the preparations for the public meeting.

PPP local leader shot dead in Jamshoro

JAMSHORO (INP): Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) local leader Abbas Khoso was shot dead by unknown assailants in broad daylight in Jamshoro district on Wednesday.

According to the details, two armed motorcycle riders opened fire on the PPP district council member Abbas Khoso who was at a shop. The PPP leader was shifted to hospital but succumbed to his wounds. The attackers managed to escape from the scene.

Soon after the incident, police reached the crime scene and cordoned off the area for investigation.

An investigation into the case has been launched, said police. Earlier this month, unidentified assailants gunned down a local leader of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) in an attack in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa's Swabi, police officials said.

Complete ban on display of weapons during election 2024: Sindh Interior Minister

KARACHI (APP): Caretaker Interior Minister Sindh Brigadier (Retd) Haris Nawaz on Wednesday said that there would be complete ban on the display of weapons during the general election-2024 and if any issues arise, the police, rangers and the army were fully prepared to handle them.

He was addressing a press conference along with caretaker Sindh Minister for Information, Minority Affairs, Social Protection and President Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi Muhammad Ahmed Shah at the Karachi Press Club here.

In a briefing to media, Brigadier (Retd) Haris Nawaz said that there should be no doubts that the preparations for the election are complete.

He emphasized that the responsibility for conducting elections lies with the Election Commission of Pakistan, while the Sindh government is fully cooperating. Funds have been released for the preparation of polling stations, and no

department can claim a lack of funds, he said.

He said that polling booth workers would only have polling staff, while rangers and police would perform their duties outside the polling stations. Rangers will be allowed inside if the situation demands, he added. He said that services from various departments, including Anti-Corruption, Forest department, FIA and health workers would also be available. Efforts are being made to avoid the need for private security officers, he said.

He mentioned that there were 5,954 normal and over 12,000 sensitive and highly sensitive polling stations. A total of 122,000 police officers were included in the security measures, including 1984 personnel from the Pakistan Army.

The minister highlighted that the chief minister had allocated a budget to all departments and their aim was to conduct transparent and impartial elections.



KARACHI: Caretaker Interior Minister Sindh Brigadier Retired Haris Nawaz addressing a press conference at press club in Provincial Capital.

CM launches much-awaited e-Pay Sindh initiative for digital payment e-Service, e-registration, e-mutation

KARACHI (APP): Caretaker Sindh Chief Minister Justice (Retd) Maqbool Baqar on Wednesday said that the provincial government initiated a Single Digital Platform for all citizens of the province to minimize human interaction, to ensure transparency...

This he said while speaking at the launching ceremony of five transformative e-services - e-registration, e-Mutation, e-Pay Sindh and Industrial Estate Management System (IEMS) that would make it easier, faster and more convenient for people to access government services.



KARACHI: Governor Sindh Kamran Khan Tessori meets Commission for Minority Rights Chief Shoaib Suddle at the Governor House.

Bilawal Bhutto, Asifa Bhutto are campaigning vigorously, Sherry Rehman

ISLAMABAD (Online): Vice President of PPP and Senator Sherry Rehman has said that Bilawal Bhutto and Asifa Bhutto are campaigning vigorously. Young politicians Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and Asifa Bhutto Zardari have left senior politicians behind. In a statement, Sherry Rehman said that they are proving why PPP should be elected by giving their economic agenda.

The promise of giving 30 lakh houses is not an election slogan but a real plan. In Sindh PPP's housing project, thousands of



ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi addressing a ceremony to commemorate the International Day of Education.

President calls for education emergency to enroll 26m out-of-school children

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Dr Arif Alvi on Wednesday called for the enrollment of around 26 million out-of-school children in the country through drastic measures including education emergency, double shifts in educational institutes and utilizing the mosque for teaching purposes. He said the alarming figure of 26 million out-of-school children was worrisome for the country and exemplified other countries including Sri Lanka and Bangladesh where children enrollment was around 98 to 100 percent.

Sindh decides to deploy scouts during elections 2024

KARACHI (INP): The Sindh government on Wednesday decided to deploy Boy Scouts for election duty on February 8. As per details, the Sindh home ministry has penned a letter to the body for the provision of the Scouts for duties on election's day.

Woman, daughter die after trailer runs over them in Karachi

KARACHI (INP): A woman along with her daughter died and her husband and two children sustained injuries after a speeding trailer ran over them in Karachi's Korangi, on Wednesday, rescue officials said. As per details, four members of a family were returning home from a marriage function on a motorbike, when a trailer hit them in Korangi.

Commissioner chairs meeting regarding elections preparation

HYDERABAD (APP): The Commissioner Hyderabad Syed Khalid Hyder Shah on Wednesday presided over a meeting regarding election preparations. Addressing the meeting, he said that the repair and electricity works at polling stations affected by floods should be completed soon in all the districts and where there is no facility of electricity, solar or battery should be installed and alternative arrangements should be made.

City district police arrests Lyari gangster

KARACHI (APP): The District City Police on Wednesday apprehended a trusted accomplice of Lyari gangster Arslan Patni, seizing weapons in the process. SSP City Amjad Hayat stated that the arrest of Muhammad Daniyal took place within the jurisdiction of the Garden police station. The authorities recovered a pistol with rounds from the possession of the accused. The criminal history of the detained individual is currently under scrutiny, and a case has been filed against him, initiating further investigative procedures.

2 power pilfer-ers caught during crackdown

SUKKUR (APP): The Sukkur Electric Power Supply Company (SEPCO) caught two power pilfer-ers during an ongoing crackdown in Bhutta Road area on Wednesday. According to official sources, a task force team raided various areas and caught two accused involved in electricity theft from main lines.

Pak benefiting from first CPEC phase; engaged with China for next one: PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Wednesday said that having achieved the first phase of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Pakistan was benefiting from its early harvest projects while remaining engaged with China to execute the next phase. "We have already achieved the CPEC's first phase and we are benefiting from its early harvest projects. We are entering the second phase. We do need more deliberations when it comes to the second phase," he said in an interview with China Global Television Network (CGTN) during his visit to Davos to attend the World Economic Forum.



FAISALABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Religious Affairs & Interfaith Harmony Aneeq Ahmad visiting library of Jamia Salfia Hajjiabad after addressing the annual ceremony.

EC adjourns hearing of contempt of EC, CEC case against Imran till Feb 20

ISLAMABAD (Online): Election Commission (EC) has adjourned hearing of contempt of EC and Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) case against PTI founder Imran Khan till February 20. Hearing of contempt of EC case against Fawad Chaudhry was adjourned till February 21. A 4-member bench of EC presided over by member Sindh Nisar Durran took up contempt of EC and CEC case for hearing Wednesday.

Business community attaches high hopes of relief with PML-N: Mian Zahid

KARACHI (INP): Chairman of National Business Group Pakistan, President Pakistan Businessmen and Intellectuals Forum, and All Karachi Industrial Alliance, and former provincial minister Mian Zahid Hussain has said that the business community has attached hopes with Pakistan Muslim Leagues-Nawaz (PML-N) of providing relief to them after coming into power. He said that business community was worst affected of the prevailing situation and other hand inflation and unemployment have made the life of common man miserable.



HYDERABAD: Workers of Jamat-e-Islami hold a sitting protest (Dharna) against unjust slabs of Sui Gas, prolonging load shedding and low pressure in the city, outside the head office of Sui Southern Gas Company.

TDAP sensitize exporters on banking channels for Eurasia, CAR

KARACHI (APP): Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) organized an awareness session to sensitize exporters about available banking channels for financial transactions between Pakistan and countries of Eurasia and Central Asia. The main objectives of the event organized at TDAP headquarters in Karachi were to provide a platform for networking and knowledge-sharing for empowering exporters with the necessary information to navigate the complex landscape of international transactions, said a statement issued here.

CAA to install latest luggage checking machines at airports

KARACHI (INP): The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) is to install the latest luggage-checking machines at airports in Pakistan ahead of Hajj operations 2024. According to the details, the CAA has begun its preparation for the Hajj 2024 operations. Passengers going to Saudi Arabia will be thoroughly checked. Moreover, the latest state-of-the-art machines will be imported from Saudi Arabia for Pakistani airports to scan the luggage of the people going to KSA.

SHC declares police steps for recovery of missing persons non serious

KARACHI (Online): Sindh High Court (SHC) has declared police steps in connection with recovery of missing persons non serious. The petitions regarding recovery of missing persons came up for hearing before two members bench of SHC comprising justice Naimat Ullah Phulpotu and Justice Khadim Hussain Tunio Wednesday.

The court remarked during the hearing of the case that police steps for recovery of missing persons are not serious. The attitude of police is sorrowful.



LARKANA: Women residents of Gul Shaikh village are holding protest demonstration for acceptance of their demands outside the SSP Office building in Larkana.

Influence of technology in our daily lives is beyond imagination: VC KU

KARACHI (APP): The Vice Chancellor of the University of Karachi Professor Dr Khalid Mahmood Iraqi said that the influence of technology in our daily lives is more than we think and it is impossible to imagine the life without technology in today's era. He expressed these views while addressing the certificate distribution ceremony on the completion of the first batch of the IAB Program graduates at the KU Audio Visual Centre on Wednesday.

2 power pilfer-ers caught during crackdown

SUKKUR (APP): The Sukkur Electric Power Supply Company (SEPCO) caught two power pilfer-ers during an ongoing crackdown in Bhutta Road area on Wednesday. According to official sources, a task force team raided various areas and caught two accused involved in electricity theft from main lines.