

# Independent

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Ph: 2841470/2841473 Vol: XIX No. 131, Zil Hajj 19, 1445 AH Wednesday June 26, 2024, Pages 04, Price Rs.15

## Cabinet approves Operation Azam-e-Istehkam Azm-e-Istehkam to energize IBOs sans any population displacement: PM tells cabinet

No new duty will be slapped on solar panels for common man

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, ruling out any large-scale military operation, on Tuesday said that Azm-e-Istehkam was a multi-domain, multi-agency and whole of system national vision, aimed at decisively rooting out the nebulous and shadowy presence of remnants of terrorists, and violent extremism.

The prime minister, chairing a meeting of the Federal Cabinet, took the members into confidence about the prevailing misunderstanding and speculations about the Azm-e-Istehkam, saying that instead of any large-scale operation, the already ongoing intelligence-based kinetic operations, would be energized and expedited.

In his remarks, he informed the Cabinet members that no additional duty

would be imposed on the solar panels to ensure the accessibility of low-cost energy to every citizen.

He said the government was planning to put the national economy on a positive trajectory and expressed satisfaction over the country heading towards economic stability.

The prime minister reiterated the resolve to boost the country's exports by promoting Small and Medium Enterprises and withdrawing privileges from the elite class and those exploiting the national resources.

The economic protection of the common man and providing them equal opportunities were among the government's priorities, he added.

Discussing the annual budget 2024-25, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif instructed the cabinet members to ensure their pres-

ence in the ongoing budget debate in the Parliament.

During the briefing, the cabinet members were informed that the privatisation of the PIA was moving ahead swiftly as companies showing interest in the pre-bidding process, were visiting different PIA sites and bidding of the PIA will be held in the first week of August.

The prime minister instructed to accelerate the PIA privatisation while ensuring transparency in the process.

On the Commerce Ministry's recommendation and request from the World Food Programme of Afghanistan, the federal cabinet approved transit of a truck from Karachi to Kabul carrying the spare-parts of the trucks, just for once on humanitarian grounds.

The body gave the go-

ahead to signing of an MoU between the Ministry of Religious Affairs of Pakistan and that of Saudi Arabia. It also extended till March 2025 the time-frame of an implementation committee on the immovable property of late Ameer of Bahawalpur, in the light of the Supreme Court of Pakistan's ruling and recommendation of the States and Frontier Regions Division.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs Federal Cabinet Meeting.

## Pakistan committed to peaceful international relations despite challenges: DPM Ishaq Dar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Monday emphasized Pakistan's commitment to maintaining peaceful, cooperative and good neighborly relations, with all countries despite facing challenges and setbacks in certain instances.

Speaking at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad's (ISSI) 51st Foundation Day, he highlighted the importance of dialogue, the avoidance of bloc politics, and adherence to the UN Charter.

Dar stressed Pakistan's focus on economic development and regional peace, particularly with Afghanistan and India, advocating for stability in South Asia.

He also underscored Pakistan's strong strategic partnership with China, its desire for deeper ties with neighboring and major powers, and its commitment to multilateralism.

The overarching goal was to enhance regional connectivity and economic security through a pivot to

geo-economics, he added.

Dar stated that despite challenges, Pakistan remained steadfast.

He stressed the importance of communication, dialogue, and negotiations to mitigate risks, advocating for a collaborative approach that respected all nations' interests and aspirations.

The DPM reiterated Pakistan's opposition to bloc politics, endorsing cooperation over confrontation and commitment to the UN Charter and international law.

He noted the profound global transformation highlighted by leaders like Xi Jinping and Olaf Scholz, marking the shift towards a multipolar world order.

"We are living in an increasingly tumultuous and dangerous world, with traditional and new security threats," he said, adding that Pakistan's approach focused on a peaceful neighborhood policy and sustainable economic development, emphasizing the link between peace and development.

## Commitment about making province polio free to be fulfilled: Efforts to be made fruitful for eradication of polio together with international partners & national institutions, pledges Bugti

Chief Minister & President of Global Development Division, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation agreed upon making anti-polio campaign coordinated in Balochistan province

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has reiterated his government's resolve to make the province polio free. He vowed that the endeavours to be made fruitful for eradication of the polio from province together with international partners and national institutions.

The Chief Minister was in meeting with the head of Polio Oversight Board and President of Global Development Division, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Dr. Christopher Elias who called on him along with his delegation here at the CM's secretariat on Tuesday.

Also present on the occasion were Provincial Minister for Health, Sardarzada Faisal Jamali and other concerned high ups.

During the course of meeting, there was discussion about eradication of polio in the province. There was also consensus on making the anti-polio campaign coordinated in the province. Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister mentioned that full security is being provided to the anti-polio workers engaged in the immunization campaigns in the province.

He said that the provincial and federal governments are determined for making the anti-polio campaign successful.

Meanwhile, the members of delegation led by Dr. Christopher apprised the initiatives continued for eradication of polio. They also appreciated the resolve of government for ridding the province of polio virus.

They also highlighted the issues faced during the immunization campaigns.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister assured that the achievement of desired goal would be ensured regarding polio eradication moving ahead and resolving the issues faced by the anti-polio teams during campaigns. In end of the meeting, Dr. Christopher presented a souvenir to the Chief Minister Balochistan.

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ISLAMABAD: Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari stressed the importance of taking political input in the formation of federal budget 2024-25.

## Bilawal announces to provide constitutional protection to BISP

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chairman, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Tuesday appreciated the government's proposal to increase the allocation for Benazir Income Support Program (BISP) by 27% and announced plans to provide constitutional cover to it.

Participating in the budget debate, he said the objective behind this constitutional cover was to ensure that no future government could reverse the program, following the example of other countries that wanted to provide relief to their masses.

"This program should be provided with constitutional cover so that nobody can reverse it," the PPP chairman said.

The proposed increase in BISP allocation underscores the government's focus on social welfare and poverty alleviation, reaffirming its dedication to the welfare of the most vulnerable segments of society, he added.

He regretted that the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government tried to end this program, which provided support to thousands of families in the country.

The chairman noted that data gathered for the BISP was being used during floods and other climate disasters to provide relief to the people.

Bilawal Bhutto

Zardari said that the main issues facing common people were inflation and unemployment and urged all political parties to sit together and come up with suggestions to overcome these problems.

He believed that it would have been much better if the government had consulted with allied and opposition parties before preparing the budget.

"We know the difficulties of the government; if the consultation had been held, the outcome would have been much better," he added.

The chairman said that the people of the country were not concerned with the problems of political parties.

adding they wanted solutions to their own problems.

He proposed to prepare an economic plan with consultation and consensus from all political parties for the next 20 years to ensure sustainable economic growth.

"It will ensure continuity of the policies, and whoever is in the government, the policies will be followed for the long term," he said.

While endorsing the proposal of a 'Charter of Economy' by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Bilawal said that political parties in the parliament should be taken into confidence on this important issue.

## SC's three new judges take oath

ISLAMABAD (APP): The three new judges of Supreme Court of Pakistan on Tuesday took oath of their offices in a ceremony at apex court Islamabad.

Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa administered the oath to Justice Malik Shahzad Ahmad Khan, Justice Aqeel Ahmed Abbasi, and Justice Shahid Bilal Hassan as top court's judges in a ceremony.

The oath taking ceremony was attended by judges of SC, attorney general of Pakistan and senior lawyers.

The law ministry has issued the notification on Monday, which stated that under Article 177 of the Constitution, the president pleased to appoint Sindh High Court (SHC) Chief Justice Aqeel Ahmed Abbasi, Lahore High Court (LHC) Chief Justice Malik Shahzad Ahmad Khan and LHC's Justice Shahid Bilal Hassan as judges of the Supreme Court.

## Govt to develop consensus on 'Azm-e-Istehkam': Asif

LAHORE (APP): Defence Minister Khawaja Asif said on Tuesday the government would develop a consensus on the new anti-terrorism operation "Azm-e-Istehkam" to eliminate militants from the country, assuring the opposition that its reservations over the matter would be addressed. Legal and constitutional process would be adopted to allay the reservations of all political parties including Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-F (JUI-F) and Awami National Party (ANP), he said and added that parties were taking such type of stand only to capture vote bank, but their stand should be for the state only, and not for votes. Militants are being backed by the people abroad who want Pakistan to become "no go area".

Addressing a press conference here at Model Town, the defence minister said that operation Azam-e-Istehkam was a continuation of the National Action Plan, which had no political objectives.



QUETTA: Head of Polio Oversight Board Dr. Christopher Elias meeting with Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti.

## Dr Rubaba Khan Buledi appointed as Member of PMDC from Balochistan

QUETTA (APP): The Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PMDC) has appointed Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi as a member from Balochistan. Dr. Buledi is the first female doctor from Balochistan to represent the province in the PMDC.

Currently, Dr. Buledi is a member of the Balochistan Assembly and Advisor to the Chief Minister on Women Development.

She has previously served as Parliamentary Secretary for Health, Science and Information Technology, Law, and Parliamentary Affairs, and Chairperson of the Women Parliamentary Caucus.

Dr. Buledi has been recognized for her outstanding services, including her role in drafting the Balochistan Healthcare Commission Act and developing a module for the health sector that was adopted by the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. She was awarded the highest civilian award, Sitara-e-Imtiaz, by the Government of Pakistan for her services during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Chief Minister of Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti, has congratulated Dr. Buledi on her appointment, praising her parliamentary and medical services.

The Speaker of the Balochistan Assembly and all members of the assembly have also extended their felicitations to Dr. Buledi on her appointment as a member of the PMDC.



QUETTA: Provincial Ministers Mir Saleem Ahmed Khosa and Raheela Hameed Khan Durrani meeting with Provincial Finance Minister Mir Shoaib Nausherwani.

## Govt decides to cut PSDP budget by Rs250b to 'overcome' shortfall

ISLAMABAD (INP): Federal Minister for Planning Ahsan Iqbal said that the government would cut Rs 250 billion from the proposed budget for the fiscal year 2024-25.

Speaking to the media, Ahsan Iqbal said that confirmed that a cut of Rs 250 billion would be made in the federal development program.

He said that the cut was essential to overcome the revenue shortfall and that the development budget had to bear the brunt of it.

"The Public Sector Development Programme's (PSDP) budget has been reduced from Rs 1400 billion to Rs 1150 billion," the minister for planning added.

## Eight of a family shot dead over property dispute

PESHAWAR (INP): Eight members of a family including women and children were shot dead and two injured over property dispute here on Tuesday.

Police said that armed men barged into house of rival in Badaber area of Peshawar and opened indiscriminate fire at the residents. As a result of firing, eight family members including four women and four children were killed while two others sustained bullet wounds. The culprits fled the scene after committing the crime.

The bodies and injured were shifted to hospital and police after registering a case against culprits started raids for their arrest.

## UN Resident & Humanitarian Coordinator calls on Balochistan Governor

QUETTA (APP): United Nations (UN) Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator Muhammad Yahya called on Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandukhel at the Governor's House on Tuesday. During the meeting, the stability of infrastructure in the province, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), development needs, measures to deal with natural disasters, the harms of global warming

and awakening a collective sense of rights and duties among the people were discussed.

Governor Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandukhel said that the correct determination of the objectives indicated the real destination, therefore, we have to demonstrate the efficient use of financial arrangements and human resources in order to reach the destination and set the pace of development.

General debate continues on provincial budget in BA: Balochistan's next FY budget lacks concrete strategy for solving issues, any mega project: Opposition MPAs

Independent Report QUETTA: The members of provincial assembly belonging to Opposition parties have charged that the next financial year budget of Balochistan is lacking the concrete strategy and mega projects for resolving the issues of province.

They demanded of the government to give equal importance to all areas of the province, as their areas and constituencies are allegedly overlooked in the budget.

The Opposition MPAs were expressing their views on the provincial budget during the budget session here on Tuesday. The Speaker, Captain (Retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai was in the chair.

The MPA belonging to National Party, Rehmat Saleh Baloch said that the

budget happens to be the budget of hope for everyone, however, there is no concrete strategy for resolving the public issues in the budget.

He also said that no mega project has been included in the budget even.

He said that the law and order situation is not better in the province while on the other hand, the federation has also overlooked the province.

He said that the people are disappointed due to the unemployment. He said that we have to ponder upon that how to end the situation of uncertainty in the province.

He said that the issues are not being resolved despite the assurance made by the Prime Minister to Chief Minister.

## Virus detected in 18 months old child: New polio case reported in Balochistan; tally of cases rise to five

Independent Report

QUETTA: Another polio case has been surfaced in Balochistan province increasing the tally of polio cases to five during the current year.

The Health Department sources informed that the new polio case has been reported from Killa Abdullah where the virus was detected in 18-months old child.

With this, the number of polio cases in Killa Abdullah increased to two while to five in Balochistan province.

Prior to this, polio cases had been reported from Dera Bugti, Killa Abdullah, Chaman and Quetta.

At the outset, six polio cases have so far been reported in Pakistan. One case was reported from Sindh this year.





## Tangible outcomes of govt efforts to reduce expenditures soon: PM

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday said that tangible results of the government's ongoing efforts to reduce its expenditures would appear within around one and a half months.

The prime minister said that the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz led government always gave special focus on the uplift of South Punjab by providing the budget and employment higher than the population ratio. Besides, a 10% increased share was given to the region in the laptop as well as PM Rozgar schemes and the stipend for girls students was raised from Rs 200-Rs 1,000 under the Zevar Taleem Programme.

Moreover, he said, the Federal Government had also funded mega infrastructure projects in South Punjab, including Lodhran-Khanewal Motorway and Dera Ghazi Khan-Muzaffargarh Motorway.



QUETTA: UN's Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Pakistan Muhammad Yahya meeting with Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti.

## Acting President BNP rejects Operation Azm-i-Istehkam

QUETTA: The acting President Balochistan National Party (BNP), Sajid Tareen Advocate has stated that his party fully reject the government's Operation Azm-i-Istehkam in the country.

He was addressing press conference at the Quetta Press Club on Tuesday.

Other leaders of BNP Sanaulah Baloch, Ghulam Nabi Marri, Shakeela Naveed Dehwar and others were also present.

The acting President BNP said that the Operation Azm-i-Istehkam would turn out to be Operation Adm-i-Istehkam in the country.

He said that the resources were also wasted on different operations in the past, but terrorism could not be eliminated.

He alleged that the Operation Azm-i-Istehkam is a new trick to loot the resources of Pashtoons and Balochs.

He charged that an unannounced martial is imposed in the country. He said that there is no mention of Apex committee in the constitution, but it is being given edge on the parliament.

He also criticized the statement of Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti in which he said that Balochistan needs the Operation Azm-i-Istehkam much.



QUETTA: Balochistan National Party (BNP) Leader, Sajid Tarin addresses to media persons during press conference, at Quetta press club.

## We have to make joint efforts for development of country: Karim

QUETTA (APP): Central senior leader of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Chaudhry Naeem Karim on Tuesday said that we have to make joint efforts for the development and prosperity of the country.

In statement issued here, he said that the federal government under the leadership of Prime Minister Mian Shabbaz Sharif and Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif was taking steps to promote investment and prevent inflation. Due to the positive measures taken by the government, there has been a clear reduction in the rate of inflation in the country, he said.

Chaudhry Naeem Karim said that Pakistan was currently facing many problems, to get the country out of these problems, all political and religious parties have to unite on one page and make efforts.

He said that the politics of hatred and division has caused a lot of damage to the country now the time has come to end the politics of hatred and division and save the people from their problems.

## Pishin DC holds emergency meeting ahead of monsoon rains

PISHIN (APP): An emergency meeting was held on Tuesday, under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Pishin, Jumma Dad Mandokhail to prepare for potential monsoon rains and discuss strategies for dealing with emergency situations. In the meeting, Jumma Dad issued directives to the heads of relevant departments, emphasizing the importance of maintaining mutual communication among all agencies to ensure a prompt response in providing aid to the people in the event of any unexpected situation.

The deputy commissioner stressed that all possible measures should be taken to protect the lives and property of the public.

He noted that assisting people in difficult times is not easy task and instructed all relevant institutions to deliver their best services to the people during flood situations.

During the meeting, the Irrigation Officer provided a briefing on the conditions that could arise during torrential rains and flooding. The briefing included details on the available resources for rescuing people in flood situations, the formation of flood sectors, the deployment of rescue teams in flood-affected areas, the evacuation of people during emergencies, and the procedures for rescuing drowning individuals and providing them with first aid.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate, Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani in a meeting with Australian High Commissioner Mr. Neil Hawkins at Parliament House.

## Merit & transparency being ensured for good governance: CM seeks UN support for training of teachers, water preservation & skill development in Balochistan

Muhammad Yahya appreciates vision of Mir Sarfraz Bugti, emphasize on wholehearted guidance of provincial government for mutual cooperation

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has sought the very cooperation of United Nations for training of the teachers, water preservation and skill development in the province.

The Chief Minister said that the Balochistan province has large area and, in this view, the UN programme has immense importance. He said that provincial government values the UN cooperation a lot.

He was speaking to the Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator of UN, Muhammad Yahya who called on him here on Tuesday.

Also present in the meeting were the provincial high ups besides other representatives of UN.

While apprising his government's initiatives in different sectors including for improvement of education, health, climate change, etc., the Chief Minister stressed the need to promote the mutual cooperation in almost all sectors including education, health, agriculture and technical training and skills.

He said that our biggest challenge is climate change despite ours' no stake in the emission of green house gases.

He said that the quality programmes are being started for training of the teachers in Balochistan.

He mentioned that the provision of technical training and education is included in the top priority of provincial government.

He said that the special programme has been started to impart technical education to youth of the province under public-private partnership mode.

In view of the importance of education, the provincial government has made 300 percent increase in the budget of education sector.

He also mentioned that merit and transparency is being ensured for establishing good governance.

He stressed that the UN may support the provincial government for training of the teachers, water preservation and skill development in the province. He expressed his government's resolve to continue the affairs with better governance and planning. The Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator of UN, Muhammad Yahya appreciated the vision of Chief Minister and said that wholehearted guidance of the provincial government is necessary for good mutual cooperation. The Chief Minister presented commemorative shield to the UN Resident Coordinator.



QUETTA: Leader of PPP and former Deputy Chairman Senate Saleem Mandviwala, Rozi Khan Kakar and Changez Khan Jamali meeting with Deputy Speaker Balochistan Assembly Ghazala Gola.

## Opp. brushed aside resolution condemning mob lynching on under garb of protest: Tarar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Law and Justice Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar on Tuesday accused the opposition benches of brushing aside the resolution condemning mob lynching incidents on the garb of their protest. Speaking in the Senate, the minister apprised the chair that he was scolded and pushed by the opposition members during their protest in the House.

"The opposition members are not ready to listen to but I took the signatures of their members namely Senators Anwar ul Haq Kakar and Kamil Ali Agha openly on the resolution." Earlier, Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentary Leader Sherry Rehman derided the Leader of the

## Balochistan roads declared as 'bloody highways'

QUETTA (INP): Balochistan Medical Emergency Response Center Director-General declared the national highways of Balochistan as 'bloody highways'.

He said during the last five years, 64,000 people were injured in 46,000 traffic accidents. There are eight national highways covering 4,500 km in Balochistan. The statistics of accidents in the last five years are alarming.

Over 46,000 accidents occurred in the last five years while over 63,000 people were injured in the last five years.

For most of the 20th century, the southwestern Pakistani province of Balochistan lacked good tarmac roads. Its impoverished residents often cursed the bone-jarring journeys they were forced to take on dilapidated roads and dirt tracks in the vast region, which borders Iran and Afghanistan.

But over the past two decades, the construction of new infrastructure across the province is causing alarming numbers of road accidents due to narrow highways, poor safety, speeding traffic, disregard for traffic laws, and few emergency services.

Tens of thousands of people have been killed and injured in traffic accidents across Balochistan since the turn of the century.

Ghazi Khan, a farmer, knows the danger of Balochistan's roads. Last month, he lost his 16-year-old son in a head-on collision between his motorcycle and a sedan. Khan says his son and his two friends riding with him fell on the asphalt after their motorbike hit a car. They were then crushed by a speeding

flatbed truck. "He left home happy and was on his way to break the Ramadan fast with his friends," Khan recalled of his son's last hours.



QUETTA: Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan presiding over meeting of Land Evaluation Committee.

## New FY budget aimed at deficit reduction: Aurangzeb

ISLAMABAD (Online): Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb has said the budget for the next fiscal year is aimed at reducing fiscal deficit by focusing on measures that enhance the government's revenues and reduce unnecessary expenditures.

Winding up discussion on the budget 2024-25 in the National Assembly Tuesday, he said on the directions of the Prime Minister, the process of simplicity and austerity will be continued in the next fiscal year. He said a committee headed by him has been constituted which will present recommendations in this regard including closing down the ministries or their merger and devolution to the provinces. The Finance Minister announced that the pension expenditures will be brought down through pension reforms in future.

Muhammad Aurangzeb pointed out that the home-grown reforms program is the basis of the next year's fiscal budget in order to steer the country out of a difficult economic situation.

He said the reforms include enhancing tax to GDP ratio to thirteen percent, SOE reforms, public private partnership and energy sector reforms.

The Minister said the government is seriously committed to this plan and started its implementation. He assured that all the stakeholders will be taken on board about the implementation of this plan.

He said the digitization process of FBR is being accelerated. He said legislation is being introduced in the parliament to bring changes in the boards of the power sector. The privatization of the PIA has been taken forward.

Highlighting other points of the home-grown reforms plan, the Finance Minister said these include targeted social protection, broad based fair taxation system and initiatives for the health and education sectors.



ISLAMABAD: Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb addressing to wind up the Federal Budget 2024-2025 in the National Assembly of Pakistan.

## Over Rs. 30mln outstanding against jail: Electricity supply of Mach jail disconnected by QESCO on non-payment of arrears

QUETTA: The supply of electricity was suspended to the Mach central jail located in Mach area of Bolan, on Tuesday.

According to the Jail authorities, the power supply has been suspended to the Mach jail due to non-payment of electricity dues running in millions of rupees.

The Jail authorities informed that there are dues of Quetta Electric Supply Company (QESCO) amounting to Rs. 30 million against the Mach jail.

According to the Jail authorities, it was given assurance to pay the electricity utility dues to QESCO within 15 days. However, the electricity of Mach jail was cut by QESCO despite the assurance.

It may be mentioned here that some 750 prisoners are imprisoned in central Jail Mach these days.

They are included a total of 73 prisoners who are awaiting death sentence in the jail. Besides, more than 100 high profile prisoners are also undergoing imprisonment in the Mach jail, the sources informed adding that the security concerns were increased in the prison due to power disconnection.



QUETTA: Members of Sunni Ulema Council chant slogan during rally on the martyrdom day of Hazrat Usman Ghani (RA), at Quetta press club.

## China-Pakistan marine collaboration sets sail with new training course at HEU

BEIJING (APP): The first-ever China-Pakistan Marine Information Workshop and Training Course officially commenced at Harbin Engineering University (HEU), Heilongjiang, China, on May 27, running through to June 13.

This inaugural event was organized by the International Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Science and Technology, with HEU as the host institution.

The training course attracted 32 researchers involved in underwater and maritime technology from various industrial and academic sectors across Pakistan. The workshop featured an extensive curriculum tailored to the interests of the Pakistani participants, focusing on Underwater Acoustics Engineering technologies.

The program, developed by a team of 17 HEU professors and researchers, covered topics from the basics to cutting-edge advancements in underwater acoustic equipment design, measurement, and detection methods.

The curriculum includes the latest theories and practical applications, allowing attendees to engage with cutting-edge research and advanced technologies, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Tuesday.

Speaking on behalf of the participants, Amir Yousuf expressed his excitement about the underwater communication course, "This course not only introduced me to the fundamentals of underwater communication but also demonstrated how deep learning can be integrated with acoustic communication technology, opening new pathways for data processing." Syed Hassan, another participant, assured that all attendees were committed to learning and applying the knowledge and skills gained.

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QUETTA: Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan presiding over meeting of Land Evaluation Committee.