

# Independent

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Hub

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President Asif Ali Zardari, Saudi Ambassador to Pakistan, Nawaf bin Saeed Ahmed Al-Malkiy and Chief Minister Punjab and Governor Sindh are cutting cake on the National Day of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), in Islamabad.

President Zardari says

## Pakistan committed to further strengthening ties with KSA

PM reaffirms Pakistan's commitment to collaborate with KSA to promote peace, stability, development in region

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari on Monday reiterated Pakistan's commitment to further strengthening bilateral cooperation with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) in the areas of economy, trade, defence, culture, education and people-to-people contacts.

The president expressed these views while addressing the National Day Reception of KSA, hosted by Saudi Embassy to celebrate the 94th Anniversary of the National Day of the KSA here. The event

was attended by the federal ministers, diplomats, dignitaries, and civil and military officers. While extending heartfelt felicitations to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdul-Aziz Al Saud, Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdul-Aziz Al Saud and the people of Saudi Arabia on their National Day, the president highlighted that both brotherly countries enjoyed excellent relations in various fields and had always sup-

## Sends birthday wishes to PM Shehbaz President Xi reaffirms time-tested Pak-China ties

PM thanks President Xi for "gracious gesture" of birthday greetings

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chinese President Xi Jinping on Monday sent a congratulatory letter to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, extending his warm birthday wishes and reaffirming the promotion of China-Pakistan strategic cooperation and the construction of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The letter received by Prime Minister Shehbaz on his 73rd birthday from President Xi is an extraordinary development in solidifying the diplomatic relationship between both countries, according to a PM Office press release. Conveying his good wishes to the prime minister, Xi said that Pakistan and China had been enjoy-

ing a strategic partnership through thick and thin marked by mutual trust and support which remained unaffected by any changing international scenario.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Monday thanked Chinese President Xi Jinping for extending the warm wishes on his 73rd birthday.

"I am grateful for this gracious gesture that reflects the iron brotherhood and All Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership between Pakistan and the People's Republic of China," the prime minister wrote on his X timeline in response to a congratulatory letter he received from President Xi.

## SC's detailed verdict declares PTI eligible for reserved seats Election authorities denying major political party recognition infringes electorate's rights: SC

Constitution doesn't prevent any party from fielding candidates; Judgment nullifies ECP's decision to allocate seats to other parties.

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Supreme Court on Monday released its detailed verdict on the July 12 order in the reserved seats case, which had declared the PTI a parliamentary party.

The 8-5 majority July order had declared ex-premier Imran Khan's PTI eligible for seats reserved for women and minorities, dealing a major setback to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's ruling coalition.

Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah had announced the majority verdict, which was supported by seven other judges: Justices Munib Akhtar, Muhammad Ali Mazhar, Ayesha A Malik, Athar Minallah, Syed Hasan

Azhar Rizvi, Shahid Waheed and Irfan Saadat Khan.

The case had been heard by a 13-member bench — Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa and Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail had penned a minority judgment; Justices Aminuddin Khan and Naeem Akhtar Afghan in their ruling had rejected the pleas for reserved seats; and Justice Yahya Afridi had also dismissed the Sunni Ittehad Council's petitions.

Despite the 8-5 split, all 13 judges had declared the PTI a parliamentary party as they ruled that out of a list of 80 MNAs, 39 belonged to the PTI while

41 were given the chance to resubmit their party affiliation.

The 70-page judgement released today, available on the SC's website, was authored by Justice Shah, who is set to succeed incumbent CJP Isa as the top judge in October.

The verdict states: "When election authorities engage in actions [...] such as unlawfully denying the recognition of a major political party and treating its nominated candidates as independents, they not only compromise the rights of these candidates but also significantly infringe upon the rights of the electorate and corrode their own institutional legitimacy."

## Lt Gen Asim Malik appointed new DG ISI



ISLAMABAD (APP): Lieutenant General Muhammad Asim Malik has been appointed as the Director General Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) succeeding current Chief Lieutenant General Nadeem Anjum, and he will assume his new responsibility on September 30.

Lieutenant General

Asim Malik is currently serving as Adjutant General in GHQ who has previously commanded the Infantry Division in Balochistan and the Infantry Brigade in Waziristan.

He has also received Sword of Honor in his course, whereas apart from this, he has also been posted as Chief Instructor National Defence University (NDU) and Instructor Command and Staff College Quetta.

Lieutenant General Asim is also a graduate of Fort Leavenworth and Royal College of Defence Studies and has also served in the Military Operations Directorate before his current assignment.



QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti in a group photo with Provincial Ministers Mir Muhammad Sadiq Umrani, Bakht Muhammad Kakar and Parliamentary Secretary Nawabzada Zareen Magsi on eve of Pashtoon Culture Day

## Provincial Ministers greet CM on Pashtun Culture Day: National solidarity can be promoted by highlighting cultures at national level, maintains Chief Minister

Mir Sarfaraz Bugti says all nationalities living in Pakistan are playing role in country's development & prosperity with national spirit; vows to improve service delivery by making departments efficient; urges Provincial Ministers & Parliamentary Secretaries to play effective role in solving public issues

QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfaraz Ahmed Bugti has stated that the national solidarity can be promoted by highlighting cultures at the national level.

He said that culture plays key role in highlighting identity of every area. He said that there is a lesson of love, respect, harmony and compatibility in the Pashtun culture.

He said that all the nationalities living in Pakistan

are playing their role in its development and prosperity. The Chief Minister was speaking to the Provincial Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries who met him and extended greetings of Pashtun Culture Day here at the Chief Minister's secretariat on Monday.

Those who met the Chief Minister were included Bakht Muhammad Kakar and Mir Sadiq Umrani and Parliamentary Secretary, Nawabzada Zarin Khan Magsi.

The Provincial Ministers discussed with the Chief Minister about the performance of their respective departments besides taking up the issues being faced by the people.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister said that it is our priority to bring improvement in the service delivery through departmental reforms in the province so as to resolve the issues being faced by general public.

## Pashtun culture day celebrated in style in Quetta, different other parts of Balochistan

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Pashtun Culture Day was celebrated in style in Quetta and different other parts of Balochistan province on Monday.

Different colourful and cultural programmes and activities were organized to mark the celebration of Pashtun Culture Day.

These events were organized by different political parties and inde-

pendent groups marking the celebrations on the Culture Day.

The Pashtun National Network organized the colourful Pashtun Culture day event at the Darbar Marriage Hall where the Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail was the chief guest.

Clad in the beautiful typical Pashtun attire, Jaffar Mandokhail participated in different programme.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi in a meeting with Ambassador of Saudi Arabia Nawaf bin Said Ahmed Al-Maliki.

Azam Tarar says

## Lot of questions still unanswerable in SC reserved seats judgement

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Law and Justice Azam Nazeer Tarar on Monday said that a lot of questions were still answerable in the detailed judgement announced by the Supreme Court in the reserved seats case.

The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), he said, had not been a party in the reserved seats case at any forum, including the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP), Peshawar High Court (PHC) or the SC.

He said courts were used to give decisions on principles that who had filed the case and what relief was prayed by the petitioner.

Such questions were not answered in the reserved seats case as the apex court seemed to have not examined those as-

pects, the law minister said while addressing a press conference.

Azam Tarar said that independent candidates had joined the Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC) willfully and that their move was irreversible as per the law.

He said that the ECP was an independent institution working under constitutional oath and it had to render its responsibility under the law.

Similarly, he said, that the legislation was the sole prerogative of the Parliament. The judgment had not commented on the amendments in the election law, he added.

The minister said that the review petition had not become ineffective after the announcement of detailed judgement in the reserved seats case.

## Naqvi visits Saudi Embassy on National Day of Saudi Arabia

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Monday visited the Saudi Embassy on the occasion of National Day of Saudi Arabia in the diplomatic enclave. He was received by the Ambassador of Saudi Arabia on his arrival. Interior Minister met with the Saudi Ambassador Nawaf bin Said Ahmed Al-Maliki.

The Interior Minister congratulated Ambassador Al-Maliki on Saudi Arabia's National Day and expressed good wishes for the Saudi Royal Family and the people of Saudi Arabia.

He thanked the Saudi Government and ambassador for their cooperation during difficult times, saying, "Saudi Arabia has always stood by Pakistan, whether during floods, earthquakes, economic or other challenges. Their support has been unparalleled."

Mohsin Naqvi emphasized that Every Muslim holds Saudi Arabia in special esteem. He said that Saudi Arabia has consistently supported Pakistan through thick and thin, and every Pakistani takes pride in our historic friendship.

Saudi Ambassador said that Saudi Arabia highly values its relations with Pakistan as Pakistan is our brotherly country.

## Governor withdraws order about summoning of BA's session

QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has withdrawn order regarding summoning of session of Balochistan Assembly.

According to the notification of provincial assembly's secretariat, the Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has withdrawn his order regarding the session of assembly, which was summoned at 03:00 PM, on Tuesday (today).

Earlier, As per the agenda, the resolution and call attention notice was to be presented in the today's session.

## GoB taking serious steps to provide better medical facilities to masses, says Minister Health

QUETTA: The Provincial Minister for Health, Bakht Muhammad Kakar has stated that the government is taking serious steps to provide better health facilities to people in the province.

He said that the government is endeavouring to ensure departmental reforms for provision of quality services of health in the province.

The Minister for

Health was speaking on occasion of his visit to the Health Ministry in the Civil Secretariat on Monday.

It may be mentioned here that it was the maiden visit of Bakht Muhammad Kakar after his appointment as the Minister Health.

The Secretary Health Saleh Muhammad Baloch briefed the Minister about the provision of services and ongoing projects of the Health department.

## Everyone must abide by Constitution of country: Chairman PkMAP stresses need on imparting basic education to kids in respective mother languages

QUETTA: The Chairman Pashtoonkhw Milli Awami Party (PkMAP), Mehmood Khan Achakzai has underlined the need to impart basic education to the children in their respective mother languages.

He stressed that basic education should be imparted to the children in their mother languages so that they are able to understand better.

He said that the whole world is agreed on that human being learns better in one's mother language and progresses.

The Chairman PkMAP also said that we have learnt nothing from our past, rather we kept on follow-

ing the old policies and practices. He stressed that everyone must abide by the constitution of Pakistan. The Constitution should be supreme and Parliament should be the source of power.

These and similar other views were expressed by the Chairman PkMAP while speaking to the media persons on occasion of his participation in the Pashtun Culture Day programme arranged by the PkMAP at Sadiq Shaheed Football ground on Monday.

The leaders of party, workers and other people belonging to different walks of life participated in large number.

## US envoy meets Nawaz Sharif, Maryam Nawaz

LAHORE (INP): US Ambassador in Pakistan Donald Blome on Monday visited Jati Umra in Lahore and met with Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz and former prime minister and PML-N President Nawaz Sharif.

Punjab CM Maryam welcomed the visitor on arrival.

Matters related to mutual interest came under discussion at the meeting.

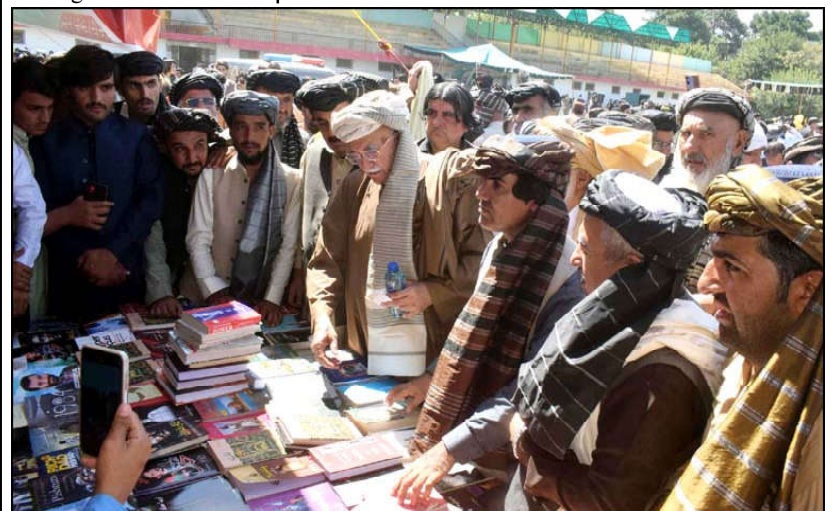
Also in attendance were Federal Minister Ahsan Iqbal and Senior Punjab Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb.

## 27,437 registered tube well connections being switched to solar in Balochistan

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Federal and Provincial governments of Balochistan have taken special Initiatives for solarization of 27,437 registered tube well connections in the province. Official sources told APP here that they have already signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on July 08, 2024 for solarization of the agricultural tube wells.

In first stage, a detailed

survey along with coordinates of 581 Agri dominated feeders, was started jointly by Energy Department Government of Balochistan, QESCO teams and representatives of Zamindar Action Committee (district wise) with the help of Law Enforcing Agencies (LEAs). As per priority, survey of 50 Purely Agri-dominated feeders has been completed.



QUETTA: Pashunkhwa Milli Awami Party (PkMAP) Chairman, Mehmood Khan Achakzai take keen interest at a stall during ceremony on the occasion of Pashtun Culture Day, at Sadiq Shaheed Ground in Quetta.





## Jaffar participates in Pashtun Culture Day celebrations: Culture is thread that binds together our past, present and future, Governor Balochistan

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Jaffar Khan Mandukhel has said that the dignity and honour of the "Shawl" is also necessary along with "Shimla" just because the Shawl represents half of the population of the Pashtun society.

The Governor added that Shimla and Shawl can reach new heights only with the joint efforts. He said that culture, being the collective memory of a nation, spans thousands of years. Values, experiences and history, which serve as the basis of our common identity and future progress. Culture is the thread that binds together our past, present and future. He expressed these views while addressing the participants of the prestigious ceremony held at Durbar Hall located

near Quetta Railway Station here on Monday.

Present on the occasion were the Provincial Minister for Health, Bakht Muhammad Kakar, Advisor to Chief Minister for Environment, Naseem ur Rehman Mulakhail, Member Provincial Assembly Engineer Zamrak Khan Achakzai, a large number of women and youths including DG of Iranian Cultural Centre Abu ul Hassan Amiri, Nazir Mohammad Barech and Dr. Tahir Barech besides others.

On this occasion, students of Pamir Foundation and Pamir Grammar School dressed in Pashtun cultural clothes presented various items and cultural dance. Governor Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandukhel said that culture has its own historical background and the roots of culture are in agri-

culture, which is known and popular as the Latin term cultura. He said that the history of the Pashtun nation is thousands of years old and the Pashtun language is among the forty major languages of the world.

Even today, the Pashtun nation is proud of its wonderful traditional clothes, delicious food, cultural dance, Jirga system, philanthropy and hospitality. Governor Balochistan congratulated the organizer of the event regarding the Pashtun Cultural Day, Nazir Muhammad Barech and his entire team for organizing a successful function.

The governor of Balochistan also announced to give one lakh cash rupees to the boys and girls who perform traditional dances and skits on the stage.



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan, Jaffar Khan Mandukhel in a group photograph with Parliamentarians, Bureaucrats, Member Civil Societies and Students on occasion of Pashtun Culture Day.

## Kurram clashes claimed 12 lives, injured 22 in 3 days

PESHAWAR (APP): Clashes between the rival tribes in different areas of Kurram district have so far claimed at least a dozen lives and injured 22 others, said a police report on Monday.

Heavy and light arms were used by the tribesmen involved in the ongoing conflict that started after construction of trenches by the rival tribes in villages Boshhra and Ahmadzai.

Police informed that the firing took place over construction on a disputed land, which intensified into exchange of heavy fire in the Balishkhel area. The clashes resulted in losses from both sides.

The rival tribes were engaged in heavy firing and shelling in Balishkhel, Khaar Kali, Trimanal, Baghki, Maqbal and Kanj Alizai.

Meanwhile, a bazaar in Sadda market, Kurram that belonged to one of the tribes involved in the con-

flict was blown up and fortunately, no casualty happened in this incident. Residents of the Bhagan tribe reportedly blocked the main Parachinar-Peshawar artery, creating troubles for commuters.

Elders of Turi-Bangash tribes urged the authorities to take quick action to resolve the issue amicably. They urged the government to take action against the violence mongers and restore law and order in the district.

Meanwhile, member of the National Assembly (MNA) Engineer Hamid Hussain and parliamentary leader of the Majlis Wahdat-e-Muslimeen (MWM) staged a protest sit-in outside the Parachinar Press Club.

He said that the sit-in was meant to draw attention of the high-ups towards the repeated outbreaks of violence in Kurram district.



KARACHI: Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI-F) Chief, Maulana Fazal-ur-Rehman exchanges views with Former Pakistan Captain and All-Rounder, Shahid Khan Afridi during meeting held in Karachi.

## BRICS Moscow Seminar: Mushahid welcomes 'winds of Change in South Asia'

MOSCOW (APP): Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed said 'Pakistan looks forward to joining BRICS' & welcomed 'winds of change blowing all across South Asia which reject hegemony, status quo and seek change', referring to recent radical changes in the Maldives, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

He expressed these views during a keynote address at BRICS seminar.

As a consequence, he said the so-called 'Indo-Pacific Strategy is now drowning in the waters of the Indian Ocean', a news release said. BRICS (Brazil, India, China and South Africa) is an intergovernmental organisation comprising various nations including the BRICS and Iran, Egypt, Ethiopia, and the United Arab Emirates.

Senator Mushahid criticised the recent US sanctions against Pakistan and China, terming these 'immoral, unjust, unacceptable and illegal' as sanctions under International Law can only be imposed by the UN

Security Council. He also condemned 'Western hypocrisy and double standards on Palestine'. Senator Mushahid Hussain said the Global Order was marked by turbulence and transformation, with two contrasting narratives. China and Global South are focused on connectivity and trade and economic co-operation.

Senator Mushahid urged the BRICS Seminar to define a new narrative based on emerging ground realities to counter propaganda, fake news and disinformation. For the future, Mushahid put forward a 3-D Strategy for BRICS: Democratization of the world order based on multipolarity, multilateralism, UN Charter and International Law, Demilitarisation of international relations, rejecting any new military alliances like 'Asian NATO', QUAD or AUKUS, Dedollarisation of the world economy and greater trade in non-dollar currencies as dollar was being weaponised.

## Pak should embrace materials suited to environment: Inam

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Lieutenant General, Inam Haider Malik on Monday said Pakistan should must embrace not only traditional infrastructure but also materials suited to the country's environment.

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) hosted a seminar focused on "Disaster Resilient Infrastructure," in collaboration with Bahria University, aiming to address the pressing need for climate adaptation and infrastructure resilience in Pakistan.

Chairman NDMA, Lieutenant General Inam Haider Malik led discussions on the country's preparedness for future disasters, highlighting the critical threats posed by climate change and the steps being taken to mitigate its impact.

"Resilience won't come solely from the type of construction but from adapting to what we have," he emphasized. He lauded NDMA's technological efforts, including simulations of the 2022 floods and advanced weather forecasting, noting that "technology to-

day can not only address present needs but future ones as well."

In his keynote address, Lieutenant General Malik warned that if global temperatures exceed the 1.5°C threshold, countries like Pakistan would face unprecedented climatic disasters. "From glacial melting to recurring floods, we are already witnessing severe climate impacts," he said.

He cited the 2022 floods, which caused massive devastation, with over 8,000 miles of roads and 480 bridges damaged, leading to significant economic losses. Recovery and rehabilitation remain ongoing challenges.

The seminar featured experts from various fields, all underlining the importance of infrastructure resilience in combating climate change. Dr. Shafiqat Munir, Deputy Executive Director at the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), pointed out that it is not the disasters themselves but inappropriate infrastructure that leads to high mortality. "Pakistan is one of the ten countries most impacted by climate change."

The proceedings regarding arguments on bail pleas of both the accused has been adjourned till September 26 due to expiry of court's time.

The accused will be indicted in next hearing.

Both the accused were present in the court along with their counsels counsel Barrister Suleman Safdar. FIA presented challan

## New reference of acquiring jewelry: PTI founder, Bushra Bibi to be indicted on Sep 26

RAWALPINDI (Online): Special Judge Central Shah Rukh Arjumand has provided to PTI founder Imran Khan and Bushra Bibi copies of case in new reference of acquiring expensive Bulgari jewelry from Toshakhana.

The proceedings regarding arguments on bail pleas of both the accused has been adjourned till September 26 due to expiry of court's time.

The accused will be indicted in next hearing.

Both the accused were present in the court along with their counsels counsel Barrister Suleman Safdar. FIA presented challan

## PTI challenges practice and procedure ordinance in SHC

KARACHI (Online): PTI has challenged practice and procedure ordinance in Sindh High Court (SHC).

The petition said practice and procedure ordinance is sheer violation of Supreme Court (SC) decision.

The bench led by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa had maintained ordinance can come only in the event of emergency.

It was further said in the petition it is decision of SC that no ordinance can be promulgated immediately after parliament session. CJP is violating his own decision. Government is involving the judges in the politics through ordinance. Ordinance be declared null and void and its implementation be stopped till the final decision of this case.

## Students, faculty members of cadet college Mastung visit parliament house

ISLAMABAD (APP): A 21-member delegation of students and faculty from Cadet College Mastung visited Parliament House on Monday.

The delegation was welcomed by senior officials of the Upper House.

During their visit, the delegation toured the Senate Museum and watched a documentary on the history of the Senate, said a news release.

The students and faculty showed keen interest in the statues of prominent political figures and historical photographs displayed in the museum.

## 30 vehicles damaged in Clifton fire

ISLAMABAD (APP): More than 30 vehicles were damaged in a fire broke out early Monday morning at a plot in Clifton's Block 1, Shireen Jinnah Colony, Karachi.

According to a private news channel, the fire erupted near Qurtaba Mosque in a building in the Boat Basin police jurisdiction where several abandoned vehicles were parked. Upon receiving the alert, local police arrived at the scene and promptly called in the KMC Fire Brigade and Rescue 1122 teams.



QUETTA: Provincial Health Minister Bakht Muhammad Kakar presiding over a high level meeting of Health Department



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan, Jaffar Khan Mandukhel in a group photograph with Parliamentarians, Bureaucrats, Member Civil Societies and Students on occasion of Pashtun Culture Day.

## Poor governance, law & order in KP increase people's problems: Muqam

PESHAWAR (APP): Federal Minister for States and Frontier Regions, Gilgit Baltistan and Kashmir Affairs, Engr Amir Muqam here Monday categorically stated that the deteriorating governance and law & order situation in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa have negatively impacted the lives of people besides marred development works.

He strongly indicated that if the situation does not improve in KP, the imposition of Governor Rule may be considered as a last resort for the sake of people.

Addressing a press conference here, Engr Amir Muqam, who is also the Provincial President of the Pakistan Muslim League-N, maintained that Governor Rule was a constitutional provision that would

be considered as a last option if the ongoing grim situation in KP becomes uncontrollable. Expressing his deep concern over the deteriorating law and order situation, particularly in the southern districts and merged areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Engr Amir Muqam referred to the recent IED blast in Malam Jabba Swat district that resulted in the death of one policeman and injuries to four others.

Muqam described the Malam Jabba blast was a deep-rooted conspiracy aimed at damaging the country's image. He accused the Chief Minister KP of focusing on agitation and leading public rallies rather than addressing governance and law and order issues in his province.

Muqam claimed that

for the first time, policemen in KP had been incited to protest, making it unsafe for people to leave their homes after night, especially in southern districts and merged areas of the province.

Strongly criticizing the KP government's poor performance especially in higher education sector in the province, where about 25 public sector universities are operating without Vice Chancellors, marring education standards and research works immensely.

Instead of appointing VCs, the Chief Minister KP had announced plans to sell university properties, which Muqam argued would lead to economic collapse for these cash-starved educational institutions in the province.

## AJK people to observe Sept 25 as black day

MIRPUR-AJK (APP): The Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) government on Monday called for a Black Day on September 25 to protest the second phase of what they describe as sham elections in Indian Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

According to AJK government, Prime Minister Ch. Anwarul Haq's government is urging citizens across AJK to join mass protests against these elections which they believe go against the wishes of the local population and violate international norms.

Protests will take place in towns and cities throughout AJK including the capital, Muzaffarabad and Mirpur.

Participants from various sectors of society, including traders, lawyers, journalists and public employees are expected to gather for rallies.

In Mirpur, a protest is scheduled to begin at 11:00 a.m. from the district court.

## Whole nation holds Pashtun culture in high regard, maintains Sardar Khetran

**Independent Report**  
QUETTA: The Provincial Minister, Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran has stated that the whole nation holds the Pashtun culture in high regard.

In his message on Pashtun culture day, the Provincial Minister congratulated the whole Pashtun and Pakistani nation on the Culture Day and said that Pashtun tribes

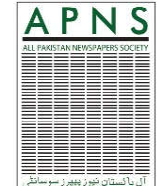
have always promoted brotherhood by following harmony, tolerance, patience and moderation.

He said that Pashtun culture is based on peace, love and tolerance and it is message of peace and love for all nations on the region.

Sardar Khetran also said that hospitality and patriotism of Pashtun nation is identity of Pakistan all over the world.



QUETTA: Deputy Speaker Balochistan Assembly Ghazala Gola presenting shield to Company Secretary Islamabad of Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Foundation Narjis Tahira




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