

Independent

dailyindisb@gmail.com

Chief Editor: Syed Farooq Shah www.dailyindependent.com.pk Hub

Ph: 2841470/2841473 Vol: XIX No. 236, Rabi-us-Sani 24, 1446 AH Monday October 28, Pages 04, Price Rs.15



LAHORE: A delegation of Pakistan People's Party led by Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

Good economy creates good politics

Government determined to fully protect national & International investors, maintains Governor

Independent Report

QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has stated that it is an undeniable fact that good economy can create good politics. He said that we can build an emerging economy by benefiting from the profitable opportunities of investment in the province, which may benefit other provinces. The Governor said that our very focus should be on promoting border trade, creating consensus for materializing dream of establishing border markets, ensuring provision of cheaper electricity and seeking guidance of the economic experts.

He said that present government is determined to fully protect the national and international investors and provide facilities to the industrialists in the province.

Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail was speaking to the office bearers and representatives of the Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) and Quetta Chamber of Commerce and Industry (QCCI) here on Sunday. The delegation was led by S.M Tanveer.

Speaking on the occasion, Governor said that FPCCI is the biggest business forum of the country. He said that arrival of leading traders and industrialists from all over the country is very welcoming, which would yield constructive and positive results. He said that the country's economy would be strengthened by establishing industrial zones in different divisions of the province.

He urged the leaders of

FPCCI to help and guide us in creating vast opportunities of economic growth, ending unemployment and ensuring access to the trade markets of the neighbouring countries including Central Asian States.

The Governor said that promotion of economic activities, identifying problems and hardships facing the business community and protect interests of private sector is our mission.

He also said that the people associated with the commerce and industry can play important role in improving the agriculture and irrigation system besides creating opportunities of livelihood in Balochistan. He urged the leaders of FPCCI to benefit from the knowledge and experience of the scientists and researchers of our public sector universities in research.



KHARAN: Provincial Finance Minister Mir Shoab Noshervani inaugurates anti-polio campaign in Balochistan by administering polio drops to child.

Security forces kill five Khawarij in two separate operations

President ,PM pay tribute to security forces for successful operations against terrorists

RAWALPINDI (APP): Four Khawarij were killed by the security forces in two separate operations in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

According to ISPR, the operations were conducted yesterday and today. The first intelligence-based operation was conducted in North Waziristan District and after intense exchange of fire, two Khawarij, including Khawarij Insaif Ullah, were sent to hell.

In another encounter in Khyber District, own troops effectively engaged the Khawarij location and resultantly two Khawarij were killed, while three got injured. Weapons and ammunition were also recovered from the killed Khawarij, who remained ac-

tively involved in numerous terrorist activities against the law enforcement agencies as well as the innocent civilians.

Sanitization of the area is being carried out to eliminate any other Khawarij found in the area as security forces of Pakistan are determined to wipe out the menace of terrorism from the country.

Meanwhile, President AsifAli Zardari on Sunday paid tribute to security forces for launching two successful operations against terrorists in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The president, in a statement, commended the bravery of security forces for conducting successful operations against Khawarij terrorists.



QUETTA: Activists of Jamat-e-Islami (JI) are holding rally to express solidarity with Kashmiri people and condemn brutality of Indian Army in Kashmir on the occasion of Black Day of Kashmir, in Quetta.

FM Aurangzeb announces major tax, economic reforms, restrictions on non-filers

Terms meetings with stakeholders in US successful; says none would be harassed for taxes

WASHINGTON (INP): Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb Sunday outlined significant economic reforms and tax policies aimed at increasing transparency and sustainability in Pakistan's economy.

Speaking at a press conference after concluding his visit to Washington, where he participated in the World Bank (WB) and International Monetary Fund (IMF) Annual Meetings from October 21 to 26, the Finance Minister said that his meetings with stakeholders in the United States remained positive, adding that the stakeholders ap-

preciated the scaling down of inflation in Pakistan.

They expressed the confidence that the economy was on the right path and would grow. "All global rating agencies have upgraded Pakistan's ratings which is an indication that the economy is going in right direction. We have to take harsh decisions for the betterment of economy," said the finance minister.

The Pakistani Finance Minister held a series of meetings with the leaders from several international finance institutions and authorities including rating agencies, multinational banks, WB, IMF and the

Asian Development Bank (ADB).

Aurangzeb said that the US business communities were willing to invest in Pakistan as all rating agencies stated the economy was moving in the right direction.

He also apprised media that the WB would give Pakistan a grant instead of loan. Whereas, he said, the government would try not to take a loan from the IMF anymore.

He expressed the hope that the current IMF programme would be the last programme. "Our foreign reserves have increased to \$11 billion.



QUETTA: Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandokhail in a group photo with PML-N Balochistan Lawyers Wing.

DPM Dar says: Lasting peace in S. Asia hinges upon just, peaceful resolution of Kashmir issue

ISLAMABAD (APP): Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Sunday said that Pakistan remained committed to promoting peace in South Asia and sought constructive relations with all neighbors, however, lasting peace in the region could not be realized without a just and peaceful settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, in line with the UNSC resolutions and the aspirations of Kashmiri people.

"Pakistan stands in unwavering solidarity with the Kashmiri people in their struggle and will continue to provide its full political, moral and diplomatic support to the realization of their inalienable right to

self-determination," the deputy prime minister/foreign minister said on the observance of Kashmir Black Day.

He said October 27 marked a somber turning point in the history of Jammu and Kashmir. On this day, seventy-seven years ago, the Indian forces landed in Srinagar, marking the beginning of a prolonged and painful chapter for the region. Over the past seven decades, India has employed various strategies to strengthen its control over Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), he added. However, since August 5, 2019, they had witnessed an accelerated effort to undermine the internationally recognized disputed status of IIOJK.



QUETTA: Chairman PkMAP Mehmood Khan Achakzai addressing a Press Conference.

Mehmood Achakzai says: PkMAP to hold Jirgas on issue of law & order with 1st on Nov 9, 10 in Loralai

Party would adopt strict course of action after consulting issues with people in Jirgas

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chairman, Pashtoonkhaw Milli Awami Party (PkMAP), Mehmood Khan Achakzai has announced to hold Jirga on the issue of law and order in Loralai Division on November 9 and 10, 2024. He said that the people from different districts of the Pashtoon divisions would be called in the Jirga seeking their opinion on the issue.

He said that Jirgas would also be held in other divisions including Quetta afterwards.

The Chairman PkMAP was addressing a hurriedly called press conference here on Sunday

evening. He said that the decision regarding convening Jirga was made after the incidents of Musakhail, Duki and Harnai.

He said that the law and order situation has deteriorated in the province with killing of innocent people is continuing.

In view of the situation, we decided to go to the people, he added. He said that the Party would adopt strict course of action after consulting the issue with people in Jirgas.

He said that the law enforcement agencies are getting taxes on the resources, but protection is not provided.

CJP Yahya summons Full Court session today

ISLAMABAD (INP): Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Justice Yahya Afridi has summoned a full court meeting on October 28 (Monday-tomorrow).

The CJP will also preside over a session of the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC) on November 08.

The chief justice of Pakistan has summoned a meeting of the administrative judges of the anti-terrorism courts on November 07. Moreover, the Supreme Court's Practice and Procedure Committee was reconstituted earlier on Saturday.

The committee headed by CJP Yahya Afridi, was confirmed in a notification released by the Registrar Supreme Court. Justice Muneer Akhtar returned as the member of the committee. Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah has also been the member of the three-judges committee.

Ch. Shujaat decides to revive PML-Q politically

LAHORE (APP): Pakistan Muslim League Quaid (PM-Q) President Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain has decided to revive the party politically.

He appointed Dr. Muhammad Amjad as party chief/organiser and a notification has also been issued in this regard.

In a statement issued here, the PML-Q president directed Dr. Amjad to reconstitute the party by persuading disgruntled members, re-activating the wings and restructuring the party abroad.

Over 2.65 million kids to be vaccinated: Anti-polio campaign to be kicked off in Balochistan from today

Independent Report QUETTA: The anti-polio campaign is scheduled to be started in Balochistan from today (Monday).

According to the sources of Emergency Operation Center (EOC) for polio Eradication, all the necessary arrangements have been finalized for the polio immunisation campaign being launched all over the province.



ISLAMABAD: Minister for Kashmir Affairs Engineer Amir Maqam leading a rally on the occasion of Kashmir Black Day to express solidarity with the people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

PM lauds Bilawal's role in passage of constitutional amend.

PPP supported govt's every step aimed at bringing economic stability in country: Shabbaz Sharif

LAHORE (INP): Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari held a detailed meeting with Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif at Model Town Lahore which lasted more than one hour.

During the meeting, the Prime Minister lauded role played by Bilawal Bhutto for the passage of 26th constitutional amendments from the Parliament.

Prime Minister said that credit of 26th constitutional amendments goes to all the allies of the current government.

The PM said that he will use all available re-

sources to provide relief to common man. He said due to effective economic policies of the current government, remarkable decline has been witnessed in inflation. PPP Chairman that "we will jointly move forward for strengthening of the parliament. He further said that these constitutional amendments will play key role to halt interference of undemocratic forces". NA Speaker Ayaz Sadiq, Governor Punjab Saleem Haider, Rana Sanaullah Khan, Maryam Aurangzeb, Azam Nazeer Tarar and Raja Pervez Ashraf were also present on the occasion.

Maqam leads rally on Kashmir Black Day, urges UN to fulfill promise

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for States and Frontier Regions, Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan, Engr Amir Maqam, reaffirmed on Sunday that there would be no compromise on the Kashmir cause.

Speaking to a private news channel, he said that every Pakistani was feeling deep connection with the people of Kashmir and the idea of compromising on Kashmir was unthinkable.

He reiterated the

Pakistan's unwavering support for the Kashmiris in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK), stressing that the entire Pakistani nation would stand united with their Kashmiri brethren in their rightful struggle for freedom.

"India's hope to bury this issue is a false dream. The struggle for freedom will continue until Kashmiris are granted their rightful autonomy," he added.

20 British MPs seek UK govt's intervention in securing Imran's release

LONDON (INP): As many as 20 British parliamentarians from cross-party have urged UK's Foreign Secretary David Lammy MP to call for Imran Khan's release from Adiala Jail and engage with the Pakistan government.

The letter has been written by Kim Johnson, MP for Liverpool Riverside, on Imran Khan's adviser on International Affairs Zulfi Bukhari's request and signed by members of both the Commons and the Lords, from all parties.

The signatories are: Kim Johnson MP, Paula Barker MP, Apsana Begum MP, Liam Byrne MP, Rosie Duffield MP, Gill Furniss MP, Paulette Hamilton MP, Peter Lamb MP, Andy McDonald MP, Abtissam Mohamed MP, Bell Ribeiro-Addy MP, Zarah Sultana MP, Steve Witherden MP, Nadia Whitmore MP, Baroness Joan Bakewell, Baroness Christine Blower, Lord Peter Hain, Lord John Hender and Lord Todenfeld.



QUETTA: BNP-Mengal Leaders Ghulam Nabi Marri, Musa Baloch, Haji Basit Lehri, Malik Naseer Ahmed Shahwani, Shakeela Naveed and others sitting in front of Quetta Press Club during a protest.

Daily Voice of Masses
Independent

Region on edge

The latest exchange between Israel and Iran — a shadow war that came into the open after the Oct 7 events last year — came early on Saturday, when Tel Aviv's forces hit Iranian military facilities in Tehran, as well as the provinces of Ilam and Khuzestan, which border Iraq.

Iran has downplayed Israel's aggression, saying it caused "limited damage", with reportedly four Iranian troops killed. It appears that the warmongers in Tel Aviv have listened to American calls to avoid hitting Iranian oil and nuclear facilities; an attack on such installations would have had horrific consequences for the entire region.

Yet this does not take away from the fact that Israel indulged in a highly condemnable act of violating another country's sovereignty — sadly, it has been displaying such behaviour for decades. The attack, unlike previous ones, has been acknowledged by Israel, and was meant as retribution for Iran's missile barrage targeting the Zionist state on Oct 2. That Iranian action had been triggered by the killings of Ismail Haniyeh and Hassan Nasrallah, as well as the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

The Israeli aggression has been followed by global calls for de-escalation. The US and UK have sanctimoniously lectured Iran not to target Israel further. Iran's Arab neighbours have condemned the attacks, as has Pakistan, with the Foreign Office saying "Israel bears full responsibility for the current cycle of escalation". The Pentagon has also reaffirmed America's "ironclad" commitment to Israel's security.

Yet Iran feels that it cannot leave its allies in the 'Axis of Resistance' alone at a time when they are confronting Israel. Moreover, it should be remembered that Israel has been killing Iranian generals and scientists long before the Hamas operations last year. And the Iranian missile strikes targeting Israel in mid-April — the first time Tehran directly hit Israel — were prompted by the devastating bombing of an Iranian diplomatic facility in Damascus, widely believed to be the handiwork of Israel.

The next phase of this geopolitical tussle will depend on the Iranian reaction to the Israeli provocation. Tehran's foreign ministry has issued an ambiguous statement, observing that while the Islamic Republic wanted "regional peace", the country was "entitled ... to defend itself". Israel's Western friends, primarily the US and UK, have justified their ally's atrocities by saying that Israel has a right to self-defence. By that logic, Iran, Lebanon, Syria and Yemen also have a right to defend themselves from Israeli aggression. Most importantly, the Palestinian people have a right not to be slaughtered by Israel.

If the global community is serious about de-escalation in the region, it must call for an immediate, unconditional ceasefire in Gaza, and an end to Israel's aggression in Lebanon. Without this, the regional war underway will only intensify.

Loaded questions

Muna Khan

Mine was one of the innumerable jaws that dropped watching that CBS interview of Tanehisi Coates promoting his book, The Message a few weeks ago. It happened when anchor Tony Dokoupil, who edged his two co-hosts out of the conversation, told Coates: "I have to say, when I read the book, I imagine if I took your name out of it, took away the awards, the acclaim, took the cover off the book, publishing house goes away, the content of that section would not be out of place in the backpack of an extremist." Coates listened and before he could answer, Dokoupil asked: "Is it because you just don't believe that Israel in any condition has a right to exist?"

Coates — who has established himself as one of America's leading intellectual thinkers on race and has turned that moral clarity to Israel's treatment of Palestine in his new book — responded calmly: the US media was dominated by Israel's viewpoint, whereas he wanted to speak for those who don't have a voice, the Palestinians. Dokoupil, a Jew, later asked why Coates was offended by the existence of a Jewish state. Coates replied: "I'm offended by the idea of a state built on ethnocracy, no matter where they are."

This exchange generated a lot of buzz and I was surprised to hear the network's bosses ordered an internal review, saying Dokoupil had "violated the network's editorial standards" when he compared the book to "extremist" writings "and challenged Coates for excluding the Israeli perspective in his book" reported CNN. Interestingly, the head of the network's parent company Shari

Redstone, a vocal supporter of Israel, criticised CBS' decision to ...err... criticise Dokoupil, saying she supported the journalist asking tough questions. Then the parent company's co-CEO spoke up, saying he stood by CBS' news leadership decision and how the episode must lead to "substantive dialogue about perceptions of inconsistent treatment". What a mess.

Since then, various thought pieces on the subject in the media and YouTube-verse have tackled whether Dokoupil was simply doing this job by asking tough questions, which, we were reminded, is the role of journalism. I don't think asking if Israel has a right to exist is a tough question; it is the typical strategy of Western media which veers from tough questions when it comes to Israel. The slightest of criticism is met with 'why are you against Israel' or accusations of antisemitism or, in the case of this book, questioning Coates' qualifications on 'complex' foreign policy matters. By saying Coates did not include this or that Israeli point of view distracts from what the writer was reporting on: Israel's segregation of Palestinians and how it deprives Palestinians of their humanity (forget rights and lands).

Dokoupil did not challenge what Coates wrote. He did not ask Coates what he witnessed in the West Bank in 2023, ie, Israel's gruesome, xenophobic, inhumane treatment of Palestinians. He did not ask why Coates called Israel an apartheid state, why it denies Palestinians water, or has ghettoised them, or why he's calling for more Palestinian Americans in newsrooms including the Jerusalem bureau of the New York Times, but instead deflected to why

Coates doesn't want Israel to exist. Dokoupil didn't want to ask these kind of questions because I assume he supports Israel's genocide of Palestinians and it's hard to come on TV and say that outright or ask 'why are you humanising Palestinians', which is essentially what Coates has done in his formidable book.

"The Palestine I saw bore so little likeness to the stories I read, and so much resemblance to the systems I've known," writes Coates, as he unpacks the many ways Israeli narrative has dominated the media, especially in the US.

Coates has established his credentials: as a successful writer and journalist, a National Book Award recipient and a MacArthur Fellow. He can't be "cancelled" for his indictment on Israel and his country's policies towards the Zionist state, though attempts have been made to reduce him to an antisemitic terrorist sympathiser. This is not about tough questions, it is about erasure and an attempt is being made to discredit Coates as not the right man to take on this issue.

Unfortunately, and to prove Coates' point, Palestinian voices don't make it to the mainstream press. In fact, the Committee to Protect Journalists says that more journalists have been killed in the first year of Israel's war on Gaza than in any recent conflict. There is nothing complicated about who is killing them and why. Despite the attempts to silence Coates, he did not get derailed in this, or other, interviews. He has actually simplified the issue as he told CBS: "Either apartheid is right or it's wrong. It really is that simple. Either what I saw was right or wrong." -- Courtesy Dawn

Climate investment

Ajaz Ahmed

The increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events such as heavy rainfall, droughts, and heatwaves, result in loss of livelihood, human lives, and economic output. Furthermore, extreme weather events seriously undermine efforts to eliminate poverty and improve living standards, offsetting gains from economic development and resulting in the wastage of scarce resources. Thus, enabling adaptation to climate change and developing the resilience of key social and economic systems has become a top priority of governments worldwide.

Resource-scarce countries like Pakistan have no option, but to invest in climate change adaptation, developing climate resilience of vulnerable communities, and cushioning social and economic systems from climate-related stresses. Investment in climate resilience in the Pakistani context can protect the lives and livelihoods of vulnerable communities and shield social and economic systems, safeguarding the country's economic progress. For example, saving jobs and household incomes and avoiding and mitigating displacements can help maintain economic activity, facilitating local economies to rebound faster. Furthermore, investments in climate adaptation and resilience can increase the resource base, improve health and well-being, and reduce pollution, enabling a transition to a low-carbon economy.

This evidence also offers key insights into successful climate interventions in climate adaptation and resilience. A World Resources Institute study claims that for every dollar invested in climate adaptation and

resilience, the returns range from \$2 to \$10, demonstrating a clear business case for investment in climate adaptation. The study revealed that investment in early warning systems alone can help avoid losses and damages amounting to at least 10 times the value of the investment. The returns, however, depend on several social, economic, political, and institutional factors, which create conducive conditions for climate interventions and returns on such investments.

However, the latest estimates of the 2024 Climate Resiliency Report show that for every \$1 invested in climate resilience, \$6 is saved in terms of avoided losses and damages and \$7 is saved in terms of averted loss to the local economy, making the return on investments in climate change adaptation and resilience \$13. This means that billions of dollars could be saved by investing in climate change adaptation and resilience.

While the Climate Resiliency Report estimates are from the US, there are successful examples of investing in climate resilience from low-income countries as well. For example, investment in water availability and increased water food security in Kenya, typhoon-resilient housing in Vietnam, urban flood risk management and averted losses in Mozambique, and urban heat management and reduced heat-related mortality and morbidity in India are some of the pieces of evidence of gainful investment in climate adaptation and resilience in Global South.

This evidence also offers key insights into successful climate interventions in climate adaptation and resilience. A World Resources Institute study claims that for every dollar invested in climate adaptation and

sector, strong coordination, decision-centred planning, political support, and long-term preparation. Notably, these strategies are included in key policy documents in the Pakistani context; however, their successful implementation, scaling up, and dissemination remained hurdles.

Developing climate resilience of key economic and social systems also involves climate-informed investment decisions to develop critical infrastructure, and prevent it from extreme weather events, mitigating the losses and damages and thus wastage of limited resources. However, among other things, limited climate change knowledge and institutional capacity and the absence of appropriate data and information impede climate-informed decisions to support adaptation and resilience building.

Importantly, investment in climate resilience is profitable even if there are no extreme weather events. For example, investment in agriculture resilience can improve crops and thus the food security and performance of the agriculture sector. Similarly, better infrastructure can improve population access to basic services such as clean drinkable water, transport, and health, resulting in improving human capital, employment and economic opportunities, social equity, and economic uplift of marginalised segments. Pakistan is not only in desperate need of developing climate resilience, but it also urgently needs to improve its human capital. Both aims can be achieved by aligning climate and development policies and interventions and integrating climate action in development programmes and projects. -- Courtesy Dawn

Commerce News

Aurangzeb appreciates diaspora for bolstering Pak-US economic ties

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb appreciated Pakistani diaspora community on their valuable contributions in bolstering economic, business and investment ties between Pakistan and the United States.

During an interaction with diaspora leaders, the minister briefed them on the socio-economic developments in Pakistan and shared details of his week-long engagements in Washington DC, according to press release issued by finance ministry here Sunday.

The minister, during an interaction with Pakistani-American tech entrepreneurs, identified IT as one of the burgeoning sectors of the economy and informed that Pakistan ranked among top 5 countries in terms of freelancing.

He highlighted the contribution of IT sector to the rising exports of the country and informed that digital ecosystem was being enabled through a broad range of legislative, policy, regulatory and operational initiatives. He expressed satisfaction over the outcome of his engagements with different stakeholders on the

sidelines of the Annual Meetings 2024 and underlined the importance of staying the course on reforms.

The minister also met with the President of AIIB, Jin Liqun and acknowledged the Bank's support to Pakistan, particularly in dealing with the aftermath of the devastating floods of 2022.

He recalled his previous visit to China where he interacted with the management of Peoples Bank of China (PBOC). He indicated that government wanted to diversify its financing base and explore the possibility of issuing a panda bond with partial

credit guarantee of AIIB.

He added that engaging AIIB as an anchor to support the process would send out a strong signal to the market.

The option of a no-deal roadshow first followed by a deal roadshow was also discussed. He expressed satisfaction over the progress of portfolio of AIIB projects in Pakistan and further efforts to improve the disbursement of ongoing projects.

On the infrastructure side, he invited AIIB to invest in N-5 (GT Road) reconstruction project and also provide support in terms of program loan.

He stated that this reduction is essential for promoting trade activities in the country, enabling exporters and industrialists to operate without fear or risk. Captain Abdul Rashid Abro highlighted that current govern-

ment statistics clearly indicate that inflation was 6.9% in September and is projected to decrease further to 6.3% in October. Under these circumstances, he emphasized the urgent need to reduce interest rates from 17.5% to 5% and to further decrease them to single digits by December.

He pointed out that economic and financial experts are also indicating that, given the decline in inflation, a corresponding reduction in interest rates is necessary to keep the industrial wheel turning.

In Aabpara Market, one meat seller defended higher prices by explaining that rents in Aabpara are higher. "We sell fresh meat," he said, "while others sell older meat or

add water to stretch the weight." Such statements add to public concerns that some sellers exploit customers by marking up prices with claims of superior quality.

To address these issues, the ICT administration has been active in enforcing price control. In a recent operation, Assistant Commissioner (AC) Pothohar Aneeq Anwar conducted raids in a local vegetable market, leading

to the arrest of 20 shopkeepers for charging prices above the official rate list. The district administration, led by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Irfan Memon, has emphasized the importance of following these rates.

"Pay the set prices for urban food items," he stated, adding that an official rate list is released daily. Some citizens, caught in the crossfire of these operations, have faced unintended consequences.

A family of a laborer, Muhammad Sharafat, reported that he was detained while sitting near a shop during one of these raids. Talking to APP, his family said he has been in custody for two days, causing them both financial and emotional distress. As the family's sole breadwinner, his absence has left them struggling.

This ongoing situation highlights both the public's demand for fair pricing and the challenges in enforcing it.



QUETTA: United Business Group (UBG) Patron-in-Chief, S. M. Tanveer along with Ghulam Farooq Khilji, leading entrepreneur of Pakistan Business Community alongwith others addressing a Press conference, at Ariya Hospital in Quetta.



QUETTA: Warm clothes are being selling at a roadside stall as the demand of warm clothes increased in city on the arrival of winter season, at a weekly bazar in Quetta.

Parliamentary secretary highlights Sargodha local industries' potential

SARGODHA (APP): Having a long history of pink salt, citrus, stone-crushing, handicraft and agricultural production, the Sargodha region could be turned into treasure trove of opportunities for businesses, especially small industries, with its diverse sectors ready to boost the region's economic growth.

This was stated by Parliamentary Secretary for Trade & Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Member National Assembly (MNA) from Pakistan Muslim League-

N (PML-N) Zulfikar Ali Bhatti, while talking to industrialists of Sargodha region here on Saturday.

He said that from agriculture to handicrafts and the cottage industry, the region was teeming with potential for development and offers an array of business avenues for value addition that could uplift local communities and contribute to country's economic progress.

At the heart of the opportunity is the region's agricultural strength, he said adding that agro-based

businesses such as fruit and vegetable processing, citrus research institute and spice grinding mills are particularly viable. These industries could capitalise on Sargodha region's rich produce and help reduce post-harvest losses that currently affect farmers due to lack of processing facilities. "Huge quantities of vegetables and fruits perish due to their short shelf life.

Their proper preservation and value addition can help earn substantial revenue," said Zulfikar Bhatti.

Rising prices, other violations in ICT stir public outcry

ISLAMABAD (APP): The ilsooiters are suffering arbitrary rates and also compromised on quality of daily use adibles by the hoarders mafia in the Federal Capital.

A citizen namely Sail Hussain resident of the Bari Imam area, while talking to APP complained that in our area every shop keeper have their own rates of daily use edibles like vegetables, fruits, milk and meat. "In our area, every shop has its own rates," he

said. "A shopkeeper selling milk at Rs 250 per liter claims it's pure, while others sell at Rs 200, which they say includes water or other substances." This confusion around "pure" and "impure" goods leaves consumers at the mercy of vendors.

In Aabpara Market, one meat seller defended higher prices by explaining that rents in Aabpara are higher. "We sell fresh meat," he said, "while others sell older meat or

add water to stretch the weight." Such statements add to public concerns that some sellers exploit customers by marking up prices with claims of superior quality.

To address these issues, the ICT administration has been active in enforcing price control. In a recent operation, Assistant Commissioner (AC) Pothohar Aneeq Anwar conducted raids in a local vegetable market, leading

to the arrest of 20 shopkeepers for charging prices above the official rate list. The district administration, led by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Irfan Memon, has emphasized the importance of following these rates.

"Pay the set prices for urban food items," he stated, adding that an official rate list is released daily. Some citizens, caught in the crossfire of these operations, have faced unintended consequences.

A family of a laborer, Muhammad Sharafat, reported that he was detained while sitting near a shop during one of these raids. Talking to APP, his family said he has been in custody for two days, causing them both financial and emotional distress. As the family's sole breadwinner, his absence has left them struggling.

Condemn HR violations in IIOJK KP Assembly passes joint resolution expressing complete solidarity with Kashmiris

PESHAWAR (APP): The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly passed a joint resolution unanimously on Sunday by expressing complete solidarity with the people of Kashmir and condemned human rights violations at IIOJK.

The house through the resolution highlighted ongoing human rights violations by Indian occupied forces at IIOJK.

The resolution was presented by Law Minister Aftab Alam Afridi, Mushtaq Ghani, along with members Ahmed Kundli of PPP, Abdul Salam Afridi PTI, and others.

The assembly strongly condemned mass killing in occupied Kashmir, saying that over the past 75 years, more than 100,000 Kashmiris were killed by Indian occupied forces at IIOJK.

The resolution pointed out that around 25,000 women were made widows, and millions of children have been orphaned at IIOJK.

India had illegally occupied Kashmir, the resolution said, asserting that no political process or election can serve as a substitute for the right to self-determination.

The assembly also denounced the deployment

of over 900,000 Indian troops in occupied Kashmir and the imposition of oppressive black laws.

In a tribute to the martyrs of Kashmir, the assembly expressed respect for their sacrifice and called upon the international community to take notice of these HR violations and atrocities.

It urged India to revoke its illegal actions taken on August 5, 2019 and reaffirmed the need for the Kashmiris to be allowed to determine their future in accordance with United Nations Security Council resolutions.



KARACHI: Participants of the All Parties Hurriyat Conference participate in rally and chant slogans against Indian atrocities in IIOJK on Kashmir Black Day.

KP governor calls for peace, unity, harmony

LAHORE (APP): Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi declared that there is no place for terrorism in Islam, emphasizing the importance of peace and harmony at the seventh two-day International World Religions Conference held at Minhaj-ul-Quran University, here on Sunday.

As the chief guest, Governor Kundi commended the role of the university for guiding the youth in a direction aligned with Islamic values of peace and unity.

Highlighting the strategic significance of KP, which shares a border with Afghanistan, he noted that while two global powers have attempted to control the region, neither succeeded. He acknowledged the province's ongoing struggle against extremism and terrorism and expressed his desire to organize a similar conference in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to engage the local community in promoting peace.

In a media briefed later, Kundi underscored the critical role of the judicial system, stating that an improved justice system could address many societal issues — an objective in line with the Pakistan People's Party's vision. He reiterated the government's commitment to overcoming political differences to ensure peace and progress in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. He also pledged support for initiatives aimed at providing employment for the youth and endorsed any efforts that promote positive development in the region.

Environmental squads demolish four industrial units

LAHORE (APP): Senior Provincial Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb said on Sunday that following Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif's directives, the Environment Protection Department's squads have demolished four industrial units in Lahore for contributing to pollution.

These factories had repeatedly ignored notices to install emission control systems.

Additionally, 941 vehicles were inspected, with fines issued to 234 smoke-emitting vehicles, 72



KARACHI: Members of religious organization are holding rally to express solidarity with Kashmiri people and condemn brutality of Indian Army in Kashmir on the occasion of Black Day of Kashmir, at Karachi press club.

Javed Hashmi calls for fresh General elections

MULTAN (INP): Senior politician Javed Hashmi has voiced concerns about the ongoing political crisis in Pakistan, asserting that the only solution is the holding of general elections.

In a recent appearance in a private TV Channel, Hashmi indicated that the current government's tenure is limited to another one and a half to two months, suggesting that even Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif's position could be uncertain in the near future.

Hashmi highlighted the challenges facing Imran Khan, who may remain incarcerated for an additional month and a half. He emphasized the significant pressure on Khan's leadership and stated, "There is no way to end the crisis except through general elections." Addressing the implications of the 26th constitutional amendment, Hashmi criticized its impact on Pakistan's judicial system, claiming it has stripped away more than it has contributed.

He noted that the Supreme Court appears divided, describing it as having both a constitutional and an unconstitutional faction, complicating the judicial landscape. Reflecting on the current political dynamics, Hashmi remarked that the power dynamics within Parliament are not new and that previous amendments



LAHORE: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi addressing 7th International Conference on World Religions at Minhaj University.

Kashmir Black Day observed in Faisalabad

Faisalabad (APP): The Kashmir Black Day was observed in Faisalabad here on Sunday to strongly condemn the Indian atrocities in illegally Indian Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK).

In this connection, a protest rally was held here by the district administration. Additional Deputy Commissioner Revenue (ADCR) Usman Ali led the rally which started from Zila Council Chowk.

Assistant Commissioner (AC) City Ateeq Ullah, AC Saddar Aurangzaib Goraya and other officers of local administration were also present in the rally in addition to a large number of representatives of civil society.

The participants were holding banners and placard inscribed with the slogans against Indian aggression, tyranny and barbarism in the Occupied Kashmir valley.

The participants marched on various city roads and the rally was culminated after reaching at Katchery Bazaar Chowk.

Governor offers Fateha for ex-MNA Humair Rokri

LAHORE (APP): Governor Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi visited the Kundi House in Lahore to offer Fateha at the chehlum ceremony of former MNA Humair Hayat Khan Rokri.

During his visit, he met Adil Abdullah Khan Rokri, a former Member of the Provincial Assembly from Mianwali district. They paid tribute to the deceased for his contributions, recalling his role in local governance and his efforts to uplift the region.

CM seeks report on kite-string injury

LAHORE (APP): Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif sought a report from Inspector General of Police (IGP) while expressing her indignation over injury to a motorcyclist with a kite string at Muslim Town Mor.

She directed the authorities concerned to take strict legal action against those responsible for the incident.

World Polio day rally in Mirpur Mathelo raises awareness and encourages vaccination for children

Independent Report
MIRPUR MATHELO: On the occasion of World Polio Day, a rally was held from DHO office to Bhatia Chowk under the leadership of Deputy Commissioner Ghotki Dr. Syed Muhammad Ali, in which Assistant Commissioner Mirpur Mathelo Babar Ali, DHO Dr. Rao Aftab, N-Stop Officer Dr. Zaheer Domki, Dr. Niaz of WHO, Dr. Rahim Gadani of UNICEF and a large number of lady health workers and citizens participated.

On this occasion, the Deputy Commissioner said that the purpose of the rally is to raise awareness about polio in the public so that people should give polio drops to their children. He said that the polio virus is no less than a problem, the affected children not only become disabled for life but their parents also continue to face severe problems, so the parents and the civil society are appealed to from October 28.

Father, son killed by unknown motorcyclist

PESHAWAR (APP): A father and son were brutally killed by unknown persons riding on a bike near Angaar village in Rajar Tehsil. The victims have been identified as Azaan Sajid and his son Ukasha.

Emergency services, Rescue 1122, shifted the bodies to Charsadda District Headquarters Hospital. The attackers managed to escape from the crime spot after committing the crime. Rajar Police reached the spot, collected evidence and initiated an investigation into the incident killing.

International News

Israeli strikes on Gaza kill 22, officials say, while truck ramming near Tel Aviv hurts dozens

Monitoring Desk
RAMAT HASHARON: Israeli strikes on northern Gaza have killed at least 22 people, mostly women and children, Palestinian officials said, as the Israeli offensive in the hard-hit and isolated north entered a third week and aid groups described a humanitarian catastrophe. Israel said it targeted militants.

In a separate development, a truck rammed into a bus stop near the Israeli city of Tel Aviv, wounding 35 people, according to first responders. Israeli police described it as an attack and said the assailant was an Arab citizen of Israel. The ramming occurred near the headquarters of Israel's Mossad spy agency.

Iran's supreme leader, meanwhile, said Israeli strikes on the country over the weekend "should not be exaggerated nor downplayed," while stopping short of calling for retaliation, suggesting Iran is carefully weighing its response to the attack.

On Saturday, Israeli warplanes attacked military targets in Iran in response to an Iranian ballistic missile attack earlier this month.

The exchange of fire has raised fears of an all-out regional war pitting Israel and the United States against Iran and its militant proxies, which include Hamas and the Hezbollah militant group in Lebanon, where Israel launched a ground invasion earlier this month after nearly a year of lower-level conflict.

The Israeli military said Sunday that four soldiers, including a military rabbi, were killed in fighting in southern Lebanon, without providing details about the circumstances.

It said five other personnel were severely wounded. An explosive

drone and a projectile fired from Lebanon wounded five people in Israel on Sunday, authorities said.

Netanyahu says strikes on Iran achieved Israel's goals.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Sunday that the strikes "severely harmed" Iran and achieved all of Israel's goals.

"The air force struck throughout Iran. We severely harmed Iran's defense capabilities and its ability to produce missiles that are aimed toward us," Netanyahu said in his first public comments on the strikes.

Satellite images showed damage to two secretive Iranian military bases, one linked to work on nuclear weapons that Western intelligence agencies and nuclear inspectors say was discontinued in 2003 and another linked to Iran's ballistic missile program.



Palestinian civil defence members rescue a child, following Israeli bombardment on a house in Gaza City.

Putin says Moscow will respond if West helps Ukraine to strike deep into Russia

Monitoring Desk
MOSCOW: President Vladimir Putin said on Sunday that Russia's defence ministry was working on different ways to respond if the United States and its NATO allies help Ukraine to strike deep into Russia with long-range Western missiles.

The 2-1/2-year-old Ukraine war has triggered the biggest confrontation between Russia and the

West since the depths of the Cold War, and Russian officials say the war is now entering its most dangerous phase.

Russia has been signalling to the United States and its allies for weeks that if they give permission to Ukraine to strike deep into Russian territory with Western-supplied missiles, then Moscow will consider it a major escalation.

10 cops killed in 'terror attack' in Iran's southeast

Monitoring Desk
TEHRAN: At least 10 police officers were killed in a "terrorist attack" in an area of southeastern Iran long plagued by unrest, local media reported on Saturday.

They were killed during an attack on "police vehicles" in Sistan-Baluchistan province's Taftan county, the Mehr and Tasnim news agencies reported, without saying how it was carried out. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the attack, which occurred some 1,200 kilometres southeast of the capital Tehran.

Death toll in Philippine storm rises to 100

Monitoring Desk
MANILA: Rescuers in the Philippines were diving into a lake and scouring isolated villages on Sunday to locate dozens of missing people as the death toll from Tropical Storm Trami hit 100.

Trami, which rammed into the Philippines on October 24, was among the deadliest storms to hit the Southeast Asian country this year.

According to the national disaster agency, it forced more than half a million people to flee their homes and at least 36 people remain missing.

Police in the hardest-

hit Bicol region have recorded 38 deaths, most due to drowning.

"We are still receiving many calls and we are trying to save as many people as we can," Bicol regional police director Andre Dizon told AFP.

"Hopefully, there will be no more deaths."

Dizon added that "many residents" in the region's Camarines Sur province are still trapped on roofs and the upper floors of their homes.

The death toll in Batangas, south of Manila, has risen to 55, provincial police chief Jacinto Malinao told AFP.

WHO chief says situation in Gaza 'catastrophic'

Monitoring Desk
GENEVA: The World Health Organisation chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus has termed the situation in northern Gaza "catastrophic" with "intensive military operations unfolding around and within healthcare facilities".

"The situation in northern Gaza is catastrophic," Tedros wrote on X, warning that "a critical shortage of medical supplies, compounded by severely limited access, are depriving people of life saving care".

His statement came a day after Israeli forces raided the last functioning hospital in northern Gaza and detained hundreds of

Satellite images show damage from Israeli attack at 2 secretive Iranian military bases

Monitoring Desk
DUBAI: An Israeli attack on Iran damaged facilities at a secretive military base southeast of the Iranian capital that experts in the past have linked to Tehran's onetime nuclear weapons program and at another base tied to its ballistic missile program, satellite photos analyzed Sunday by The Associated Press show.

Some of the buildings damaged sat in Iran's Parchin military base, where the International Atomic Energy Agency suspects Iran in the past conducted tests of high explosives that could trigger a nuclear weapon. Iran long has insisted its nuclear program is peaceful, though the IAEA, Western intelligence agencies and others say Tehran had an active weapons program up until 2003.

The other damage could be seen at the nearby Khojir military base, which analysts believe hides an underground tunnel system and missile production sites. Iran's military has not acknowledged damage at either Khojir or Parchin from Israel's attack early Saturday, though it has said the assault killed four Iranian soldiers working in the country's air defense systems. Iran's mission to the United Nations did not immediately respond to a request for comment. The Israeli military declined to comment.

However, Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on Sunday told an audience that the Israeli attack "should not be exaggerated nor downplayed," while stopping short of calling for an immediate retaliatory strike. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu separately said Sunday that Israel's strikes "severely harmed" Iran and that the barrage "achieved all its goals." It remains unclear how many sites in total were targeted in the Israeli attack. There have been no images of damage so far released by Iran's military.

British lawmakers accuse Starmer of 'colonial mindset' in slavery reparations debate

Monitoring Desk
LONDON: Some British Labour lawmakers on Sunday accused Prime Minister Keir Starmer of having a "colonial mindset" and trying to silence nations pushing for discussions on reparations for transatlantic slavery at this month's Commonwealth summit in Samoa.

Britain has so far rejected calls for reparations but some campaigners hoped Starmer's new Labour government would be more open to it.

However, ahead of the Commonwealth heads of government summit in Samoa, where Caribbean and African nations wished to discuss the topic, Starmer said the issue was not on the agenda and that he would like to "look forward" rather than have "very long, endless discus-

Israeli army blows up houses in Lebanon's border village

Monitoring Desk
BEIRUT: Lebanese state media said the Israeli army dynamited houses in Lebanese border villages on Saturday, as Israel said it used 400 tonnes of explosives to destroy a Hezbollah tunnel, more than a month into an all-out war. The official National News Agency said "the army of the Israeli enemy has since dawn blown up and destroyed houses" in the border village of Adaiseh.

The NNA also reported "large explosions" in the border village of Kfar Kila, saying the blasts were heard across the south as columns of smoke rose above the area. Israeli military spokesman Avichay Adraee said 400 tonnes of explosives were used to blow up.

Kashmiris dream of freedom will become a reality soon': Atta Tarar

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage, and Culture, Attaullah Tarar, on Sunday said that October 27, 1947, was the darkest day in the history of the subcontinent, as on that day India illegally occupied the state of Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

In his message on October 27, Black Day of Kashmiris, he said on that day, India illegally annexed Jammu and Kashmir by landing its troops against the wishes of Kashmiris, the federal minister for information said.

"Despite the atrocities and brutal policies of the Indian fascist government, the valiant Kashmiri people are fighting bravely for their freedom," said the minister.

Attaullah Tarar expressed his belief that Kashmiris would soon reach their destination and their dream of freedom would become a reality.

He said, "Kashmiri people will never accept India's usurpation of occu-

pled Jammu and Kashmir." He maintained that Pakistan was a strong supporter of Kashmiris' right to self-determination.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's bold stand on the Kashmir issue was a strong expression of Pakistan's unwavering commitment to the Kashmir cause and its desire for a just and peaceful solution to the long-standing conflict, he remarked.

Tarar said Pakistan had never backed down from advocating the legitimate cause of Kashmiris at international forums.

"Pakistan always stands with the Kashmiri people and will continue to support their right to self-determination," he added.

"The only acceptable solution to the Kashmir dispute is a plebiscite under the supervision of the United Nations," he said.

The minister urged the international community to play its role to find a peaceful solution to the Kashmir issue and pressurize India to stop gross human rights violations in Kashmir.



RAWALPINDI: The Combat Teams from Special Services Group, Pakistan Army and Republic of South Africa Special Forces in a group photo during closing ceremony of Pakistan-South Africa Joint Exercise Iqbal-I.

Speakers at Stockholm event

Kashmir conflict must be resolved through dialogue

NEW YORK (APP): Speakers at an event organized by the Kashmir Council in Stockholm, Sweden, to mark Kashmir black Day called for a peaceful resolution of the Kashmir conflict that ensure the exercise of Kashmiri people's U.N.-pledged right to self-determination, according to a message received here.

They also called for ending human rights abuses in the disputed region and for providing Kashmiris

leaders a platform to air their viewpoints at international forums. In his opening remarks, Sardar Tamur Aziz, President of the Council and Emcee of the event explained that Kashmir Black Day, which is observed on October 27, marks the day in 1947 when Indian troops entered Jammu and Kashmir. The observance of Black Day is a symbol of protest by Kashmiris and supporters worldwide. It calls attention

to what many view as a day of occupation and highlights the region's struggle for self-determination.

The Council's objective basically is to push for a peaceful settlement of the decades-old Kashmir dispute, he said. Pakistan's Ambassador to Sweden, Bilal Hayee, said that the tragedy of Kashmir began when India occupied the State of Jammu and Kashmir by sending its army without the consent of the

people of Kashmir. India's claim that the Maharaja of Kashmir signed the 'Instrument of Accession' (IOA) was "fraudulent" as the original copy has never been found, he said, adding that the United Nations never accepted that claim when the issue was raised at the Security Council.

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC), he added, made it abundantly clear that the future of Kashmir.



QUETTA: Provincial Minister for Health Bkhat Muhammad Kakar enquiring about the health of patient during his visit to Sheikh Zaid Hospital.

CEC Pak, Uzbek election chief discuss electoral insights

TASHKENT (APP): Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sikandar Sultan Raja on Sunday discussed cooperation and shared insights on the electoral process with the Chairman of the Central Election Commission of Uzbekistan, Zainuddin Nizamkhanov.

CEC Raja is currently in Tashkent as a special observer for the ongoing parliamentary elections in Uzbekistan.

Both officials agreed to enhance mutual cooperation, with the meeting focusing on the exchange of electoral experiences between the two countries.

The Chief Election Commissioner visited several polling stations in Tashkent, where he closely monitored the electoral process. He commended the arrangements made for

voter convenience and recognized the performance of the polling staff.

During his visit, Sikandar Sultan Raja also toured Tashkent University of Journalism and Mass Communications, a prestigious educational institution in Uzbekistan. He received a comprehensive briefing on the university's modern educational facilities and media labs.

Last Saturday, the Chief Election Commissioner participated in an important briefing hosted by the Uzbekistan Election Commission, which featured Election Commission Chairpersons from various countries. The session provided detailed insights into Uzbekistan's electoral system, legal framework, and the arrangements for conducting elections.

PTI to challenge 26th amend. in court, Sheikh Waqas

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Sheikh Waqas Akram has disclosed that he has decided to challenge the 26th constitutional amendment to be made on Monday.

He stated this while addressing a private TV channel. He said that the PTI legal committee would decide on challenging amendment and called for a protest against the amendment.

Talking about rumors of deals behind Bushra Bibi and Imran Khan's sisters release, he clarified that these baseless allegations were futile attempts of political opponents and asserted that Imran Khan had stressed to not involve women of his family in the politics.

Only Jihad can bring freedom to Kashmir, Naem

LAHORE (INP): Emir Jamaat-e-Islami Hafiz Naemur Rehman on Sunday reiterated that Kashmir could only be freed by Jihad.

Naem said that people consumed their whole lives in the freedom movements of Kashmir and Palestine.

"The martyrdom of Yahya Sinwar gives us the lesson of sacrifice, he stayed in jail for 23 years and came out as the emblem of independence," said Ji Emir.

He declared the Oct 27 a Black day as India on this day occupied Jammu and Kashmir illegally by military forces.

Jam reaffirms unwavering support for Kashmiris' rights

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan on Sunday reiterated Pakistan's steadfast commitment to the Kashmiris' cause, emphasizing the nation's dedication to advocating for the freedom, dignity, and justice of the Kashmiri people.

As the country stands united with the people of Kashmir, honoring their sacrifices and supporting their rightful pursuit of peace, said a news release.

Balochistan blessed with immense natural resources: Traders conference to be held in Islamabad in December to focus on Balochistan: SM Tanveer

FPCCI leader emphasizes upon establishing universities for skill development of children of province; slams stopping legal trade in name of prevention of smuggling

Independent Report

QUETTA: The central leader of Federation of Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) S. M. Tanveer has stated that Balochistan is a resource rich province, but despite blessed with the immense resources, the ratio of poverty is the highest here.

He stressed the need to set up industries in the province for promotion of the employment opportunities. He said that it is our target to provide job opportunities to the people of province, as unemployment

is an important issue in the province.

We have discussed the issues related to the province and found out that unemployment is an important issue that needs to be resolved, emphasized the FPCCI central leader while addressing a joint press conference here on Sunday morning. Other leaders and office bearers of the FPCCI and Quetta Chamber of Commerce and Industry (QCCI) were also present on the occasion.

S.M. Tanveer referring his meeting with the representatives of Chamber of Commerce in Quetta said that it was good, as during the course, the issues of Balochistan were discussed. During the meeting, we also talked about the solution to the issues being faced in the province, he added.

He said that unemployment is an important issue in the province, which was discussed thoroughly. He stressed the need to establish industries for promotion of livelihood opportunities in the province.



KARACHI: The former President and Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) Sardar Mohammed Yaqoob Khan with other participants viewing pictorial exhibition on the occasion of Kashmir Black Day at Arts Council of Pakistan.

New Gwadar Int'l Airport to attract local, international investment

ISLAMABAD (INP): China-aided New Gwadar International Airport (NGIA) is set serve as strong transportation link to attract local and international investment, says a report published by Gwadar Pro on Sunday.

Equipped with the spirit of inclusive connectivity with state-of-art airway features, NGIA is going to serve a dynamic precursor for spin-off effects on development horizons of Gwadar as well as Balochistan. One of impactful roles of NGIA in

the development lies in attracting local and international investment. Since inception of Pakistan, Balochistan and Gwadar areas have direly needed modern air connectivity.

Scattered businesses' locations afflicted by lack of air transportation system have also marred the development pace in Gwadar and Balochistan.

Indeed, good air transport links play a role to influence where companies choose to invest. Since many projects have been completed to revamp airways,

roadways and railways under CPEC framework, Balochistan has seen improvement in investments, signaling the region's potential for growth.

Infrastructure projects, including NGIA, have chartered new course of connectivity to help link Balochistan more effectively with the rest of Pakistan and neighbouring countries.

Owing to its geostrategic and geoeconomic position, NGIA is also set to furnish a positive role in boosting international trade.

NDMA dispatches two more consignments for war affected people of Gaza, Lebanon

ISLAMABAD (APP): National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has scaled up humanitarian aid to the war-affected people of Gaza and Lebanon on the directives of the Prime Minister.

The NDMA on Sunday dispatched 15th and 16th humanitarian relief assistance through two NLC road convoys carrying 100 tons each of winterized tents and blankets from Islamabad to Amman (Jordan) for people of Gaza and Beirut for people of Lebanon.

In total 1,598 tons of relief items have been dispatched to affected people of Gaza and Lebanon, a news release said.

The send-off ceremony held at Islamabad International Airport was attended by the Parliamentarians MNA Malik Ibrar and MNA Raja Qamar ul Islam, H.E Mr. Zuhair M. H. Darzaid, Palestinian Ambassador to Pakistan, H.E Mr. Ghassan Khatib, Lebanese Ambassador to Pakistan, representatives from NDMA, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Armed Forces.

During the ceremony, the Parliamentarians emphasized the urgent need to provide relief to the war-affected populations of Palestine and Lebanon, considering the ongoing conflict and the needs of the affected communities.



DUBAI: H.E. Hussain Muhammad, Consul General of Pakistan, speaks during an event arranged to observe 27th October Kashmir Black Day at the Consulate General of Pakistan.

Pak-South Africa Joint Exercise Iqbal-I concludes in Cherat

RAWALPINDI (APP): Closing ceremony of Pakistan-South Africa Joint Exercise Iqbal-I in Counter Terrorism domain was conducted between the armies of Pakistan and Republic of South Africa at Cherat.

The troop displayed highest standards of professional excellence during the conduct. The exercise was aimed at refining the drills, procedures and techniques involved in Counter Terrorism operations through joint training, besides harnessing the historic military to military relations among the friendly countries.

Chief Guest, Chief of Staff Republic of South Africa Special Forces, Colonel SS Lechoeno also witnessed the Closing Ceremony.

Two weeks long exercise commenced on 15th of this month. The Combat Teams from Special Services Group, Pakistan Army and Republic of South Africa Special Forces participated in the Exercise. Commandant Special Operation School, attended

Samina Zehri says: Pakistan has raised the voice of Kashmiris in every forum of world

Independent Report

QUETTA: The people of Occupied Kashmir are resisting every conspiracy of India. The day of October 27 holds a very important place in the history of Kashmir. These views were expressed by the Chairperson of the Standing Committee Senate on Human Rights, Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri in a statement regarding the Black Day against the Indian illegal possession of Kashmir.

She said that we will continue to struggle until the achievement. Indian conspiracies and tactics to crush the struggle for self-determination of Kashmiris have failed.

The cases of extra-judicial killings in Occupied Kashmir have increased to an alarming extent. Martyring in competitions, India is plotting to change the demography of Occupied Kashmir.

Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri said that the people of Occupied Kashmir are struggling to gain independence from India and are resisting every conspiracy of India. She has said that Pakistan has always exposed all the brutal actions of India and will continue to expose Indian atrocities against Kashmiris to the world and the struggle will continue until the right to self-determination is achieved.

Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri further said that Pakistan has raised the voice of Kashmiris in every forum of the world. She said that the support of the movement of the oppressed Kashmiris for the right to self-determination will be voiced in every forum. Pakistan has presented the dossier related to Indian brutal actions in Occupied Kashmir to the world.



KARACHI: Policemen arresting Fikit Chief and former PTI MNA Alamgir outside the Karachi Purse Club in the Provincial Capital.

BCA organizes "Kashmir Black Day Cycle Rally"

QUETTA (APP): Balochistan Cycling Association has organized "Kashmir Black Day Cycle Rally" on Sunday to show solidarity with the people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

The cycle rally starting from Assembly Chowk and concluding at Alhamd Islamic University Air Port Road, aimed to highlight the 77-year mark of Indian military presence in Kashmir since Oct 27, 1948.

The cycle rally aimed to strongly condemn the worst atrocities perpetrated on innocent Kashmiris by the

Indian forces in illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

Participants in the rally were adorned their bicycles with the national green and white flags and wore black armband to mark the day in support of the victims of violence of Indian troops in occupied valley.

In solidarity with their Kashmiri brothers on Kashmir Black Day, students in Quetta, organized a bicycle rally.

The rally passed through various roads in Quetta city and concluded at Alhamd Islamic University on Airport Road, Quetta.



ISLAMABAD: MNA, Engineer Qamar-ul-Islam Raja addressing during ceremony. On instructions of Prime Minister, Pak NDMA Dispatched 15th & 16th Consignment of 200 tons of relief items for people of Lebanon & Gaza through NLC convoy from NDMA's Warehouse.