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ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting of Cabinet Committee on Energy.

No tolerance for parallel courts or armed rebellion, Naqvi warns PTM, its supporters

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Tuesday warned that no one would be allowed to establish a parallel judicial system in the country, use foul language against state institutions, or take up arms. Following the ban on the Pashtun Tahafuz Movement (PTM), all formalities will be completed, including the cancellation of identity cards, passports, and the closure of political offices and activities. Anyone who attempts to support or assist PTM will also fall under the same ban. A clear message has been sent to those backing PTM that if they act against the country, the same will be done to them, he said. The minister emphasized that rights and taking up arms cannot go hand in hand. While addressing a press conference at the Ministry of Interior here Wednesday, Mohsin Naqvi stated that while tribal jirgas (councils) have been held before, led by tribal elders, bringing thousands of people to such gatherings is not considered a jirga but something else entirely. The government of Pakistan has decided that no parallel judicial system will be allowed under any circumstances, he said. He further said that the main reason for the ban on PTM is the party's use of derogatory language against state institutions and the police, as well as inciting division among the nation through ethnic discrimination. While discussing political issues and people's rights is permitted, no one will be allowed to incite people against the institutions. Naqvi mentioned that it has come to their attention that individuals from one or two political parties, when meeting with PTM leaders, supported them on the issue of rights but also emphasized that rights cannot be discussed while simultaneously taking up arms. He added that after the ban on PTM, the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government had placed 54 individuals and the Balochistan government had placed 34 individuals on the Fourth Schedule.

Soldier embraces martyrdom, two terrorists killed thwarting terrorist attack in Zhob

Pakistan repels Afghan aggression at Nushki-Ghaznali sector on border

RAWALPINDI (APP): A soldier of Pakistan Army on Wednesday embraced martyrdom while two terrorists were killed including a suicide bomber and high value target amid thwarting the terrorists attack at Frontier Corps (FC) Post in Zhob District of Balochistan. "In early hours of 09 October 2024, a group of terrorists tried to attack a Frontier Corps' Post in Zhob District," an Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) news release said. The attempt to enter the camp was effectively thwarted by the security

forces personnel, and resultant two terrorists, including a suicide bomber and high value target Terrorist Umar alias Umari, were killed before they could cause the intended damage, it said. Terrorist Umar alias Umari was involved in numerous terrorist activities against security forces as well as innocent civilians, including recent attack on convoy of the Deputy Commissioner, Sherani.

The martyred soldier was identified as Havildar Jamsheer Khan (age: 39

years; resident of: Dera Bugti District), having fought gallantly, paid the ultimate sacrifice and embraced, Shahadat, during intense exchange of fire.

INP adds: Pakistani forces thwarted an act of aggression by Afghan soldiers at the Pak-Afghan border in the Nushki-Ghaznali sector on Wednesday.

According to security sources, Afghan troops opened fire on Pakistani posts while Pakistani forces were engaged in repairing the border fence.

Cabinet committee okays independent multiplayer market for power sector

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Cabinet Committee on Energy on Wednesday approved the establishment of an independent multiplayer market for power generation and purchase to pave the way for a competitive environment and gradually end the government's role as a sole purchaser of electricity. The committee, in its meeting chaired by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, principally approved the formation of an Independent System and Market Operator (ISMO) which will be later endorsed by the federal cabinet and registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan under the Companies Act 2017, according to a PM Office press release. The ISMO is aimed at gradually doing away with the government's role as a sole buyer of electricity and turning the electricity market into a multiplayer independent, transparent, and competitive market. It will also allow the power consumers to purchase electricity from suppliers other than power distribution companies. Under the ISMO, long-term planning would be made to produce low-cost electricity and its transmission besides reducing the power prices and circular debt. The ISMO Board will comprise the experts from the power sector.



ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari presenting a cheque of Rs. 100 million to Shahzaib Khan, who won World Champion Karate Combat in Singapore, at Aiwan-e-Sad. The Chief Minister of Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti is also present on the occasion.

Governor Mandokhail directs to Commissioner to pay focus on situation of cleanliness, roads & issues of traders in Quetta

Independent Report QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has directed to the Commissioner and Administrator Quetta to pay focus on the situation of cleanliness, poor conditioned roads and issues of traders in the metropolis.

In this regard, he also stressed that the visits of Quetta and its adjacent areas should also be paid to resolve the public problems.

The Governor was speaking to a delegation of traders and office bearers of Anjuman Tajran Balochistan, who called on him under leadership of Abdul Rahim Agha, here at the Governor House on Wednesday. During the course of

meeting, issues being faced by the traders were discussed. The members of delegation sought cooperation of the Governor to resolve their issues.

He said that once Quetta was called as "Little London" due to its scenic beauty and administrative attractions.

He on the occasion directed to the concerned authorities to take notice of the increasing street crimes, traffic issues and lawlessness.

The Governor stressed the need to promote economic activities and protect traders community in the province.

He said that resolving the issues of citizens of Quetta means to resolve the issues of half of Balochistan.



QUETTA: Chief Secretary Balochistan Shakeel Qadir Khan meeting with Provincial PHE Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran.

Sardar Khetran directs to pay special attention on timely completion of projects

Independent Report QUETTA: The Provincial Minister for Public Health Engineering (PHE), Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran has stressed the need to pay special attention on timely completion of development projects. For the purpose, all necessary measures should be taken.

The Provincial Minister for PHE was speaking to the Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan here on Wednesday. During the course of meeting, mutual and departmental matters were discussed between the Provincial Minister PHE and Chief Secretary.

There was consensus on expediting pace of work on the development projects and paying special

attention on their timely completion.

It was decided that monthly review meetings would be conducted to speed up the pace of development work.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Secretary said that the emergent steps would be taken for resolving the issues, which could not be resolved at the level of secretaries.

They were also agreed on identifying new projects for different districts. Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran stressed that such projects should be identified which may benefit the general public.

He said that the development projects are very important for Barkhan and Musakhail districts.



ISLAMABAD: Investment Minister of KSA, Sh. Khalid Bin Abdul Aziz Alfaleh welcomed by Federal Minister for Board of Investment, Privatization and Communications Abdul Aleem Khan.

Governor summons BA session on October 14

Independent Report QUETTA: The Governor Balochistan, Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has summoned the session of provincial assembly at 03:00 PM on October 14, 2024. This was announced in an official notification issued here by the Provincial Assembly's secretariat on Wednesday.

According to the notification, the officers and staff of different concerned departments and media persons would be allowed in the premises of assembly building through special entry cards.

Election Tribunal orders re-elections of PB-44

QUETTA (APP): The Election Tribunal on Wednesday ordered re-elections in 16 polling stations of PB-44, de-seating the Pakistan People's Party MPA Ubaidullah Gorgage.

The Balochistan High Court Election Tribunal, headed by Abdullah Baloch announced the decision. PPP's Ubaidullah Gorgage is no longer a member of the Balochistan Assembly; the notification has been annulled, the order read.

Ubaidullah Gorgage's victory was challenged by Atta Muhammad Bungalza of the National Party.

Justice Abdullah Baloch, after hearing the both sides delivered the reserved verdict.

Deputy Speaker BA, other speakers emphasize Long term planning needed to cope with impacts of climate change

Independent Report QUETTA: The Deputy Speaker Balochistan Assembly, Ms. Ghazala Gola, Provincial Minister for Education, Ms. Raheela Hameed Durrani and other speakers have stressed the need to make long term planning for coping with the impacts of climate change in the province. They stressed that the students would have to prepare them to cope with these challenges.

In this regard, necessary legislation and implementation on the measures are unavoidable in the provincial assembly. They were addressing the closing session of climate conference organized under the auspices of FDI here on Wednesday.

The Deputy Speaker of Provincial Assembly said that we would have to promote the measures for saving from the impacts of climate changes. The women parliamentarians caucus would extend wholehearted cooperation for legislation in this regard, she added. The Minister Education on the occasion said that the climate change issue is in top priorities of the provincial government.

She said that we are going to include the subject of climate changes in the curriculum of the province. While on the other hand, all educational institutions of the province would be shifted on solar system gradually.

She said that for the first time a comprehensive scholarship programme has been introduced in the province. The Executive Director of Forum for Dignity Initiatives, Uzma Yaqoob also addressed the conference. She assured to continue mutual cooperation to deal with the extraordinary challenges of the climate change in the province.



QUETTA: A delegation led by Vice President Institute of Architects Pakistan Quetta Chapter Saif Durrani meeting with Governor Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail.

Saudi delegation arrives in Pakistan on three-day visit

ISLAMABAD (APP): A delegation of Saudi investors, led by Minister of Investment Khalid bin Abdulaziz, arrived in Islamabad today on three-day visit to Pakistan.

Federal Ministers Musadik Malik, Jam Kamal Khan and Abdul Aleem received the delegation at the Noor Khan Airbase.

The delegation comprises representatives from various sectors, including energy, mining, minerals, agriculture, business, tourism, industry, and manpower.

According to the schedule, the Saudi delegation will hold business-to-business meetings with Pakistani companies, and several agreements will be signed during the visit.

PM visits martyred Lt. Col Ali Shaukat's residence for condolence

FAISALABAD (APP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday visited the residence of Lt. Colonel Muhammad Ali Shaukat Shaheed here to offer condolence and pay tribute to the sacrifices made by the security forces to safeguard the country. Lt. Col Ali Shaukat, along with five security personnel including Lance Naiks Muhammadullah, Akhtar Zaman, Shahidullah, and Yousuf, and a sepoy Jameel Ahmed embraced martyrdom during a firefight with the terrorists in the Spinwam area of North Waziristan on October 5, 2024.

During interaction with the bereaved family members, the prime minister conveyed his condolence and offered Fateha for the martyred soul and strength for the family members to bear the loss.

President greets Shahzaib on winning World Karate Combat C'ship ; presents 100mn cheque

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari on Wednesday felicitated Shahzaib Khan on winning the World Karate Combat Championship title in Singapore.

The president presented a cheque worth Rs100 million to Shahzaib. Chief Minister of Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti was also present on the occasion, President Secretariat Press Wing said

in a press release. The president praised Shahzaib Khan for bringing laurels to the country and expressed the hope that he would register more triumphs in the future. He observed that the youth in Balochistan province was gifted with immense talent which required provision of opportunities. He stressed that the youth should be encouraged to excel in arena of sports.

CM Bugti directs to develop effective mechanism for route and timing of Green Buses to facilitate students

Independent Report QUETTA: The Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti has directed to the Secretary Transport to develop an effective mechanism for route and timing of the Green Buses that facilitates students during their school and college timings in Quetta.

In his orders, the Chief Minister directed to provide better travelling facilities to the students in Green Buses. Particularly, he directed to provide quality transportation facilities to the students of schools and colleges in the morning and evening compatible to facilitate them.

In this regard, adding he directed to the Secretary Transport to submit a report to him by preparing comprehensive recommendations within five days.



QUETTA: Provincial Minister for Communication Mir Saleem Ahmed Khosa and Provincial Minister for Irrigation Mir Sadiq Umrani holding a meeting.

BHC reserves verdict on demolishing of BA

QUETTA (APP): Balochistan High Court on Wednesday reserved the verdict challenging the demolishing of historic Balochistan Assembly building.

Former President Supreme Court Bar Association Senator Amanullah Kanrani had filed a constitutional petition against the demolition of an old and historical building of Balochistan Assembly terming the government move tantamount to damaging the historical national heritage.

The division bench of the BHC comprising Justice Hashim Khan Kakar and Justice Mohammad Amir Nawaz Rana reserved the decision. Senator Kanrani contended that the decision of demolishing the historical building of Balochistan Assembly is a sheer violation of article 28 of the constitution of Pakistan. He said Article 28 of the constitution of Pakistan says, "subject to article 251, any section of citizens having a distinct language, script or culture shall have the right to preserve and promote the same and subject to law, establish institutions for that purpose deploring that the incumbent government is going against the constitution."

Amir Nawaz Rana reserved the decision.

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CM launches internship climate resilient leadership program for youth of Punjab

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has launched the CM Internship Climate Resilient Leadership Program, aiming to enhance environmental stewardship among the youth.

At the event, she inaugurated Pakistan's first smog hotline, "1373," and directed that 1 percent of development project funds be allocated for tree planting initiatives.

During her address, the CM announced an increase in the honorarium for interns from Rs 25,000 to Rs 60,000, emphasizing the need for job security for the interns post-program. She stated that environmental internships should not just be seen as opportunities but as a vital responsibility for fostering a greener Punjab.

She highlighted the significance of collective action against smog,

advocating for collaboration between Pakistan and India Punjab, noting that smog will end not by merely pressing a button. The CM urged educational institutions to integrate smog awareness into their curricula from October 15 to November 15.

The CM criticized past negligence in environmental management and stressed the importance of treating the environment as a shared responsibility across Pakistan. She reported that measures against animal cruelty have been intensified, reflecting a commitment to humane practices.

Addressing air quality issues, she outlined ongoing efforts to combat smog, including surveillance of industrial emissions and proactive measures against pollution

from brick kilns and fat-melting factories. She also emphasized that sustainable infrastructure development is crucial for national progress.

Senior Provincial Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb shared insights into new environmental initiatives, including a vehicle inspection system and comprehensive climate change plans. She reaffirmed Punjab's leadership role in addressing climate challenges.

Provincial Minister for Information and Culture Azma Zahid Bokhari, Provincial Ministers Chaudhry Shafay Hussain, Sher Ali Gorchani, Sohaib Ahmed Malik, Kazim Pirzada, Ramesh Singh Arora, Ashiq Hussain, Chief Secretary, Secretaries and other officials were also present in the ceremony.



LAHORE: Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan administering oath to Ayesha Hamid as Punjab's first Ombudsman.

Swat gets child-friendly protection unit

By Haroon Siraj

SWAT: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Child Protection and Welfare Commission (KPCPWC) has taken a huge step forward in safeguarding children's rights by launching a Child Protection Unit in Swat. This new unit aims to provide a safe and nurturing environment for children, protecting them from abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

On this occasion key stakeholders, officials, and children attended the inauguration ceremony, where Deputy Commissioner Shehzad Mehboob pledged full support from the district administration. Mr. Ijaz Muhammad Khan, Deputy Chief Protection Officer of KPCPWC, shared that the commission has already aided 32,564 at-risk children and established 21 fully operational Child Protection Units across the province.



PESHAWAR: Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi in a group photo with Young Leaders Parliament delegation at Governor House.

Governor Kundi urges youth to play role in addressing challenges

PESHAWAR (APP): Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi on Wednesday said that the province is facing multiple challenges, urging the youth to adopt a positive mindset and actively participate in addressing these issues.

He said this during a meeting with a delegation from the Young Leaders Parliament (YLP), led by President Naveed Ahmad Khan, visited the Governor House Peshawar.

During the meeting, the YLP delegation briefed the Governor on initiatives aimed at engaging the province's youth in positive activities through the platform of the Young Leaders Parliament.

They also requested the Governor's support and participation as a guest of honor for the upcoming three days entrepreneurship event in Peshawar.

The young members of the YLP engaged in a Q&A session with the Governor, discussing various issues affecting the province, particularly regarding the welfare of the youth.

Governor Faisal Karim Kundi welcomed the delegation, expressing his focus on advancing the interests of youth and women across all sectors.

He acknowledged the talent among the province's youth but said that they often lack

adequate opportunities for progress.

He announced that 100 percent scholarships have been allocated for tribal youth at Edward College and that free IT courses will be initiated to help young people pursue online businesses and job opportunities from home.

Kundi also highlighted that the provincial government has not effectively utilized its powers following the 18th Amendment.

He encouraged young people to share their proposals via email at any time, emphasizing the importance of their input for improving the education sector.

CM GB stresses importance of local government elections

GILGIT (APP): Chief Minister Gilgit Baltistan Haji Gulbar Khan has emphasized the significance of local government elections in resolving public issues and ensuring the transfer of powers to lower levels.

Addressing the closing ceremony of a three-day training workshop for officers regarding local government elections, the CM said that these elections are crucial for bringing new leadership to the forefront and empowering people at the grassroots level. The CM expressed his commitment to holding local government elections, which have been delayed in Gilgit-Baltistan since 2004.

He praised the Chief Election Commissioner and Local Government Secretary for their efforts in completing the first phase of delimitation and assured the public that the current provincial government is dedicated to ensuring the holding of local government elections.

Committee formed to assess damages to KP House: CM KP

PESHAWAR (APP): The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister, Sardar Ali Amin Gandapur announced on Wednesday that a committee has been formed to estimate the damages to the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa House in Islamabad.

The chief minister indicated that consultations regarding legal action besides formulation of a strategy would be undertaken.

Addressing the KP cabinet meeting here, the chief minister emphasized that there would be no compromise on constitutional rights and the provincial autonomy granted under the 18th Amendment.

He described the incidents during the PTI protests and at the KP House in Islamabad as intolerable.

Deplored the police raids and damages of property at the KP House, the CM alleged that police officers and Rescue 1122 officials, along with rescue equipment, were unlawfully detained.

He vowed to take strict action against the Islamabad police and administration if any torture against them was proven. As the chief minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, he stated that the necessary security personnel and equipment would accompany him wherever he goes.



HYDERABAD: Activists of Sunni Tehreek (PST) are holding rally in favor of Pakistan Armed Forces, in Hyderabad.

NAB presents Rs 36.8m recovery amount cheque to Punjab government

LAHORE (APP): National Accountability Bureau (NAB) Lahore reported a significant recovery in a corruption scandal involving former Punjab chief minister Ch Pervaiz Elahi and others linked to kickbacks in construction contracts. NAB Deputy Chairman Sohail Nasir presented a cheque worth Rs 36.8 million to the Punjab government, which was received by Additional Secretary

Finance Abdus Samad in the presence of NAB Lahore Director General Amjad Majeed Aulakh, said a spokesperson here Wednesday.

The recovery was a part of an ongoing investigation into corruption in public contracts. Additionally, the NAB Lahore successfully retrieved Rs 17.2 million from former chief financial officer Ikram Naveed through a plea bargain.

International News

Israel's strikes are shifting the power balance in the Middle East, with US support

WASHINGTON: Israeli military strikes are targeting Iran's armed allies across a nearly 2,000-mile stretch of the Middle East and threatening Iran itself. The efforts raise the possibility of an end to two decades of Iranian ascendancy in the region, to which the 2003 U.S. invasion of Iraq inadvertently gave rise.

In Washington, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, and Arab capitals, opponents and supporters of Israel's offensive are offering clashing ideas about what the U.S. should do next, as its ally racks up tactical successes against Hezbollah in Lebanon and the Houthis in Yemen and presses its yearlong campaign to crush Hamas in Gaza.

Israel should get all the support it needs from the United States until Iran's government "follows

other dictatorships of the past into the dustbin of history," said Richard Goldberg, a senior adviser at Washington's conservative-leaning Foundation for the Defense of Democracies — calls echoed by some Israeli political figures.

Going further, Yoel Guzansky, a former senior staffer at Israel's National Security Council, called for the Biden administration to join Israel in direct attacks in Iran. That would send "the right message to the Iranians — 'Don't mess with us,'" Guzansky said.

Critics, however, highlight lessons from the U.S. military campaign in Iraq and toppling of Saddam Hussein, when President George W. Bush ignored Arab warnings that the Iraqi dictator was the region's indispensable counterbalance to Iranian influence. They caution against racking up military

victories without adequately considering the risks, end goals or plans for what comes next, and warn of unintended consequences.

Ultimately, Israel "will be in a situation where it can only protect itself by perpetual war," said Vali Nasr, who was an adviser to the Obama administration. Now a professor at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, or SAIS, he has been one of the leading documenters of the rise of Iranian regional influence since the U.S. invasion of Iraq.

With Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu giving limited weight to Biden administration calls for restraint, the United States and its partners in the Middle East are "at the mercy of how far Bibi Netanyahu will push it," Nasr said, referring to the Israeli leader by his nickname.



Turkish nationals wait to register for boarding Turkish navy ships to leave Lebanon, amid the ongoing hostilities between Hezbollah and Israeli forces, in Beirut, Lebanon.

China says raised 'serious concerns' with US over trade curbs

BEIJING: The United States and China on Tuesday raised concerns about trade between the world's two biggest economies, with China's commerce minister urging Washington to lift sanctions on his country's firms "as soon as possible."

Chinese Commerce Minister Wang Wentao's call with US Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo was described

by Beijing as "candid, independent and pragmatic".

It comes shortly after sharp US tariff hikes on Chinese electric vehicles, EV batteries and solar cells took effect — with levies down the line on other products also recently finalised.

In addition, the US is planning to ban the sale of connected vehicles incorporating Chinese and Russian technology, citing national security risks.

Turkish Airlines pilot dies mid-flight, forcing emergency landing

ISTANBUL: A Turkish Airlines pilot died after collapsing mid-flight, forcing the Turkish national carrier to make an emergency landing in New York, the airline said on Wednesday.

The plane had taken off from the western US coastal city of Seattle on Tuesday evening, airline spokesman Yahya Ustun wrote on X, formerly Twitter.

Canada pledges another C\$15 million in assistance for Lebanese civilians

OTTAWA: Canada will provide C\$15 million (\$11 million) in new humanitarian assistance to support civilians affected by conflict in Lebanon, the Canadian foreign ministry said on Wednesday. "Canada is deeply alarmed by the rapid escalation of the crisis in Lebanon. We are mobilizing to ensure that Canada is there to bring much-needed assistance to the Lebanese people," Foreign Minister Melanie Joly said in a statement. The funding announcement brings Canada's assistance pledge for Lebanese civilians to C\$25 million.

Israeli strike kills 17 in Gaza refugee camp

GAZA/CAIRO: Gaza's civil defence agency on Tuesday said an Israeli strike killed at least 17 people at a refugee camp in the centre of the territory.

"The civil defence teams recovered 17 martyrs, including children, and several others who were wounded from the three-story home of the Abdul Hadi family, which was bombed by a missile from an (Israeli) warplane in Al Bureij refugee camp in central Gaza," agency spokesman Mahmud Bassal said in a statement. Bassal said the bodies of those killed and the wounded were taken to Al Awda hospital in Nuseirat camp and to Al Aqsa Martyrs hospital in the city of Deir el Bahah. Medics at Al

Awda confirmed the toll.

Kamal Adwan and Al Awda hospitals in northern Gaza have been asked to evacuate in the past 48 hours, World Health Organisation officials told a briefing in Cairo. Fewer than half of Gaza's hospitals remain even partially functioning after a year of Israeli bombardments. Bassal earlier said that several air strikes rocked central and northern Gaza since the early hours of Tuesday. Israel sent tanks deeper into Jabalia in the northern Gaza Strip and told people to leave as it pounded the historic Palestinian refugee camp from the air, residents said. Palestinian medics said casualties had been reported in Jabalia but they were unable to reach areas under fire.

Ukraine strikes a Russian oil hub as Zelenskyy says the war is in 'a very important phase'

KYIV: Ukraine's military said it struck a major oil terminal Monday in Crimea that provides fuel for Russia's war effort as Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said the war has entered a key phase. Both sides are facing the issue of how to sustain their costly war of attrition — a conflict that started with Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 and that shows no signs of a resolution.

Ukraine's General Staff said on social media that the oil terminal in Feodosia, on the southern coast of the Russia-occupied Crimea Peninsula, has been supplying the Russian army with fuel and that the strike was part of an ongoing effort to "undermine the military and economic potential of the Russian Federation."

Russian-installed authorities in the city of Feodosia on the coast of the Black Sea reported a fire at the terminal on Monday morning but did not say what might have caused it.

Ukraine has increasingly targeted rear areas that are essential for Russia's onslaught, now deep into its third year. It has developed long-range drones that have hit oil depots and refineries as well as armories.

Ukraine's aim is to impair Russia's ability to support its front-line units, especially in the eastern Donetsk region where the main Russian battlefield effort is stretching weary Ukrainian forces.

Kyiv is still awaiting word from its Western partners on its repeated requests to use the long-range weapons they provide to hit targets on Russian soil.



DENVER: Pro-Palestinian demonstrators march on the first anniversary of the Israeli invasion of Gaza.

Iran Quds Force chief Qaani is well, to get medal from Supreme Leader

DUBAI: The commander of the overseas arm of Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards is well and will receive a medal from Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei soon, the semi-official Tasnim news agency quoted a senior Guards adviser on Wednesday as saying. Two senior Iranian security officials told Reuters earlier that Quds Force commander Esmail Qaani, who travelled to Lebanon after the Sept 27 killing of Hezbollah leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah in an Israeli airstrike, had not been heard from since further Israeli bombings of south Beirut late last week.

