

QUETTA VOICE

Https:// www.quettavoicedaily.com/

ABC Certified

Quettavoicedaily



Three PTI MNAs offered money for supporting no-trust motion: Fawad

Extremist commander among 10 terrorists killed in Kech IBO: ISPR

RAWALPINDI: An extremist commander among 10 terrorists were killed in intelligence based operation in district Kech of Balochistan on Wednesday, Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) said.

COAS, EU Special Representative discuss issues of mutual interest, regional security situation

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa was called on by European Union (EU) Special Representative for Human Rights Mr Eamon Gilmore at GHQ on Wednesday. Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) said.



COAS, EU Special Representative discuss issues of mutual interest, regional security



LAHORE: President Pakistan Muslim League (N) Mian Muhammad Shabbaz Shairi, Co-Chairman Pakistan People's Party Asif Ali Zardari, Chairman Pakistan People's Party Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, President Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) Maulana Fazlur-Rehman and others are sitting during joint meeting of Opposition at the residence of President Pakistan Muslim League (N) Mian Muhammad Shabbaz Shairi at Model Town in Provincial Capital.

CM takes notice of killing of 4 people in Zhob in an alleged CTD firing



Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Qudus Bizenjo has taken notice of the killing of 4 people in Zhob in an alleged Counter Terrorist (CTD) firing. At least four people were killed in the Kili Shahbaz area of Zhob in the wee hours of Wednesday.

CM has spoken to Commissioner Zhob via telephone regarding the incident and sought details. An official handout issued here said. The CM has directed the concerned authorities to submit a report about the incident within the next 48 hours. The angry tribesmen blocked the main highway linking Quetta with Islamabad, the federal capital. They were demanding of the provincial government to properly probe into the incident. They had also brought all four dead bodies on the highway.

Mohsin Hassan Butt posted as IGP Balochistan



A senior officer of police service of Pakistan, Mohsin Hassan Butt has been appointed as the Inspector General of Police on Wednesday. According to a notification issued by the Establishment Division, Mr Butt has been posted as the new IGP Balochistan.

Raja Azhar writes to Asad Umar to revoke membership of Aamir Liaquat

KARACHI: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Sindhi vice president Raja Azhar on Wednesday has written a letter to party's general secretary Asad Umar to revoke membership of member of National Assembly (NA) Aamir Liaquat.

In a letter, the PTI Sindhi vice president stated that Aamir Liaquat has expressed solidarity with Matruhida Qumri Movement (MQM) founder in his several videos. He urged the party leadership to take action against the MNA over his viral videos.

NCO scraps PCR test for vaccinated passengers

ISLAMABAD: The National Command and Operation Centre (NCO) on Wednesday revised its policy for inbound passengers. Under the revised policy that will come into force on Feb 24, fully vaccinated inbound passengers will not be required to undergo PCR test before travelling to Pakistan. However, non-vaccinated individuals aged over 12 years will have to submit negative PCR conducted 72 hours before departure.

CM Balochistan approves promotion of 1400 teachers

Syed Ali Shah QUETTA: Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Qudus Bizenjo has approved the promotion of more than 1400 teachers across the province. The teachers were waiting for their promotion for the last more than two decades, an official handout issued on Wednesday said.



LAHORE: President Pakistan Muslim League (N) Mian Muhammad Shabbaz Shairi, Co-Chairman Pakistan People's Party Asif Ali Zardari, Chairman Pakistan People's Party Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, President Pakistan Democratic Movement (PDM) Maulana Fazlur-Rehman and others are sitting during joint meeting of Opposition at the residence of President Pakistan Muslim League (N) Mian Muhammad Shabbaz Shairi at Model Town in Provincial Capital.

Former Interior Minister Rehman Malik passes away at the age of 70



Former Interior Minister and a senior leader of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), Rehman Malik breathed his last in Islamabad. He was 70 years old. Family sources confirmed that Rehman Malik breathed his last because of a prolonged illness. Raza Ali Tuli, the Spokesperson for Rehman Malik also confirmed the demise.

Politicos including PM, president condole demise of Rehman Malik

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi and Prime Minister Imran Khan on Wednesday expressed their grief over the demise of former interior minister Senator Rehman Malik. Both the president and prime minister prayed for peace of the departed soul.

CM Balochistan Quddus Bizenjo tests positive for COVID19



Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Qudus Bizenjo tested positive for COVID19 on Wednesday. CM has kept himself in isolation after the laboratory test. The Spokesman of the CM Secretariat said. The condition of the CM is ok, however, there are symptoms of coronavirus. He mentioned the doctors have advised the CM to take complete rest and take medicine. Now the CM Balochistan will be conducting online sessions for official matters. He said Cabinet members and political figures have prayed for an immediate recovery of the CM.

Pak-Russia cooperation in energy sector to be focused during PM's visit: Hamdani

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Energy Hamdani said that as Russia was big supplier of energy in the world, cooperation between Pakistan and Russia in energy sector will be focused during the Prime Minister's scheduled visit to Moscow in a televised message here on Wednesday. He said there was a vast room for Pak-Russia cooperation in energy sector. They had already formally discussed three to four potential energy related projects with the Russian team in last six months, he said.

Three PTI MNAs offered money for supporting no-trust motion: Fawad

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Fawad Chaudhry on Wednesday said that three of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) MNAs including a minority and a woman member have reported that they have been offered money to support a no-confidence motion against Prime Minister Imran Khan. Talking to media persons after PTI's Central Executive Committee meeting in Islamabad which discussed at length the current political situation in the country as well as Prime Minister Imran Khan's visit to Russia.

PM Imran arrives in Moscow on two-day visit to advance gas pipeline project

Prime Minister Imran Khan arrived in Moscow late on Wednesday, on a two-day visit to push for the construction of a long-delayed, multi-billion-dollar gas pipeline to be built in collaboration with Russian companies. Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Morgulov welcomed the prime minister upon arrival in Moscow. He was also presented with a guard of honour.



The project is important for Pakistan — particularly the power sector — as the country's dependence on imported LNG grows in the face of dwindling indigenous gas supplies. The pipeline project has already suffered delays because of earlier sanctions. This North-South pipeline suffered one of the reasons was the companies we were negotiating with, turned out that US had applied sanctions on them. PM Imran said Russia Today on Tuesday.

Depoliticising education

Balochistan needs inclusive development

Balochistan, the country's resource-rich province is lagging behind all other provinces in terms of key social indicators including education, health, sanitation, clean drinking water etc. Mismanagement, injudicious distribution of development funds coupled with a lack of political commitments are the underlying reasons behind backwardness of the province.

Track record shows, successive governments have always launched politically motivated development schemes to please their influential supporters. Constituency, individual and political schemes always dominated the Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) in every year's financial budget. Nexus among the Chief Minister's Secretariat, the Planning Development and Finance Department continue to deprive the constituencies of other lawmakers.

Opposition lawmakers' constituencies remained ignored during last three years of former chief minister, Jam Kamal Khan's government. Despite agitation in and outside the assembly, the opposition lawmakers were not able to force government to allocate funds for their constituencies.

This is irony of fate that the mandate of the lawmakers is to frame laws since the assemblies are called legislative assemblies. But legislators are least bothered about the legislation rather they take keen interest in construction of roads, buildings etc. That's why, provincial governments prefer not to hold local bodies elections rather decentralization of development projects.

Development deficit of Balochistan is likely to be Rs. 100b. Balochistan government announced to have allocated Rs. 172 bs for the PSDP during the financial year 2021-22. However, currently the government has no statement regarding the allocation of development projects. The government should ensure inclusive development and end the practice of exclusive development so that this backward province could come at par with other parts of the country. Action should match words now.

The writer (sheher) has a PhD in Education. On 4 February 18, the Supreme Court of Pakistan issued its short order on the Government's appeal to the Islamabad High Court's (IHC) decision of January 18 that reinstated Dr Tariq Bano as chairperson of the HEC. The Supreme Court effectively told the government to hold its horses until the IHC releases its final judgment. Given the government's visible desperation to nullify the IHC decision, this briefing came as a surprise.

In my last op-ed I mentioned I would provide a picture of what a much-depoliticised education sector, post-18th Amendment, could look like in particular of the three institutions that have been at the center of controversy recently. To that end, I propose a broad three-pronged approach. For the first prong, keep possible appointments to all institutions and departments of education and training under the purview of an independent (apolitical) technocrat to lead a committee of representatives from all institutions like the Higher Education Commission (HEC) and National Vocational and Technical Training Commission (NAVTEC) were autonomously established as autonomous

institutions. In Islamabad, the new local government ordinance passes the administration of local schools to the mayor's office whenever the local government is dissolved. Post-18th Amendment, provinces should emulate this by ensuring the autonomy of provincial counterpart departments. This will be done in the sphere of responsibility of the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training (MEFPT) even further, to the extent where we should consider downsizing the role of the secretary to the MEFPT with the curtailed mandate of coordinating matters between federal and provincial education departments. The current secretary should be led by heads appointed by technocrats on a rotation for a period of three years.

Such a scenario is not too far-fetched or without precedent. For example, the System Authority (IRSA) established under the IRSA Act of 1992, has been operating in the field of higher education for the last 30 years and all members in the authority are not careerist but bureaucrats. The National Curriculum Framework (NCF), NAVTEC, HEC are not staffed and run like national organisations but by individuals. Presently, these are federal organisations headed by those handpicked by the

federal government driving the federal government's agenda which is why those are (or were) perceived as meddling in or encroaching on provincial matters. That is also why there has been a significant degree of friction on the issue of the SNC between the centre and provinces although both are governed by the PTI. The way things are operating at the moment, federal bodies are seen as intruding, pushing the agenda of the ruling party at the centre. For the second prong, separate implementing agencies for regulatory and regulatory institutions. In the higher education sector, the HEC is currently both regulator and implementer. These roles need to be separated. This is already partially done for engineering and medical programmes. Standard setting for engineering programmes is performed in large part by the Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC). Similarly, accreditation of medical colleges is largely in the hands of the Pakistan Medical Commission (PMC). Other major regulatory bodies like the HEC, is it possible that the reason Pakistan engineering programmes (apart from postgraduate) are still among the most employable graduates is that the HEC relies on highly professional bodies for their accreditation? I don't know the answer, but this question

warrants some investigation. The same is the case with NAVTEC in the vocational education sector. Here too we ought to separate the responsibility of regulation and standard setting from implementation. The NAVTEC has begun the job of maintaining a database of accredited vocational training programmes and has recently categorised them by performance, although standards appear somewhat lax for now. If it is published, this is valuable information and can address information asymmetry and reassure prospective applicants about which programmes are worth the time and cost of attendance. Implementation can be the preserve of autonomous public and private technical and vocational training institutions.

The third prong calls for a clear delineation of institutional mandates and execution of functions. For example, the PEC is, as its name suggests, responsible for developing curricula, completing training materials, and certifying textbooks for schools under the MEFPT. It is not responsible for developing curricula for provinces (apart from postgraduate) or developing standards or developing textbooks. Instead, the PEC is busy procuring textbooks which is not its mandate. It is not just decreasing its purview; the way books are

Crouching tiger or hiding dragon? Far-right ideas

The world was bracing for the new cold war. A U.K. U.S. QUAD leaders met in DC. News outlets were already churning out stories against China's alleged ambitions. Stories about Lybia suffering from a lack of hard evidence, so the attention gradually shifted to the Belt and Road Initiative which includes the China Pakistan Corridor as its flagship. So, an unending series of reports started appearing in the international media, claiming that China was seeking inefficient and poor countries with insurmountable debt. The Hambantota bankruptcy story had proven to be a propagandist success. It left for a heartbeat, the impossible sounding decoupling was almost inevitable. But then suddenly the whole story has changed.

Two developments are enough to confuse all China watchers and proceed war pundits. The first is the breakthrough in the Huawei case. Almost three years ago, along with the company's CFO and the daughter of the company's founder, Meng Wanzhou, was detained on arrival in Canada. For a case of misreporting to HSIA, the company was led to the breach of an inadvisable bank of Iran sanctions, stories Next in line was the United States. After years of hectic diplomatic negotiations and a court deal, last week she flew back to China. This brings to an end an added chapter of hostility between China and the U.S. But if the Huawei case was not a detour from the competition between the two countries, wait until you hear about the other development. A series of mind-numbing developments. Huawei is the first ever to have a series of mind-numbing developments. Huawei is the first ever to have a series of mind-numbing developments. Huawei is the first ever to have a series of mind-numbing developments.

world due to its BRI commitments. This might be seen as a step towards deficits. Hence, the crackdown to competition.

Bear in mind these speculations are just that. The media is being questioned by the western media. And those of us who are old enough to remember the last cold war can easily recall how militant journalism and the entertainment industry were against the Soviet Union. Even innocent-looking Reader's Digest used to dish out a monthly dose of anti-Soviet content. You can choose to believe whether it is true or false or not, but it is a fact of anything. That said just wrap your mind around the consequences of a possible, if not probable, Chinese withdrawal from the world economy. So far you have heard some Indian and western pundits' predictions of a world economy. So far you have heard some Indian and western pundits' predictions of a world economy. So far you have heard some Indian and western pundits' predictions of a world economy.

By Philippe Marliac

is more, her speech was punctuated with thinly veiled references to Macron. True to the French elite's obsession with the high, 'Marianne' (the name given to the female symbol of France) should not be seen as a 'genocide by substitution' of the French indigenous population and compared it to the genocide of the European settlers during the Second World War. In the epicure of his 2011 'Le Grand Remplacement' book, Carnot writes that 'Rivers of Blood' speech as a major milestone in his work. It can also be argued that the French far-right's obsession with the 'Mandarin' is reminiscent of Eloiard Drumont's 'Jewish France' in the late 19th century. Drumont, an antisemite, argued that there was allegedly a Jewish plot to destroy Europe. Today, Muslims have seemingly replaced French in so-called 'clash of civilisation' against European culture. This white supremacist theory, which in truth originates from a larger and older white supremacist conspiracy theory popularised in American neo-Nazi circles has now entered the mainstream. By contrast, Eric Zemmour, another far-right hopeful, has made

enrolled at the primary level. This was estimated to be 5.3 million boys and 2.8 million girls at the lower secondary level. The number of institutions was recorded at 273,000 in 2019-20 compared to 262,000 in 2017-18. This was estimated to increase to 273,000 in 2019-20. Similarly, there were 1.76 million teachers in 2018-19 compared to 1.77 million in the previous year. This number was estimated to increase to 1.80 million in 2019-20. What we can see is that in Pakistan the private sector became a major provider of education services since the 1990s both in absolute terms and in percentage. This explains the rise in enrolment numbers, institutes and teachers. Of the 47.5 million school going children in Pakistan, 42 per cent are in private schools. From the total number of schools in the country, 38 per cent are private. From 1990 to 2016, the number of low-cost private schools in Punjab alone increased from 32,000 to 66,000. Interestingly, the majority of new private schools opened in rural areas. There are many questions that come up when one reviews these statistics. The first of course is why the government is not willing to play its role of providing quality

and affordable education to its people. Education is the prime responsibility of the state. The second question is whether the private sector, given the role played by the government, will be able to provide affordable and quality education to those who need it. When asked, we are told that education is a provincial subject. But spending comes from both federal and provincial governments. And we are seeing a gradual but consistent deterioration in the quality of education provided by public sector institutions, which is forcing many parents to turn to the private sector. For us the challenge is not only reducing the number of QMPCs but also working on improving the quality of education for all. Private education is not the answer. The only option is to keep children out of school. This is a national crisis that we need to address. We talked about this and came up with an action plan to move from a private to a low-cost private schools in Punjab alone increased, drastically from 22,000 to 66,000. Interestingly, the majority of new private schools opened up in rural areas.

How not to collect tax

Literacy and Pakistan

International literacy day is marked all over the world in September where the Education Development in the education sector are highlighted. In Pakistan, this day is marked without much notice, more so because we have little to celebrate. According to the Economic Survey of Pakistan 2020-21, the literacy rate in the country remains stagnant at 60 per cent. While there are many who question this number missing, the literacy rate is much lower, even this rate leaves much to be desired. According to a report by UNICEF, Pakistan is facing a serious challenge to ensure all children, particularly the most disadvantaged, attend, stay and learn in school. While enrolment and retention rates are improving, progress has been slow to improve education indicators in Pakistan. An estimated 22.8 million children aged 5-16 are out of school. Currently, Pakistan has the world's second highest number of out-of-school children (OOSC) with an estimated 22.8 million children aged 5-16 not attending school, representing 44 per cent of the total population in this age group. Nearly 10.7 million boys and 8.6 million girls are

enrolled at the primary level. This was estimated to be 5.3 million boys and 2.8 million girls at the lower secondary level. The number of institutions was recorded at 273,000 in 2019-20 compared to 262,000 in 2017-18. This was estimated to increase to 273,000 in 2019-20. Similarly, there were 1.76 million teachers in 2018-19 compared to 1.77 million in the previous year. This number was estimated to increase to 1.80 million in 2019-20. What we can see is that in Pakistan the private sector became a major provider of education services since the 1990s both in absolute terms and in percentage. This explains the rise in enrolment numbers, institutes and teachers. Of the 47.5 million school going children in Pakistan, 42 per cent are in private schools. From the total number of schools in the country, 38 per cent are private. From 1990 to 2016, the number of low-cost private schools in Punjab alone increased from 32,000 to 66,000. Interestingly, the majority of new private schools opened in rural areas. There are many questions that come up when one reviews these statistics. The first of course is why the government is not willing to play its role of providing quality

massive use of modern technology and bypass its archaic and colonial bureaucracy. Just as the Sindh Police in the last 70 years has not been able to understand that there are only less than 0.1% citizens who can file a tax return, even if it is a complex 'web' based tax return. This our system is designed to ensure that 99% people cannot file a tax return. An ordinary citizen wishing to pay say Rs1,000 tax to the government must first pay Rs15,000 to a tax consultant. He will thus do neither. It is impossible for a citizen to understand that 'Assam' is not an 'Asian' that all that was needed was to design a single page form in Urdu and English which could be filled by even a student of class eight. And in Pakistan, we should not require any PSDI, 'chalan', or 'Haltank' How is FBR's bank account number, one's CNIC and a mobile phone all that should be needed to pay the tax. That the FBR's full page newspaper ads for the FBR are a waste of tax payers' money. That the FBR says it is a 'Tax Filer' and provides easy and simple solutions. It is mind-boggling

