

QUETTA VOICE

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18th Amendment has strengthened federation: Zardari



Gen Bajwa discusses 'national security' in maiden meeting with PM Shehbaz

Educationists, academicians to recommend VCs appointment in Balochistan

Syed Ali Shah, News Desk

QUETTA: Balochistan Assembly adopted the universities model act 2022 on Tuesday. Under the newly passed act, educationists, academicians, and officers will recommend the appointment of Vice-Chancellors and Pro VCs in Balochistan. As per the 18th amendment, the Constitution has empowered the Chief Minister instead of the Governor to make appointments of VCs and Pro VCs in the province.

"Search committees would be formed to recommend VCs", Zahoor Buledi, the former senior minister and higher education minister said. Mr. Buledi said the search committees would conduct appointments of VCs and Pro VCs on the basis of merit.



As per the newly adopted

act, the Chairman of the Search Committee should be an eminent educationist with 25 years of research experience, and 20

years experience of in international publications. The provincial government would appoint the Chairman of the

Search Committee. The provincial government was already providing Rs. 2.5 billion per annum through universities finance commission to all universities of Balochistan, Mr. Buledi informed.

Principal Secretary to Governor, Secretary Higher Education, others to be members.

Principal Secretary to the Governor, Secretary Higher Education, an academicians of eminence not employed by the same university, one member of the Senate of any university, one VC of any university to be nominated by the Chancellor would be members of the search committee.

The new act has empowered Chief Minister Balochistan to appoint the VCs and Pro VCs.

Earlier, Governor/ Chancellor had the power to appoint VCs and Pro VCs in the province. However, the passage of the 18th amendment had empowered the Chief Minister to make appointments in this regard.

Nasrullah Zarai, Mitha Khan Kakar had expressed reservations over the act.

Balochistan education minister, Mir Naseebullah Marri tabled the universities model act 2022, which was adopted by the house. However, Nasrullah Zarai of Pashtoonkhwa Milli Awami Party (PKMAP) and Mitha Khan Kakar of the Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) had opposed the legislation and expressed reservations the other day.

Asif Ali Zardari calls on Sardar Akhtar Mengal

News Desk

Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) leader Asif Ali Zardari called on Chief of Balochistan National Party (Mengal) Sardar Akhtar Mengal at his residence. PPP leader Nayar Bukhari, BNP leaders Waja Jehanzaib Baloch, Sanaullah Baloch and others were also present on the occasion.



The two leaders discussed unfolding political events in the country. They also discussed untoward incidents in Balochistan's Chaghi district. The two leaders agreed to work together for the country and nation.

Sardar Mengal had earlier said that his party would not become part of the federal cabinet in the aftermath of untoward incidents in Balochistan's Chaghi district. BNP lawmakers had also staged a walk-out from the national assembly session.

Frontier Corps Balochistan supports needy, deserving people

News Desk

SIBI: Frontier Corps Balochistan (North) distributed solar panels and fans among the disabled and needy people during the sacred month of Ramadan ul Mubarak on Tuesday.

Frontier Corps Balochistan (North) Sibi Scouts is maintaining law and order as well as takes care of the disabled, poor, and needy people in and around Sibi. Through regular interactions with tribal elders and locals, the Sibi Scouts reached out to



the most deserving and needy people in the local population, and during the holy month of Ramadan, the Sibi Scouts headquarters provided solar to the poor and needy in Sibi. Distributed 45 sets of panels and pedestal wings. The people of Sibi appreciated the welfare measures of FC Balochistan North and thanked the FC officials.

Akhtar Mengal declines ministry in protest against Chaghi incident

ISLAMABAD: Sardar Akhtar Mengal, an ally of the federal government and head of Balochistan National Party-Mengal, did not attend the oath-taking ceremony of the federal cabinet on Tuesday in protest against Chaghi incident.

Sources privy to the development revealed that the BNP-Mengal chief refused to become part of the federal cabinet as he did not attend the oath-taking ceremony despite being invited.

All efforts of the government to persuade Sardar Akhtar Mengal were in vain, the sources added.

He demanded formation of a probe commission on Chaghi firing incident. INP

Drug smuggling case: SC stops Czech model from flying abroad

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court of Pakistan on Tuesday stopped Czech model Tereza Hluskova from travelling abroad in drug smuggling case.

Tereza Hluskova was sentenced to eight years and eight months in jail by a sessions court in April 2019. She was arrested at Lahore airport for attempting to smuggle heroin from Pakistan to Abu Dhabi on January 10, 2018. The court acquitted her last year in November and was released from prison the same month. At the outset of the hearing, the apex court issued notice to Czech model and stopped her from leaving the country on Pakistan customs petition. Customs counsel stated before the court that Tereza Hluskova was sentenced. INPs

Dawood Ahmed

Chairman Senate Sadiq Sanjrani administered the oath to the 37-member federal cabinet on Tuesday in the federal capital. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif was also present during the oath-taking ceremony.

The oath-taking ceremony began with the recitation of the Holy Quran at the President's House. Thirty-one federal ministers and three ministers of state and as many advisers to the prime minister took the oath.

According to details, Maryam Aurangzai has been appointed as the federal minister for information and broadcasting. Azam Nazeer Tarar has been appointed as the federal minister for law.

Ahsan Iqbal has been appointed as the federal minister for planning.

Sadiq Sanjrani takes oath from 37-member federal cabinet

Rana Sanaullah was appointed as the federal minister for interior and Hina Rabbani Khar as the federal state minister for foreign affairs.

Federal ministers

Khawaja Muhammad Asif (PML-N), Ahsan Iqbal (PML-N)

Rana Sanaullah (PML-N)

Sardar Ayaz Sadiq (PML-N)

Rana Tanveer Hussain (PML-N)

Khuram Dastgir Khan (PML-N)

Mariyom Aurangzeb (PML-N)

Khawaja Saad Rafique (PML-N)

Miftah Ismail (PML-N)

Javed Latif (PML-N)

Riaz Hussain Pirzada (PML-N)

Murtaza Javed Abbasi (PML-N)

Azam Nazeer Tarar (PML-N)

Syed Khurshid Shah (PPP)

Syed Naveed Qamar (PPP)

Sherry Rehman (PPP)

Abdul Qadir Patel (PPP)

Shazia Marri (PPP)

Syed Murtaza Mahmud (PPP)

Sajid Hussain Turi (PPP)

Ehsan Ur Rehman Mazari (PPP)

Abid Hussain (PPP)

Asad Mahmood (MMA)

Abdul Wasay (MMA)

Abdul Shakoor (MMA)

Muhammad Talha Mahmood (JUI)

Aminul Haque (MQM-P)

Faisal Sabzwari (MQM-P)

Muhammad Israr Tareen (BAP)

Shahzain Bugti (JWP)

Tariq Bashir Cheema (PML-Q)

Ministers of state

Aisha Ghaus Pasha (PML-N)

Abdul Rehman Khan Kanju (PML-N)

Hina Rabbani Khar (PPP)

Advisers to the PM

Qamar Zaman Kaira (PPP)

Amir Muqam (PML-N)

Awon Chaudhry (PTI's Tareen group)

"BAP doesn't own this Govt", Jam reacts to Khawaja Asif statement

News Desk

Former Chief Minister Balochistan, Jam Kamal Khan has said that Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) doesn't own this government and the chief minister. In his reaction to the federal minister, Khawaja Asif's statement, Jam Kamal took to the social media network Twitter and expressed his views.

"A conspiracy by the then few federal ministers, few senate members, contractors, and BNP Mengal who own the sawab and gunnah narrative", Jam Kamal said in his tweet.

Federal Minister, Khawaja Muhammad Asif had lashed out at the present Balochistan government. He said, "can you call this a government, which was made in Balochistan during his speech in



the national assembly".

Sardar Khetran condemns Khawaja Asif's statement

BAP lawmaker and provincial minister, Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran has strongly condemned the statement of the federal minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif about the Balochistan government. "Khawaja Asif has no right to interfere and undermine the government of Balochistan", Sardar Khetran told the Balochistan Assembly session on Tuesday. "What they did in Punjab", Sardar Khetran stated.

Tribunal of inquiry formed to probe into Chaghi incident

Chaghi: Balochistan government has established tribunal of inquiry to probe into Chaghi incident on Tuesday. Arshad Majeed, the Senior Member Board of Revenue (MBR) would lead the tribunal, an official handout issued on Tuesday night said. The tribunal would file its report within 15 days. In Chaghi, the killing of driver Hameedullah had sparked violent protest in Chaghi and Nokundi. Events prompted the Balochistan government to form tribunal of inquiry. News Desk

'Shehbaz Sharif wants to revive economy as soon as possible'

ISLAMABAD: Former President of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) Dr Shahid Rasheed Butt on Tuesday said Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif is concerned about the economy and wants to revive it as soon as possible.

Masses, as well as the business community, have full faith in the abilities of the Prime Minister and they are expecting an economic turnaround.

Shahid Rasheed Butt said that the new government should focus on increasing exports, solve the problems of the export sector, provide cheap energy, fix electricity and gas tariffs, and pay the stuck refunds.

He said that system of refunds should be made fully automated to relieve exporters of the capital shortage. INP

18th Amendment has strengthened federation: Zardari

ISLAMABAD: Calling the 18th Constitutional Amendment a 'covenant' between the Center and the federating units, former president and PPP Co-Chairman Asif Ali Zardari on Tuesday said that by giving 'autonomy' to the provinces under the amendment, the federation had strengthened.

In his statement on the eve of passage of the 18th Amendment, he said that it had now started bearing fruits.

He further said it was a matter of great satisfaction that all democratic-minded political parties had trust in the constitution of 1973.

Referring to the hanging of former prime minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto (ZAB), Zardari said although the violators of the consti-

tution eliminated him, but they did not succeed in obliterating the constitution drafted under his supervision. Calling the 18th Constitutional Amendment a 'covenant' between the Center and the federating units, former president and PPP Co-Chairman Asif Ali Zardari on Tuesday said that by giving 'autonomy' to the provinces under the amendment, the federation had strengthened.

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WFP hands over emergency storage facilities to PDMA Balochistan

Manan Mandokhail

QUETTA: The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) handed over newly constructed emergency Storage Facilities, Prefabricated temperature-controlled storage units, and IT Equipment to the

Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) Balochistan and District Disaster Management

Authorities (DDMAs) of Chaman and Chagai districts in a ceremony organized at a local hotel in Quetta on Tuesday.

The contribution was part of the WFP's efforts to support and strengthen the Government of Balochistan for effective emergency preparedness and disaster risk reduction in Balochistan. WFP has also recently deployed the Emergency Preparedness Capacity Index (EPCI) – a corporate tool that helps identify the needed capacities for effective response. The exercise was conducted by WFP for PDMA Balochistan and six selected districts, aiming to enhance the preparedness capability of DDMAs and PDMA Balochistan.

Country Director WFP Chris Kaye attends the ceremony. The handover ceremony was attended by Chris Kaye, Country Director WFP, Naseer Ahmed Nassar, Director General, PDMA



Balochistan, government officials from PDMA and DDMAs, other government line departments, representatives from the UN, and academia.

The two Emergency Storage Facilities along with the two temperature-controlled storage units and IT

Equipment will enhance the emergency storage, coordination, communication, and reporting capacity of the district disaster management authorities in the Chaman and Chagai districts.

Balochistan to better manage and coordinate responses to disasters in the region

Chris Kaye, Country Director, WFP Pakistan, while handing over the emergency facilities and equipment to

the Director General PDMA, Government of Balochistan, said that WFP was pleased to provide the support

and the additional capacity that would help the Government of Balochistan better manage and coordinate responses to disasters in the region.

"Capacity to store and manage critical relief items at local levels can save lives as well as reduce the impact on communities caused by sudden-onset disasters," he added. Balochistan has witnessed an increase in natural and human-induced disasters resulting in the loss of lives, property, and livelihoods.

Four children burnt to death, over 125 houses gutted in Khairpur fire

DADU : At least four children were burnt to death, several people scorched and more than 10 dozen houses gutted with households due to fire here Monday-Tuesday night.

According to details, fire initiated in a house located in tehsil Khairpur Nathan Shah area of District. The fire spread rapidly due to wind and dust storm and engulfed over 100 houses.

Four children including Abdul Rasool, Mour, Tehmina and Sakina aged between four to eight

years were burnt alive while several others were scorched. The fire brigade could not reach the scene and fire was doused by local people on self-help bases.

The bodies and injured were shifted to local hospital. Meanwhile, a massive fire gutted all the homes in village Faiz Muhammad in Tehsil Mehrar while 25 homes in nearby village Saleh Machi were also destroyed. At least four children were burnt to death, several people scorched and more than

10 dozen houses gutted with households due to fire here Monday-Tuesday night.

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Four children including Abdul Rasool, Mour, Tehmina and Sakina aged between four to eight years were burnt alive while several others were scorched. The fire brigade. INP



ISLAMABAD: Newly appointed Federal Minister for Industries and Production Makhdoom Syed Murtaza Mahmud being briefed by Federal Secretary Jawwad Rafique Malik about role of Ministry.

Distt Admn. Rwp seized 32 trucks, recovered 831 mt wheat in one week

RAWALPINDI: District Administration Rawalpindi seized 32 trucks and recovered 831 metric tonnes of wheat in collaboration with Motorway Police and Food Department, during last one week.

This was informed during the meeting of price control committee held here on Tuesday with Commissioner Rawalpindi Division Noorul Amin Mengal in chair.

The Commissioner Rawalpindi Division directed the official concerned to ensure availability of 10 kg flour bag for Rs480 during month of Ramadan. Noorul Amin Mengal further said that the possibility of smuggling has increased due to decrease in the price of flour and therefore more

and more strict monitoring is required. Also procurement and release of wheat will be going side by side so we need to remain more vigilant.

He said that a total of 14 check posts have been set up in Rawalpindi division including Sang Jani Toll Plaza, Brahma Bahtar Interchange and M1 Interchange in Rawalpindi district. In District Attock check-posts are established at Attock Khurd (Malan Mansoor), Jhari Kas, Khushal Garh and Jamshed Ghazi Road, Mangla Dina in Jehlum District and In Chakwal, Blaksar Interchange, Neela Dehla and Kalar Kahar.

The Commissioner said that Rawalpindi district administration, in collaboration with the Motorway

Police and the Food Department, seized 32 trucks and recovered 831 metric tonnes of wheat during the last one week.

He further said that the purpose of government subsidy is to provide relief to the people. Therefore, all concerned officers should ensure that the wheat and flour given on subsidy is within the reach of common man.

Deputy Commissioner Rawalpindi Tahir Farooq, Additional Deputy Commissioner (General) Oqasim Ijaz, Deputy Director Food Zaman Khan and other concerned officers attended meeting in personal whereas Deputy Commissioners of Attock, Jehlum and Chakwal District attended via video link. INP

CPEC to remain top priority of the new govt: Report

ISLAMABAD: CPEC will remain top priority of the new government and change of regime in Pakistan makes no effect in carrying forward the long-standing Sino-Pak friendship, says a report published by Gwadar Pro on Tuesday.

The report mentioned the recent speech of the new Prime Minister Mian Shabbaz Sharif delivered in the parliament, in which he declared that his government would speed up the high-quality construction of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, making it a symbol of China-Pakistan friendship.

CPEC lives in the heart of the people of Pakistan where no matter who rules the country, CPEC will remain at the top priority, he remarked.

According to the report, due to this fate-changing China-Pakistan cooperation on CPEC, the life of Pakistani people, especially at grassroots level, has been not only improved but transformed towards a better direction. The entire political spectrum including the leading political parties has a strong consensus for standing together on CPEC. While reacting on the new appointment, China appreciates the new Prime Minister's remarks and is ready to work with Pakistan to continue to

further advance the high-quality development of CPEC.

There is an urge to practically expand the bilateral cooperation and build CPEC together for shared benefits. There is also a desire from both sides to accelerate the building of closer China-Pakistan ties to create a community of shared future in this new era and work together to promote the well-being of the two peoples.

At the advent of CPEC in 2015, Pakistan Muslim League (N) was ruling in Islamabad with the vast majority. During the reign of Nawaz Sharif, many long-term communications and energy projects under CPEC made huge progress.

It is also important to note that when Prime Minister Shabbaz Sharif was Chief Minister of Punjab, a province with a solid industrial and agriculture base, he worked on CPEC projects at phenomenal speed. There is an expectation that this time he will deliver at the national level with the same enthusiasm and speed.

CPEC has been so entrenched in the national roots of Pakistan that no government can change it. It is a state-to-state strong partnership. Government and people's representation may change at the national

level, and there may be slight changes in the ways of implementation; however, the basic normative model and structures will remain the same.

CPEC holds a strong ground for the essential cooperation between Pakistan and China.

Over all these years, the defining moments in the history of relations helped both sides thwart the test of times with grounded support through prudence and foresight shared by Beijing and Islamabad.

Our ancestors' seeds of friendship sowed more than decades ago have evolved into a perfectly developed tree with many branches of benevolence and fruits growing all around. The roots are vivid in our hearts and on our lands.

Pakistan-China relations are based on the strength of the shared belief in peace and prosperity and beyond any politics or change of governments. The level of relationship that both Pakistan and China enjoy is beyond time and space, having the strength and resilience to face and battle any storm together.

CPEC is the epitome of the China-Pakistan relations and is considered as a model for the other countries to follow. With the change of government in Pakistan. INP

Two CAA directors removed from service

KARACHI: The Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) on Tuesday showed the door to two of its directors for committing irregularities.

Director Air Transport Irfan Sabir was removed from his employment with immediate effect for committing irregularities while permitting additional flights to the foreign airlines.

Irfan Sabir was fired though the term of his contract was yet to be expired.

According to the sources, the charge of Director Air Transport was now handed to Additional Director Air Transport, Director Security Air Commodore (ret'd) Salman Aziz's contract was also not extended while Additional Director Security Colonel Rehan's job was extended for six months, the sources added. INP

SC seeks details from KP govt about foreign aid for quake-hit people

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court Tuesday sought from the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) government the details of foreign funds that came as aid for the quake-hit people.

A three-member bench headed by Justice Ijazul Ahsan heard the case and questioned about the expenditure of funds.

"How much funds came from abroad for the rehabilitation of quake-hit areas?" questioned Justice Mazahir Ali Akbar Naqvi.

"Tell us which were the projects the foreign funds had been spent on? How much money was spent on education and health projects?" he questioned further.

"Explain how much money the provincial government has been left with in terms of funds? Who is supervising which plan? Tell us how much money came and how much was spent?" he continued.

The KP government asked for time to submit a reply which the court granted.

The hearing of the case was then adjourned for one month. INP

Rs3.15 per unit hike in power tariff sought

ISLAMABAD: Increase in electricity prices by Rs3.15 per unit is sought as the Central Power Purchasing Agency (CPPA) filed an application in the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) on Tuesday.

If increased this would put an additional burden of Rs30 billion on the consumers. In its application, the CPPA informed that 10 billion units of electricity was produced in the country in March, 2022 at the cost of Rs94. INP

NAB challenges acquittal of yousuf Raza Gillani, Raja Pervez Ashraf in chairman OGRA appointment case

ISLAMABAD: NAB has challenged in Islamabad High Court (IHC) the decision of Accountability Court (AC) on acquittal of 6 persons including two prime minister Yousuf Raza Gillani and Pervez Ashraf in appointment of chairman OGRA case.

The acquittal of Sikandar Hayat Mekin, Javed Nazir, Shaikat Durrani and former chairman OGRA Tauqir Sadiq was also challenged.

The prosecutor general NAB has filed appeal plea in IHC with the approval of chairman NAB.

The court was informed through appeal plea former chairman OGRA Tauqir Sadiq was appointed against the rules.

NAB filed reference in this regard.

The accountability court while accepting the acquittal pleas of the accused persons on March 17 acquitted them from the reference. The acquittal pleas of the accused persons were accepted under NAB amendment ordinance. This reference was filed before promulgation and application of NAB amendment ordinance 2021.

He further argued that NAB amendment ordinance does not apply to references filed ahead of promulgation of this ordinance. The trial court announced the decision of acquitting the accused persons in haste and without solid reason.

NAB requested the court to nullify the accountability court decision besides ordering to move ahead the proceedings of the case. The court was informed through appeal plea former chairman OGRA Tauqir Sadiq was appointed against the rules. NAB filed reference in this regard.

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QUETTA: A view of Ramzaan sasta bazaar in provincial capital, needs attention of concern authorities'.

Pakistan's fish meal exports to China topped 13,866 tons

BEIJING: Pakistan's fish meal export to China topped 13,866 tons with a value of over US\$15.68 million, witnessing a year-on-year increase of 250.59% in the January-February period, Chinese customs data showed, Gwadar Pro reported on Tuesday.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, bilateral trade between Pakistan and China has increased significantly. Pakistan's exports to China stood at US\$ 670.72 million in January- February of FY22, up 22.77 per cent from US\$ 546.30 million in the same period of the previous year.

According to the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC), flours & meals of fish, used in animal feeding commodity code (23012010) from Pakistan, crossed US\$ 15.68 million with a total volume of 13,866 tons, while last year it was US\$ 4.47 million with a total volume

4,917 tons in the January-February period.

Data showed that in 2021, the total fish meals used in animal feeding, imported from Pakistan was 40,654.92 tons, worth US\$40.53 million.

Khurram Naseeb, A-One Fish Meal in Karachi, told Gwadar Pro that there are several reasons for the growth, including a short supply from other countries; almost all suppliers including Vietnam, Malaysia, Thailand, the USA, Ecuador, Mauritania and Morocco limited fishmeal export, whereas only Pakistan, India and Peru are exporting to China.

"At the beginning of this year, prices for other agricultural commodities increase a lot, such as soybean meal, corn, rapeseed meal, due to the pandemic and the conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

Therefore, many animals feed relies heavily on fishmeal, which comes from juvenile fish usually", Khurram added.

He mentioned that

Pakistan's fishery processing industry needs improving to enhance exports although due to the 2nd China-Pakistan Free Trade Agreement in which more than 313 items are now enjoying duty-free access to China including fisheries; there is still a need to build jetties for local fishermen.

"We can increase our export and prices by improving our boats, loading time from boats to trucks and transportation of raw fish from port to factories because Pakistan has more potential than what they are achieving now, roughly 85,000 tons per year", Khurram stated.

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PM Shehbaz summons his first cabinet meeting

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday summoned the first meeting of his federal cabinet shortly after the members were sworn in the first phase at an oath-taking ceremony at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

The newly formed cabinet will meet at PM House tomorrow (Wednesday) at 10am, Geo News reported.

All the newly appointed cabinet members and advisers will attend the meeting, where the current political and economic situation of the country will be discussed.

It has been almost two months since the last federal cabinet meeting was held under an agenda. However, special meetings of the cabinet were summoned during this period but only for approval on specific matters, such as the much-talked-about "threat letter".

PM Shehbaz Sharif's cabinet was finally formed after much anticipation and delays.

Senate Chairman Sadiq Sanjarani administered the oath to the members of the federal cabinet. So far, the cabinet has 31 federal ministers, three ministers of state and three advisers. INP



ISLAMABAD: Pangchunxue, Charge de Affaires of the Embassy of People's Republic of China called on Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Miftah Ismail here at the Finance Division.

EC directs PTI counsel to complete his arguments in foreign funding case

ISLAMABAD: Election Commission (EC) has directed the counsel for PTI to complete his arguments on next hearing in foreign funding case.

The case came up for hearing before a 3-member bench headed by Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) here Tuesday.

The counsel for petitioner Akbar S Babar read out the Islamabad High Court (IHC) decision before the commission.

Anwar Mansoor the counsel for PTI argued before the commission that I feel sorrow over the language used in court's decision.

Raising question over non completion of election commission (EC) he said that the EC comprises 4 members and a chief election commissioner. Now its two members are not present. All the powers of the election commission have been explained under article 218 of the constitution.

He further argued the interesting thing is this if any difference of opinion arises in the decision of 3-member bench then the matter will be put up

before 5 members bench.

CEC remarked we have noted your objection but as per court's orders it is must to decide the case within 30 days.

Anwar Mansoor said "I am ready to give arguments. Any party can col-

lect funding from foreign countries. However this funding should not be prohibited funding.

Raising objection over scrutiny committee report he said scrutiny committee has overstepped the TORS given. INP

TENDER NOTICE

The Executive Engineer Building CWPPP&H Department District Kalat invites sealed bids from eligible bidders who can prove their eligibility and qualification as mentioned in the bidding documents for the works mentioned below. The estimated cost and other information of works are as under: percentage tender based on Composite Schedule of Rates 2018, Government of Balochistan amended up-to-date from interested contractors / firms for the work listed below under BPPRA Rules & Tender complete details please visit <http://www.bppra.gov.pk>. Bid Security @ 3% for the work.

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost	Tender Fee A/C	Bid submission / Tender opening Date
1	CONSTRUCTION OF RADIOLOGY DEPARTMENT (BRICK MASONRY) DIRQ, KALAT TSE-21220454363	12,002,831.00	Rs. 4000/-	09 May 2022

Bid submission/ Tender opening Date 09 May 2022. DEADLINE OF SUBMISSION: Technical and financial proposals from intending contractors/firms sealed in two separate envelopes clearly marked with Work title & type of proposal must be delivered by hand or through registered mail to the address mentioned below on before procurement committee in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives who choose to attend. The Second sealed envelope containing "financial bids" of technically responsive / qualified bidders will be opened on the same date. Bids Validity: Ninety (90) days. Place: The place of issuance, submission, inquiries and opening will be - The office of the Executive Engineer Building CWPPP&H Department District Kalat.

Executive Engineer
Building CWPPP&H Department Kalat.

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US policies damaging world, reserve currency

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Economy Watch (PEW) on Tuesday said the United States, after failing to subdue Russia, is making the world a living hell through flawed policies and weak sanctions.

Russia's concerns and a viable solution to the war is being ignored by the west, which is further exacerbating the situation, it said.

Sanctions on Russia are not working, its economy is showing signs of resilience while the US and EU economies are being affected, said Dr. Murtaza Mughal, President PEW.

He said that the renewed Cold War by the United States and its

allies has led to rising inflation, unemployment, and interest rates in these countries and reduced production which has resulted in heavy losses.

People around the world are being influenced, as the US and allies have mistaken Russia for a weak country, which is costing it dearly.

The US economy is now heading towards a recession, which will have repercussions for the rest of the world, he said.

Dr. Murtaza Mughal said that US sanctions on Russia are meaningless as they have failed to break the resolve of Putin.

European countries

are still paying Russia \$1.5 billion a day for oil and gas because they have no other option.

Dr. Mughal said that the United States had imposed sanctions on a small country like Cuba sixty years ago, but so far it could not create public unrest there, nor has it been able to bring in cooperative government.

North Korea has been under sanctions since the fifties, which have been tightened over time but have not forced leaders of the country to change their style. Forty-three years ago, Iran was sanctioned, but to no avail.

He said that Pakistan has remained neutral in the dispute, which was a sensible move. A former

political figure was risking national security for cheap fame, which should be noted, he demanded. He said that the renewed Cold War by the United States and its allies has led to rising inflation, unemployment, and interest rates in these countries and reduced production which has resulted in heavy losses.

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Dr. Mughal said that the United States had imposed sanctions on a small country like Cuba sixty years ago, but so far it could not create public unrest there, nor has it been able to bring in cooperative government.

North Korea has been under sanctions since the fifties, which have been tightened over time but have not forced leaders of the country to change their style. INP



KARACHI: Activists of Civil Society holds placards during protest for demanding justice for the family of murdered Nazim Jokhio, outside Press Club in Provincial Capital.

US looks forward to 'working closely' with Shehbaz govt across regional, international issues

US State Department Spokesperson Ned Price on Tuesday said that the United States looked forward to "working closely" with newly elected Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and his government across regional and international issues and described the US-Pakistan relationship as a "vital one".

The senior official made the statement during a press briefing today in response to a question from a journalist.

"For almost 75 years our relationship with Pakistan has been a vital one," he said. "We look forward to continuing that work with the new government in Pakistan across regional and international issues. This is work that has the potential to promote peace and prosperity in Pakistan and throughout the region."

"We have already congratulated the new Pakistani prime minister, Shehbaz Sharif, on his election, and we look forward to working closely with his government."

In the press briefing on Tuesday, Price was responding to a question about reports of alleged Pakistani air strikes in Afghanistan. "We are aware of the reports of Pakistani air strikes in Afghanistan, but we'd refer you to the Pakistani government for comment," the US official said.

The State Department spokesperson's statement follows a flurry of allegations from PM Shehbaz's predecessor, Imran Khan, who claims that Washington was behind a conspiracy to oust his government.

He based his allegation on a diplomatic cable in which it was reportedly said that a State Department official had warned of "consequences" for bilateral ties if the no-confidence motion against Khan failed.

Washington has denied the claims.

In his press briefing Tuesday, the State Department spokesperson underlined that the US viewed Pakistan as an "important stakeholder and partner" with whom the country was engaging to bring about a stable and secure Afghanistan.

"And importantly an Afghanistan that respects the basic and fundamental rights of its people, all of its people, including its minorities, its women, its girls," Price added.

Reuters had on Saturday reported that Afghanistan's foreign affairs ministry had summoned Pakistan's ambassador to Kabul over the recent alleged attacks in the eastern Afghan provinces of Khost and Kunar and had given him a diplomatic demarche to deliver to Islamabad.

Subsequently, the Foreign Office had said that the government was looking into the situation and "will give its position accordingly". On Sunday, the Foreign Office issued a statement in which it "strongly condemned" the use of Afghan soil by terrorists to carry out activities in Pakistan and urged the Afghan government to take stern action against such elements, while reaffirming respect for Kabul's "independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity". "Pakistan will continue to work closely with the Afghan government to strengthen bilateral relations in all fields," it had said in its statement. web Desk

ISLAMABAD: New interior minister Rana Sana Ullah Khan has said no one will be subjected to victimization but if corruption charges are proved against any one during investigation then he will not be spared be it Imran Khan.

"we will not arrest any one without any reason nor will any revengeful action be taken against any one. All the proceedings will be initiated within ambit of law. If any charge is proved against Imran Khan during the investigation then he will too be arrested. Law is equal for all be it Imran Khan or any one else", he said this while talking to media men after oath taking ceremony at Aiwan-e-Sadr here Tuesday.

"The case of recovery of 15 kilogram heroin was registered against me. I want to come to know this 15 kilogram heroin had come from where. Therefore, I will get investigate this matter. The then DG ANF has retired. Otherwise I would have gone to his home and asked him about it."

Responding to a question he said Imran Khan himself had given three options to establishment which were not accepted by the opposition and the matter was finished. Now Imran Khan is shifting the responsibility of three options to establishment to sell his narrative.

He went on to say the facts are known to every one. Now his false narrative can not be sold.

There are information of receiving money ranging between Rs 300 million to Rs 500 million from housing society in ring road Rawalpindi project, he indicated. This will be investigated who



QUETTA: FAO representative in Pakistan Florence Rolle sign on document during a signing ceremony of the Thaza High value grant agreement establishment of cold storage.

No one be it Imran Khan will be spared if charges are proved : Interior minister

received this money because some big names are figuring in.

Inquiry into several matters about Farah Khan will be conducted as multiple charges have allegedly been leveled against her, he pointed out.

He underlined that social media will be regulated but no one's freedom will be stifled.

Campaign against the state institutions is not acceptable, he said adding the elements found involved in such campaign will be brought to dock.

No one has right to interfere in the private life of any one but the social media can not be left to avail unrestrained freedom.

Under the directives of Imran Khan cases with death penalty were framed.

To a question he said Nawaz Sharif has remained Prime Minister of this country and chief minister of Punjab province. Bid was made to abolish his citizenship. Passport is right of Nawaz Sharif which will soon be issued. He underlined that all the departments of interior ministry will formulate short term and long term policies. The reforms will be introduced. He announced operation against the terrorism will continue. Forces have rendered unprecedented sacrifices. People are standing with them. No one has right to interfere in the private life of any one but the social media can not be left to avail unrestrained freedom. Under the directives of Imran Khan cases with death penalty were framed. To a question he said Nawaz Sharif has remained Prime Minister of this country and chief minister of Punjab province. Online

Pakistan reports 85 COVID-19 cases, no deaths in 24 hours

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has reported no deaths in the last 24 hours by novel coronavirus as the number of positive cases has risen to 1,527,411. The nationwide tally of fatalities has jumped to 30,364 on Tuesday.

According to the latest figures by the National Institute of Health (NIH) 85 persons tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 24 hours.

Punjab remains the worst-hit province in terms of deaths followed by Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Till now 13,559 individuals have lost their lives to the epidemic in Punjab, 8,098 in Sindh, 6,323 in KP, 1,023 in Islamabad, 792 in Azad Kashmir, 378 in Balochistan and 191 in GB.

Furthermore 576,618 coronavirus cases have been confirmed in Sindh, 505,720 in Punjab, 219,389 in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 135,159 in Islamabad, 43,306 in Azad Kashmir, 35,483 in Balochistan and 11,736 in Gilgit-Baltistan.

Pakistan has so far conducted 27,944,584 coronavirus tests and 18,563 in the last 24 hours. 1,493,707 patients have recovered in the country whereas 209 patients are in critical condition.

The COVID-19 positivity ratio was recorded at 0.45 percent. So far, 133,916,484 people have received their first dose of coronavirus vaccine including 57,649 in last 24 hours. 120,721,865 citizens have been fully vaccinated while 132,494 received their second dose in last 24 hours.

The number of total administered doses has reached to 244,568,232 with 214,100 in the last 24 hours. INP

US provides \$48m aid for Afghan refugees in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: The US Embassy in Islamabad has said that it is pleased to note that more than \$48 million of the newly announced US humanitarian assistance is for Afghan refugees and host communities in Pakistan.

The embassy in a tweet on Tuesday said, "We are deeply grateful to Pakistan's generosity hosting Afghan refugees, and proud to support."

President Joe Biden had announced nearly \$204 million in additional humanitarian assistance to Afghans. "We continue to stand by the Afghan people."

The US embassy also shared the tweet of Spokesperson of State Department Ned Price about announcing financial aid to Afghans.

During High-Level Pledging Event on Supporting the Humanitarian Response in Afghanistan, the United States announced they are providing nearly \$204 million in additional humanitarian assistance to help the people of Afghanistan.

bringing the total amount to more than \$720 million since August 2021.

This new funding includes nearly \$134 million from the Department of State and more than \$70 million from the US.

This funding will provide emergency cash, shelter, trauma care and essential health services, water, sanitation and hygiene assistance, protection and gender-based violence services, multisectoral assistance, and reintegration assistance to internally displaced and returnee populations in Afghanistan and refugee populations in neighboring countries. The US embassy also shared the tweet of Spokesperson of State Department Ned Price about announcing financial aid to Afghans.

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Influential persons rape 18-year-old girl in Gujrat

GUJRAT: Some influential persons raped an 18-year-old girl in Khavaijan locality of Gujrat so much so that she became pregnant.

According to reports on Tuesday, the rapists barged into the girl's house, drugged her as well as her father and raped her at gunpoint.

The medical report of Mehak showed that she had conceived a child.

Although locals later handed over the rapists to the police, the latter set them free even after registration of a case against them. INP

Zahid Akram Durrani submits nomination papers for NA deputy speaker

ISLAMABAD: JUI-F's Member National Assembly (MNA) Zahid Akram Durrani on Tuesday submitted nomination papers for election to the office of Deputy Speaker National Assembly.

No other candidate filed the nomination papers. Election to the office of the deputy speaker will be held Wednesday (today).

The National Assembly Secretariat earlier issued a schedule for the election of the deputy speaker of the House and nomination papers could be submitted for the slot till April 19 (Tuesday) at 12 pm with Secretary National Assembly.

According to NA Secretariat, no other candidate except Zahid Akram Durrani submitted the nomination papers. The election for the vacant seat of deputy speaker will take place on April 20. The seat fell vacant after Qasim Suri resigned from the post following INP

3 labourers die in Orakzai mine accident

ORAKZAI: Three labourers died after water filled a coalmine they were working in at Orakzai District of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Tuesday.

According to police sources, the mishap occurred after the water stock collapsed inside the mine.

All the dead labourers belonged to Shangla, said the police sources. INP

Kashmiri will stage protest on Modi visit on occupied land

MUZAFFARABAD: The Chairman of Pasban-e-Hurriyat Uzair Ahmad Ghazali appealed the masses to join resistance movement against Indian illegal military occupation.

In a statement issued here on Tuesday, he said that Protests will be held in the capital of Azad Jammu and Kashmir against the visit of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in occupied state.

He termed the forthcoming visit of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Occupied Jammu and Kashmir on April 24 as a heinous conspiracy to impose imperialist agenda against the Kashmiri people.

He said that Narendra Modi usurped the basic rights of Kashmiri people on August 5, 2019, adding that he is once again visiting the state to show normalcy.

Ghazali maintained that Modi is openly engaged in conspiracies against the Muslims' systematic genocide in India particularly in occupied Kashmir.

"The ruthless rulers of the Modi-led Bharatiya Janata Party, Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh and Ajit Doval, have snatched the rights of 15 million people of the globally recognized disputed state", he said.

While talking about Modi's upcoming visit to occupied state, he said that the Kashmiri people have no interest in the visits of Indian rulers including Modi as Jammu and Kashmir has never been part of India.

Uzair said that the people of Jammu and Kashmir are still demanding free, fair and impartial referendum in accordance with the UN resolutions.

Ghazali appealed the incumbent Azad Kashmir government and people to protest on the occasion of Narendra Modi's controversial visit to the state and make it clear to the world that we reject India's military rule. INP

Punjab CM-elect Hamza moves LHC for early oath-taking by governor

LAHORE: A petition was filed in the Lahore High Court (LHC) on Tuesday seeking early administration of oath to Chief Minister-elect Hamza Shehbaz by the Punjab governor.

The petition of Hamza Shehbaz was filed in the court through his lawyer Azam Nazir Tarar Advocate in which the Punjab governor and chief secretary were made respondents.

It was stated in the petition that the resignation of former chief minister Usman Buzdar had been accepted on April 1, and the Chief Minister's office has been lying vacant since then.

"It is a constitutional convention for the governor to call the elected chief minister and administer oath to him. Violation of constitutional conventions is in fact a deviation from the Constitution itself," read the petition.

"A constitutional crisis is being created which is against the parliamentary democracy and the spirit of the Constitution. The governor's office is a symbol of federation and unity, and the governor's job is to protect the Constitution," it added.

"In the written Constitution, the governor does not have the powers of a king. The governor's refusal to take oath from the petitioner is a political ploy and bad intention. INP

Rehmani denounces India for letting loose oppression in IIOJK

ISLAMABAD: Muhammad Farooq Rehmani, Convener All Parties Hurriyat Conference AJ&K has condemned the forced recitation of India's national anthem in mosques, shrines, Imambargahs of occupied Jammu and Kashmir, prosecution of Kashmiri students, scholars and journalists and mass campaign of lynching Indian Muslims by RSS goons in India under Narendra Modi.

In a statement in Islamabad, he appealed to the people of Jammu and Kashmir to observe black day on next Friday against sacrilegious acts. He appealed to UNHRC and Amnesty International to take cognizance of the dark laws of the Modi regime to suffocate voices of the Kashmiris.

He warned that strangulation under anti-human rights laws was total and revengeful in the occupied region and the people were not allowed to express their ideas without risking their life, honour and property.

"All the political leaders not toeing the Delhi line had been put behind bars and charged with fabricated stories of crimes against them." He stated that Indian establishment was hell-

High BMI linked to COVID-19 severity in African Americans

ISLAMABAD: New research has identified some common factors associated with severe cases of COVID-19 in African American people, including a high body mass index (BMI).

While all people have a risk of contracting the infection and developing the disease, this risk is not equally distributed.

"Long-standing systemic health and social inequities have put many people from racial and ethnic minority groups at increased risk of getting sick and dying from COVID-19."

Various studies and reviews have demonstrated this disproportionate impact. The articles consistently point to an association between ethnicity and race and COVID-19 severity, highlighting that the disease and our approach to it must be understood in socioeconomic, as well as biological, terms.

"Racism, segregation, and inequality, which have been for decades invisibly and pervasively embedded in dominant cultures and social institutions, now emerge as a monumental COVID-19 challenge."

The analysis included African American patients with confirmed COVID-19 who presented to an academic hospital between March 12 and April 9, 2020. In total, the study included 158 participants, 61% of whom were women. The participants' average age was 57.

The study recorded whether the patients had required treatment in an intensive care unit (ICU), using this to define whether they had experienced severe COVID-19. The participants' general health was identified retrospectively, by looking at their medical records. INP

AAC pays tributes to late Mirwaiz Yousuf Shah in Srinagar

SRINAGAR: In Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir, Awami Action Committee (AAC), has paid rich tributes to the eminent religious and political leader, Mufasir-e-Quran and Mujahid-e-Millat late Mirwaiz Maulana Muhammad Yousuf Shah (RA) on his 55th death anniversary for his historic, selfless and invaluable services to the people of the territory.

According to Kashmir Media Service, the AAC, while reiterating its commitment to take forward the mission of the revered late leader, termed Mirwaiz Mirwaiz Yousuf Shah (RA) as a great asset for the people of Kashmir and said he devoted his life towards spreading the message of Islam and continued to strive for a better life for the Kashmiri people with sincerity and honesty.

The late Mirwaiz (RA), along with his religious, da'wah, social and political efforts, performed an unforgettable service of conveying the message of God to the common people by writing the first translation and commentary of the holy Qur'an in his mother tongue which will be remembered till the Day of Resurrection, the AAC said.

The AAC lamented that on 17th Ramadan-ul-Mubarak, as a tradition, a memorial meeting for Mirwaiz Yousuf Shah (RA) used to be held at the historic Aali Masjid, Eidgah in Srinagar under the supervision of Mirwaiz Umar Farooq but due to nearly three years of illegal and arbitrary house detention of the Mirwaiz, the event could not take place. However, it said, under the auspices of the Awami Action Committee, a prayer meeting was organised at the historic Jamia Masjid Srinagar before the Zuhr prayers, today, in which Qur'an recitation. INP

Three shot dead over land rivalry in Faisalabad

FAISALABAD: Three persons were killed in a horrific clash between two groups of different villages located at Sargodha Road in Faisalabad over a dispute, land contracting system and termination of contracts prematurely.

The relatives of the deceased persons staged a sit-in at the Sargodha Road to protest against the injustice and seek justice from the authorities.

Police teams reached the spot and started investigation. INP

Inspector General of Police Ahsin Younas and senior Superintendent Police (SP) Tahir Khan discharging the stars to Shams gill for promoting to the rank of Inspector at IG Office in Federal Capital.



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IHC dismisses intra-court treason plea against former PM, others

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Tuesday dismissed an intra-court appeal seeking treason proceedings against former prime minister and others.

A two-member bench of the high court comprised of Justice Amir Farooq and Justice Sardar Ijaz Ishaq Khan announced the reserved verdict upholding the single member bench of the court.

The bench declared the petition as non-maintainable and dismissed it.

Earlier, a petition was filed at the Islamabad High Court to seek the inclusion of the names of Imran Khan, Shah Mahmood Qureshi, Fawad Chaudhry, Qasim Suri and others on the exit control list (ECL) and an investigation into an alleged threatening letter.

Chief Justice Athar Minallah in reserved verdict on the plea, also slapped a Rs100,000 fine on the petitioner.

Imran Khan had claimed on March 27 that the opposition's no-trust move is part of an alleged "foreign-funded conspiracy" hatched against his government over his refusal to have

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Pakistan's foreign policy be influenced from abroad.

He had made the revelations at his party's power show at Parade Ground in Islamabad.

The prime minister had claimed that foreign funds are being used in ongoing attempts to topple the PTI government. He had said that his govt was threatened via a letter which he kept as evidence with him. "I am ready to show the letter off the record if someone is suspicious about it."

Later, Imran Khan had openly held the US responsible for the "foreign conspiracy" to overthrow his government. Imran Khan had claimed on March 27 that the opposition's no-trust move is part of an alleged "foreign-funded conspiracy" hatched against his government over his refusal to have Pakistan's foreign policy be influenced from abroad.

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