

QUETTA VOICE

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DG ISI, ISPR's presser exposed Imran Khan further: Rana Sanaullah



Balochistan Police deployed Women Constables to ensure flow of Traffic

DG ISI breaks silence: You meet in the night and call traitor in the day

Dawood Ahmed

ISLAMABAD: Director General Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), Lieutenant General Nadeem Ahmed Anjum on Thursday addressed a crowded press conference along with the DG ISPR Major General Babar Iftikhar. "You meet in the night for personal interest and call traitor in the day", the DG ISI said while referring to the accusations leveled by former prime minister Imran Khan against the military leadership.

This is the first time in Pakistan's history that the head of the country's spy agency has directly addressed the media.

At the outset of the press conference, Gen Iftikhar said the purpose of today's media talk was to shed light on the killing of journalist Arshad Sharif in Kenya and the circumstances surrounding it.

This press conference is being held in the context of presenting facts so that "facts, fiction and opinion can be differentiated", he

said, adding that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had been "specially informed" about the sensitivity of the press conference.

Key points from the joint presser
The facts behind the cipher and Sharif's death have to be determined.

ARY News played the role of a spin doctor in targeting the army; CEO Salman Iqbal should be brought back to Pakistan.

KP govt in August issued a letter stating TTP splinter group was looking to target Sharif.

No one forced Arshad Sharif to leave Dubai

COAS presented 'a lucrative offer' for extension in March

Besides, it is necessary to determine the factors due to which a particular narrative is being built and people are being misled, he said.

Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa was also targeted and faced criticism. An attempt was made to create a divide in society.

He said that Sharif's death was an "unfortunate incident" and



called him an "icon of journalism in Pakistan". He noted that members of the late journalist's family had served in the army, adding that he always felt the pain of martyred officers. In an unprecedented turn

of events, the director generals of the country's premier intelligence service and the military's media wing on Thursday addressed the media and questioned the events leading up to senior journalist

Arshad Sharif's murder in Kenya and the narrative that proceeded the "unfortunate incident".

Director General Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Major General Babar Iftikhar, accompanied by Director General Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), said the purpose of the press conference was to shed light on the events surrounding Arshad's murder. The military spokesperson said the purpose of the press conference was to ensure "facts, fiction and opinion can be differentiated" and added that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif was also informed regarding the sensitive nature of the media talk. "It is necessary to determine the factors through which a particular narrative was formed and the people were misled," said the army spokesperson. Regretting that the army chief was also targeted and faced criticism, Lt Gen Babar said "an attempt was made to create a divide in the society." "The death of Arshad Sharif is an unfortunate incident and we are all deeply saddened by it," said Gen Babar, adding

that Arshad's family had served in the army and he was an "icon of journalism in Pakistan".

"Arshad Sharif was an icon of Pakistani journalism. Son of a soldier, a martyr's brother, and the relative of a serving officer, hence, he conveyed the true sense of loss and sincerity in his shows related to the army." He added that whether it was Sialkot, tribal areas, or the Line of Control (LoC), his shows will be remembered as a "role model in the world of journalism".

Gen Babar said as Arshad was an investigative journalist when the issue of the diplomatic cypher arose, the journalist did numerous shows on the issue.

"In connection to this, he met the then-prime minister several times and conducted interviews," said the army spokesperson, adding that the journalist might have also been shown the minutes of meetings and the cypher.

"It is very important to determine the facts regarding the cypher and Arshad Sharif's death. To ensure the people know the truth."

Levies man martyred in an attack on polio team in Chaman

Sardar M, Khondai Niamatullah Sarhadi

A levies man was martyred when armed accused opened fire at a polio team in Balochistan's Chaman district on Thursday.

Levies sources said armed accused attacked the polio team in Sarki Talri area of Chaman. The levies man was guarding the polio team during an anti-polio campaign when attacked.

The martyred levies man was identified as Habib ur Rehman, a resident of Killi Salehzi. Levies and police personnel reached the spot as an investigation into the incident went underway.

DC Chaman reaches the hospital

Deputy Commissioner Chaman, Abdul Hameed Zehri and other senior administration officers reached the district headquarters hospital Chaman. A large number of people also



reached the hospital after the shifting of the dead body.

Security of polio teams was tightened across Balochistan after two attacks in the Pishin and Chaman districts of the province. Levies, police and frontier corps personnel have been guarding the polio team to make sure the provision of anti-polio drops to children under the age of five years. This incident has come two days after polio team was attacked in Pishin. This incident has come

two days after armed accused attacked an anti-polio team in Balochistan's Pishin district and martyred a policeman guarding the polio team. An anti-polio campaign is currently underway in Quetta and other parts of Balochistan to provide anti-polio drops to children under the age of five years.

The five-day anti-polio campaign was kicked off on October 24th.

It has been 21 months since Balochistan has not reported any polio cases. However, Syed Zahid Shah, the Chief of the Emergency Operation Cell (EOC) said the crippling virus exists. Especially, Quetta block which comprises of Pishin, Chaman and Killa Abdullah districts is vulnerable to the crippling virus. Most of the chronic refusals are reported in the Quetta block.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Egypt to Pakistan Tarek Dahroug calls on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

Balochistan Police deployed Women Constables to ensure flow of Traffic

Manan Mandokhail

The Balochistan Police has deployed Women Constables to ensure the flow of Traffic in Quetta city. It is for the first time that the Balochistan Police has started recruiting Female constables.

It was a need of the time as Male constables could not stop female drivers in the town. Police sources said some women were also found driving Non-custom paid vehicles and black paper cars. It was very difficult for men traffic constables to stop and challan women, a police officer told Daily Quetta Voice. "Now women would stop women", he said requesting anonymity since he was not authorized to speak to the media.

"People appreciate and encourage me for controlling the flow of Traffic in Quetta", Miss Sakeena, the female constable told Quetta Voice.

You can save your and other's life by following the traffic rules,



She added, Right now, I am stopping males too, and charging fine to them if they break traffic rules, Sakeena, the Female Constable told Quetta voice.

The addition of female Traffic sergeants also hints the gender equality in the Police department. Moreover, Balochistan had its first-ever female SHO in the month of July.

Female representation is needed in every department of the country to cope with the issues faced by women in society.

DG ISI, ISPR's presser exposed Imran Khan further: Rana Sanaullah

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Rana Sanaullah Thursday said PTI leader Imran Khan's detestable face was exposed before the nation even further after the apex intelligence agency chief stepped up to set the record straight regarding US cypher and Arshad Sharif's murder in a rare presser.

"Khan, who staged the US cypher drama, has turned into a festering wound [for Pakistan]," Sanaullah said addressing a press conference following the DG ISI and DG ISPR's joint conference.

The minister said the politics of the PTI leader, whose heinous face was unmasked by the audio leaks, was aimed at mongering hate and



dividing the nation and it was impossible for democracy to move forward as long as Khan's negative agenda was in force.

The interior minister said the government would not let Imran Khan's long march, scheduled to launch tomorrow (Friday, October

28), enter the Red Zone no matter what. "The government will also mobilise the army under Article 245 of the Constitution and the marchers will be contained at all the entry points into Islamabad."

Regarding PTI's call for a public rally in H-9 and G-9, Sanaullah said the government would ascertain the party's intentions before giving a go-ahead for those political shows. "We will ensure that the march complies with the orders of the Supreme Court and high court," he said, adding that the PTI would be allowed to march towards the federal capital only if it fulfilled the requirements. Web Desk

One out of every 9 women in Pakistan suffers from breast cancer: Dr. Rubaba

Razzaq Sheikh

QUETTA: One out of every nine women across Pakistan was suffering from breast cancer. This was revealed by the Parliamentary Secretary of Science and IT, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi.

Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi expressed these views while speaking as a special guest at the Breast Cancer Awareness Program jointly organized by Balochistan



Rural Support Program and UNFP here on Thursday.

Dr. Rubaba noted that although the resources are fewer in Balochistan, their proper use can be helpful in solving the problems faced by its

people. "The problems of Balochistan are passing for seventy years need to be solved now."

"For the formation of public policy, the availability of certified data is very important, she said, adding that in this regard,

Firing outside session court Quetta leaves 2 dead 7 injured

Muhammad Mudassir

At least two people were killed and seven were injured in a firing incident outside Quetta's session court on Thursday afternoon. Abdul Haq Umrani, the Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) said armed men opened fire on a group of people and left two people dead and seven injured on the spot.



The assailants escaped unhurt from the spot. The injured were rushed to the civil hospital Quetta for medical treatment. An emergency was declared in the trauma center Quetta to provide medical treatment to the injured by the firing. "We have received seven injured of the firing incident", Waseem Baig, the Spokesman civil hospital Quetta said.

Police reached the spot and started an investigation into the incident. Police said tribal elder Sardar Naseem Tareen also suffered injuries. "The incident seems to be a tribal dispute between two groups", Mr. Umrani mentioned.

SSP operations stated that so far no arrest was made in connection with the killing of two people and the firing incident. Security was tightened in and outside the session court in the aftermath of the firing incident.

DC Sherani calls for eradication of poaching, deforestation

From Our Correspondent

Deputy Commissioner Sherani Hazrat Wali Kakar on Thursday stressed for complete eradication of wildlife poaching, and deforestation in the area to protect the indigenous species.

He directed law enforcement officers in Mani Khwa to have strict vigilance of all forests, and wildlife amid punitive measures for the prevention of poaching and protection of wildlife to protect endangered species in the area from poachers under the Wildlife Act 2014, the Deputy Commissioner Sherani told reporters while sharing his exclusive measures for the protection of nature and wildlife species.

"No one should be allowed to risk the environment for their own entertainment and financial gain," the DC said.

He praised the community efforts regarding forest and wildlife conservation. The district administration has formulated special teams to ensure the preservation of wildlife across the province besides controlling of poaching, illegal hunting and the trade of birds of prey.

DC Sherani and other officials visiting the forest. Zero tolerance against poaching: Hazrat Wali Kakar



"We are in coordination with the departments concerned to control the illegal trafficking of indigenous birds abroad and zero tolerance has been adopted against poaching and hunting of animals and birds in the province," he remarked.

He said the administration has ensured the preservation of wildlife in the province within limited available resources.

He said the government was taking extensive measures to engage the community to save wildlife and educate the masses regarding wildlife and nature conservation.

People being sensitized about the importance of wildlife. Hazrat Wali said the government has initiated a community game reserve to engage the local people with the aim to conserve wildlife in the area.

He said an extensive awareness drive was afoot to sensitize the citizens about the importance of wildlife for the ecosystem.

The drive was meant to discourage poaching- a major threat to the wildlife habitats in the province, he added.

Sherani district has rich biodiversity and natural heritage, especially wildlife that has, unfortunately, faced threat mainly due to human activities and adverse weather conditions, he added.

QUETTA VOICE

Editor: Asim Khan

Age relaxation in Balochistan only for a year?

The Balochistan government issued a notification with regard to increasing the age limit for new candidates applying for government jobs a few days back. As per the notification, the government has given eight years extension in the age limit for fresh candidates.

Now candidates of 43 years of age can apply for government jobs in Balochistan, Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran, the Balochistan Minister for Communication and Works Department announced. However, this relaxation is only for one year.

Age relaxed from July 1st to 30th of June 2023, the notification mentions. This notification gives more questions than answers. The reason behind the age relaxation for government jobs is obvious i.e. ministers, advisers and parliamentary secretaries coupled with friendly opposition would merely assist their supporters in government departments.

Thousands of jobs are lying vacant in Balochistan. Currently, thousands of vacancies are lying vacant in various departments. Jobless youth of the province are tired of submitting their documents in every department. Since appointments on merit have become rare in Balochistan, therefore, candidates with no political backing or less influence cannot get jobs.

The government has already empowered the departments to recruit employees rather than testing services. Based on track record, testing services are not ideal but they have proved to be far better than departments when it comes to merit and transparency in terms of the recruitment process.

Under the new notification, employees would only serve for 17 years.

The question arises that why age relaxation for candidates is only for a year. If the government has clear intention of recruiting those who have tired of submitting documents for jobs, then, the offer should not be for a limited period. The notification is controversial and debatable, when the retirement age is 60 years, then, fixing 43 years as the eligibility for applying for government jobs is beyond comprehension.

It means, the fresh recruited employees would only serve for 17 years and their retirement would approach fast. The government has to review its decision since the province need young energetic and educated manpower to run the affairs of the province.

Multivariate Aspects of Climate Change in Pakistan

Syed Mansoor Ahmed

Climate change steams unbeatable challenges in the future. According to the World Bank report, Pakistan stands 6th in affectee of climate change. The awful and deadly floods of 2010, and 2011, extremely dry weather in a rainy area, and fluctuation in actual climate pattern is alarming and despairing signs among all the dwellers of the town.

Climate Change and Agriculture in Pakistan

In addition, Pakistan is a semi-arid country. The focal and dependent source of water is from the snow-covered Himalayan and the Karakorum in the Northern Areas. Indus, Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, and the Sutlej rivers flow through this area. Within the water calculus, the country's entire agriculture is dependant on water flow from the Indus river.

Glacial flood out-

burst also poses a serious threat to the country's climate in the Karakorum range. The sole aim was reaching and understanding the possible nodes of surge-type glaciers, which are characterized by unsteady movements and frequent frontal advances of glaciers. As result, it causes natural hazards by obstructing river channels, forming ice-dammed lakes, which will ultimately cause GLOFs and pose threats downstream of the water. After meaningful analysis, it revealed that a surge between 1998 and 2002 generated 6 GLOFs.

Damages by Climate Change:

Meanwhile, rigorous critical exploration of the Attabad Lake of Hunza Valley in Gilgit-Baltistan is the distinctive event to justify the future threats of climate change in the center of freshwater. The lake flooding displaced more than

6,000 people from upstream villages and inundated over 19 kilometers of the Karakorum Highway.

Recently, global warming and subsequent climate change have increased the constant state of fear and the risk of massive outburst flooding in the respective mountainous region. The comprehensive field evidence, local testimonies by the natives, modern applications of remote sensing, and cross-correlation feature-tracking techniques provides the improved understanding of glacier surges and ice-dam formation disclosed the scale future threat.

Glaciers in Pakistan:

It is also noted, historically, in the Karakorum Range 39 glaciers are responsible for ice-dam formation. On the other hand, 36 glaciers build ice barriers in the running rivers due to frontal

advance, near to the densely populated areas of the Karakorum region. By constant observation of the prevailing and growing threat of climate change, it is airing the endless future threat only due to the GLOFs. For instance, the Indus River System (IRS) is the jugular vein of irrigation in Pakistan. It is providing water for almost 90% of the food product in Pakistan. The ice-dam formation due to the GLOFs will slow down the water flowing pace downstream. And could raise a deep impasse among the units for water distribution formula. In the end, it will ultimately surface the challenge of food insecurity in Pakistan.

The Karakorum Range, more importantly, is the home of the anticipating One Belt One Road Initiative (OBOR) by giving with a potential corridor through the Karakorum

Highway from Khunjerab to the seaport at Gawadar in Balochistan (CPEC) on the Indian Ocean. Therefore, the smooth running of the traffic on the roads is the keynote for progressive economic development. While the ice barriers in rivers due to frontal advance could inundate the black-tops of the Karakorum Highway. The dislocation and dissolution of roads will give birth to never-ending challenges due to the factor of GLOFs.

In the same run, these lakes and GLOFs attracted media, political, and scientific attention because of the repeated outburst of floods. So, it needs the heart blood as well as collective effective efforts to bring down the scale of the future threat without causing infinite miseries.

The writer is a Public Policy Analyst and Lecturer at BUET, Khuzdar.

A climate of crime

By Kamila Hyat

There has been an extraordinary rise in street crime across major cities in the country, notably Karachi and Lahore. According to official figures and in a matter also discussed in parliament, Lahore has witnessed a 200 per cent rise in street crime, including burglaries, robberies, the theft of motorbikes, other vehicles, and the snatching of phones and handbags, over the past four months. The rate in Karachi is thought to be even higher according to figures provided by police, with 56,000 cases of street crime reported in 2022. This number is far higher than the figures reported for previous years.

It is believed the situation is similar in other towns, and cities, though figures are not always as easy to obtain. It is also unclear how many crimes may have occurred without being reported to authorities and therefore are not appearing on records. Police in Karachi have already said they are unable to cope with the situation alone and have sought help from other agencies and authorities. At least four to five people have been killed in the city during street crimes and in Lahore too there have been deaths though the number is lower. The 'Safe City' cameras put up in Lahore are thought to deter street crime, but the reality is that these cameras frequently do not work in parts of the city most con-

gested and most open to crime, including smaller residential areas and lower income locations across the vast city. The increase in population in both Lahore and Karachi is also thought to add to the hazard.

But experts believe that the real reason for the rise of street crime is the increase in poverty and the desperation of people. The floods that have devastated the country over the last four months have added to this and worsened the existing situation. People affected by floods and others who have lost jobs or homes - whether as a result of the floods or due to the Covid-19 pandemic which hit the country before this - believe they have no other way to survive other than to commit a crime and steal what they need to manage household budgets. The steep inflation, notably in the prices of vital items such as food, utilities, and fuel further adds to the problem and to the fact that people simply cannot survive.

The rate of poverty in the country is indicated, as economists such as Atif Mian have pointed out, by the fact that 50 per cent of children born in Pakistan are stunted. This means they cannot reach the expected height for their age. Others suffering wasting or an inability to reach the expected weight for age and severe malnutrition have also been reported from provinces including Sindh and Balochistan. Many women are severe-

ly anemic, the situation worsened by the fact that they undergo frequent pregnancies and bear an average of over four children per household. In many cases, this number rises to over six and can go up to 10, 12 or more than this.

Pakistan's inability to control its population growth is one of factors which adds to its poverty levels and its inability to feed, clothe and house its people everywhere in the country. It is understood the rate of crime is also rising in cities like Peshawar even though there are less reports of this, due to the dynamics of the media and the manner in which police operate in various cities.

The situation simply points to the desperate need of people for help. These people include both the victims of the crimes carried out on a daily basis and those who commit these crimes. When people steal because they do not have anything to eat, one wonders what their choices are in terms of ground realities. These issues have to be addressed urgently. There have also been reports from parliamentarians of women being raped, and children abducted in flood hit areas where people have lived in camps in insecure circumstances for weeks or even months. The question is why no party is making this the biggest issue or taking it up in a far more serious manner. When the police in the largest city in the country say openly that they are

unable to manage the situation, there is obviously a need for help and for something to be done for the people.

The question is, what is to be done and how. The federal government has done very little and while the Sindh provincial government and the Punjab provincial government say they are active in the matter, there is no evidence that the rate of crime is going down or the graph is showing a slide. This also adds to the insecurity of people living everywhere in the city, notably in areas which are not gated and which are inhabited by middle income or low income families. But of course even the biggest housing societies or areas have faced the problem with cameras often failing to capture the burglars as they enter houses and take away whatever they can find.

It is time poverty was made a major issue by all political parties of the country. We need to hear when and how money will come in to offer some kind of social welfare to people as they recover from the economic crisis, which has hit the country over the past year or two and which has worsened with the floods sweeping across vast swathes of Pakistan, notably in Sindh, southern Punjab, Balochistan and parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa where hill torrents have swept away entire settlements and destroyed agricultural land. This destruction of land means the problem

may worsen in the future, even as inflation continues to rise and people have less and less access to the daily needs of life.

Despite the situation that is quite apparent and which has been openly discussed in the media and by other forums including the National Assembly, no party has put forward any agenda or any ideas on what to do next. Indeed, the issue of corruption and the quest for power appears to be the main focus of almost every political party in the country. This is effectively a disaster. We need policies that can help people and deliver to them the better governance and the greater security that they need. After all, the primary duty of the state is to protect the life and properties of its citizens. This is part of the pact which creates a democratic and equitable society, allowing everyone living within it some degree of ability to survive without resorting to crime and harming other people who in some cases are just as desperate as themselves.

The failure to tackle the problem has become a major concern for people in major cities and it is reported also in smaller towns, even if reports from these areas do not come in as regularly as they do from Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad and other places. Somehow resources have to be found to offer people a chance to survive. At present they are simply not able to do so.

American security strategy

By Dr Murad Ali

Its National Security Strategy released by the White House on October 12, the Biden administration asserts: "The PRC [People's Republic of China] is the only competitor with both the intent to reshape the international order and, increasingly, the economic, diplomatic, military, and technological power to do it. Beijing has ambitions to create an enhanced sphere of influence in the Indo-Pacific and to become the world's leading power".

In the National Security Strategy of Biden's presidency which was long awaited, the same tone and tenor has been directed at Beijing as the one adopted by Biden's predecessor, Donald Trump. How the US threat perception has shifted from Afghanistan or Al-Qaeda to China and the Indo-Pacific region can be gauged from the fact how much the new strategy has focused on these new challenges to US global security and strategic interests. For example, the policy document has cited the word 'Taliban' only once, Al-Qaeda three times and Afghanistan four times. In contrast, in the latest policy, Beijing/China/PRC has been mentioned a total of

60 times while Indo-Pacific has come under discussion 34 times.

Somewhat understandably and notwithstanding the recent flurry of bilateral visits between US and Pakistani officials, the policy document has completely ignored its former ally as Pakistan or Islamabad has not been mentioned a single time. Biden's recent remarks about Pakistan as "one of the most dangerous nations in the world" and regarding the country's nukes are a grim reminder that US-Pakistan ties are replete with frictions. And so is the case with the Middle East, which is discussed 11 times, but the primary focus of the new policy is the Indo-Pacific region.

In contrast to this latest line of thinking where China appears to be a key threat, in the first National Security Strategy of the Obama administration unveiled in 2010, the document had mentioned 'Taliban' three times, Al-Qaeda 25 times, Afghanistan 20 times, Pakistani 15 times, and China only 10 times. Even the tone and tenor were vastly different regarding China than it has been in recent years.

For example, the policy document of the Obama era stated that the US "will continue to deepen our cooperation with other 21st century centers

of influence - including China, India, and Russia - on the basis of mutual interests and mutual respect". The same document further stated that "we will continue to pursue a positive, constructive, and comprehensive relationship with China" and that Washington welcomes Beijing to play a central role in partnership with the US and the international community to work towards resolving pressing global challenges including economic stagnation, climate change and non-proliferation.

However, the latest 48-page policy document unequivocally asserts that Beijing has been on the path to become a challenge for the US. This is an indication how the US threat perception has transformed about all these actors and that the US now considers China a critical security threat to its unrivaled global hegemony. In the 2017 National Security Strategy of the Trump administration, it was stated that "for decades, US policy was rooted in the belief that support for China's rise and for its integration into the post-war international order would liberalize China". However, in contrast to these expectations, the document opined that Beijing expanded "its power at the expense.

Demographic engineering

By Malik Muhammad Ashraf

Indian authorities have recently permitted temporary residents in Indian illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJK) to register as voters. This is yet another attempt by the Indian government to change the demographic features of Kashmir.

This move follows the promulgation of a new domicile law after the repeal of Article 370 of the Indian constitution, revoking the special status of the state and its bifurcation into two territories. The announced measure is likely to add 2.5 million more voters, which the local population fears would allow the BJP government to alter the demographics of the region.

It is a sinister move to convert the Muslim majority into a minority in due course of time and has rightly been rejected and condemned by Pakistan. The action constitutes the blatant violation of the Geneva Convention and the UN resolutions on the Kashmir dispute. After the end of World War II, as a consequence of the initiative taken by the International Committee of Red Cross, the Diplomatic Conference for the Establishment of International Convention for Protection of Victims of War was held in Geneva, which adopted the fourth Geneva Convention on 12 August 1949. It is one of the four treaties of the Geneva Conventions.

While the first three

conventions dealt with combatants, the fourth Geneva Convention was the first to deal with humanitarian protections for civilians in a war zone. Currently, 196 countries are party to the 1949 Geneva Conventions.

In 1993, the UN Security Council adopted a report from the secretary general and a commission of experts which concluded that the Geneva Conventions had passed into the body of customary international law, thus making them binding even on non-signatories to the conventions whenever they engage in armed conflicts.

Article 27 of the Geneva IV states: "Protected persons are entitled, in all circumstances, to respect for their persons, their honour, their family rights, their religious convictions and practices, and their manners and customs. They shall at all times be humanely treated, and shall be protected especially against all acts of violence or threats thereof and against insults and public curiosity."

Article 49 of the Geneva IV says: "The Occupying Power shall not deport or transfer parts of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies." Article 32 of the convention adds: "The High Contracting Parties specifically agree that each of them is prohibited from taking any measure

of such a character as to cause the physical suffering or extermination of protected persons in their hands. This prohibition applies not only to murder, torture, corporal punishment, but also to any other measures of brutality by civilian or military agents."

Giving voting rights to non-residents and allowing people from the Indian mainland to buy property in IOJK is in breach of Article 49 of the fourth Geneva Convention. Indian security forces in IOJK are the occupying power by all definitions since Kashmir's fate, as per UN resolutions, is to be decided through a plebiscite held under the auspices of the world body, a position which the UNSC has reiterated in its three informal meetings after the Modi regime revoked the state's special status.

After the scrapping of Article 370 of the Indian constitution, the entire population of Kashmir is under siege, and they have been denied contact with the outside world; there is a complete lockdown in the valley, and people are not even given access to mosques. International media, human rights organizations like Amnesty International and even UN Human Rights Commission in its reports has corroborated blatant violations of human rights in IOJK. The discovery of mass graves at 38 sites also lends currency to the inhumane treatment of

the local population by Indian security forces.

Through the foregoing actions India has not only torn asunder the fourth Geneva Convention but also pummeled the UN resolutions with regard to the plebiscite and breached international law with impunity.

It is indeed regrettable that neither the UN nor the big powers have shown real interest in stopping India in its tracks and resolving the Kashmir conflict as per the UN resolutions. Their indifference to the developments taking place in the valley and the fallout of those provocative measures is encouraging Indian hegemonic designs in the region.

India is being ruled by a diehard follower of the supremacist RSS ideology of Hindutva, which takes inspiration from Nazism. It has already started showing its ugly face in the form of enhanced Indian hostility towards Pakistan. Indian leaders have repeatedly threatened Pakistan of dire consequence, and on February 2019, India made its intentions clear when it sent planes to bomb imagined terrorist camps in Balakot, ostensibly in retaliation for the Pulwama incident. It is interesting to note that an Indian journalist close to the BJP regime later revealed that the Pulwama incident was stage-managed by the Modi government to win elections and find an excuse to take action against Pakistan.

Animal cruelty in Pakistan

Syed Mohammad Ali

The indifference, callousness, and contempt that so many people exhibit toward animals is evil first because it results in great suffering in animals, and second because it results in an incalculably great impoverishment of the human spirit. I did not pen these words. Albert Einstein did. Islam also forbids treating animals cruelly or killing them except for food. Zabiha rules stipulate how an animal to be slaughtered must not be mistreated or caused undue pain. Yet, animal cruelty is rampant and exists in varied forms in countries like ours.

We live in a country where political leaders have been known to hold political rallies with caged and chained lions, and where animals like turtles given away as party favours at children's birthdays. Many well-to-do people pay a lot of money to purchase expensive cats, dogs, or birds but treat them callously. Cruelty towards animals is not the reserve of rich people only. Cruelty to animals especially donkeys, horses and mules is also widespread. These animals are overworked, under-fed, and harshly beaten by their owners.

Some recent attempts at humane dog population management and mass vaccinations in Karachi have dissipated. Instead,

the recent uproar following the negligence of animal owners and attacks by guard dogs on pedestrians in Karachi unleashed another unwarranted attacks on dogs all over the country. Several neighbourhoods started instigating municipal organisations to shoot stray dogs on sight. Use of strychnine poison was once again allowed to poison dogs.

There is a general absence of adequate laws related to animal welfare and animal slaughter, and the existing laws that exist are not adequately implemented. Pakistan's Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act (1890) aims to protect many animals, including draught animals. This law is however outdated and does not reflect the prevalent scientific, cultural, or commercial compulsions pertaining to animal welfare.

It is time to update this law to protect both pet and wild animals, to institute mechanisms for their care, and define consequences for those who are neglectful towards animals.

It is encouraging that the Halal Authority Act (2015) has not only mandated humane treatment of animals throughout the slaughter process, but also prohibited animals from seeing one another being slaughtered. However, there has been little implementation of this law.

While animal abandon-

ment is illegal in Pakistan, there is scant regulation on how animal owners should care for their animals. Moreover, zoos across Pakistan are notorious for their poor conditions. Prompted by international criticism over the Islamabad zoo's maltreatment of the elephant, Kaavan, the Islamabad High Court issued an unprecedented ruling last year. It ordered that the entire zoo of over four hundred animals to be closed and all the animals within it to be transferred to appropriate wildlife sanctuaries in the short period of two months. The rush to empty the zoo caused the death of a pair of lions, which passed away, two days apart, during their transfer from the zoo to a farmhouse in Kasur city instead of a sanctuary as had been directly by the court.

Pakistan also urgently needs to enact legislation detailing specific welfare requirements for the rearing of farm animals during distinct phases of rearing, transport, and slaughter. Such requirements must be legally binding and species-specific and aligned with international animal welfare standards. Regular inspections of farms and slaughter establishments would have to be carried out with a special focus on animal welfare or the situation on the ground will not change for the better.

One day Training Session on Documentary Conducted at Media Studies Department University of Balochistan

By our Reporter

TRAINER Maam Rani Wahidi, Chairman Dr. Babrak Niaz and Ex-Chairman Dr. Fahim Balochistan Guided the Students about Documentary Making and Script Writing.



Correspondent of DW, Documentary Maker, Trainer, Vlogger, Journalist Maam Rani Wahidi was invited as a Guest Speaker in Media Studies Department University of Balochistan in which she shared her experiences and knowledge with the students.

Place. How she faced these difficulties & continued to grow and work hard to achieve her goals. University of Balochistan Media Studies Department Chairman Dr. Babrak Niaz and Ex-Chairman Dr. Fahim Baloch have done many important services for the students and are benefiting the students with various opportunities and training sessions. Keeping the same trend, the Ex-chairman of media studies department, Dr. Faheem Baloch, today invited Maam Rani Wahidi as a Guest Speaker and assured to provide more such an opportunities for the students and said that Our Whole Team will always be Guiding them in every sphere of life related to media studies and will continue to organize such training sessions and workshops to polish the students mind and Make their Communication Skills.

Using WeBOC, 1st shipment sets out from Gwadar Free Zone

ISLAMABAD: By using Web-Based One Custom Clearance System (WeBOC), a truck loaded with containerized export items has finally made its maiden voyage from Gwadar Free Zone, Gwadar Pro reported on Thursday.

Hangeng Trade Company told Gwadar Pro. "WeBOC will greatly contribute to the electronic processing of all incoming goods in the Gwadar Free Zone. WeBOC offers a completely transparent and traceable paperless system. It will always work on the fastest track and is able to avoid mistakes caused by the old 'one-custom mechanism'," he added.

Zone has plugged up missing link between automation and digitalization. "WeBOC will help the Free Zone atomize and standardize trade procedures and logistic services," he added. "Now, all foreign and local companies already registered or to be registered in Gwadar Free Zone, will enjoy paperless, ultra-fast, cost-effective and transparent custom processes and procedures," another businessmen Fahad Khan said. Jamshed Balo ch, trader at Gwadar chamber of commerce and Industry, said that the implementation and operationalization of WeBOC at Gwadar Free Zone has plugged up missing link between automation and digitalization.

Earlier, with the help of WeBOC, the truck was supposed to leave on Saturday, but was postponed. Its successful departure marks a new era of e-custom for the Gwadar Free Zone.

The shipment contains 23 tons of pharmaceutical raw material belonging to a Chinese enterprise called Hangeng Trade Company. The truck made a smooth debut from Gwadar Free Zone," Abdul Razaq, project manager at

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister's Special Representative for Interfaith Harmony and Middle East Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi on Thursday said all conspiracies designed to divide Pakistan Army and nation would be foiled at all forums. "Taking to his Twitter handle, Ashrafi who is also the chairman of Pakistan Ulema Council, made it clear that Ulema and Mashaykh of all schools of thought were not going to be part of any long march. He said if people including Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Chief Imran Khan had any evidence regarding the murder of senior investigative journalist and anchorperson Arshad Sharif, they should bring it in the notice of the apex court and the public as well.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for finance and Revenue Senator Ishaq Dar held a virtual meeting on first Joint Economic Sub Committee of the Saudi-Pakistan Supreme Coordination Council with HRH Prince Abdulaziz Bin Salman Bin Abdulaziz Ministry of kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Int'l community urged to solve outstanding Kashmir dispute

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar has urged the international community not to look away but solve the outstanding Kashmir dispute. Addressing an event in connection with Black Day at the foreign office in Islamabad on Thursday, she said we must not allow the next generation in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir live under subjugation. She reminded that the United Nations had accepted the right of self-determination of the Kashmiri people seventy five years back.

help the Kashmiri people secure their legitimate right to self-determination. She said Pakistan will continue to raise voice for their rights at the international forums. Hina Rabbani Khar highlighted in detail the Indian atrocities in the illegally occupied Kashmir saying that there has been at least six hundred and ninety extra judicial killings there since 5th August 2019's illegal and unilateral steps. She said India's settler colonial agenda is evident by the manner in which it is bringing illegal demographic changes in the occupied territory in complete contravention of international laws.

Kashmir. It was led by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar and attended by people belonging to different segments of the society including the parliamentarians. The walk began from the foreign office and culminated at D-Chowk. The participants were carrying banners inscribed with slogans against Indian oppression. In her address on the occasion, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hina Rabbani Khar said Kashmir is an internationally recognized disputed territory. She said Pakistan believes in a full diplomatic peaceful pressure for resolution of Kashmir dispute. She said Pakistan is fighting the case of Kashmiris on the basis of international laws and the UN Security Council resolutions. INP

All conspiracies for dividing Pak army, nation to be foiled: Ashrafi

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister's Special Representative for Interfaith Harmony and Middle East Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi on Thursday said all conspiracies designed to divide Pakistan Army and nation would be foiled at all forums.

Expressing grief and sorrow over the sad demise of Arshad Sharif, he said the culprits of his murder should be brought to justice but nobody should play politics on his dead body.

investigation was dire need of the hour. "In the case of Arshad Sharif Shaheed, the most important thing is his family, the investigation is important and their satisfaction is essential," he added.

He said the elements exploiting the situation for political gains had crossed the red line despite repeated warnings. "Today's press conference of the director generals of Inter-Services Intelligence and Inter-Services Public Relations was held in the wake of this violation," he added.

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SWITZERLAND: Federal Minister for Communication & Postal Service Asad Mahmood meeting with Deputy Secretary-Ministry of Digital Economy and Society Thailand Dr Nattapon Natthacomboon.

PA members of PML-N challenge suspension in LHC

LAHORE: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz has challenged suspension of its Punjab Assembly members in the Lahore High Court on Thursday.

rules," the members pleaded to the court. "PML-N members have been alleged of rioting and misconduct, while PTI's and other members were involved in the ruckus," PML-N pleaded.

Rafiq, Uzma Bukhari, Samiullah Khan, Mian Abdur Rauf, Malik Waheed, Saba Sadiq, Rabia Nusrat, Rabia Naseem Farooqi, Rahila Naeem, Zaibun Nisa Awan, Kanwal Pervaiz, Gulnaz Shahzadi, Nafisa Amin, Rana Afzal, Ali Bukhsh Chaittha, Sadia Nadeem, Rahat Afza and Sumbul Malik.

MPAs Zeeshan Rafiq, Uzma Bukhari, Samiullah Khan and others have challenged Speaker Sibtain Khan's order in the high court.

"Targeting the PML-N members is discrimination, the court should declare the notification of suspending the assembly membership as void," the PML-N members pleaded.

The Speaker's suspension order said when Usman Buzdar was moving a resolution during Saturday's session to condemn the ECP for disqualifying PTI Chairman Imran Khan in the Toshakhana case, the opposition lawmakers hampered the proceedings notwithstanding the speaker's requests. INP

"Speaker Punjab Assembly has unconstitutionally and illegally suspended the assembly membership," PML-N members petitioned to the court. "Petitioners are being subjected to political victimization," according to the petition.

The petitioners have also requested the court to declare election of the Speaker Punjab Assembly as unlawful as "it was held unlawfully," according to the petition.

The affected legislators included Zeeshan

"Suspension of the assembly membership is violation of the

US Ambassador announces additional \$30m as flood assistance

ISLAMABAD-US Ambassador to Pakistan Donald Blome on Thursday announced an additional US\$30 million in humanitarian assistance to support flood-affected populations in Pakistan. Ambassador Blome made the announcement during a visit with USAID's implementing partner, ACTED, in the Shikarpur district of Sindh, where he helped to distribute emergency shelter, latrines and hygiene kits among flood-affected people. The Ambassador also traveled to Makhuo village, where the flood-affected community uses USG emergency shelter kits as temporary housing. He talked with flood victims to learn about the impact of the flooding and understand their needs. This new funding brings the United States' total assistance to Pakistan for flood response, food security and disaster preparedness and capacity-building efforts to \$97 million this year, said a statement issued here by the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad. The new funding will expand efforts to address immediate needs, scaling up assistance to the most affected communities and enabling USAID to reach more than 4 million people. With the additional funding, the U.S. government, through USAID, will provide life-saving food, nutrition, and health assistance to mitigate increased food insecurity. INP



ISLAMABAD: WADA Mitsuhiro, Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan calls on iftikhar Ali Shallwani, Federal Secretary, Ministry of Housing and works.

Ukraine war: Russian tactics on eastern front 'crazy', says Zelensky

KYIV: Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky has accused Russian commanders of 'craziness' in their efforts to capture the eastern town of Bakhmut.

TENDER NOTICE

The Project Director, Range Management Quetta invites tenders from eligible Contractors/suppliers for Establishment of Fence of Range Reserve including gates under the Development Scheme 'Improvement of Rangeland for Food security & Livelihood Improvement Suleman Range, Balochistan, PSDP No. PS DP No. 2085 project ID Z2021-1157' (Provincial approved) District Quetta.

Table with 5 columns: S. No., Name of Items, Estimated Cost (Million), Tender Fee, Bid Security 2%. Row 1: Establishment of Fence & Range Reserve including gate etc., 12,000 million, Rs 3000/-, Rs 240,000

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: (a) The bidder must have completed Three (3) assignments of similar nature of work in last 5 years. (b) Turnover of at least PKR 8,400 million in last three years showing financial capacity of the firm. (c) Registration with relevant taxation departments, GST, BST, Income Tax, BRA etc. Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Call Deposit @ 2% of the total cost of the work. Method of Procurement: single stage Two envelope. Tender Documents: The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the under-signed upon payment (non refundable) bidding document fee (amount mentioned above) through Green Chellan under Bank head account C-03370. (The NIT & Bidding Document can also be downloaded from www.bppra.org.pk under TS No. Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 25/10/2022 during office hours on working days. Last Date Submission Tender: The tender submission at the office hours on 10.11.2022 at 10:00 AM Tender opening Technical: All tenders will be opened on 10.11.2022 at the office of the under-signed at 3:00 PM. Address: (office of the Project Director Improvement of Rangeland for Food security & Livelihood Improvement Suleman Range, Balochistan Address: (office of the Balochistan Forest and Wildlife Department, SPMY road, Quetta) Email: syeoznasirshahconservatorrange@gmail.com TERMS & CONDITIONS: No advance payment shall be made to the contractor. All Government taxes shall be paid by the contractor. The bills of contractor / firms will be entertained after completion of the works / supply. The rates offered should be clear, ambiguous and over-written rates will not be considered. The tender rates received after due date and time will not be accepted. The firm/contractor will also furnish an affidavit for not being blacklisted or under any litigation. The assignment will be completed within seven days after the issuance of supply order. The approval of tender and issuance of work order will be subject to the approval of panel and subsequent release of funds by the competent authority to the undersigned. The 10% security amount will be deducted and returned after three months of the satisfaction of work. The undersigned will reserve the right to accept / reject any one or all quotations without providing any reason therefore, under the provision of Balochistan public procurement rules, 2014 TSE22310138173

Medical board prepares initial post-mortem report

ISLAMABAD: The eight-member medical board of the Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) has prepared an initial post-mortem report of the slain senior journalist Arshad Sharif.

ARY News obtained the initial post-mortem report of the slain senior journalist Arshad Sharif. The post-mortem report was prepared by the eight-member medical board of the PIMS.

Initially, the federal government had constituted a six-member medical board to conduct autopsy. Two more members were included in the medical board on the appeal of Sharif's family.

The town - which sits in the Donetsk region and had a pre-war population of 70,000 - has been the centre of Russian attacks for months. Despite a looming Ukrainian advance on the key city of Kherson, Mr Zelensky said the attacks continued in force. "This is where the craziness of the Russian command is most evident," Mr Zelensky said in his nightly address from Kyiv. "Day after day, for months, they are driving people to their deaths there, concentrating the highest level of artillery strikes." Oleksiy Arestovych, an advisor to Mr Zelensky, said on one day a Russian Forces launched eight separate attacks on Bakhmut before lunchtime and had been pushed back on each occasion. INP

SCHOOL OF INFANTARY & TACTICS QUETTA CANTT

Following quotations are invited upto 10 Nov 2022 at 1000 hours out of Fixed Annual Training Grant FY 2022/23. Collect List of Items from office. a. Purchase of Stationery Items. b. Purchase of Training Aid Items. CONTACT: 0345-5235788

Pakistan strongly condemns deadly terrorist attack at Iran shrine

ISLAMABAD: The Government and people of Pakistan have strongly condemned the terrorist attack on a religious site in Iran in which a lot of people have lost their lives.

hour of grief and express profound sympathies to the families of the deceased, and pray for the swift recovery of those injured, the statement said, adding Pakistan strongly condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

A witness told state news agency IRNA he "heard the cries of women" as evening prayers started, and that the "assailant entered the shrine and opened fire".

Iranian media published images and video footage showing bloodied bodies covered in cloth lying inside the shrine.

those killed. The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the attack.

The Shah Cheragh mausoleum is home to the tomb of Ahmad, brother of Imam Reza -- the eighth Shiite imam -- and is considered the holiest site in southern Iran.

In a statement issued on Thursday morning, the Foreign Office said the Government and people of Pakistan were deeply saddened at the precious loss of lives and injuries sustained in the dastardly terrorist attack at the religious shrine in the Iranian city of Shiraz.

Earlier, at least 15 people were killed Wednesday in an attack on a key Shiite Muslim shrine in southern Iran, Iran state media said, with the Islamic State group claiming the assault.

Local judiciary chief Kazem Mousavi told state television that "only one terrorist was involved in this attack".

IRNA carried a picture of a boy on a stretcher and another of a woman holding a child, with traces of blood on the ground.

Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi vowed "a severe response". He also condemned "the enemies of Iran" who attempt to "divide the united ranks of the nation... through violence and terror", in a statement released by his office. INP

The attack carried out by an armed "terrorist"

Advertisement for a school in Quetta Cantt, including contact information and a list of items for purchase.

CPEC to boost Pakistan's agricultural modernization and food industrialization

ISLAMABAD: CPEC will boost Pakistan's agricultural modernization and food industrialization, Gwadar Pro reported on Thursday.

"The main process of raising seedlings is to distribute the seeds evenly on the seedling bed, spray water to make the seeds stick to the soil, cover them with plastic film, and then build a small arch shed to increase temperature and humidity," said Zhang Jishu, a Chinese pepper technician who is busy training Pakistani employees on how to grow pepper seedlings in a greenhouse in preparation for transplanting them into the fields next month.

Zhang is an expert from Sichuan Litong Food Co., Ltd. Talking to Gwadar Pro, he said that the company would implement a 1,000-acre pepper cultivation demonstration garden in Multan during the 2022-2023 growing season.

In partnership with local agribusinesses and farmers in Pakistan, it intends to take over 15,000 acres of pepper orders in South Punjab, with a planned harvest of 30,000 tonnes of dried pepper.

The company also plans to build two pepper processing plants in Lahore and Multan and is currently in the process of locating them.

Litong completed cultivar selection and trial planting in 2019, experimental planting in 2020, and small-scale planting in 2021. Last month, the project organized and implemented by the company entered the first

batch of agricultural projects under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

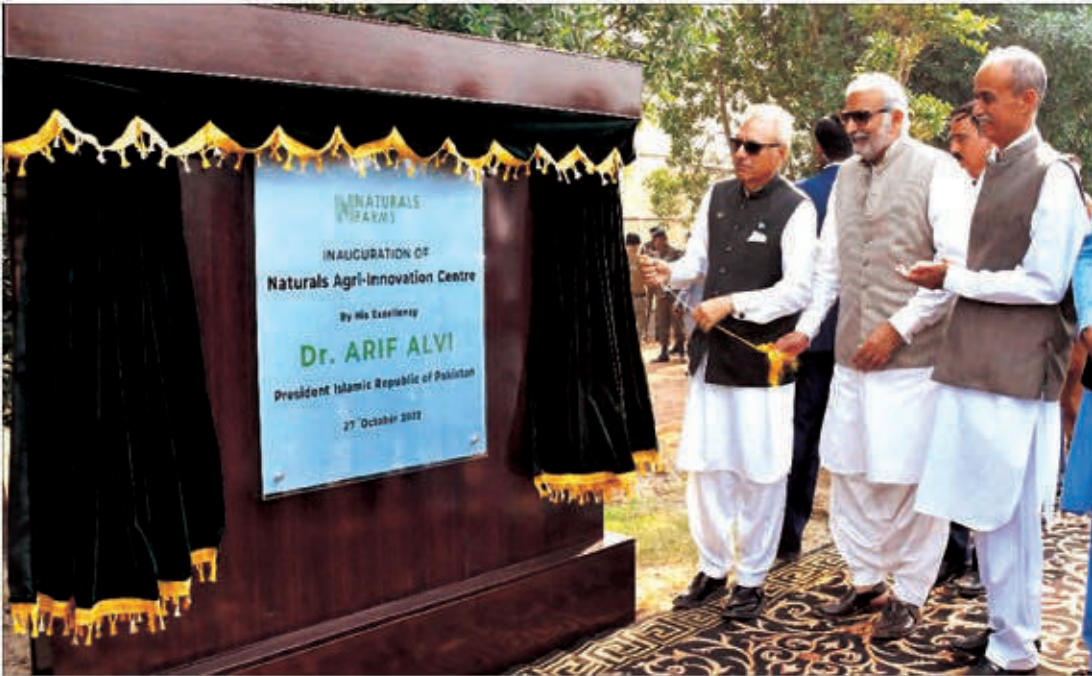
Pepper is an essential vegetable and condiment in China, with many processed products, a lengthy industrial chain, and high added value. The Chinese market has a huge demand for bulk crops such as peppers and broad beans.

Meanwhile, poor seed quality, lack of modern farming techniques, low yields and lack of skilled agricultural labor are among the major factors holding back agricultural development in Pakistan.

To harvest high-quality peppers, Litong is providing technology and training to local farmers. It has carried out cooperation with Pakistani colleges and universities to cultivate talents with both agricultural knowledge and management ability, recruit local professional managers and top-notch technical talents.

In China, it cooperates with Sichuan Agricultural University and other institutions to set up demonstration bases for industry-university-research projects.

Seeds are the "chips" of agriculture. Chen Changwei, Chairman of Litong claimed that the company would bring China's advanced breeding technology to Pakistan next year, work with Pakistan's outstanding agricultural enterprises to carry out a variety of technology researches, production, industrial development researches, technical training, the establishment of R&D and testing platform, marketing and human resources platform, giving full play to the leading role of agricultural technology under CPEC.INP



FAISALABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi inaugurating a commercial Agri-innovation center.

Kashmiris observe Black Day to condemn forced occupation of Held Kashmir

ISLAMABAD: Kashmiris across the world and on both sides of the Line of Control observed October 27 as Black Day to strongly condemn the forced occupation of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) by India and demanded UN Security Council to implement its resolutions on Kashmir. On October 27, 1947, the sufferings of Kashmiri people started with the landing of Indian occupation troops in Jammu and Kashmir, which had been further increased after Modi's fascist government abolished the special status of IIOJK after revoking Articles 370 and 35-A of Indian constitution on August 5, 2019. October 27 is observed as Kashmir Black Day each year to mark protest and resentment by Kashmiris around the world including Pakistan to condemn forced occupation of the Held Valley. Despite 75 years forced occupation, India had completely failed to suppress the legitimate freedom movement of Kashmiris in the Held Valley. The indigenous freedom movement in IIOJK has entered into decisive stage after unilateral and illegal actions taken by the fascist Modi government on August 5, 2019. President Alvi reiterates Pakistan's call for Indian accountability. Dr Arif Alvi has reiterated Pakistan's call for an immediate reversal of the Indian government's illegal and unilateral actions of August 5, 2019, urging the international community to take practical steps to hold India accountable for its egregious human rights violations in

IIOJK. The president, in his message on Kashmir Black Day annually observed on October 27, also called upon the world community to play its part in facilitating a peaceful and just resolution of the long-standing dispute of Jammu and Kashmir in accordance with the relevant Security Council Resolutions and the wishes of the Kashmiri people.

He said this year, October 27 marked the completion of seventy-five years of illegal occupation of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). "We observe Kashmir Black Day to remember the sacrifices of our Kashmiri brothers and sisters in their just struggle for their right to self-determination by condemning the ongoing atrocities of Indian occupation forces over the last seven and a half decades," he remarked. The president said on the Kashmir Black Day; the entire Pakistani nation reaffirmed unwavering support to their Kashmiri brothers and sisters in their just struggle for freedom. He said many generations of innocent Kashmiri men, women and children had known nothing but Indian brutality, bloodshed and torture. The IIOJK remains under Indian military siege, exacerbated by draconian curbs on fundamental freedoms of the people of the occupied territory, he added. President Alvi said the situation had worsened considerably over the last three years with India's illegal and unilateral actions of August 5, 2019 which stripped Jammu and Kashmir of its special status under the Indian constitution. INP

China calls for resolving Kashmir dispute as per UNSC resolutions

BEIJING: China has called for resolving the Kashmir dispute in accordance with the UN charter, relevant Security Council resolutions and relevant bilateral agreements between Pakistan and India.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson, Mao Ning, was replying to a question on the Kashmir dispute during a media briefing in Beijing, today.

She said that China's position on the dispute over Kashmir has been consistent and clear. "This is an issue left over from history between India and Pakistan and should be properly managed in a peaceful way in accordance with the UN charter, relevant Security Council resolutions and relevant bilateral agreements," she said.

Mao Ning maintained that the relevant parties should avoid taking unilateral actions that could further complicate the situation but rather engage in dialogue and consultations to resolve the dispute and maintain peace and stability in the region. INP

This govt wanted to kill Arshad Sharif in jail, claims Fawad Chaudhry

ISLAMABAD: Former federal minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Fawad Chaudhry has claimed that the incumbent government wanted to kill senior journalist Arshad Sharif in jail.

Fawad Chaudhry made these remarks while addressing a joint press conference along with senior PTI leadership Asad Umar, Shah Mahmood Qureshi, Shireen Mazari and other party members.

The media talk came hours after Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) chief Lt Gen Nadeem Ahmed Anjum and Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) DG Lt Gen Babar Iftikhar held a press conference in which they spoke about Arshad Sharif's killing.

Speaking to the journalist, Fawad said his party was shocked by military leaders' press conference. "The press conference held by the ISPR today, I was shocked," he said.

"If Rana Sanaullah or Khawaja Asif hold press conference, we can respond to them. But press conference held by institutions there is a certain level of respect. We can't respond to them," he added.

The former information minister further said that along with the respect of the institutions, it was also important to respect the people's choice. "Since the day of the no-confidence motion, the nation have shown who they want as the leader of the country," he added.

Referring to military leaders' demand for an investigation into cypher - which former prime minister Imran Khan touted as evidence of a foreign conspiracy, Fawad said his party had been demanding the same since the first day.

"Even, President [Dr Arif Alvi] wrote a letter to Supreme Court for an investigation into the cypher. If the cypher is untrue, why hasn't it been probed?" he asked, demanding a power commission for cypher probe and Arshad Sharif's killing. INP

Man held for hoisting Pakistan's flag at home in Chhattisgarh

CHHATTISGARH: Police have arrested a 52-year-old man for allegedly hoisting Pakistan's national flag at his house in Chhattisgarh's Sarangarh-Bhilaigarh district, an official said on Thursday.

The action was taken against Mustafa Khan, a fruit vendor, on Tuesday evening after police received a complaint that he had hoisted Pakistan's flag at his house in Atal Chowk area of Saria town, the official said.

A police team later removed the flag and seized it, he said.

Khan was booked under Indian Penal Code Section 153A (promoting enmity between different groups on ground of religion, race, etc, and doing acts prejudicial to maintenance of harmony), the official said, adding that further investigation was underway.

Some local BJP leaders staged a protest outside the Saria police station on Tuesday, demanding that the man be booked on the charge of sedition. INP

Republic Day of Kazakhstan celebrated in Islamabad

ISLAMABAD: The Embassy of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan held a diplomatic reception on the " Republic Day of Kazakhstan".

The event was attended by the officials of Pakistan Government, both Houses of Parliament, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, ambassadors, and military attaches of foreign countries, as well as the representatives of Kazakhstan diaspora, experts and representatives of Pakistan business community.

The chief guests from the Government of Pakistan were Mr. Musadiq Masood Malik, State Minister for Energy, Mr. Abdul Shakoor, Pakistan Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony and Dr. Qibla Ayaz, the Chairman of the Islamic Ideology Council. In his welcome speech the Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan H.E. Mr. Yerzhan Kistafin noted the importance of the 30th Anniversary of diplomatic relations establishment between the two countries, spoke about the holiday history and the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan K. Tokayev's initiatives.

M.Malik, having greeted all the guests, emphasized the importance of relations between Kazakhstan and Pakistan, the need for their further development. The minister emphasized the special importance of inter-regional. INP

Intra-day update: rupee records marginal drop against US dollar

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's rupee registered a marginal decline against the US dollar in the inter-bank market, and depreciated 0.14% in the opening hours of trading on Thursday.

At around 10:25am, the rupee was being quoted at 220.99, a depreciation of Re0.31 against the greenback, during intra-day trading. On Wednesday, Pakistan's rupee reverted to its old ways against the US dollar, and closed at 220.68 after depreciating Re0.95 or 0.43%.

Experts attributed the rupee's decline amid political uncertainty after Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Imran Khan on Tuesday announced to start a 'long march' from Lahore to Islamabad on Friday (October 28), causing negative sentiment among market players.

In another key development, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Wednesday released \$1.5 billion for Pakistan to support the economy and rehabilitate the affected people in the wake of recent floods.

"State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) has received \$1.5 billion from ADB in value 26 October 2022 as disbursement of policy-based loan for the Government of Pakistan. These proceeds have increased the FX reserves of SBP and will be reflected in the reserves for the week ending 28 October 2022," the central bank said in a tweet on Thursday. INP

OGDCL discovers oil reserves in Punjab

ISLAMABAD: Oil and Gas Development Company Limited (OGDCL), the largest oil and gas exploration company in Pakistan, on Thursday announced the discovery of oil reserves from its exploratory well in Punjab.

In a notice sent to the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX), the company announced that OGDCL "being operator of Toot Mining Lease with 100% working interest has made oil discovery from Lokhart Formation at Toot Deep-I well which is located in Attock District, Punjab Province, Pakistan".

OGDCL said that Toot Deep # 01 well was spudded-in on December 25, 2020, and successfully drilled down to a total depth of 5,545 meters in Tobra Formation.

"Based on interpretation results of open hole logs data, Lockhart Formation has successfully tested oil at the rate of 882 barrels per day (bpd) and 0.93 million standard cubic feet per day (mmscf/d) gas at Well Head Flowing Pressure (WHFP) of 600 pounds per square inch (psi) at 32/64" choke size," read the notice.

OGDCL discovers oil, gas reserves in Sindh and Punjab. OGDCL said the latest oil discovery further extends the hydrocarbon play area in Pothohar basin, adding that it has adopted aggressive exploration strategies which have resulted in hydrocarbon discoveries.

Earlier this month, Pakistan Petroleum Limited (PPL) announced the discovery of gas and condensate reserves in Shahpur Chakar North X-1, an exploratory well, Block 2568-18 (Gambat South) located in District Sanghar, Sindh. INP

Arshad Sharif laid to rest in Islamabad

ISLAMABAD: Senior journalist and former ARY News anchorperson Arshad Sharif was laid to rest in Islamabad's H-11 cemetery on Thursday.

The senior journalist was laid to rest after his funeral prayers were offered at the Shah Faisal Mosque in Islamabad. A large number of people belonging to various walks of life attended the funeral prayers.

Strict security arrangements were made around Shah Faisal Mosque to avoid any eventuality during the last rituals of the slain journalist.

At his family's request, an eight-member medical board of the PIMS hospital carried out the post-mortem on his body at the hospital. INP

Tribesmen express solidarity with Kashmiris

PESHAWAR: Residents of the tribal district Kurram on Thursday staged a rally to express solidarity with Kashmiris in their struggle for right of self-determination.

The rally started in Sadda City of the district and hundreds of people from different segments of the society participated in it.

The rally, which started from Kutchery, passed through various bazaars and roads and culminated at Press Club. The participants were carrying placards and banners inscribed with slogans against Indian aggression and atrocities against innocent Kashmiris.

Addressing the participants of the rally, Assistant Commissioner (AC) Shah Wazir said that atrocities of Indian forces had made the lives of Kashmiris miserable.

He said India, in violation of the Charter of the United Nations, had locked down the peaceful Kashmiris for the last two years and imposed a curfew in the Indian illegally occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK), which was not allowed under any law or constitution.

Malik Israfel Chamkani and Malik Abbas Khan Chamkani, two local tribal leaders addressing the participants of the rally were critical of the role of the UN over the Kashmir dispute and said. INP

Imran offered extension to Army Chief against No Confidence Motion: Khawaja Asif

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Defense Khawaja Muhammad Asif on Thursday said that at one time, Imran Khan was offering extension to the Army Chief but when he declined to take illegal and unconstitutional steps he (Imran) started to cast aspersions on his integrity.

When Imran Khan was in power, he crossed all limits to praise the military leadership to remain in power but after no confidence motion, he started maligning the institution.

Addressing a press conference, he said, for Imran Khan his personal character was important over Pakistan's sovereignty and country's institutions.

"He uses one language in front of media against the institution while behind the closed doors, he uses apologetic language in secret meetings," said the defense minister.

He said earlier the opposition was exposing his real face to the nation but now it has been disclosed directly from the institution.

Imran had been offering deal of extension in service for the indefinite period to the Army Chief against no confidence motion and to protect his government, said the defense minister adding this information has come straight from the horse's mouth. INP



KAHUTA: Federal Minister for power Engr Khurram Dastagir Khan lays down the foundation stone of 500 Kv Maita switching station near Kahuta. INP

Bilawal moulding global opinion against Indian atrocities in Kashmir: Zardari

KARACHI: In his message on the Black Day being observed against India's illegal occupation of Kashmir, former president Asif Ali Zardari said that Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari was moulding the global opinion against the Indian atrocities in Kashmir.

"The unfortunate thing is that at the time of Modi's aggression in Occupied Kashmir, Pakistan did not have an elected government," he lamented.

"If there was a government of Pakistan People's Party (PPP), the president, prime minister and foreign minister would not have sat quietly," he maintained.

"Today, Occupied Kashmir looks like the biggest prison in the world. Our hearts beat with the oppressed people of Occupied Kashmir," he added.

"Referendum in Kashmir is the basic human and democratic right of Kashmiris. The civilized world that talks about human freedom must raise its voice against the Indian oppression of Kashmiris," he emphasised.

"Freedom of Occupied Kashmir was the pledge of Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and the mission of Shaheed Benazir Bhutto," he pointed out.

"The PPP will continue extending the political and moral support to the democratic struggle of the people of Occupied Kashmir," he pledged.

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SHC direct razing 7-storey illegal building in Liaquatabad

KARACHI: Sindh High Court (SHC) on Thursday ordered to raze 7-storey illegal building in the Liaquatabad area of Karachi.

A citizen moved the court against the illegal construction of seven-storey building at 90-yards plot number 464/8 in Liaquatabad. The officials of the Sindh Building Control Authority appeared before the court in today's hearing.

The SHC bench asked the SBCA how a seven-storey building was constructed on a 90-yard plot.

The SBCA official said the building was built without an approved map and it would be taken down within a month.

The court later adjourned the hearing after the assurance of the SBCA official and ordered to forward a copy of the order to the DG SBCA.

In one such judgement, the SHC had ordered to immediately raze illegal portions in North Nazimabad Block-L, Karachi.

The lawyer of the applicant had said that ground plus three-storey building had been constructed and now the building is constructing the fourth floor on the residential plot no B165 in North Nazimabad.

The SHC had directed immediate action against illegal constructions on Plot No. B165 in North Nazimabad Block-L and also directed the DG Sindh Building Control Authority (SBCA) for immediate action against the builder.

The SBCA official said the building was built without an approved map and it would be taken down within a month.

The court later adjourned the hearing after the assurance of the SBCA official and ordered to forward a copy of the order to the DG SBCA. INP



PESHAWAR: Provincial Minister Local Government Kamran Bangash and Minister Health Taimur Saleem Khan Jhagra leading the protest rally in front of CM house on occasion of 27 October Kashmir Black Day.