

QUETTA VOICE

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Palestinian people have 'unequivocal' diplomatic, moral and political support of Pakistan: COAS

Muhammad Dawood:

ISLAMABAD: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Syed Asim Munir on Tuesday said the Palestinian people have "unequivocal diplomatic, moral and political support of the Pakistani nation" and vowed to support the end to "unlawful occupation of their territories".

Israel imposed a total siege of Ghaza

The army chief's statement comes as Israel has imposed a total siege to stop food and fuel from reaching the enclave of 2.3 million people, many poor and dependent on aid, in response to a surprise Hamas Offensive on Oct 7.

Over 3000 Palestinians martyred so far

In retaliatory air and artillery strikes, Israeli forces have flattened entire neighborhoods, hospitals and schools in Gaza. Authorities say more than 2,800 people have been killed in the Israeli bombing, around a quarter of them children, and nearly 11,000 wounded are in hospitals short of supplies.

A day earlier, the Foreign Office said Pakistan had decided to send humanitarian aid to Gaza on an urgent basis and was in contact with United Nations' agencies in this regard.

Israel-Hamas conflict discussed during the Corps Commanders' Conference



According to a press release issued by the Inter-Service Public Relations (ISPR), the Israel-Hamas conflict was discussed during the 26th Corps Commanders' Conference (CCC) held at General Headquarters in Rawalpindi today.

"The forum viewed with concern the developments taking place in the Gaza-Israel war and the enormous human cost being imposed on the innocent civilians due to the disproportionate use of force by Israel," it said.

"The Palestinian people have unequivocal diplomatic, moral and political support of the Pakistani nation and we will continue to support the principled stance of our brethren for enduring resolution of the Palestinian issue and end to the unlawful occupation of their territories and Muslims' sacred

places," the military's media wing quoted COAS Munir as saying.

The Forum paid tribute to the Supreme Sacrifices of Security Personnel

The ISPR said earlier participants of the forum paid tribute to the "supreme sacrifices" being continuously offered by the security and law enforcement forces in the defence of the motherland while fighting terrorism.

"Participants resolved that all terrorists, their facilitators, and abettors, working on the behest of hostile forces to destabilize Pakistan will be dealt with the unflinching resolve of the state."

"The participants were also briefed on the

Pakistan resolves to defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Pakistan

"The forum reiterated the Pakistan Army's resolve to defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Pakistan against all kinds of direct and indirect threats,"

the ISPR said. It added that the participants vowed to fully support the strategic initiatives planned by the government for the revival of the economy by providing "all possible support for the overall well-being of the people of Pakistan".

Action against illegal economic activities

The forum also took a holistic review of the ongoing actions being taken against illegal economic activities.

"Pakistan Army will continue to provide all-out support to the government and LEAs in taking strict lawful actions against illegal economic activities across the country."

"Actions against hoarding and smuggling mafias and cartels in different domains will be further strengthened in coming days to rid the country from the negative impact of such ill practices," the COAS emphasized.

Balochistan Green Medicine Boxes Initiative Targets End of Official Drug Sales

Syed Ali Shah:

In a groundbreaking move, the Balochistan Government has launched an initiative to put an end to official drugs' sales within the province. The health department, for the first time in the province's history, has introduced distinctive green medicine boxes to combat the private sale of official drugs.

Fighting Malpractice and Corruption

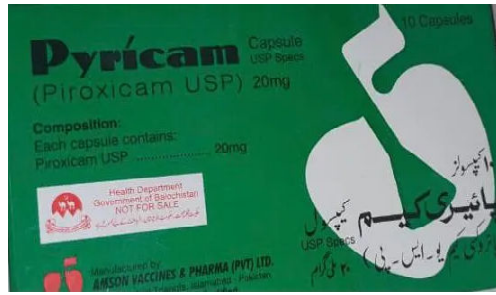
As of now, the health department has succeeded in placing 58 out of 218 total items into these green boxes.

This achievement is no small feat, especially considering the new forms of malpractice and corruption that have taken root in the province and across the country.

A Stark Reality

However, a bitter reality persists, as ordinary citizens continue to struggle with a lack of access to official drugs, even within government-run hospitals. The irony lies in the fact that these hospitals often face chronic shortages of essential medications throughout the year.

Last year, the provincial health department encountered insurmountable obstacles in procuring medicines worth billions of rupees, primarily due to



bureaucratic red tape and a lack of political commitment.

Allocating Resources

Despite the financial constraints, the provincial government allocates a substantial budget of Rs. 6

billion, along with more than 70 crore rupees for the purchase of medicines in Balochistan. Nevertheless, the general populace remains deprived of these essential medications, with doctors frequently directing them to favored medical store owners.

A Beacon of Change

Secretary of Health Balochistan, Asfandiyar Khan, deserves commendation for championing the introduction of green medicine boxes and initiating numerous projects to enhance healthcare services for the masses. However, his path is riddled with obstacles, including elements within the health department who are working against the interests of the common man. Complicity within the political system and pharmaceutical companies further compounds the difficulties faced by the average citizen in obtaining official medicines.

Urgent Call to Action

The crux of the matter is this: It is imperative that the government moves beyond rhetoric and takes concrete steps to ensure the implementation of these vital reforms. Only through such concerted efforts can Balochistan hope to provide its citizens with better access to essential medications and improve the overall healthcare landscape in the region.

BNP announces to launch long march on October 22 from Wadh to Quetta

Manan Mandokhail:

QUETTA: The Balochistan National Party (BNP) announced a long march from Wadh to Quetta in October against what the party claimed to punish Sardar Akhtar Jan Mengal for raising his voice for Baloch rights.

BNP leaders addressed a news conference

BNP leader Nasir Shahwani, Akhtar Hussain Langave and other leaders held a press conference at the Quetta Press Club. Addressing the press conference, BNP leader Nasir Shahwani said that efforts are being made to deliberately worsen the situation in Wadh. Sardar Akhtar Mengal spoke about the Baloch national rights and we are being punished for it.

BNP workers killed: Party Claimed

Mr. Shahwani claimed that 100 BNP workers



including teachers and doctors were killed in the past to teach a lesson to the party. Due to this, the people of Wadh came out and started protesting, the death squad is being reactivated and oppressing the people of Wadh, Naseer Shahwani added.

The Apex Committee approved the action

Wadh was brought up for special discussion in the Apex Committee and a unilateral decision was taken. It is the double standard of the rulers, after the decision of the Apex Committee, the one-sided fronts were cleared and the opponents were left free. People from Sorab, Turbat, Kharan Panjgur, Sibi and other districts will participate in the long march.

Addressing the press conference, Akhtar Hussain Longo said that there is an attempt to keep us away from the election by creating tense situations in Wadh. By justifying 144, the rulers are trying to keep people confined at home, he claimed.

Wadh, Balochistan Tragedy: Child Killed, 8 Injured in Hand Grenade Blast

From Our Correspondent:

KHUZZDAR: A child lost his life and another eight children were injured in a hand grenade explosion in Balochistan's Wadh area on Tuesday. Levies sources said the hand grenade exploded inside a madrassah in the Zarchain area of Wadh Tehsil of Khuzdar district.

Hand grenade exploded inside a madrassah

Abdul Manaf, a police officer told Daily Quetta Voice that the children were "playing with the hand grenade" when it suddenly exploded. Nine children suffered injuries.

However, one child succumbed to inju-

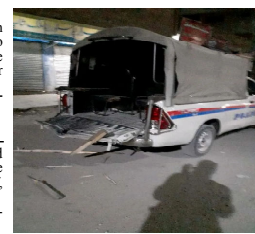
ries in hospital.

The injured children were rushed to Wadh Hospital for medical treatment. However, two seriously injured children were taken to the district headquarters hospital Khuzdar for medical treatment.

Levies, police cordoned off the area

Levies and police reached the area and started an investigation into the incident. "We have cordoned off the area", Abdul Manaf, the police officer informed.

He said no arrest was made in connection with the blast.



REPATRIATION OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

DAYS REMAINING

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#1 @ QuettaVoice

Balochistan in the Eye of Climate Change Storm: Calls for Resilient Climate Policies Surface

Chandni Kakar:

In the global battle against climate change, Balochistan, Pakistan, serves as a stark reminder of the urgent need for climate resilience. The province is experiencing increasingly severe weather events, a consequence of human-induced climate change. However, many residents mistake these extreme weather occurrences for regular fluctuations, hindering recognition of the escalating climate crisis.

Balochistan becoming unbearably hot

Balochistan is becoming unbearably hot, with rising temperatures transforming heatwaves into a year-round threat. These heatwaves pose severe health risks, including heat stress, dehydration, and even fatalities.

Driven by intensified and increasingly frequent monsoon rains, the full extent of the climate crisis is yet to be comprehended. However, it exposed the province's vulnerabilities and highlighted the urgent need for effective management strategies.

The 2022 flood in Balochistan underscores the looming climate change threat

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CC affects economy

Climate change also decimated the region's economy through the loss of livestock. Between

2010 and 2022, over 1.5 million livestock were lost, costing over \$1 billion and displacing over 100,000 people, particularly in districts like Quetta, Pishin, Turbat, Pajura, and Khuzdar.

Balochistan need not accept this grim fate. It requires comprehensive strategies tailored to its unique challenges. The provincial government must implement robust climate change policies, emphasizing water resource management and disaster preparedness. Learning from the tragic dam collapses of 2022, preventive measures, such as effective water reservoirs and early warning systems, are imperative. Spreading awareness about climate change and promoting sustainable agricultural practices are equally crucial.

Tree plantations could mitigate sweltering temperatures

In a province where tree planting could mitigate sweltering temperatures and climate change impacts, government initiatives should engage younger generations in green initiatives. Achieving a resilient future necessitates a collaborative effort involving government, local communities, civil society, and the commercial sector. Balochistan's path towards resilience begins with a symphony of collective action.

By addressing these critical issues, Balochistan can better adapt to the challenges posed by climate change, ensuring a more secure and sustainable future for its residents.

Lost potential: Exploring the plight of out of school children in Balochistan

EDITORIAL:

Despite the allocation of more than 90 billion rupees for the education sector in the budget for the year 2023-24, still more than 2 million children are out of school in Balochistan. Much has been said and repeated promises have been made by successive governments, nevertheless, the number of out-of-school children has grown. The alarming rise of out-of-school children means the potential of a generation is lost and the future of out-of-school children is at stake.

The number of enrolled students in government schools is 1,119,925, the report mentioned. The students studying in private schools are in addition to this. However, no data about the private schools' enrollment is available.

The province has not conducted any survey to assess the learning quality of students studying in over 15,000 government-run primary, middle and high schools across Balochistan. As per a confidential report obtained by Daily Quetta Voice, 7 million children are out of school. It has been evident that the law and order situation always overshadows the education issue. Caretaker Education Minister Balochistan, Qadir Baksh Baloch revealed that there was no toilet facility in 5716 government-run schools of the province. Such data has been routinely shared by every new education minister. Enough is enough, the rulers must go beyond statements and translate their words into action.

Breaking the chains of illiteracy

The literacy rate in Balochistan is 46 percent as per statistics obtained from the education department with 61 percent male and 29 percent female. If our government and policymakers are committed to breaking the chains of illiteracy, then, they have to make sure the enrollment of every child in school and every teacher in the classroom. This also requires the policy to this mining problem. Children of Balochistan also deserve better and the government must launch a practical education emergency to enroll all out-of-school children in the province. Otherwise, the impact of out-of-school children is huge for the country and nation.

A world sacrificed at Israel's altar

By Jawad Naqvi:

It isn't concealed from the keen observer of politics that the Five Eyes Anglophrenetic of the modern state of Israel in 1948, which in turn birthed the Hamas as a foil to the non-secular and avily secular PLO. In both instances, the objective was to vacate the threat of British fervour striking roots around the fabled Arab oil wells.

It is not insignificant that Arthur Balfour's letter to Lord Rothschild, cited as laying the grounds for the future state of Israel, was drafted and delivered on Nov 2, 1917. In other words, the overtone came as the Bolshevik Revolution set off alarm bells in European capitals. A handy aside to this end arrived only a year before the Balfour Declaration. The secret Sykes-Picot accord of 1916 carved up former Ottoman territories in the Middle East, to become areas of influence between France and Britain. The accord enabled Lord Balfour to draft his promise to the Jewish people to establish their right to the land. The idea didn't excite the Anglophores, which instead proposed a multicultural milieu, the kind that would one day produce a Rishi/Sunak or Barack Obama in their own drawing rooms.

The religious genie was never, however, completely exercised, the Christian trope of

of bullion to the Duke of Wellington's armies across Europe.

He also arranged the payment of British financial subsidies to their continental allies. In 1815 alone, the British provided £9.8 million (equivalent to about £1 billion today) in subsidies at the juncture of the Napoleonic wars.

Balfour's letter to Arthur Rothschild, however, spoke plainly of a "national home" for Jews in Palestine, "it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country."

Some Hindu activists in India were, however, ranged on opposite sides of the Christian and Muslim masters. Gandhi was a pacifist in his Christian faith, but much to that Martin Luther King Jr, the civil rights leader and Christian preacher, saw him as his inspiration.

On the other side stood Hindutva, which proposed an early in 1929 to do to the Muslims and Christians in India what Hitler was doing to Jews in Germany. In this admission, the British never had any reservations. M.S. Gokhalkar was as staunchly anti-communist as Narendra Modi would soon be. Anti-

communism became a clear reason for Hindutva to flip its mockery of Jews subsequently to side with Israel.

Intense Islamophobia only fortified the ties.

There was a seminal piece published in the Indian Express, curiously a day before the Indian parliament was attacked on Dec 16, 2001.

An erstwhile Hindu vatory and journalist-politician from A.B. Vajpayee's stable pontificated on how to deal with the collision, which he swore he would, between Muslim extremists and Indian Marxists, who he branded as terrorists. (There's a useful protocol followed by the BBC on why the media should not be branded as terrorists.)

The journalist-politician advocated a jaw for a foot, unwittingly subscribing to the biblical dictum, a trope his worldview otherwise despised. He said that Israel's bloodthirsty pursuit of revenge against the religiously inspired Muslims had even helped the US in Afghanistan after 9/11 — is not different from the West's eye-for-an-eye atavism. It was used to

destroy secular states at the altar of an entity the West created to brush off its guilt of mocking and persecuting Jews for centuries.

As Noam Chomsky and others persistently remind us, the policy Hitler didn't find the Americans or anyone in Europe welcoming the Jews to their land, they needed someone else somewhere else to do the job.

The Holocaust was not on the historic farnam until 1967, respected Jewish scholars like Norman Finkelstein would tell you in no uncertain terms.

Had a hindsight view of an event in 1982 that links up with the rise of and secret investment in Hamas by Israel until last week. Then Saudi crown prince Fahd was promoting the peace plan in Morocco in the Arab League, whereby Palestinians would get a state.

The price was recognition of Israel with security guarantees, something Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon had turned down. It was precisely when the Cold War ended. They were systematically destroyed at the altar of the interests of the poor at the heart of the analysis. While there are vague claims that the policies are poor, they are based on

By Dr Niaz Murtaza:

EVERY so often, one sees the World Bank, IMF or a local think tank come up with weighty advice on reforming our economy. The advice is not outright wrong and not entirely inhumane options. But it usually repeats advice given by others or even the same institution in the past.

One may argue that the blame for this repetition lies with our own government for not heeding good advice. Advisers then keep repeating it, hoping it will eventually bring positive results. The counter-logic is that the advisers must also review the political and economic context. The reform ideas, directly or indirectly, harm elite interests by killing current economic activities run by them. They are never implemented. They may have better success if they present a new economic vision that provides new avenues for them to invest in, while also upgrading the economy, providing more tax and exports revenues for the state and better life opportunities to the poor and protecting the environment. Without such a vision, reforms, even if implemented, may lead to capital flight and expand the informal economy. The latest set of advice is to be found in 'Reforms for a Brighter Future', a campaign unveiled by the World Bank and the Pakistan

Institute of Development Economics. The focus is on certain discrete areas, without them being part of a new and holistic economic vision. There's scant mention of women. The first policy about helping the poor but through a narrow focus on better health, education and social protection services rather than a broader agenda of empowering them by expanding their assets, rights, political voice, market power and opportunities. The poor are mentioned under a few headings too but in a tangential way rather than making their interests central to each policy. The policy advice on agriculture mentions small farmers, but without making them the focus of attention. A key component of the Special Investment Facilitation Council is to encourage large-scale corporate agriculture, with the military reportedly requiring a million acres for this aim in Punjab. But a poor-centred vision would give this land to small farmers, to be provided them with technical, marketing and financial support and political voice so that they can prosper. China's initial success came not from standard IMF advice that ignored the needs of the poor at the heart of the analysis. While there are vague claims that the policies are poor, they are based on

collective decision-making rather than rigorous analysis of how they will benefit the poor. Since the policies are generated by sectoral expert teams that often lack holistic visions and don't talk to each other, the advice is sectorally disjointed rather than being part of a holistic vision where its various elements synergistically build on and feed each other to ensure rapid progress. The advice focuses on fixing the ills in various parts of our economy, but without a new overall economic vision of how we could upgrade our economy within the global one to benefit the masses directly and significantly. The reform ideas, directly or indirectly, harm elite interests by killing current economic activities run by them. They are never implemented. They may have better success if they present a new economic vision that provides new avenues for them to invest in, while also upgrading the economy, providing more tax and exports revenues for the state and better life opportunities to the poor and protecting the environment. Without such a vision, reforms, even if implemented, may lead to capital flight and expand the informal economy. The latest set of advice is to be found in 'Reforms for a Brighter Future', a campaign unveiled by the World Bank and the Pakistan

Birds and bees

By Shahzad Sharjeel:

THERE is definitely more to learning about the birds and bees than its conventional connotation. Though our unbridled population growth demands some learning and 'unlearning' on that count as well, that is a digression. Let us stick to the unconventional here. The guy was dangling some 15 metres above the ground and was even jumped up and down had the harness holding him aloft allowed such exuberant display. Instead, a jubilant shout of "the queen's laying", was all that his precocious perch allowed by way of celebration, according to a Dawn reporter. "Rare wild bees find English country estate buzzing". The scientist was celebrating his find in 2021 of a rare ecotype species of bees in the Oxford countryside with a suspected centuries-old lineage. So what? Many would be tempted to say. Why should we care about some bees being the bees halfway across the

world? Well, because we live in the same world where environmental degradation hits us in the face every day of our lives and it impacts the flora and fauna equally, if not more. There was a time when 'log' was specific to Lahore. Flight schedules and road travel would get affected, but who cares? It was a Lahore problem. Then smog spread everywhere and even Karachi is getting a taste of it. Climate change is an issue that impacts us all and having established that it is the develop—ed world that has contributed much to it and continues to add to the worsening global warming, we need to do our bit to stop the downward spiral, we cannot cut our nose to spite the other's face. Pakistan never had sufficient green cover — remember we are a desert where the Indus running across it and reckless deforestation has destroyed the re—maining natural habitat of wild animals including the bees that form a crucial link in

the ecosystem we share with countless creatures. Bee farming caught on in Pakistan as the only alternative to the natural production of honey, providing small-scale livelihood to rural families. As if the climatic conditions were not enough to wreak havoc on the feeding grounds of bees, Covid-19 struck. Yes! It did impact bee farming in a big way. The lockdown had ban on inter-city transport meant that essential medicine for the bees in captivity could not reach the farms.

This resulted in the deaths of millions of bees and a drastic reduction in honey production. Bee farmers in KP suffered losses running into hundreds of millions of rupees, owing to Covid-related hardships. Again, some may ask, what's the deal? It was one day run out of what's and honey? We have sugar and maple syrup and whatnot? One may not care about the bees — but at immense peril to our environment we inhabit.

BY Samar Masood:

A FEW weeks ago, the Supreme Court struck down two acts that amended the National Accountability Ordinance. The amendments were primarily introduced to restrict the applicability of the NAO to certain persons and transactions, alter the definition of 'offence' and limit the offence of misuse of authority to only those actions taken in bad faith or where there was evidence of monetary benefit.

The amendments were struck down on the grounds that they were in excess of the legislative powers of parliament and in violation of fundamental rights. However, the reasons given by the Supreme Court rest on a slippery slope. They undermine the integrity, chotomy of powers, the supremacy of parliament and when the principles set in the judgment are applied to other cases, the results can be absurd. Two examples explain this concisely.

One of the main amendments that was struck down pertained to the definition of an 'offence' in s.5(o) where the National Accountability Bureau's jurisdiction was excluded if the value was below Rs500 million. The reason for striking down s.5(o) was based on the premise that by increasing the threshold and excluding NAB's jurisdiction, it would have given immunity to persons against being tried for corruption of value between Rs100m to Rs500m, without a judicial pronouncement, which encroached on the domain of the judiciary for the courts.

While corruption is a huge problem and needs to be dealt with seriously, if we apply the reasoning behind the decision to cases dealing with similar legal issues, the outcome will defeat the constitutional structure.

Applying this principle to a less controversial issue makes the problem obvious. Take the example of the Criminal Law Amendment Act,

2022, through which Section 325 of the Pakistan Penal Code was repealed, ie, the offence of attempting suicide was decriminalised. If the same reasoning is applied to the CLA's legality, parliament could not have done more likely than attempted suicide and the determination of liability would always have to be made by the court. If that is the case, can parliament never decriminalise an offence or reduce punishment for any offence without a judicial decision? Take another example, the amendment to s.474 of the Penal Code, which mainly, ousted the jurisdiction of NAB and courts where there was a decision of the cabinet or the Economic Coordination Committee, SOEs, etc, only if there was no monetary benefit involved. The Supreme Court, however, did not consider this. The set of amendments had the effect of limiting the perverse incentives created by NAO for good-faith donors. A fact recognised by the court,

fund hopes rather than rigorous analysis of how they will benefit the poor. Since the policies are generated by sectoral expert teams that often lack holistic visions and don't talk to each other, the advice is sectorally disjointed rather than being part of a holistic vision where its various elements synergistically build on and feed each other to ensure rapid progress. The advice focuses on fixing the ills in various parts of our economy, but without a new overall economic vision of how we could upgrade our economy within the global one to benefit the masses directly and significantly. The reform ideas, directly or indirectly, harm elite interests by killing current economic activities run by them. They are never implemented. They may have better success if they present a new economic vision that provides new avenues for them to invest in, while also upgrading the economy, providing more tax and exports revenues for the state and better life opportunities to the poor and protecting the environment. Without such a vision, reforms, even if implemented, may lead to capital flight and expand the informal economy. The latest set of advice is to be found in 'Reforms for a Brighter Future', a campaign unveiled by the World Bank and the Pakistan

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CPEC crucial for Pakistan's economic recovery

Islamabad (INP) There is no doubt that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is crucial to Pakistan's economic recovery, says a report published by Gwadar Pro on Tuesday.

The most crucial point is that the development and growth of the Belt and Road Initiative has enabled Pakistan to make extraordinary progress in infrastructure construction, import and export logistics, etc. Belt and Road Initiative is China's epoch-making plan for global economic development. For Pakistan, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is launched here as a flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative. China can effectively connect the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea through roads, and

it has also opened a new door for Pakistan's future diversified economic development. An economic corridor like the Belt and Road covering a vast territory connects all participating countries in Central Asia, Africa, and Europe into a huge common development network. Not long ago, on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the construction of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, officials from the National Development and Reform Commission of China once again emphasized the importance of the project to Pakistan, China, and even the world. In August 2023, Chinese President Xi Jinping proposed in his keynote speech at the China-Africa Leaders' Dialogue Summit to mobilize the enthusiasm of China's cooperation

resources and enterprises in Africa to support Africa in developing manufacturing and achieving industrialization and economic diversification. Facts have proven that China does not seek to impose anything on other countries through the Belt and Road Initiative, but rather hopes to develop a diversified strategy that takes into account the actual problems and specific needs of other countries. Ten years have passed since the official implementation of the Belt and Road Initiative in 2013. After this year's summit forum, the BRI will enter a new stage, and all participating countries will work together to bring industrialization to a new level. For Pakistan, this possible change will be of extraordinary impor-

tance because Pakistan has the potential to promote new developments based on its original industrial base and realize the national economy. China and Pakistan will sign a series of new memorandums of understanding. China and Pakistan will sign 11 agreements on infrastructure, energy and other projects. In addition, the two countries decided to issue announcements to further promote comprehensive cooperation in various fields of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor.

In Pakistan, work is in full swing during the meeting between Chinese President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Karim. According to daily reports, Pakistan and China have agreed on the financing of the ML-1 project.



BEIJING: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar meets President of Kenya Dr. William Ruto on the sidelines of 3rd Belt and Road Forum being held in Beijing.

Special Federal Economic Zone to be established near Fateh Jang

ISLAMABAD (INP): In a significant decision under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a Special Federal Economic Zone will be established near Fateh Jang as covering area of 85 square kilometers has already designated in this respect. This ambitious project aims to spur economic growth and development.

The sources have revealed that the selected area for this Special Federal Economic Zone spans over 85 square kilometers, situated in Tehsil Fateh Jang and linked with Islamabad Airport. This vast region will encompass various villages, including Duhok Syedan, Hastal, Majha, Taj Bara, Souk, Pandefath, Gali Jagir, Nikodar, Makki Dohok, Shahro Sahadullah, Shahro Bahadur, Shahro Chirag, Lanwala, Gada, Rai Nika, Ismail, Burj, Fahog, Dohok Mond, Dohok Kiran Wali, Aruriya, Dalhal, and Kot Fateh Khan. This development falls within the Fateh Jang Tehsil, District Attock.

The project includes the construction of a modern rail and truck terminal. Additionally, it will be seamlessly connected to the New Islamabad Airport through a 20-kilometer road that branches from the CPEC Motorway. Furthermore, a new Expressway spanning 25 kilometers will connect Gali Jagir on M2 Motorway to the M14 Motorway, creating a direct access route from Lahore Motorway.

The Federal Special Economic Zone will source its water supply from the Indus River, facilitated by a 54-kilometer-long water supply line originating from Khushalgarh near Jund. Moreover, a mini dam will be constructed in Thatti Gujran to meet the water requirements of the zone.

The Golta Sharif Fateh Jang Jund railway line, which is only five kilometers from the zone, will be modernized. A rail-water cargo terminal at Jaafar village will be constructed, connecting to the Havistan dry port. A new railway line spanning 5 kilometers will be established from Jaafar village to the zone, significantly enhancing transportation capabilities.

This development is expected to create numerous employment opportunities for local residents, bringing prosperity and economic growth to the region. The zone's strategic location and enhanced connectivity are poised to drive commerce and trade effectively.

The Board of Investment will serve as the supervisory authority for the Federal Special Economic Zone. The Government of Punjab is collaborating closely with the federal government on this project, and the implementation of Section Four is underway.

Hamis asks Muslim world to 'remember their duty' amid ongoing crisis

GHAZA (INP): Hamas has asked the Muslim world to 'remember their duty' amid the ongoing crisis in Gaza by the Israeli forces. Speaking to a private TV Channel, Hamas spokesperson Khaled Odomi said that Israel is committing 'war crimes' against the innocent Palestinians but the world is silent on the brutality of Israel. He said that Palestinians are in search of peace and freedom whereas Israel has turned Gaza into an open prison. More than 2,200 Palestinians have been killed during Israel's aerial offensive on Gaza, while Israel lost 1,300 people in Hamas' attacks. On Friday, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said it would be 'impossible' for civilians in Gaza to comply with the evacuation order without devastating humanitarian consequences. The UN chief called on the world to unite in support of the fundamental principle of protecting civilians, and finding a lasting solution to this unending cycle of death and destruction. A plane carrying life-saving health supplies from the World Health Organization's (WHO) logistics hub in Dubai landed in Egypt on Saturday to aid civilians in Gaza - as soon as access across the border into the enclave can be established.

Earlier, he received a red carpet welcome when arrived Beijing on his official visit. The PM is participating in the 3rd Belt and Road Forum (BRF) for International Cooperation, 'taking place in Beijing from October 17 to 18. The premier is visiting China on the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping.

3rd BRI Forum pivotal multilateral diplomatic affairs of China's calendar, 2023: Experts

Islamabad (INP): The on-going 3rd Belt and Road Forum, inaugurated by Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing, stands as one of the pivotal multilateral diplomatic affairs on China's calendar for the year, drawing attention on the global stage.

Under the banner of "High-quality Belt and Road Cooperation: Together for Common Development and Prosperity," the BRF has attracted delegates from over 130 nations and 30 international organizations, Gwadar Pro reported on Tuesday quoting experts. The discussions at the BRF are focused on various cooperation domains, encompassing connectivity, sustainable development, and the digital economy.

Trade, people-to-people interactions, anti-corruption efforts, local collaboration, and ocean cooperation will be focal points at this forum. The BRF, centered on world-wide collaboration, unfolds amidst a backdrop of multifaceted global challenges, including conflicts in Europe and the Middle East, as well as a sluggish global economy. Entering its third iteration, the BRF has evolved into an essential multilateral platform for nations and regions engaged in the collaborative development of the BRI. It serves as a vital arena for assessing past achievements and devising strategies for future collaboration. The previous BRF, held in 2019, unfolded before the disruptive COVID-19 pandemic. This year's gathering takes on added importance, coinciding with the 10th anniversary of the BRF's proposal, marking a decade of its transformative vision. Amid a backdrop of pressing global challenges such as the Ukraine Conflict and the Israel-Palestine issue, the BRF emerges as a beacon of stability in a turbulent world. It is poised to reinvigorate global progress, with international and Chinese experts foreseeing substantial achievements in reinforcing international collaboration. This forum underscores the fervor and trust in the BRI, as well as China's steadfast dedication to open engagement and global cooperation, according to their observations. The BRI stands out as the most extensive force for enhancing global connectivity across various domains of infrastructure. It accomplishes this by constructing land routes, expanding maritime links, increasing air travel connections, and bolstering cyberspace capabilities. As it evolves, it transforms into a worldwide network that benefits all the inhabitants of the globe, fostering an environment conducive to enhanced cooperation. At its inception, the BRI was synonymous with grand-scale infrastructure undertakings. Nevertheless, in tandem, the BRI has witnessed the rise of small and medium-sized enterprises, championed environmental sustainability, embraced climate-conscious practices, fostered digital innovation, and championed green initiatives. While the COVID-19 pandemic momentarily slowed its pace, the BRI has now rebounded with renewed dynamism as the global order gradually returns to its pre-pandemic state.

This resurgence underscores the BRI's capacity to adapt to the ever-shifting dynamics of the global stage. The BRI remains an enduring and agile force, consistently mirroring the evolving contours of the world it engages with. Over the past decade, China has embarked on an audacious quest, joining hands with more than 150 nations and 30 international organizations in a grand partnership to co-create the BRI. This monumental endeavor has manifested in the realization of over 3,000 collaborative projects under the BRI umbrella, representing a substantial investment of nearly \$1 trillion. The repercussions have been nothing short of transformative, igniting robust economic expansion in the countries involved.

These BRI initiatives span a diverse spectrum, encompassing poverty alleviation, strides in agricultural technology, and advances in vocational education. Notably, many of these undertakings have made considerable headway in enhancing the well-being of countless individuals. What's more, the far-reaching effects of these BRI projects are poised to yield significant global advantages. Forecasts indicate that by 2030, these endeavors alone will augment global income by a remarkable 0.7-2.9 percent, and of greater importance, extricate a staggering 7.6 million people from the clutches of extreme poverty.



ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's Central Information Secretary Raul Hassan, and Ambassador Umair, called on President Dr. Arif Alvi, at Aitwan-e-Sadr.



HYDERABAD: Craftsmen preparing clay made pots at his workplace.

PM to seek investment opportunities during his visit to Xinjiang

ISLAMABAD (INP): PM Kakar will travel to Urumqi, Xinjiang Autonomous Region this week to meet local leaders and business representatives, with the goal of strengthening trade, investment, and people-to-people relations, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Tuesday. The report stated, "To further strengthen regional connectivity, trade, investment and people-to-people contacts between the neighbouring regions of Pakistan and China, PM Kakar will pay a two-day visit to Urumqi, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region of China.

The PM is participating in the 3rd Belt and Road Forum (BRF) for International Cooperation, 'taking place in Beijing from October 17 to 18. The premier is visiting China on the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Earlier, he received a red carpet welcome when arrived Beijing on his official visit. The PM is participating in the 3rd Belt and Road Forum (BRF) for International Cooperation, 'taking place in Beijing from October 17 to 18. The premier is visiting China on the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping.

During his visit to China, the Prime Minister will engage in bilateral meetings with President Xi Jinping, senior Chinese leaders, and other international dignitaries attending the Forum.

He will also meet with prominent Chinese business figures with the aim of bolstering bilateral trade and investment. This visit by the Prime Minister occurs within the context of the ten-year celebrations of the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which stands as a flagship project of China's Belt and Road Initiative.

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Advertisement for 'Dunya' newspaper, featuring contact information and a QR code. The text is in Urdu and English.

Quetta Bar Association condemns registration of FIR against BNP leaders

Staff Reporter:

QUETTA: The Quetta Bar Association President, Malik Abid Kakar Advocate, and General Secretary Changaiz Hai Baloch Advocate have strongly condemned the registration of an FIR against Balochistan National Party (BNP) leaders. In a condemning statement, they strongly condemned what they called the baseless FIR against the central leaders of the Balochistan National Party, Shakeela Naveed Dawar and Ghulam Nabi Marri. The lawyers' leaders stated that the caretaker provincial government has no power to make undemocratic decisions. Registration of FIR against political workers and a ban on peaceful assembly and procession.

For 75 years, there has been an unsuccessful attempt to stop the political process and



struggle in Balochistan in various ways, they observed. Blocking the political process will benefit those forces who are not well-wishers of Balochistan, the lawyers' leader stated. They mentioned that the registration of such baseless FIRs against political leadership is not a good practice as the consequences of stopping the political process are not positive but negative. Such actions will only increase hatred, they concluded.



KUALA LUMPUR: Pakistan Navy's former Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Muhammad Amjad Khan Niazi along with other recipients of award from different countries at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

PM predicts a bright future of Pak-China cooperation under CPEC: PM

BEIJING (INP): "Based on the principles of mutual trust and sharing, a bright future of Pakistan-China cooperation should be entirely predictable."

Pakistani Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar pointed out on Tuesday while attending the Pakistan-China Business Forum, according to China Economic Net (CEN).

Prime Minister Kakar noted that China and Pakistan are holding a series of celebrations for the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

And he was honored to participate in the third Belt and Road Summit Forum at such a special moment.

"Due to this unique all-round partnership, Pakistan's socio-economic development has under-

gone tremendous changes in the past decade.

Our infrastructure and technological levels have ushered in all-round upgrades, and the progress in the employment field has also been obvious to all," Kakar emphasized.

"For now, Pakistani society generally believes that cooperation has brought development and progress to Pakistan, reducing doubts caused by backwardness and misunderstandings.

At present, we should focus on how to keep this development and progress sustainable and extend the positive effects to our neighbors such as Afghanistan and other countries in the region."

Prime Minister Kakar emphasized that Pakistan is considering creating new growth drivers to in-

crease the well-being of the wider region, especially the majority of farmers.

At this point, both China and Pakistan are determined to strengthen regional trade, seek more cooperation opportunities, and provide services for dozens of countries. Billions of people are creating a better future.

"Next, the teams between the two countries will also conduct deeper cooperation discussions, focusing on diversification and innovation.

Based on the 2020 Industrial Cooperation Framework Agreement between the two sides, we will take a new step.

"We always welcome all partners with an open attitude and invite all willing Chinese companies to invest here," the PM expressed his expect earnestly.

Ashrafi urges OIC to take strong stance on Israel's bombardment of Palestine

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan Ulema Council Chairman Hafiz Muhammad Tahir Mahmood Ashrafi on Tuesday said it was almost 10th day that Israel was continuously doing bombardment on Palestine and particularly on Gaza causing casualties of innocent people of all ranks including women, children and civilians.

Talking to media persons, he said due to inhuman policies of Israel, the Palestinian people were suffering from shortage of food, water, medicines and other necessities of life adding that trucks carrying relief goods were queuing at the border of Egypt but, Israel was not giving permission to enter them in the territory.

Ashrafi urged the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)

to take a solid stance on the issue of Palestine in its meeting scheduled to be held on Wednesday.

He said Pakistan's Foreign Affairs Minister Ambassador Jilil Abbas Jilani was leaving for OIC's meeting expressing hope that he would make significant development on this issue. He said the Muslim world should not be silent spectator anymore and devise an effective strategic plan to deal with this long-standing issue with collective efforts in letter and spirit on permanent basis. He said the entire Muslim Ummah was united under the leadership of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as it is the centre point of all faithful around the world and moreover, it was at the helm of affairs of the OIC.

Ashrafi lamented that in the

United Nations Security Council, the resolution presented by Russia could not be passed as it aimed to stop the war between Palestine and Israel on the humanitarian grounds. He said it was a good omen that Russia and China were standing by the stance of Muslim countries on the issue of Palestine. He further said the United States (US) President Joe Biden was making an extraordinary wartime visit to Israel this week as he sought to demonstrate staunch support for the country. Beside other Muslim leadership, he appreciated the Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman for demanding to stop the Israel's aggression on Palestine in his recent meeting with US Secretary of State Antony Blinken.



ISLAMABAD: A beautiful and eye catching view of clouds hovering on the sky of capital city.



BEIJING: Chinese President Xi Jinping and First Lady, Madame Peng Liyuan welcomed Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar upon his arrival at Great Hall of the People to attend the banquet hosted by President Xi Jinping in honor of the leaders of the countries participating in the 3rd Belt and Road Forum, Beijing.

Pakistan's to learn from Malaysia's innovative approach, policies regarding rollout of 5G: Minister

ISLAMABAD (INP): Caretaker Federal Minister for IT and Telecom, Dr. Umar Saif, on Tuesday, expressed Pakistan's intention to learn from Malaysia's innovative approach and policies regarding the rollout of 5G. "Malaysia has rolled out 5G at a lightning pace using a very innovative Spectrum Sharing policy. We will work with our Malaysian counterparts to learn about their innovative approach and policies," the minister said. He was talking to a high-level delegation led by Fahim Fadzil minister for IT, Communication & Digital

Economy of Malaysia here in Dubai at the GITEX-23 Sideslines meeting. The meeting encompassed crucial technology topics with the objective of strengthening collaboration between the two nations.

During the meeting, Dr Umar Saif explored the realm of financial technology (Fintech) and touched upon Starlink, the satellite internet company, making inroads into Malaysia. The discussion extended to the potential implementation of LYNC, with a commitment to sharing experiences and knowledge. Dr. Umar

Saif drew attention to Pakistan's network coverage challenges, underscoring the importance of adopting best practices from the Malaysian Regulator. Both ministers engaged in a dialogue regarding Pakistan's path to adopting 5G technology and the challenges impeding this transition.

The Malaysian minister pledged to share best practices to facilitate this transition. The meeting also featured a discussion on the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and its potential benefits for both Pakistan.

Pakistan envoy emphasises science diplomacy to solve global problems

ISLAMABAD (INP): Ambassador of Pakistan in Belgium Amna Baloch on Tuesday underscored the need for science diplomacy and cooperation for solving global problems including food security and climate change.

The ambassador said this in an information session on Horizon Europe grant scheme held at the DG R&D, according to a press release. Ambassador of Pakistan Amna Baloch and EU Head of Delegation Ambassador Rina Kiona emphasized the need to foster research collaboration in order to address emerging global challenges and attain sustainable development goals.

Head of Unit (Global Approach and International Cooperation

in Asia) Nienke Buisman, in her opening remarks, shared the theme specific approach of Horizon Europe and the strategic focus of international cooperation.

Horizon Europe is the European Union's flagship funding program for research and innovation. It has a substantial budget of €95.5 billion and aims to support various areas of research and innovation to address challenges such as climate change and contribute to achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. This program spans a seven-year period (2021-2027) and is a successor to the Horizon 2020 program. During the information session, the audience was also briefed on modalities of participation from Pakistani entities in the Horizon Europe grant scheme by Senior Policy Officer Tania Friederichs.

Subsequently, experts from the European Commission shared details regarding diverse grants calls in the themes of agriculture, circular economy including sustainable textiles and disaster management. The participants were also informed on the scholar mobility options and funding available under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions.

In his closing remarks, Ambassador Syed Haider Shah highlighted the global need for leveraging science, technology and innovation for socio-economic development. He emphasized that such events would further enable deepening of research linkages between Pakistan and the EU. The event was attended by policy and academic stakeholders in Pakistan as well as by scientific diaspora in the EU.



QUETTA: BNP leader Malik Nasser Ahmed addressing a press conference.

Mass graves, ice-cream truck mortuary as bodies pile up in Gaza

GAZA STRIP (INP): As Gaza's hospital morgues overflow with victims killed in Israel's bombardment triggered by a deadly Hamas attack, even an ice-cream truck has been used to hold corpses before their burial.

Gaza interior ministry said on Tuesday that at least 49 Palestinians were killed in overnight Israeli strikes on homes in Khan Younis and Rafah. On the other hand, Israel's military said it killed four people who had tried to cross the fence bordering Lebanon and plant an explosive device.

Israel has been pounding Gaza targets for days, seeking to wipe out the enclave's rulers. Hamas after its militants broke through the militarised border barrier on October 7 to kill more than 1,400 people in southern Israel.

Israel's air strikes have claimed more than 2,800 lives in Gaza, where maximum capacity only for dozens are filling up more quickly than relatives can claim them.

Among them are multiple members of Talaat Abu Lashine's family. "Two shells fell on the house at dawn. Sixteen people were at home, including eight children, who were sleeping peacefully," he said.

In Gaza City a little further north, from where tens of thousands of inhabitants have fled Israel's warning to flee south ahead of an expected ground invasion, many bodies were simply left behind in the mortuaries. "Given the large number of martyrs lying unclaimed in the morgue of al-Shifa hospital, the deterioration of the corpses and the continued arrival" of dozens more, "a common grave has been prepared to bury around 100" of them, said Salama Maruf, head of the media bureau for the Hamas government that runs Gaza. Even body bags are now in short supply, said Philippe Lazzarini, the head of the UN agency for Palestinian refugees (UNRWA). "Every story coming out of Gaza is about survival, despair and loss," he

said. "Sometimes we don't even time to write the names" of the deceased, because there are just too many of them, said Ihsan al-Natour, who works at a cemetery in southern Gaza's Rafah.

"There are lots of children among the martyrs," he said, adding that "we are burying three or four in each grave."

Gaza's ministry of religious affairs has recommended using common graves because of the large numbers of deaths and a shortage of burial space, as Muslim funeral rites also require burials to take place as quickly as possible. Hamas, which has controlled the enclave since 2007, said Monday that 1,000 bodies could be still under the rubble and warned of diseases spreading. In Rafah, residents readied new graves, placing bricks and tiles around mounds of freshly dug earth. In one of them, three bodies of children were stacked on top of each other. There wasn't enough space to lay them to rest separately.