

QUETTA VOICE

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Political Landscape Shifts as PML-N Gains Momentum in Balochistan

IHC extends Nawaz's protective bail in Avenfield, Al-Azzia references till Oct 26

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court on Tuesday extended PML-N supremo Nawaz Sharif's protective bail in the Avenfield and Al-Azzia cases — in which he has been convicted — till October 26, after the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) said it had "no objections" to the plea filed by the deposed prime minister.

An IHC division bench, comprising Chief Justice Aamer Farooq and Justice Mianqul Hassan Aurangzeb, issued the order on Nawaz's petitions seeking protective bail in the cases and restoration of his appeals against his conviction.

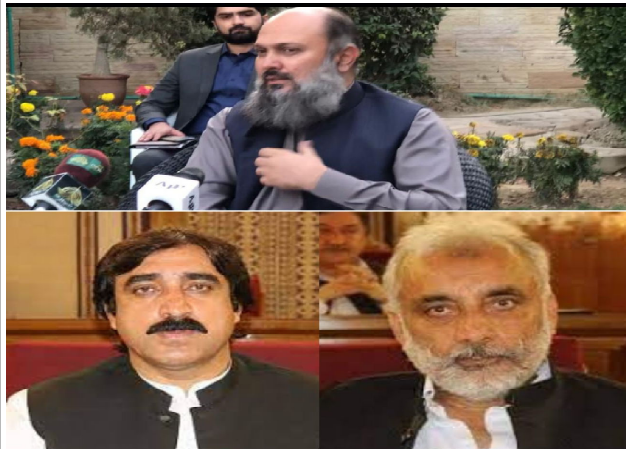


In July 2018, ousted Nawaz was handed 10 years in jail in the Avenfield properties corruption reference for owning assets beyond known income and one year for not cooperating with the NAB, which was to be served concurrently. The Al-Azzia Steel Mills corruption reference pertains to the case in which he was sentenced to seven years in jail on Dec 24, 2018 and then taken to Rawalpindi's Adiala Jail, from where he was shifted to Lahore's Kot Lakhpat jail next day.

He was also fined Rs1.5 billion and US\$25 million in the case. Nawaz was released from jail in March 2019, following which he left for London in November 2019 after the IHC allowed him to do so.

The IHC declared him a proclaimed offender in both cases in December 2020. Last week, the IHC had confirmed Nawaz's protective bail in the cases till Oct 24, paving the way for his homecoming on Oct 21.

During the proceedings today, Nawaz appeared before the court along with his brother Shehbaz Sharif and several other party leaders. NEWSDESK



Syed Ali Shah:

In a notable development, former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's return to Pakistan has set the stage for a significant political shift in Balochistan like in other provinces of the country.

It appears that prominent politicians and electables are poised to join the ranks of the Pakistan Muslim League (N), marking a pivotal change in the province's political landscape.

Leaked Audios Spark Hot Debate

The participation of thousands of supporters from the province at the PML-N's public meeting, where Nawaz Sharif was the keynote speaker, served as a clear indicator of the evolving political dynamics in Balochistan. Additionally, leaked audio recordings purportedly revealed former

provincial ministers associated with the ruling Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) instructing their supporters to align with the PML-N, further strengthening the notion of an imminent political transformation in the province.

Jam, Khetran, and Dumar Instructed Workers To Join the PML-N Meeting

Notable figures, including former Chief Minister Balochistan Jam Kamal Khan and former provincial ministers Noor Muhammad Dumar, Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran, and Muhammad Khan Lehari, mobilized their supporters to ensure the success of the PML-N's political gathering.

Sources within the PML-N suggest that these influential figures are on the verge of announcing their affiliation with the party, pending the finalization of negotiations.

Once Dormant Party Is Likely To Be A Dominant Force

This development follows a recent trend in which numerous electable and influential politicians from Balochistan had previously aligned with the Jamiat ul Ulema e Islam (JUI) and later the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP).

Now, it appears that the PML-N, a party with a history of strong electables and influential lawmakers, is set to reclaim its political influence in the province.

The unfolding political events indicate that the PML-N once considered a dormant political entity in Balochistan, is poised to become a dominant political force in the near future.

WHO calls for safe passage of fuel in Gaza as health ministry warns hospitals shutting down

GAZA: Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan has accused the United Nations Security Council of deepening the Gaza crisis by bowing to the "Israeli regime". AFP reports.

"The international community is not rising to the challenge in the face of the Israeli regime's unlawful and unrestrained attacks against civilians," Erdogan said in a statement, adding that the UN Security Council "has deepened the crisis with its one-sided attitude".

The Palestinian Authority's foreign minister has deplored inaction by the UN Security Council to stop "massacres" in Gaza by Israel, AFP reports.



"The ongoing massacres being deliberately and systematically and savagely perpetrated by Israel — the occupying power against the Palestinian civilian population under illegal occupation — must be stopped," Riyad al-Maliki told a special Security Council session.

"It is our collective human duty to stop them," he said. "Continued failure at this council is excusable."

Czech Prime Minister Petr Fiala and Austrian Chancellor Karl Nehammer will travel to Israel on Wednesday and meet its leaders, Fiala's spokesman told AFP.

Fiala and Nehammer will meet Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Isaac Herzog.

"The objective of the talks is support to Israel including coordination in the context of the European Council meeting scheduled for this week," spokesman Vaclav Smolka said. NEWSDESK

Alarming Rise in Cancer Cases: Balochistan Records Over 16,000 New Patients Annually

QUETTA: In a recent seminar held to mark Breast Cancer Awareness Month at a local hotel in Quetta, medical experts revealed a concerning trend in Balochistan, with over 16,000 new cancer patients diagnosed each year.

Cancer claims more than 40,000 lives annually: Dr. Khan

Professor Dr. Khan Muhammad Babar, a prominent health expert, emphasized that cancer claims more than 40,000 lives annually across Pakistan, and the rising numbers of cancer patients in Balochistan, particularly breast cancer cases, are indeed alarming.

Lack of Awareness Main Reason

The underlying causes of this trend, according to Mr. Babar, include a lack of awareness and the persistence of tribal and official taboos.

Medical experts highlighted that insufficient awareness and inadequate healthcare facilities in rural Balochistan are contributing to the increasing number of breast cancer patients, with the fatal disease claiming over 3,000 lives each year.

Dr. Achakzai calls for more serious efforts

Dr. Feroz Khan Achakzai, a young medical expert, emphasized the need for a more serious governmental approach to tackle the rampant issue of cancer.

He pointed out that a significant number of patients are diagnosed in a stage four, which is the most critical stage for any cancer patient.

Pakistan and Taliban Officials Discuss Border Management and Refugee Evacuation



Manan Mandokhail:

In a significant development, a flagship meeting was convened between Pakistani border management officials and representatives from the Taliban Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, Jan Achakzai, the Balochistan Caretaker Information Minister said. The primary focus of the meeting was to

discuss crucial border management issues, particularly concerning the evacuation of illegal Afghan refugees.

Patients' Issues Discussed: Jan Achakzai

Representing Pakistan at the meeting were Deputy Commissioner Chaman, Raja Athar Abbas, and FC Scout Commander Chaman, Umar Jabbar.

The high-level discussions addressed several key areas, with a strong emphasis on the challenges faced by patients at the border. Mr. Achakzai stated:

Key Points Discussed:

- 1: Border Management Issues:** The meeting served as a platform for both parties to deliberate on border management challenges and explore potential solutions.

The emphasis was placed on ensuring a smoother and more efficient cross-border experience.

2: Evacuation of Afghan Refugees: Central to the discussions was the provision of facilities for the safe and organized

evacuation of illegal Afghan refugees.

This reflects a collective effort to manage the humanitarian aspects of the Afghan refugee crisis.

3: Local Community Concerns: Recognizing the impact of border management on the local communities on both sides, the meeting aimed to foster a positive and collaborative environment for addressing common issues.

The parties agreed to continue consultations for the benefit of local communities and the one-document regime.

Deputy Commissioner Chaman, Raja Athar Abbas, expressed his commitment to providing full cooperation in resolving the problems faced by the local communities.

This commitment underscores the dedication of both Pakistan and the Taliban Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan to working together for the greater good, the Balochistan Information Minister mentioned.

Building Institutional Capacity of ACEB to Improve Transparency: Speakers

REPATRIATION OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

6 DAYS REMAINING

06

News Desk:

QUETTA: The Anticorruption Establishment Balochistan (ACEB) has successfully completed a training program for its administrative and IT teams at the Balochistan Civil Services Academy (BCSA).

This training was a significant step in the "Building Institutional Capacity of ACEB" project, which is financially supported by the U.S.

Embassy's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) and executed by the Accountability Lab Pakistan (ALP).

The training aimed to foster collaboration between BCSA, ACEB, and ALP.

2-Day Training Concluded

The two-day training primarily focused on enhancing the capabilities of the administrative and IT teams in the areas of the latest data management and archiving practices and advanced Microsoft Office applications. The knowledge acquired during this program will play a crucial role in maintaining and protecting sensitive case data related to the investigation and prosecution of financial crimes.

Officers To Manage Digital Information

Mr. Abdul Wahid Kakar, the Director of ACEB, emphasized that the workshop's objective was to equip the administrative and IT teams with the most up-to-date best practices, which will significantly improve their ability to manage digital information. He expressed his gratitude to INL and ALP for their support of ACEB.

Hafeez Jamali Addressed The Officers

Mr. Hafeez Jamali, Director General of the Balochistan Civil Services Academy (BCSA), addressed the workshop's participants and highlighted the institution's essential role in providing training for civil servants.

He underlined how enhancing the capacity of ACEB's officials would boost the efficiency and effectiveness of ACEB, ultimately contributing to greater accountability and governance within public sector institutions in the province. Mr. Jamali appreciated the support provided by INL and the Accountability Lab for this vital initiative, recognizing its critical significance for accountability and improved governance in Balochistan.



Improving Governance Is Our Objective: Asif Farooqui

The successful completion of this training program reaffirms ACEB's commitment to combating corruption and promoting good governance in the province of Balochistan, as mentioned by Asif Farooqui, Deputy Director of Programs of the Accountability Lab.

OPINION EDITOR

Editor: Asim Khan

Balochistan Battles Growing Cancer Cases – A Modern Hospital is Vital

Editorial:

Balochistan has grappled with a relentless increase in cancer cases over the past several years.

Alarming statistics provided by medical experts highlight the growing number of cancer patients in this underdeveloped province.

CENAR Hospital Reports 16,000 Cancer Patients

Each year, CENAR hospital in Quetta reports more than 16,000 new cancer patients. Regrettably, this is the sole facility dedicated to treating cancer patients in Balochistan. However, the hospital faces a shortage of medical experts and essential medications to effectively address the rising cancer patient load.

Over 3,000 Cancer Diagnosed Patients Succumb to Disease

Oncologists working at CENAR hospital have unveiled deeply concerning statistics regarding mortality rates. Shockingly, more than 3,000 cancer-diagnosed patients succumb to the disease in Balochistan annually. Moreover, unreported cancer cases remain undiagnosed and perish in remote regions of the province – add to this grim toll.

Despite official claims and announcements, healthcare facilities across the province remain woefully inadequate.

The dire consequences of neglect have compelled thousands of patients and their families to seek treatment at costly private hospitals in Karachi.

Lack of Awareness One Of The Reasons

Medical experts pinpoint several underlying factors contributing to this crisis: lack of awareness, pervasive unemployment, and limited access to quality healthcare. It's a troubling fact that most patients seek medical attention only in the advanced stages of cancer, drastically reducing their chances of recovery. While much has been said about this deadly disease, the establishment of a modern cancer hospital in Balochistan remains a long-unfulfilled promise. The provincial government allocates substantial funding – more than 40 billion rupees – to the health sector in every annual budget. However, the people are yet to witness any tangible relief in this regard.

The Lives Of Many Are At Stake

Given the alarming rise in cancer cases, it is imperative that the provincial government moves beyond rhetoric and takes concrete action to establish a premier Cancer Treatment Center. The lives of countless individuals are at stake, and immediate measures are needed to address this urgent healthcare crisis.

Course correction

By Jamil Ahmad:

ALL is set for the UN Climate Change Conference (COP28) next month in Dubai. The annual conclave comes in the wake of this year's record-breaking high temperatures, a worsening water crisis, wildfires, and floods in many parts of the world. World leaders, representatives of the financial sector, industry, CSOs, and climate activists are expected to congregate for crucial policy decisions on climate change.

COP28 takes the baton from COP27, aiming to refine policies and augment action in mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation including finance, technology, and capacity building.

An important addition to the agenda is the operationalisation of the Loss and Damage Fund established at last year's COP26 – a mechanism to assist transitional committee, entrusted with defining the structure and modalities of the Fund, is expected to finalise its proposals.

The first Global Stocktake report also identifies the need for increased adaptation action and enhanced efforts to avert, minimise and address loss and damage, for those who are least prepared for the impact of their individual

and collective effort to address climate change, and discuss challenges as well as take fresh measures for course correction and strengthening international cooperation on all the pillars of the Paris Agreement.

A synthesis report released last month towards the Paris goals, also indicates the need to do much more. In its 17 findings, the report points out "well-recognized gaps, such as the insufficiency of mitigation ambition to collect-2023 to assess the impact of their individual

On climate finance, the report emphasises the scaled-up mobilisation of support for developing countries, while

Means of implementation, particularly finance, have now become the central plank of the narrative for securing the Paris Agreement, and the SDGs deliberations on this subject at Dubai will be a key focus of the Summit and the Climate Ambition Summit held last month during the UN General Assembly, which urged concrete steps at COP28 for operationalising the Loss and Damage Fund. Another meeting convened in New York by Egypt, the current COP presidency and the UN Secretary-General, the incoming COP28 presidency – added its focus to calls in favour of early action on the fund.

However, there are still differences among governments on the modalities for the new financing mechanism, the criteria for securing and disbursing funds, and the qualification of countries to benefit from the facility. After two rounds of talks, the Loss and Damage transitional committee entrusted with providing answers to these questions has a challenging task ahead as it shapes its final recommendations.

Connoisseurs were eclectic, not rabid about the new fund. Richie Sober hit his six in Sabina Park, it didn't matter to Bappal or to his audience, who were shell-shocked, pummeled, an Indian or a Pakistani or an Australian.

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Balochistan on way to progress under the leadership of CM Mir Ali Mardan Domki

By: Manzoor Magis-

In a region historically

marred by challenges, the province of Balochistan is witnessing a renaissance

of leadership under Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Domki. His

proactive and dynamic approach, accompanied by a dedicated

team, has set the stage for a prosperous future for the province. Under his guidance,

Balochistan is not only experiencing a significant

infrastructure growth but also witnessing efforts to ensure fair and transparent elections,

thus solidifying the foundations of democracy.

A Vision for Prosperity:

Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Domki has

proven to be a visionary leader, committed to the welfare of the public. His tireless efforts are evident in his swift actions, which

are aimed at achieving sustainable development across various

sectors. One noteworthy aspect of his leadership is the meticulous attention given to development projects. The CM's frequent visits to these projects in Quetta highlight his dedication to monitoring progress and ensuring that they are executed efficiently.

Chief Minister's policy guidelines and vision for Balochistan's mineral sector especially Riqo Dik stride a significant step towards harnessing the province's untapped wealth. The articulation of a strategic approach, promotion of investor confidence, and emphasis on global exposure collectively provide a roadmap for transforming Balochistan's mineral sector into a catalyst for economic growth, job creation, and sustainable development.

Revolutionizing Public Transportation:

By personally traveling with passen-

gers on the Green Bus service, the CM has not only demonstrated his commitment to understanding the needs of the public but has also set an example for other leaders to follow. This move is a clear reflection of his people-centric approach, further enhancing his reputation as a leader who is in touch with ground realities.

Ensuring Law and Order:

In the lead-up to the upcoming elections, Chief Minister Domki and his team have taken on the responsibility of maintaining law and order. This step is crucial for the success of any democracy, as it guarantees a fair and transparent electoral process. By prioritizing the security of the province, Chief Minister Domki showcases his dedication to upholding democratic values and ensuring that the voice of the

people is heard without any hindrance.

Collaborative Leadership: Prime Minister Anwar ul Haq Kakar:

An integral part of Chief Minister Domki's journey towards progress is his collaboration with Prime Minister Anwar ul Haq Kakar. Chief Minister Domki's administration embodies optimism and dynamism, factors that are vital for the province's progress. As the province navigates towards a brighter future, it is evident that Chief Minister Domki's leadership is a beacon of hope. His visionary initiatives and collaborative spirit serve as a col-

lourgy to the potential of Balochistan, proving that with the right leadership, even the most challenging circumstances can be transformed into opportunities for growth.

The writer is a former Press Secretary to Chief Minister Balochistan, currently working as Assistant Director of Public Relations at the Government of Balochistan

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Collaborative Leadership: Prime Minister Anwar ul Haq Kakar:

An integral part of Chief Minister Domki's journey towards progress is his collaboration with Prime Minister Anwar ul Haq Kakar. Chief Minister Domki's administration embodies optimism and dynamism, factors that are vital for the province's progress. As the province navigates towards a brighter future, it is evident that Chief Minister Domki's leadership is a beacon of hope. His visionary initiatives and collaborative spirit serve as a col-

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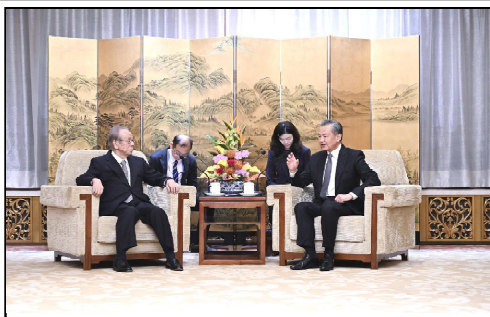
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Sanjrani condemns Israeli atrocities, hopes China to support just cause of Palestinians

BEIJING (INP): Chairman Senate of Pakistan, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani on Tuesday...

Chairman Senate congratulated China on its 74th Founding Anniversary earlier in the month...



CHINA: Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi met with the Japanese friendship delegation led by former Japanese Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda at the Daoyutai State Guest House in Beijing, capital of China.

China will assist Pakistan in enhancing its exports to China

ISLAMABAD (INP): During his recent visit to China, Pakistan's Minister of Commerce Dr. Gohar Ejaz signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Pakistan's behalf...

The Minister also engaged with Jin Weidong, President of Wellhope, a leading Chinese agri-producer...



CHINA: Pakistan's Johari Chaudhry poses for a photo with a Chinese businessman during the 3rd 'Belt and Road' International Cooperation Summit Forum.

Pak-China film award ceremony held to promote cultural exchanges

BEIJING (INP): Pak-China film award ceremony held here to promote cultural exchanges. Minister for National Heritage and Culture, Jamal Shah said...

Through the friendship of ordinary people from both China and Pakistan, the movie reflects the genuine bond between the two countries...

The role of the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) in facilitating these opportunities was a key point of conversation...



GAZA: Displaced children can be seen inside a school run by the United Nations agency for Palestinian refugees in the southern Gaza Strip.

PTI chairman cannot be produced in ECP contempt case: Ministry

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Ministry of Interior on Tuesday informed the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) that producing PTI chairman Imran Khan in a contempt case is a 'security risk'...

expressing concerns about his security. The Interior Ministry has recommended to ECP to hear the contempt case in the jail. During the hearing, ECP said how the Interior Ministry will hold peace-



CHINA/ZHEJIANG PROVINCE: Tian Jianchuan of China celebrates after winning the gold medal in the wheelchair fencing men's saber individual category A at the 4th Asian Para Games in Hangzhou, east China's Zhejiang Province.

Table with 3 columns: Date, Amount, and Name. It lists financial transactions or election results.

COAS Munir meets Palestinian envoy, expresses concern over Israel's 'unabated violence' in Gaza

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Gen Asim Munir on Tuesday expressed grave concern over the "indiscriminate killing" of Palestinians in Gaza and called on the international community to put an end to the "unlawful use of force" by the Israeli military.

He passed these remarks during a meeting with Palestinian Ambassador to Pakistan Ahmed Jawad Rabat at the General Headquarters in Rawalpindi, the military's media wing. According to the Palestinian health ministry in Gaza, more than 5,700 people, including over 2,000 children, have been killed in relentless Israeli bombing since October 7.

A humanitarian crisis has gripped the besieged enclave, with hospitals shutting down due to a shortage of fuel. In a press release issued today, the Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) said the army chief expressed condolences over the loss of Palestinian lives. "The COAS expressed grave concern over unabated violence and willful, indiscriminate killing of innocent civil-



ians by the Israeli Defence Forces in the war. Incessant attacks on the civilian population, schools, universities, aid workers, hospitals and the forced exodus of Palestinians from Gaza are manifest crimes against humanity," it stated.

The army chief also reiterated Pakistan's principled support for an "independent, viable and contiguous state of Palestine established on the basis of pre-1967 borders with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as

its capital". "Pakistan believes that the fresh spate of violence in Gaza is the result of unabated repression, continued human rights violations and state-sponsored sacrelige of Al Aqsa mosque. "Continuing this war with terrorism would be naive, taking a narrow and self-serving view of the issue as an isolated attack, obscures brutal oppression spanning decades that has led to this outcome," the ISPR quoted the COAS as saying. NEWS DESK



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar distributes cheques among the families of martyred polio workers and polio workers who got injured in the line of duty.

Dream to polio-free Pakistan to be fulfilled at every cost: PM Kakar

ISLAMABAD (INP): Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar on Tuesday said that the dream of polio-free Pakistan to be achieved at every cost and individuals propagating against the polio vaccination would be dealt accordingly.

Addressing a ceremony organized in connection with the World Polio Day here, the prime minister said, "I can assure that we gonna have it. We will never step back, may be an inch, may be a foot or may be a mile. This will always be a forth-going journey."

The event was organized by the Pakistan Polio Programme to pay homage to the resilience and dedication of frontline workers on World Polio Day which is commemorated on October 24 every year.

security personnel guarding them, the prime minister said they had paid the highest price for the cause.

He said the frontline health workers were the heroes of Pakistan, who were working in challenging environments, facing social barriers and even threats to their safety without ever losing their dedication.

PM Kakar also recognized the services of three police constables who were martyred while on polio duty and to two vaccinators who were injured. He also presented appreciation shields to the former coordinator of the Sindh EOC, Faraz Abbasi and the family of Huma Ashraf, who was severely injured in a train accident while on polio duty in September.

honored as motivation would be enhanced their performance.

He called for changing the narrative from "Pak Fights Polio" to "Pakistan Winning Over Polio."

He expressed the hope that the World Polio Day next year would mark the complete eradication of polio from Pakistan.

Federal Health Secretary Iftekhar Shallwani said the campaign was started in 1994 and continued across Pakistan with dedication to date with support from the aid agencies. Besides the polio drive, other related subjects including maternal and neonatal healthcare were also worked on, he added.

WHO Representative in Pakistan Palitha Mahipala said the Day was observed to commemorate the global journey. He said the Polio eradication was one of the major commitments made by the WHO which provided technical support to Pakistan. He said the day was not far when Pakistan would get rid of the crippling disease within next few years as the number of paralysis had sharply declined.

The prime minister also announced to personally visit Huma as a gesture to recognise her services in the mission of polio-free Pakistan.

"Today is a day to remember how far we have come and how crucial polio eradication efforts remain. Pakistan cannot be the reason to hold the world back. We must move forward to 2024 with the realization that the weight of global eradication lies on our shoulders."

We must leave no room for the virus to spread and reach every child with the vaccine before the virus has a chance to permanently change their lives," he remarked.

Caretaker Health Minister Nadeem Jan, in his address, paid homage to the polio workers who were striving to accomplish the mission of polio-free Pakistan while facing many odds and hardships.

He emphasized that the community health workers should be acknowledged and

recognized the sacrifices of the polio workers and the

Caretaker Federal Health Minister Dr Nadeem Jan, Federal Health Secretary Iftekhar Al Shallwani, representatives of polio partners Rotary, WHO and UNICEF, and frontline workers and their families attended the ceremony.

Premier Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar said by opposing the polio vaccine, the anti-vaxxers, intentionally or unintentionally, were partnering with the forces of darkness.

He emphasized the role of faith leaders and the society to make such people realize that they were actually partnering with the destroyer of the humans. This is unacceptable. We will resist this," he resolved.

He expressed his gratitude to the global partners who continued to supporting Pakistan in its endeavor of polio eradication.

Rotary's District Governor Mr Masrur J. Scherk highlighted his organization's support for polio eradication through funds, volunteering during campaigns, social mobilization of workers and installing solar water filtration plants.

Experts call for robust, financially independent LGs to improve governance

KARACHI (INP): The experts have called for robust, financially independent and inclusive local governments to improve governance and service delivery at the grassroots level for a sustainable social system ensuring a public friendly system to contribute towards nation building.

The put forth the demand during the consultative session organized by the Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives (CPDI) and Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (NFF) Pakistan to discuss implementation of the Sindh Local Government Act of 2013. Elected representatives, civil society members, media persons, academicians, local government experts, government officials, and representatives from local government training institutes reflected on the intricacies and challenges surrounding local governments in Pakistan, a news release said. During an informative session, CPDI Project Manager Moazzam Ali Janjua provided an in-depth overview of how to institutionalize the climate agenda within the local governments. He highlighted the role that can be played by the local governments in climate change adaptation and mitigation. He stressed for equitable climate financing to local governments to implement strategies and plans to face cli-



BEIJING: Chairman Senate of Pakistan, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjani on Tuesday delivered a speech at the International Symposium held in Beijing to Commemorate the 10th Anniversary of China's.

Occupied Palestine, Kashmir striking examples of UN's failure: Munir Akram

UNITED NATIONS (INP): Pakistan's Ambassador to the United Nations, Munir Akram has said that the UN has failed to secure the right to self-determination and liberation from foreign occupation for the peoples of Palestine and Kashmir.

In a message to the UN community on the world body's 79th anniversary, he said, "The ongoing slaughter of Palestinians in Gaza by the Israeli bombardment and the massive violations of human rights of the people of Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir are the most visible examples of the UN's failures."

In this regard, the Pakistani envoy called for reinforcing the UN's capacity to respond to the old and new threats to international peace and security, to halt and reverse emerging great power tensions and the new nuclear and conventional arms race, to revive

equitable and inclusive global economic growth, and to avert the existential threat posed by climate change.

"Despite the enormity of these challenges, the hopes of most of the world's peoples, especially the youth, remain pinned on the United Nations and on its active and sincere Secretary General." In the past 78 years, Ambassador Akram pointed out that the UN has played a vital role in preventing another global conflict, resolving numerous disputes, and promoting international peace and security, arms control, economic and social development and human rights around the world, adding that the organization had remained the international community's primary platform for cooperation amongst nation states for peace, progress and prosperity.

The UN has adapted its

structures considerably in response to emerging challenges and threats, in particular shifting its efforts from decolonization in the early years to equitable development, through the universally accepted Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Pakistani envoy said.

"While the UN can take justifiable pride in its many successes during the last 78 years, it has also fallen short of its Charter's vision in several ways. Most importantly, it failed to prevent aggression, for instance against Pakistan in 1971."

"Pakistan, he said, has a firm and abiding commitment to uphold the principles and purposes of the United Nations, and the country has played an active and leading role consistently in advancing the role of the United Nations in the pursuit of world peace, security and prosperity.

Contempt case against PTI chief, ECP summons interior secretary

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Tuesday summoned the interior secretary over non-compliance of presenting PTI chief before it in case of contempt of the electoral body.

Shoab Shahen, the counsel of chairman PTI who appeared before the ECP informed that his client could not be produced as the interior secretary had said his life was in danger.

Advocate Shahen said that it was an insult of the ECP. The commission had issued production orders for the PTI chairman but it was not implemented, he added. Punjab Police AIG (Operations) told the ECP that there are threats to the life of chairman

which he himself had expressed.

The head of the bench, Nisar Durrani, asked the police officer whether he believed that the PTI chief had said was true.

The AIG said that Rawalpindi is densely populated and the journey of PTI chief to the ECP is not safe. He showed his inability to produce the PTI chief before the ECP and suggested that the commission must get a written apology from the accused by itself.

Earlier, the AIG submitted a report to the ECP regarding the appearance of PTI chief in which the interior ministry asked the commission to go to Adiala Jail to hear the case.

On AIG's apology, the ECP summoned the interior secretary

on November 13.

The ECP expressed anguish on the interior secretary's apology and observed that if the department cannot provide security to a single person, how it [ECP] could hold general elections.

"How interior ministry can order the ECP" the head of the four-member bench asked.

The ministry of interior will not produce the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chairman before the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) due to security reasons. The ministry and Islamabad police have informed the ECP in this regard citing that production of former premier would be a security risk. The ministry issued the apology to the ECP.



GAZA: A truck loaded with relief supplies can be seen entering Gaza from the Rafah border in the southern city of Khan Yunis in the Gaza Strip.