

QUETTA VOICE

Editor :Asim khan

Thursday October 26,2023

dquettavoice@gmail.com

CS Balochistan directs commissioners to prepare for upcoming elections

Islamabad ATC issues perpetual arrest warrants for 9 PTI leaders in judicial complex attack case

ISLAMABAD: An Islamabad anti-terrorism court (ATC) on Wednesday issued perpetual arrest warrants for nine PTI leaders in a case relating to violence outside the Federal Judicial Complex (FJC).

Judge Abul Hasnat Zulqarnain issued arrest warrants for Hammad Azhar, Shibli Faraz, Murad Saeed, Omar Ayub Khan and Ali Amin Gandapur. Perpetual arrest warrants were also issued for Ali Nawaz Awan, Hassaan Khan Niazi, Umer Sultan and Muhammad Asim.



The court also issued arrest warrants for Farrukh Habib, who had parted ways with the PTI earlier this month.

The court came to the decision after the suspects' failure to appear before the court despite being summoned. The court directed that since the suspects had been declared proclaimed offenders, they should be apprehended and presented.

The case pertains to clashes between the police and PTI workers in March amid party chairman Imran Khan's appearance at the FJC in a hearing for the Toshakhana case. **NEWS DESK**

UN warns fuel shortage affecting aid operations in Gaza as death toll climbs to 6,546

GAZA: Israel has intensified its overnight bombing of southern Gaza, where officials said record numbers of Palestinians had been killed again, Reuters reports.

Health officials in the besieged enclave said many of those killed were in the south, where hundreds of thousands fled after Israel warned them it would attack the north. One strike brought down several apartment buildings in Khan Younis.

"This is something not normal, we have not heard something like this before," said Khader Abu Odah, one of many stunned residents waiting for an excavator to lift rubble so they could look for survivors.

Palestinians look on during a search for casualties at the site of Israeli strikes on houses, in Khan Younis, in the southern Gaza Strip, October 25, 2023. — Reuters

Scotland's First Minister Humza Yousaf has criticised British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and main opposition leader Keir Starmer for not calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. "How many more children have to die?" Scotland's first minister asked in a post on X.

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi has said he agreed with visiting French President Emmanuel Macron to work to contain the crisis in Gaza, introduce aid and seek to prevent other parties from entering the situation, Reuters reports.

Sisi said Macron understood that any displacement of Palestinians from the Gaza strip towards Egyptian territory would be "extremely dangerous". "We condemn all actions that affect all civilians and this should be addressed with one standard," Sisi added. **NEWS DESK**



Staff Reporter:

QUETTA: Under the leadership of Chief Secretary Balochistan, Shakil Qadir Khan, the province has made significant strides in several key areas, including oil trafficking, education, health, price control, and addressing the issue of illegal refugees and power theft.

Meeting focused on key issues

These accomplishments were the focus of a Divisional Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners Conference, which convened to assess various pertinent matters. The conference brought together high-ranking officials, including Secretary Industries Dr. Mohammad Akbar Harifal, Additional Chief Secretary of the Home Zahid Saleem, Senior Member Board of Revenue Hafiz Mohammad Tahir, Secretary of Health Aftandiar Khan Kakar, Secretary Law Kaleemullah Babar, Commissioner Quetta Hamza Shaifqat, and Director General Levis Khairullah

Kakar, among others, through a video link.

Ensure preparations for elections: CS

In his address to the conference, Chief Secretary Shakil Qadir Khan emphasized the importance of Deputy Commissioners adhering to the directives issued by the Election Commission and ensuring all preparations for upcoming elections are completed diligently.

He stressed that all government officials should take proactive steps to enhance service delivery within their respective institutions, emphasizing that public servants exist to serve the people. This commitment extends to providing essential services and facilities at the people's doorstep, with a particular focus on improving healthcare and education.

Visit all health units

The provincial government has already initiated measures to enhance

these crucial sectors, and Chief Secretary Shakil Qadir Khan urged all Deputy Commissioners to personally visit healthcare and educational facilities within their districts. They were instructed to verify staff attendance and ensure the consistent availability of necessary medicines in local hospitals.

Regarding the issue of illegal residents, the federal government has set a deadline of October 31 for such individuals to leave the country. Chief Secretary Shakil Qadir Khan reaffirmed that actions will be taken against Afghan and other foreign nationals without proper documentation.

Efforts to combat oil and sugar trafficking have shown improvement over the past month, contributing positively to the country's economy. To further enhance these efforts, Deputy Commissioners received instructions to provide the necessary No Objection Certificates (NOCs) to authorized dealers. **1**

Imran moves IHC against 'hasty' indictment in cipher case

ISLAMABAD: PTI Chairman Imran Khan on Wednesday petitioned the Islamabad High Court (IHC) against his indictment in the cipher case, calling on it to declare the exercise "illegal and unlawful".

The cipher case pertains to a diplomatic document that the charge sheet claims was never returned by Imran. The PTI alleges that the document contained a threat from the United States to oust Imran from office.

The PTI chief was convicted and sentenced to three years in prison in the Toshakhana graft case on Aug 5. The IHC suspended his sentence on August 29 but he remained in jail because he was on judicial remand in the cipher case.

On Sept 30, the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) had submitted a challan — a charge sheet — in a special court established under the Official Secrets Act naming PTI leader Shah Mahmood Qureshi and Imran as the principal accused in the case.



On Monday, both the PTI leaders were indicted in the case. According to sources, the two PTI leaders pleaded not guilty and subsequently, the judge summoned the witnesses on Oct 27 and asked the prosecution to place evidence to substantiate the allegation.

The judge had also rejected the application to stop the framing of charges against the two PTI leaders. Today, Imran filed a plea with the IHC through his lawyer Salman Safdar. The petition, a copy of which is available with Dawn.com, named the state through the attorney general's office and Ministry of Interior Secretary Yousuf Naseem Khokhar as respondents.

It said that the petitioner was "quite aggrieved" with the mode and manner of framing of charges as well as the proceedings and the trial under the Official Secrets Act. "The trial is clearly progressing, violating and compromising settled principles of 'criminal law' resulting in [a] grave miscarriage of justice," it said. It contended that the judge in the case, in "sheer haste, compromising fair trial and procedure, proceeded to frame charges against the accused despite serious objections. **NEWS DESK**

Quetta Polls: Voter Registration, Transfer, and Validation Extended to October 28

Manan Mandokhail:

QUETTA: Provincial Election Commissioner, Sharifullah, has announced an extension of the deadline for voter registration, transfer, and data validation. This decision, made in accordance with the Election Commission's announcement, aims to facilitate the public and encourage participation in the electoral process.

Representatives of political parties met the commissioner

Mr. Sharifullah expressed these views while meeting representatives of various political parties on Wednesday.

The new deadline is October 28, providing an additional three days for eligible voters to ensure the accuracy of their data, register, transfer their vote, or make necessary corrections.

Citizens are urged to seize this opportunity to exercise their voting rights effectively, the Provincial Election Commissioner said.



Voters Can Send ID Card Number to 8300

To register, transfer, or correct their voting details, voters can simply send their ID card number to 8300.

Additionally, for any type of correction, they can visit the respective District Election Commissioner's office.

The Election Commission of Pakistan announced to hold local bodies elections on November 30th in Quetta, the capital of Balochistan province. Almost all political parties are set to participate in the upcoming local bodies elections in the city.

Local bodies elections were held across Balochistan last year. However, LB elections were not held in the Lasbella and Quetta districts of the province.

Stop war, open urgent aid corridor to Gaza, Pakistan tells UNSC

UNITED NATIONS (INP): Pakistan's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Munir Akram demanded the immediate opening of the Aid Corridor to Gaza.

Addressing the Security Council meeting, he said that Pakistan demanded an immediate and unconditional ceasefire.

He warned that Israeli aggression could lead to a wider and more dangerous conflict.

Muneez Akram lamented that the ceasefire resolution could not be passed, placing heavy responsibility on those responsible for escalating the conflict.

"Continuation of the Israeli campaign in the Gaza will lead to further massive civilian casualties and could trigger a wider and more dangerous conflict," the Pakistani envoy told the meeting addressed by a total of 86 speakers from countries and regional groups — including more than 20 ministers — that pushed the conflict to the centre of

world geopolitics.

In his speech to the Security Council, Ambassador Akram conveyed Pakistan's full support and solidarity with Palestinian brothers and sisters in these tragic and challenging times.

Israel's relentless and indiscriminate bombardment of Gaza over the last 17 days has killed more than 5,000 people and injured another 15,000, the Pakistani envoy said, "strongly and unequivocally" condemning Israel's airstrikes and military actions in Gaza, particularly attacks on schools, residential buildings and hospitals.

Violations of international humanitarian law "These Israeli attacks on civilians, civilian objects and infrastructure, blockade of water, food and fuel as well as the forced transfer of people from the occupied territory, are flagrant violations of international humanitarian law and amount to war crimes," he said, adding, "Those responsible for these atrocity crimes must be held accountable."

Ambassador Akram regretted the Security Council has been unable to issue a call for a ceasefire. In this regard, a heavy responsibility rests on those who contribute to the prolongation of this conflict, he said. "Any attempt to create a false equivalence between Israel, the occupying power, and the Palestinians, the victims of this occupation, is untenable — legally, morally and politically," he added.

Akram demanded that the Council must reject Israel's attempts to displace the Gazans, within or outside Gaza.

Under international law, he said, the struggle of people living under foreign occupation for self-determination and national liberation is legitimate and cannot be equated with terrorism. "It is the suppression of this struggle, which is illegal," the Pakistani envoy said, pointing out that throughout history, colonial powers have portrayed national liberation movements as terrorism.

REPATRIATION OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

DAYS REMAINING

05

#1 @ GOVERNMENT

EDITORIAL

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 cases – individuals who 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 cancer 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 poverty, 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 Countless Individuals Are At Stake

Given the alarming rise in cancer, 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.

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

By: Manzoor Magsi:

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 industrial 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 for Balochistan's mineral sector especially Riqo Dik represent a significant stride 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 potential into a catalyst for economic growth, job creation, and sustainable development.

Revolutionizing Public Transportation: By personally traveling with passengers 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 security 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. With both leaders sharing an optimistic and collaborative vision, their collective efforts are poised to reshape Balochistan's trajectory. Prime Minister Kakar's dedication to the province's advancement is evident in his consistent day-and-night efforts, which mirror the values upheld by Chief Minister Domki. Under the leadership of Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Domki, Balochistan is undergoing a transformation that promises prosperity and development. His hands-on approach, as seen in his visits to development projects and personal engagement with public transportation initiatives, reflects his

dedication to the well-being of the people. Additionally, his commitment to ensuring law and order for upcoming elections underscores his belief in transparent democracy. Collaborating 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- oquy 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

Past is prelude

By Mahir Ali:

SOMEONE encountering the Middle East conflict for the first time in the current pages of the Western media could be excused for assuming that Palestinian-Israeli history began on Oct 7, 2023, with the spectacular Hamas breakout that led to unconscionable acts of violence in kibbutzim adjacent to the Gaza Strip.

Some of the victims, murdered or abducted, were peace activists, with mentalities far removed from the belligerent attitudes of all too many illegal West Bank settlers. Primarily, though, they were human beings subjected to the kind of violence no one should have to endure. Much the same could be said about what Palestinians have been subjected to since 1948, with the effort redoubled in 1967.

But in reckoning with what became of Palestine, one should go back at least to the Balfour Declaration, 1917, wherein colonial Britain offered Zionists a homeland for European Jews, who suffered under outrageous anti-Semitism long before the Nazis emerged and adopted extermination as an exemplar of extreme misanthropy.

Before adopting the unspeakable concept of a 'final solution', however, the Nazis toyed with the idea of mass expulsion. Madagascar was once seen as a possible destination, and they weren't entirely averse to Palestine as an alternative. This led to a degree of Nazi-Zionist symbiosis, which has been anathematised as a wicked lie despite historical evidence.

The collective punishment being inflicted on Gaza, supposedly with the aim of obliterating Hamas, has many antecedents. The Nazis were particularly enthusiastic – in the outskirts of Prague, in what is now the Czech Republic, and Oradour-sur-Glane stand out as particularly egregious revanchist massacres – but it carried on despite the 'never again' vows, with the US and its allies establishing landmarks from Korea and Vietnam to Iraq and Afghanistan.

So it should come as no surprise that Israel's emergence as an expert raises few hackles. It does help to explain, though, why far-right groups and governments from the US and Europe to India and even the Middle East admire Israel's ruthless pursuit of ethno-nationalist fantasies, even though it can involve murky moral compromises. The mainstream Western media, for instance, is unlikely to delve too deeply into Israel's facilitation of the Muslim Brotherhood in the 1980s as a counter-colonialising means. L i b e r a t i o n .org

Trying for a fourth term

By Zahid Hussain:

CALL it a game of chess, or musical chairs. It has long been played on the country's political stage. The pain is interchangeable, and so is the occupant of the chair. Nawaz Sharif's return in four years self-exile seems very much a part of the plot. It was certainly not the last time that the dissenter that the former prime minister appeared to be when he was allowed by the court to go abroad for medical treatment under a pledge that he would return to the country to serve his sentence.

He has now returned four years later to VIP protocol, signifying the changing sands of Pakistani politics. Claimed an absconder, Nawaz Sharif was already granted bail by the court before he landed at Islamabad airport. Ahead of the elections, his supporters believe that a fourth term as prime minister is assured. Predictably, his speech at Lahore's Minar-i-Pakistan lacked defiance and anti-establishment rhetoric. It was more about the personal grief he went through while in detention. There was no mention of 'voto ko izzad' do as long as he was back in the good books of the powers that be.

It was indeed an impressive show in terms of the crowd bussed in from across the province, but missing was the kind of welcome usually given to popular leaders. He has returned to a country that has changed over the past few months. The stage for Sharif's return was set after the formation of the PML-N-led government, with his brother as prime minister in Pakistan. Politics of the PTI government in April 2022.

It was a dramatic shift in Pakistani politics with the end of the hybrid rule under Imran Khan. It brought together the establishment in a new power arrangement. Sharif was waited for another 18 months to get all the legal hurdles removed before ending his self-exile and making a bid for another term in the top office. It was a done deal.

There was nothing unusual about this shifting of allegiances in Pakistan's political power game. The fall from grace of Imran Khan led to another round of hybrid rule with the return of the PML-N as the establishment's partner. If support and the planned Sharif's return to power. One thing is clear: the three former prime minister, who was never allowed to complete his full term in office in the past, are now all set to undertake a second such campaign. Post-colonial history and the anti-colonial struggle seemed dim in its capacity to stop future occupations. The formerly colonised and oppressed nations seemed to offer proof of this as neo-colonial settlers from the US Nato set about undertaking a second such campaign. Post-colonial history and the anti-colonial struggle seemed dim in its capacity to stop future occupations. The formerly colonised and oppressed nations seemed to offer proof of this as neo-colonial settlers from the US Nato set about undertaking a second such campaign. Post-colonial history and the anti-colonial struggle seemed dim in its capacity to stop future occupations. The formerly colonised and oppressed nations seemed to offer proof of this as neo-colonial settlers from the US Nato set about undertaking a second such campaign.

It is evident that the planned decimation of the PTI has the blessing of the PML-N, so it was not surprising that there was no mention in Nawaz Sharif's speech about democracy and civilian supremacy. Soon after his return, a special court indicted Imran Khan and former foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi under the Official Secrets Act in the cipher rule with the return of the PML-N as the establishment's tacit support and the planned Sharif's return to power. One thing is clear: the three former prime minister, who was never allowed to complete his full term in office in the past, are now all set to undertake a second such campaign. Post-colonial history and the anti-colonial struggle seemed dim in its capacity to stop future occupations. The formerly colonised and oppressed nations seemed to offer proof of this as neo-colonial settlers from the US Nato set about undertaking a second such campaign.

It will be difficult for the party to go into elections without fresh ideas or a concrete programme to help it win back the support of its erstwhile voters. The weak democratic process as well as strengthened non-elected forces. History is repeating itself – more as a farce. Despite his favourable situation, Sharif still has many hurdles to overcome. There is a long way to go before he can get the coveted post for a fourth term. There are some legal questions about his eligibility to contest in elections so long as his conviction remains. A recent Supreme Court ruling closed the window for a review petition regarding his conviction. It is going to be a long legal battle for him to be cleared. The increasing stranglehold of the Sharif family over the party is also a serious impediment to the return of the PML-N's political base. What the PML-N leadership has not realised is that the young generation and the urban middle classes are looking for a change in the status quo. Nawaz Sharif's speech did not give any indication of his willingness to change course. The party can come to power with the support of the establishment through dubious elections. But it cannot bring political stability to the country.

By Rafia Zakaria:

THE history of South Asia and most other outposts of the British (or the Dutch or French) is replete with the struggles of the ancestors of contemporary populations against colonialisers who occupied the subcontinent for over two centuries. The sun turned off post-colonial history taught in most of the countries created as a sun set on the British Empire, in fact, a compendium of the struggles of heroic fighters and thinkers who paved the way for independence. Generations of people educated at post-colonial nations have grown up with a consciousness of a once-glorious past that was interrupted by the machinations of colonial powers, who inveigled their way into South Asia or Africa or any of

the many other places that were 'discovered' by white explorers in their quest to find resources to monopolise and people to subjugate, and lands to occupy. The advent of the British East India Company or the Dutch East India Company saw the deployment of 'trade' agents who sought to amass raw materials that the future colonisers set about monopolising. Everyone knows what happened next: trade gave way to administration, and doddering monarchies or tribal kingdoms were converted into colonies that were ruled by the white men who had first presented their presence and their intentions as benign. The history of colonialism and the fact that it led to the looting of vast portions of the world for the benefit of

white and Western home populations is thus well known by those who suffered under the yoke of colonial occupation. It is, however, markedly less well known by the populations of post-colonial nations. In the UK, many still insist that the British colonisers were 'benevolent' and brought 'good things to the subcontinent, notwithstanding the compelling evidence of damage or pillage of former colonies. There is still awareness of the hobbling down existing systems of law, administration and cultural production that followed the colonialisation of departments in the UK and US have attempted to correct this incorrect recollection of the past. In the American context, post-colonial historians have focused on the lie of 'colonisation' as a popularised premise that

Western world have occurred over the years. In the UK, British Muslim populations – the progeny of British Americans who had migrated from Pakistan, entered a third generation. The children of the former colonisers are now a part of the former colonial power. In the US, the efforts of Black Americans, whose ancestors had been forced onto ships as Atlantic slave trade, exposed how so much of the country had been built on the formerly enslaved. The exploitation of these slaves and the organised campaign against Native Americans took place simultaneously. In the case of Native Americans, tribal lands were decimated and their lands taken over and occupied, often through the use of despicable tactics such as

The anti-colonialist

distributing blankets in winter without consent. Even so, the prospects of post-colonial history and the anti-colonial struggle seemed dim in its capacity to stop future occupations. The formerly colonised and oppressed nations seemed to offer proof of this as neo-colonial settlers from the US Nato set about undertaking a second such campaign. Post-colonial history and the anti-colonial struggle seemed dim in its capacity to stop future occupations. The formerly colonised and oppressed nations seemed to offer proof of this as neo-colonial settlers from the US Nato set about undertaking a second such campaign. Post-colonial history and the anti-colonial struggle seemed dim in its capacity to stop future occupations. The formerly colonised and oppressed nations seemed to offer proof of this as neo-colonial settlers from the US Nato set about undertaking a second such campaign. Post-colonial history and the anti-colonial struggle seemed dim in its capacity to stop future occupations. The formerly colonised and oppressed nations seemed to offer proof of this as neo-colonial settlers from the US Nato set about undertaking a second such campaign. Post-colonial history and the anti-colonial struggle seemed dim in its capacity to stop future occupations. The formerly colonised and oppressed nations seemed to offer proof of this as neo-colonial settlers from the US Nato set about undertaking a second such campaign.

Thar Block II generates over 17,000 jobs for locals

ISLAMABAD (INP): The power plants at Engro Thar Block II, developed within the framework of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), serve as more than just coal-fired stations utilizing indigenous resources to generate power for the country. Gwadar Pro reported on Wednesday.

In fact, the development of Thar Block II has resulted in the creation of over 17,000 employment opportunities for the local community.

Khushhal Thar, an initiative by the Sindh Engro Coal Mining Company (SECMC), has played a pivotal role in providing the local community access to employment across various projects

in Block II. The Gwadar Pro quoting a statement issued by SEMSC, stated "To promote inclusivity, Khushhal Thar has facilitated over 28,000 employment opportunities, accounting for a significant 61% of the total employment in Thar Block II."

This indicates that 17,080 individuals, making up 61% of the total workforce, have been engaged in various roles within Thar Block II.

The statement, released on Tuesday evening, further emphasizes SECMC's commitment to empowering the local community.

In order to prioritize locals for industry-specific and labor-intensive positions

within Block II, where the nine-month power plant is located, Khushhal Thar was established.

It operates as a local database using a first-come, first-served approach to providing employment opportunities.

Khushhal Thar has proven to be effective in enabling locals to secure jobs in various projects within Thar.

SECMC is a joint venture between the Government of Sindh and Engro Powergen, formed to extract coal reserves in Sindh.

The 660MW Engro Thar Coal Power Project, developed under CPEC at Thar Block II and executed by Engro PowerGen Thar Ltd.,

China Machinery Engineering Corporation (CMEC), was completed in 2019 and is currently operational.

The 330MW HUBCO Thar Coal Power Project (Thar Energy) is another coal-fired station at Thar Block II executed and sponsored by HUBCO, FFC, and CMEC.

The project, completed on September 30, 2023, is currently operational.

The 330MW HUBCO Thar Coal Power Project is another initiative under CPEC in Thar Block II, also financed and executed by HUBCO, FFC, and CMEC. Completed on February 17, 2023, the project is currently operational.



ISLAMABAD: President Dr. Arif Alvi in a group photo with senior members of the Pakistan Girl Guides Association.

Lawyer Aitzaz Ahsan moves SC against 'enforced disappearances' of citizens

ISLAMABAD: Former senator and senior lawyer Aitzaz Ahsan on Wednesday filed a constitutional petition in the Supreme Court to "challenge the illegal and unlawful practice of enforced disappearances".

The move comes amid the PTI's complaints as it faces a months-long crackdown following the May 9 riots that occurred due to party chairman Imran Khan's arrest.

Last month, anchorperson Imran Riaz Khan was back home after remaining missing for four months.

This month, four PTI-affiliated politicians who were said to have been "missing"—namely Farrukh Habib, Usman Dar, Sadaqat Ali Abbasi and Sheikh Rashid, resurfaced and condemned the party's policies. Today, Ahsan filed the petition under Article 184(3) of the Constitution (original jurisdiction of Supreme Court) through senior advocate Sardar Latif Khosa.

The plea has made the state the government and its four provinces, the Islamabad KP and the Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappear-

ances' (CIED) respondents in the case. He urged the apex court to accept the instant petition and declare that enforced disappearances are "violation of interalia, Articles 4 (right of individuals to be dealt with in accordance with law, etc), 9 (security of person), 10 (safeguards as to arrest and detention), 14 (inviolability of dignity of man, etc), 19 (freedom of speech, etc) and 25 (equality of citizens) of the Constitution."

The petition further requested the top court to declare that the Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances "does not adequately comply with legal and international standards".

Instead, Ahsan sought the formation of an "effective and purposeful commission" led by a Supreme Court justice with two years ahead of them in office and comprising 11 others—including presidents of the Pakistan Bar Council and the high courts' bar associations, chairpersons of Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) and National Commission on Status of Women. The proposed commission would also include the director general (DG) of the Inter-Services Intelligence, the additional DG of the Intelligence Bureau and the Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists president.

The plea urged the apex court to "direct the concerned authority to ensure legal and international standards in formation of the commission, so that the amount expended out of the national exchequer for its expenses should be accounted for".

He further requested for directives to be issued to the federal government and the provincial governments to submit a list of all disappeared persons in state custody to the court. The petition also sought directives to the same parties to "prepare and submit a report probing and identifying the

law enforcement and other officers responsible for the practice of enforced disappearances" in the Supreme Court within four weeks.

Lastly, it asked the court to "issue a writ of habeas corpus for the release of disappeared persons in the custody of the State, and, order that all such disappeared persons be produced within four weeks" before a high court of competent jurisdiction.

In the plea, Ahsan contended that "recently, there has been a surge of enforced disappearances and reappearances" of citizens. "Such victims include journalists, politicians, bureaucrats and other dissenting voices," he added.

NEWS DESK



RAWALPINDI: Secretary Defence, Lt Gen (R) Hamood uz Zaman Khan and Brunei Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Defence Brunei Dausslam, Brig Gen (R) Dato Seri Pahlawan Haji Aliurupendi Bin Haji Ferudin signing MoU at minister of Defence.

Pakistani handicraft enterprise aiming to increase offline presence in China

BEIJING (INP): "We have many partnerships, and people enjoy using our products. We foresee an increase in the number of our physical stores in China," said Yang Han, sales manager of a China-based Pakistan art enterprise, told China Economic Net (CEN) in an exclusive interview at the 2023 Beijing International Cultural and Tourism Consumption Expo.

The Pakistani brand, specializing in premium hand-made scarves and carpets from Pakistan, India and Iran, normally arrive in Hangzhou first, and then they are distributed to offline shops in other cities, leveraging our established relationships," he concluded.

Held from October 20 to 22 in Beijing, the tourism expo spanned 20,000 square metres, featuring over 350 institutions and enterprises from 18 countries worldwide alongside 20 provinces in China. "This year, we also participated in the China International Fair

For Trade In Service (CIFTIS)," said Yang. "We plan to distribute our products from Hangzhou to various other cities, leveraging our established relationships," he concluded.

Held from October 20 to 22 in Beijing, the tourism expo spanned 20,000 square metres, featuring over 350 institutions and enterprises from 18 countries worldwide alongside 20 provinces in China.

25% cut in salaries as KP govt decides to impose financial emergency in province

PESHAWAR (INP): The caretaker government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has decided to impose financial emergency in the province with a proposal to slash salaries of its employees by 25 percent, sources said on Wednesday.

In order to save the province from default, a raft of recommendations including cut in pays has been readied. According to government sources, a high-level meeting was held at the Finance

Department in Peshawar in which it was decided to slash salaries of the government employees by 25 percent and a summary in this regard will be forwarded to the caretaker chief minister.

The huddle at the Finance Department reviewed in detail the financial crisis being faced by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government and deliberated upon a set of options to save the province from default, the sources divulged.

Another proposal they focus on three particular options to bring the financial crisis under control, the sources said and added, one of the recommendations was to withdraw the 35 percent increase in salaries of the government employees announced in the last budget, which would save Rs9 billion every month if implemented.

Another option was to slash salaries by 25 percent which would save Rs8 billion monthly if applied.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Minister for National Food Security and Research Dr. Kausar Malik unveiling the plaque to inaugurate the China-Pakistan Joint Research Center on Earthquake at Qaidir Azam University. Ambassador of People's Republic of China to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong also present.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for IT and Telecommunication, Dr. Umar Saif, and Caretaker Federal Minister for Information & Broadcasting, Murtaza Solangi addressing Press Conference.

China-Pakistan Youth Community helps flood victims in Bahawalnagar

ISLAMABAD (INP): In a display of solidarity and generosity, the China-Pakistan Youth Exchange Community (CPYEC) recently distributed flood packages to 300 flood-affected families, which are expected to benefit more than 1,800 people in Bahawalnagar and surrounding disaster areas.

The heart-warming drive was organized in collaboration with the Beijing One Heart Sphere Charity Foundation, according to Gwadar Pro's report. CPYEC is a non-profit organization that aims to promote cultural exchange and mutual understanding between the youth of China and Pakistan.

The organization has been actively involved in various social and humanitarian initiatives in Pakistan, including disaster relief efforts.

TENDER NOTICE

The SPI ADMIN, CPOD-QUETTA invites bids from eligible Bidders for supply of following items: TSE-232410356481

Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. Tender Fee Rs. 1000/-

S.No.	Class of Object	Bid Security
1	Fuels and Fuel Additives and Lubricants and Anti-corrosive Materials (Total Items) Count: 1	5%

Procurements shall be made under the Bidding System Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Submissions of Similar Nature and Complexity 1,000,000 in Previous 3. Turn over of at least 1,000,000 PKR in 3 Subsequent Previous Years. Presence in Active Tax Payer List. Sales Tax Certificate. The bidding firm must not be currently blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. JV is not permissible. Submission of the required Bid Security in case Bid Security is not found as required during financial evaluation the bidding firm shall be declared as ineligible and non-responsive. Submission of the required Bidding Document Fee. Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Deposit at Call of 5% as specified above in the name of the undersigned from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the undersigned 1,000 PKR Issuance of Tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 08 November, 2023 during office hours on working days Last Date of bid submission: The tenders must be submitted latest by 08 November, 2023 till 12:30 PM Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the undersigned at 01:30 PM Address: Deputy Inspector General of Police Office, Zanghoom Road Quetta. Phone no: 0816201294. Fax no: 0816202142. Email: mehabibshah19122000@gmail.com

SSP ADMIN, FOR DY. INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE QUETTA

PRO No. 832/25-10-2023

Canadian firm expresses interest to invest in KP mining sector

PESHAWAR (INP): A Canadian company has expressed interest to invest in the exploration and mining of the precious natural resources of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in accordance with international standard.

The offer was made during a meeting of a delegation of the Lytan Copper, a Canadian company with the KP Caretaker Minister for Industries, Commerce and Technical Education (IC&TE), Dr. Aamir Abdullah in Civil Secretariat here Wednesday. Chairman of the company David Michal Thompson was leading the delegation.

Besides, Secretary Mines and Mineral Department Hamidullah Shah and Director (Exploration) Mohammad Aamir, other concerned authorities were also present on the occasion.

During the meeting, the officials of the company told the caretaker minister regarding various aspects of their activities in the mineral sector and

expressed interest in making investment in the mineral sector, particularly in the reserves of the copper.

Speaking on occasion, the Provincial Minister for Industries, Commerce and Technical Education termed their interest of investment in the mining sector as welcoming and assured them provision of all possible facilities to them.

He told the delegation that the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Board of Investment and Trade (KP-BoIT) as facilitation organization will provide them full facilities.

He said that the provincial government is establishing a mineral specified industrial zones in the mineral rich areas to facilitate investors at the local level.

On this occasion, the delegation was also given a briefing on investment opportunities at various places and availability of the natural resources as well.

BISP stands as an exemplary social safety program: BISP Chairperson

ISLAMABAD Oct 25 (INP): Chairperson of the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), Dr. Muhammad Aamir Saqib Wednesday said that BISP was an exemplary social safety program serving nearly one million needy families across the country. He said that BISP was tirelessly caring for its needy beneficiaries with limited resources, embodying the essence of a welfare state. He expressed these views during his visit to Jamia Masjid Mian Umar Dm in Gujranwala, where he addressed gathering of dedicated BISP staff representing districts of Gujranwala, Gujrat, Hafizabad, and Sialkot, said a news release.

Dr. Aamir Saqib emphasized the significance of the cash assistance provided by BISP to the needy families. This financial aid played a pivotal role in enabling them to meet essential domestic expenses, invest in their children's education, and secure their next meal, he said.

The chairperson said that



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairing a review meeting on the anti-power theft campaign.

Country's exports to be further improved with Chinese investment in SEZs: SCCI

PESHAWAR (INP): Sarhad Chamber of Commerce and Industry president Fuad Ishaq termed the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) as a guarantee for regional development and prosperity and emphasized the need for timely completion of Special Economic Zones under the CPEC.

Fuad Ishaq hoped the country's exports would be further enhanced by Chinese investment in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and strengthened industrial capacity building. He said CPEC projects will bring good investment prospects for the country. Timely completion of special

economic zones under CPEC would generate further economic activities and employment opportunities and lead the national economy and country toward stabilization, the SCCI chief asserted. Fuad Ishaq made these remarks during his visit to China Window (Chinese Culture Centre) in Peshawar, said a press release issued here on Monday. Accompanied by the SCCI Secretary General Sajjad Aziz, the chamber president said China-Pakistan relations further strengthened with the passage of time, and the roots of this Sino-Pak friendship are in people of the both countries. He said the Pa-

kistani nation was highly proud of friendship with China and expressed full trust in it. He witnessed various galleries and signed on the friendship wall during a visit to the China Window. Later, the SCCI chief talking to the media said the Road and Belt Initiative (BRI) forum not only provided opportunities for leaders of different countries to hold debates on the benefits and fruits of this multi-billion dollar CPEC project but has also opened a new chapter partnership for more than 140 countries and economic progress after announcement regarding BRI by Chinese president during



ISLAMABAD: High Commissioner of Australia Neil Hawkins called on Federal Minister for Privatisation Fawad Hasan Fawad.

Lahore retains top spot as most polluted city in the world

LAHORE (INP): Lahore continues to top the list of world's most polluted cities consecutively for the past few days, as its Air Quality Index (AQI) on Wednesday morning was recorded at the 'Hazardous' level of above 320.

According to IQAIR, a Swiss air quality monitor, Lahore had the highest level of pollution in its air in the world on Wednesday also, which was categorised as 'Hazardous' with its air quality index measured at 323 in the morning.

The PM2.5 (particulate matter) concentration in the capital city of Punjab was re-

corded at 54.5 times higher than the WHO annual air quality guideline value.

PM2.5 refers to fine particulate matter with a diameter of less than 2.5 micrometers. The term is employed to characterize the levels of particles in both outdoor and indoor environments. Also Read: Lahore, Karachi among top 3 most polluted cities in the world

Within Lahore, the most polluted areas were found to be The Mall road area with the highest AQI of 374, followed by the Lahore American School area and Polo Ground in Cantt. The air quality of

Lahore has consistently remained unhealthy, not just over the past couple of months, but also in the last few years with the onset of the 'fifth season' of smog. The air quality levels continue to dip after September until at least February.

According to the IQAIR data, the second most polluted city in the world was New Delhi, India, with an air quality index of 210 ('Very Unhealthy'). The third most polluted city in the world on Wednesday morning was Chengdu in China with an air quality index of 179, categorized as 'Unhealthy'.

Karachi Traffic Police increase fines for violating traffic rules

KARACHI (INP): Karachi Traffic Police has increased the amount of fines for violating traffic rules, effective November 1.

According to police, riding a motorcycle in the wrong direction on the road in Shahr Quaid will result in a fine of Rs 2,000, while driving a car or jeep will incur a fine of Rs 3,000. Similarly, a fine of Rs 4,000 will be imposed on light traffic vehicles, and Rs 5,000 on heavy traffic vehicles.

Disregarding or disobeying a traffic signal will result in a fine of Rs 500 for motorcycles, Rs 500 for cars and jeeps, and Rs 1,000 for light and heavy traffic vehicles.

Riding a motorcycle without a safety helmet will incur a fine of Rs 500.

Careless and reckless driving will result in fines of Rs 1,200 for motorcycles, Rs 1,500 for cars or jeeps, Rs 2,000 for light traffic vehicles, and Rs 2,500 for heavy traffic vehicles.

Driving without a valid driving license will result in fines of Rs 1,000 for motorcycles, Rs 1,500 for cars or jeeps, Rs 2,000 for light traffic vehicles, and Rs 2,500 for heavy traffic vehicles.

Driving an unregistered motorcycle will incur a fine of Rs 700, while a car or jeep will be fined Rs 1,000, a light traffic vehicle Rs 1,500, and a heavy traffic vehicle Rs 2,000.

Allowing a minor to drive will result in fines of Rs 1,500 for motorcycles, Rs 2,000 for cars or jeeps, Rs 3,000 for light traffic

vehicles, and Rs 4,000 for heavy traffic vehicles.

Exceeding the prescribed speed limit will result in fines of Rs 700 for motorcycles, Rs 1,000 for cars or jeeps, Rs 1,500 for light traffic vehicles, and Rs 2,000 for heavy traffic vehicles. Carrying more passengers than allowed in passenger vehicles will incur a fine of 600 for cars or jeeps, Rs 1,500 for light traffic vehicles, and Rs 2,000 for heavy traffic vehicles.

Overloading vehicles carrying goods will result in a fine of Rs 1,000 for light traffic vehicles and Rs 1,500 for heavy traffic vehicles.

The increased fines will take effect on November 1, and citizens are urged to comply with the law to avoid any inconvenience.



ISLAMABAD: EDG/PIO Dr. Tariq Mahmood Khan in a meeting with a delegation of Rawalpindi Islamabad Bureaus Journalists Association (RIBJA) at PID Headquarters.

ECP issues invitation for foreign election observers

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has issued invitation for the foreign election observers on Wednesday.

The ECP has announced an 'open door policy' for domestic as well as foreign observers for the sake of transparency of the upcoming general election. "It will be compulsory for foreign observers to get accredited them with the election commission after their arrival in Pakistan," the ECP has said in a statement.

"The observers could submit their particulars at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs 'Pakistan Online Portal' for issuance of visa," election commission stated.

Accreditation Form can be downloaded from the website of the election commission.

"Accreditation form will not be issued to the individual having political affiliations," ECP said.

The ECP has also clarified that security clearance will be compulsory for the foreign election observers. "Foreign election observers will submit their reports about irregularities in electoral process and will also present their recommendations to improve the election process," ECP added.

The election commission earlier decided to invite foreign observers and media for the upcoming general elections. "All preparations for invitation to foreign

election observers and media, have been completed and a code of conduct has been finalized," election commission sources said.

The foreign observers will be issued invitations as and when the election schedule will be announced, sources said.

The election commission will issue cards to election observers and the media with special security features," sources said. "Foreign observers and media will be given access to enter polling stations," according to sources. "Foreign observers could also inspect transparency of the vote counting and compilation of the election results," sources added.



QUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Minister for sports Navabzada Jamal Resani addressing a press conference.

Islamabad Police's ten-day special campaign brings remarkable results

ISLAMABAD (INP): In a concerted effort to tackle pending cases and bolster law enforcement, the Islamabad Police under the guidance of the City Police Officer, initiated a comprehensive ten-day campaign that yielded commendable outcomes.

During the campaign period, the focus was on expediting pending cases, ensuring the completion of prosecutions, and the successful apprehension of wanted criminals, showcasing the department's commitment to maintaining law and order.

The latest statistics revealed a significant headway, with a substantial 979 cases filed in authorized courts over the course of the previous year.

Moreover, the swift action of the authorities led to the arrest of 113 individuals involved in illicit advertisements and the successful capture of 66 absconders from the judicial system.

Highlighting the department's consistent efforts, data showed that from 2018 to 2022, a total of 966 pending cases were effectively prosecuted, un-

derlining the sustained dedication of the Islamabad Police in addressing legal concerns.

Applying the tireless efforts of the police teams, the Islamabad Capital City Police Officer (ICCPO) Dr. Akbar Nasir Khan expressed his appreciation for the dedication and diligence exhibited during the campaign.

The ICCPO stressed the importance of resolving all pending cases within a month, emphasizing the need for expediency in delivering justice.

Furthermore, he underscored the significance of transparency in all legal proceedings, emphasizing the importance of upholding the highest ethical standards in law enforcement.

Looking ahead, the ICCPO called for the implementation of effective strategies to further enhance the apprehension of wanted criminals. Additionally, he emphasized the continuation of such initiatives in the future, showcasing the unwavering commitment of the Islamabad Police towards ensuring a safe and secure environment for all citizens.

US Dollar races ahead of Pakistani Rupee

ISLAMABAD (INP): The US Dollar started the Wednesday morning trading session with some fluctuation in its value against the Pakistani Rupee.

After a minor drop of 13 paise against the Pakistani Rupee in the interbank market, the American currency started trading at Rs279.30. However, moments later, it jumped back up with a rise of 57 paise and traded at Rs280.

At the start of the trading session on Tuesday morning, the American currency stood at Rs279.50 after losing 38 paise in the interbank market, as per currency dealers in Karachi.

The US dollar closed the trading session of Tuesday at Rs279.43 with a rise of 31 paise.

In the open market, the dollar got a boost of 50 paise and started trading at Rs281.50.

Over the past week, the interbank rate for the dollar had seen a significant overall increase of more than Rs1.19 and closed at Rs278.80 at the end of the week.

The value of the American dollar remained relatively stable in comparison to the Pakistani currency, after a continuous decline of five weeks.