

QUETTA VOICE

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Armed Forces Fought Menace of Terrorism in an Exemplary Manner: COAS

Dawood Ahmed:

2 Afghan nationals arrested for making fake NICs and PORs

Manan Mandokhail:

QUETTA: In a joint operation conducted by police and intelligence personnel, Quetta witnessed a significant breakthrough in apprehending two Afghan nationals involved in the production of fraudulent identification documents.

Accused Were Making Fake IDs

During a meticulously planned operation led by Superintendent Police Asif Khan of Sadr Quetta, the authorities arrested the suspects responsible for creating fake POR cards, and identity cards.

The operation resulted in the confiscation of a substantial number of bogus identification documents that the accused had manufactured.



These counterfeit documents not only posed a serious security threat but also raised concerns regarding the authenticity of sensitive institution cards.

Investigations have revealed that the arrested individuals were allegedly catering to the demand for counterfeit identity cards within the Afghan community.

Their activities not only undermine the integrity of official documentation but also raise questions about national security.

Investigation Underway

Local authorities are taking swift action to further investigate this case and ensure that those responsible are held accountable for their actions.

The collaborative efforts of law enforcement agencies and sensitive institutions have played a pivotal role in curbing such fraudulent activities, contributing to the overall safety and security of the country.

UN warns it may have to shortly halt operations in Gaza if fuel doesn't arrive

GAZA: Palestinian journalist Younis Tirawi has said Palestinian families in Ramallah have started evacuating due to "brutal attacks" by Israeli settlers.

"Six out of the 20 Palestinian families have already started to evacuate," he said in a post on X.

Israel has no interest in war with any other foe other than Hamas, and its ground operation in Gaza will come when conditions are right, Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant has said.

"We are waging war on the southern front against Hamas, prepared for any development in the north, Hezbollah is suffering many losses. However, we have no interest in expanding the war," Gallant told reporters after he was asked about the possibility of a confrontation with Iran.

Asked about a ground invasion of the Gaza Strip, Gallant said: "The day it will come is not far off... the manoeuvre will start when conditions are right."

ISLAMABAD: Chief of Army Staff, General Syed Asim Munir on Thursday said that the Armed Forces of Pakistan

youth stay aware and steadfast against the hostile propaganda onslaught being launched through soft offensive against

COAS also highlighted the economic positivity generated by multiple proactive steps, especially

ECP dispels impression of delay in polls after president casts doubt

ISLAMABAD: After President Arif Alvi stirred controversy by raising doubts on the timing of general elections, the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Thursday said that there was no possibility of a delay in the polls — which are slated to be held at the end of January.

President Alvi said he did not see polls taking place in January. He recalled that he made various "efforts" in this regard, including letters to the ECP and suggesting a cut-off date of Nov 6.



According to the president, the law ministry had told him that it was not his prerogative. He stated that free and fair elections and a level playing field were crucial for Pakistan's progress. In a press release issued today, the ECP said that Alvi's comments during the interview had given the impression that polls may be postponed. The electoral watchdog said that it dispelled the impression that there was a possibility of postponing the elections, adding that it had made its position in this regard clear. "The first phase of delimitation has been completed and the second phase of filing objections will be completed tomorrow," it said. The ECP said it would start hearing objections regarding the preliminary delimitation from October 30 and 31. It said that the final list would be published on November 30. **NEWSDESK**



and the intelligence setup fought the menace of terrorism in an exemplary manner.

While addressing the participants, Asim Munir, NI(M), Chief of Army Staff (COAS) said, "Armed Forces of Pakistan and its security and intelligence setups have fought the menace of Terrorism in an exemplary manner despite sustained and varied support of inimical forces.

Success will be ours InshAllah with the continued support of the people of Pakistan".

Intelligentsia Has A Greater Responsibility

COAS emphasized that intelligentsia and civil society has a greater responsibility to ensure that our people, especially

the state institutions of Pakistan.

The forum was also apprised regarding a host of measures being taken to curb activities of the illegal spectrum including smuggling, power theft, narcotics prevalence, border control measures, and repatriation of illegal foreigners from Pakistan.

The safety and security of each Pakistani is of paramount importance: COAS

On the subject of repatriation and deportation of illegal foreigners, COAS expressed

"Safety and security of each Pakistani is of paramount importance which cannot be allowed to be compromised at any cost."

Protest erupts in Chaman against visa policy at Pak-Afghan border

Sardar Muhammad Khondai:

CHAMAN: Protest erupted in Pakistan's bordering city Chaman against the visa-policy at the Pak-Afghan border on Thursday. Scores

of people took to the streets and roads of the bordering city to mount pressure on the government to change the passport policy at the border.



Almost all political parties, traders community, daily wages workers and people belonging to various walks of life participated in the protest. They were also chanting slogans against the provincial and federal governments for introducing the passport policy at the border.

Political Leaders Criticize The Govt

In their stormy speeches at the protest meeting, the political leaders and traders leaders lashed out at the government for intro-

ducing the visa and passport policy at the Pak-Afghan border Chaman. They said the policy has left thousands of people jobless

in the area and this was an obstacle in the way of smooth business activities on the border.

Govt Declared Passport Necessary For Movement

This protest came after the federal government declared visas and passports necessary to ensure legal movement at the border. Security was tightened at the border on the eve of the protest demonstration on Thursday.

Senior government officials and the protesters also held a series of negotiations to find solutions of the border issues including the passport issue.

Illegal Immigrants To Leave Pakistan Before Nov 1st: Home Minister

Manan Mandokhail:

QUETTA: In a significant development, Pakistan has officially declared a policy to deport foreign resi-

(NADRA). Notably, this data collection process involves cooperation with serving military officers.



dents, which is set to commence on November 1. Contrary to social media rumors, the government has clarified that Afghan refugees are not being specifically targeted, emphasizing the strong bonds of brotherhood between Pakistan and Afghanistan. Caretaker Provincial Interior Minister, Zubair Jamali, shared these insights during a press conference at the Quetta Press Club.

During the press conference, Captain (R) Zubair Jamali, the Home Minister of Balochistan, highlighted the shared responsibility between the government and the people.

Deportation of All Illegal Immigrants

Minister Jamali asserted that the deportation policy is aimed at all illegal foreign citizens residing in Pakistan.

The government is taking a proactive approach to collect data on such individuals through the National Database and Registration Authority

No Specific Community Targeted

This announcement underscores Pakistan's commitment to upholding its immigration laws and maintaining security while ensuring that no specific community is unfairly targeted in the process. The government aims to create a more organized and lawful environment for all residents in the country.

He called upon citizens to support government institutions in facilitating the guidance and deportation of foreign residents living within their communities.

BHC Directs HEC to Hire 9,000 Teachers Amid SBK Test Concerns

Education Desk:

QUETTA: The Balochistan High Court (BHC) ordered appointments of teachers through the Higher Education Commission (HEC) rather than Sardar Bahadur Khan (SBK) Women's University.

The Court expressed reservations about the test and interview procedures adopted by the Sardar Bahadur Khan Women's University regarding the recruitment of over 9,000 teachers across the province.

Over 2,70,000 candidates were in the run

Around 2,70,000 candidates appeared in the test and interviews conducted by SBK to shortlist over 9,000 teachers out of them earlier this year.

The BHC's order casts a shadow over the credibility of the SBK and education department regard-

ing the appointment of teachers. A division bench of the BHC headed by Mr. Justice Kamran Malikshah passed this order on a petition on Thursday.

The Bench thoroughly assessed the case and heard the education officials and petitioners regarding the credibility of the SBK.

Hearing Adjournd Till November 2nd

The Balochistan government had entrusted the task of appointing over 9000 teachers in the province. The court adjourned the hearing of the case till November 2nd.

The bench directed the HEC and education officials to appear before the court during the next hearing.



Balochistan Education Minister, Professor Qadir Baksh Baloch appeared before the court and pleaded that thousands of schools were not functional because of the non-availability of teachers. He revealed that over 5,000 teachers one teacher one school in Balochistan.

REPATRIATION OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

DAYS REMAINING

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Pakistan hopes UNGA special session to help bring about ceasefire in Gaza

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan has hoped that the upcoming special emergency session of the UN General Assembly will play its role in bringing about an urgent and unconditional ceasefire in Gaza and condemn the plans for ethnic cleansing of the Palestinian people.

At her weekly news briefing in Islamabad today, Foreign Office Spokesperson Mumtaz Zahra Baloch regretted that despite rising death toll of Palestinians and flagrant violations of international humanitarian laws, the UN Security Council failed to even call for a ceasefire and put an end to the carnage in Gaza.

Referring to Pakistan's full and unequivocal support for the Palestinian brothers

and sisters, the spokesperson urged the backers of Israel to play their role in bringing an end to the atrocities against Palestinians and take effective steps to lift the siege of Gaza.

Mumtaz Zahra Baloch said the international community must also ensure that Israeli violence and bombing campaign does not spread and engulf the entire Middle East.

The spokesperson said Pakistan believes that durable peace in the Middle East will emerge from a two state solution and the creation of a secure, viable and contiguous state of Palestine on the basis of pre-1967 borders with Al-Quds Al Sharif as its capital.

When asked about the imposition of sanctions by the US on three

Chinese companies for providing missile related items to Pakistan, the spokesperson said that in the past also we have seen entities added to the entity list on suspicion. She said we do not see any new thing in the latest order. She, however, said that such designations contradict the US policy of export control waivers granting access to India to advance military technologies which is undermining the strategic stability in South Asia.

To a question, the spokesperson said Pakistan has always called for peace and dialogue including on the disputed territory of Jammu and Kashmir. She said the current situation demands that New Delhi ensures that the people of Indian illegally Jammu and

Kashmir are able to live in peace without intimidation.

She said the people of IIOJK will never accept and have never accepted the illegally occupation of their land.

She said Pakistan will continue to extend political, moral and diplomatic support to Kashmiri people until the realization of their inherent right to self-determination as per the UN Security Council resolutions. When asked about the repatriation of illegal foreign nationals, she said this decision has been taken as per our national laws to ensure the safety and security of Pakistan.

She said we have also informed the Afghan authorities that this policy is not Afghan specific.



ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi chairing the 6th Senate Meeting of the Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto Medical University, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Israel bombs Gaza, prepares ground invasion amid Russia warning

GAZA (INP): Israel bombed the Gaza Strip as it prepared for a ground invasion it says is aimed at annihilating Hamas as Russia warned the conflict could spread beyond the Middle East.

In besieged Gaza humanitarian supplies were critically low, as world powers failed to agree on a lull to the fighting to deliver aid, and residents buried the dead in mass graves as the civilian toll mounted. U.S. President Joe Biden, in remarks looking beyond the war, said on Wednesday that the future should include Israeli and Palestinian states side by side in safety, dignity and in peace.

Biden said at a joint press conference in Washington with visiting Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese. Russian President Vladimir Putin warned the conflict could spread beyond the Middle East and said it was wrong that innocent women, children and old people in Gaza were being punished for other people's crimes.

"Our task today, our main task, is to stop the bloodshed and violence," said Putin in a meeting with Russian religious leaders of different faiths, according to a Kremlin transcript.

"Otherwise, further escalation of the crisis is fraught with grave and extremely dangerous and unpredictable consequences. And not only for the Middle East region. It could spill over far beyond the borders of the Middle East."

Reflecting concerns the Gaza war may spread, the Wall Street Journal reported that Israel had agreed to delay invading Gaza until U.S. air defence systems can be placed in the region, as early as this week, to protect American forces. Asked about the report, U.S. officials told Reuters that Washington has raised its concerns with Israel that Iran and Iranian-backed Islamist groups could escalate the conflict by attacking U.S. troops in the Middle East. An Israeli incursion into Gaza could be a trigger for Iranian proxies, they said. Gaza's war has already sparked conflict beyond the Palestinian territories. Israeli warplanes struck Syrian army infrastructure on Wednesday in response to rockets fired from Syria, an ally of Iran. Israel has also targeted Syria's Aleppo airport and Iranian-backed Hezbollah in Lebanon. Iran, Israel's arch-enemy, has sought regional ascendancy for decades and backs armed groups in Syria, Lebanon and elsewhere as well as Hamas.

It has warned Israel to stop its onslaught on Gaza. At the United Nations, Russia and China vetoed a U.S.-drafted Security Council resolution calling for pauses in hostilities to allow food, water and medicine to be delivered to Palestinian civilians. The United Arab Emirates also vetoed no, while 10 members voted in favour and two abstained.



ISLAMABAD: Donald Blome, Ambassador of the United States of America to Pakistan called on Caretaker Federal Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination, Dr. Nadeem Jan.

China-Pakistan JV to commence local EV production next month

ISLAMABAD (INP): A joint venture between two Chinese companies and one Pakistani company is set to commence local production of electric bikes and three-wheelers next month.

The vehicles will be launched at the upcoming Karachi Expo. This was stated by Jim Li, country sales manager at Dongjin Battery Pakistan, in an interview with Gwadar Pro.

Dongjin provides batteries, while Benling Group of China offers technical support and the Crown Group of Pakistan has an existing local network of dealers. These three companies will collaborate

to establish Pakistan's leading electric vehicle brand, providing better support for green mobility in the country, Jim Li added.

Dongjin Battery's production facility was founded in 2020 at Port Qasim, Karachi.

"We have so far invested \$4 million and created 250 direct and 1,000 indirect jobs in Pakistan," he said. "Our products are UPS batteries, e-bike batteries, and motorcycle batteries. We have made technological innovations, such as adjusting the battery formula and electrolyte concentration to suit local climate conditions. These innovations have resulted in our

products outperforming those imported from abroad," Jim Li stated. "We also have plans to export batteries to Pakistan, and set up our factory in Karachi," he said.

Furthermore, "We have already begun preparations for establishing our raw material and casting factories in Pakistan to develop a comprehensive lead-acid battery production system. Our raw material factory will commence production in the latter half of next year, which will help reduce production costs and provide Pakistan's market with high-quality yet cost-effective products," Jim Li added.

MoU signed to establish EV charging stations in Pakistan

BEIJING (INP): Chinese, Pakistani firms signed here an MoU to establish EV charging stations across the country.

Chairman of Senate of Pakistan, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani, along with a Pakistani delegation, witnessed the signing ceremony between TGOOD, a leading Chinese company, and the REC Group of Pakistan. This aimed at promoting environmentally friendly electric vehicles (EVs) in Pakistan. China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Thursday.

Chairman Sanjrani said on the occasion that this collaboration has resulted in a strategic partnership aligned with the sustainable green development initiatives set forth by China during the 3rd Belt and Road Forum. The partnership covers areas such as hydrogen vehicle technology, hydrogen filling station infrastructure, EV production, battery production and recycling solutions, and EV charging infrastructure development.

Transport is a major contributor to pollution in Pakistan, making a transition to alternative fuels imperative.

However, Pakistan has faced a challenging dilemma, with a lack of charging stations restricting the adoption of alternative fuel vehicles, while limited investment in such infrastructure is primarily due to the scarcity of such vehicles.

The joint venture with REC Group in Pakistan signifies a significant step forward. TGOOD's commitment to expanding in Pakistan, facilitated by integrators within REC Group, is underpinned by a comprehensive Strategic Partnership Framework Agreement, encompassing full technology transfer. In addition to EVs, TGOOD will also spearhead the development of hydrogen fueling infrastructure in Pakistan. The joint venture is poised to explore regional export opportunities for the products manufactured in Pakistan.

Illegal immigrants asked to voluntarily return to their homelands till October 31st

KARACHI (INP): Caretaker Simsha Home Minister Brigadier (Rtd.) Haris Nawaz on Thursday warned the illegal immigrants to ensure their return to their respective countries by October 31st, after which the government would arrest and send them to their respective countries.

Addressing a news conference at the Karachi Press Club, he said all the provincial governments, following the instructions of the federal government, were taking action against illegal immigrants. The minister said illegal foreigners who were voluntarily returning to their countries were also being given facilities.

He said all arrangements have been made to send the illegal aliens

back to their homelands in a good manner but after October 31st, no illegal alien will be allowed to stay in the country and their return will be ensured.

Haris Nawaz warned that action would also be taken against those who give shelter to illegal foreigners, in this regard full support was being obtained from NADRA and other relevant institutions. He explained that all illegal aliens will be dealt with indiscriminately and effectively, regardless of the country they belong to, they will be sent back to their country. The home minister said the government had also declared to take strict action against the makers of fake identity cards and fake documents and illegal foreigners.

BEFORE THE JUDGE BANKING COURT BALOCHISTAN AT DISTRICT COURT/KACHEHRY SHARA-E-IQBAL QUETTA

SUIT NO. 63/2023

Askari Bank Limited, Satellite Town Branch Quetta.

Plaintiff

Versus

Muhammad Faisal Shahbaz S/o Muhammad Javed Banker at Alfalab Bank, Police Line Millennium Mall Quetta.
(i) R/o House No. 19 Anwar Colony Khojak Road Quetta & House No. 30 B Block Phase 1 Governor House Lahore & (iii) House No. 2 Abdullah Street Saeed Park Shadrah Lahore. Cell # 0332 4093081. CNIC # 35202-2484217-1

Defendant

SUIT FOR RECOVERY OF RS-396152/31 ALONG-WITH COST OF FUND US/9 OF THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTION (RECOVERY OF FINANCES) ORDINANCE 2001

Notice to -

The above noted defendant.

WHEREAS the plaintiff has instituted a suit against you under section 9(5) of the Banking Companies Ordinance XLVI of 2001 for RS: 396152/31 balance of principal & interest/mark up/rent due to him of which copy can be obtained from this court, on or, hereby summoned to obtain leave from the court within 30 (thirty) days, from the service hereto to appear and defend the suit, and within such time to cause an appearance to be entered for you. In the default whereof the plaintiff will be entitled at any time after expiration of such 30 (thirty) days to obtain decree as prayed in the plaint. Leave to appear may be obtained on an application to the court supported by an affidavit or declaration showing that there is defense to the suit on the merits, or i.e. if, it is reasonable that you should be allowed to appear in the suit. Date of hearing is 28-11-2023. GIVEN under my hand and seal of the court, this 26th day of October, 2023.

(SAIFULLAH KHAN)
REGISTRAR
Banking Court Balochistan Quetta

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Defendant

SUIT FOR RECOVERY OF RS-123531/01 ALONG-WITH COST OF FUND US/9 OF THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTION (RECOVERY OF FINANCES) ORDINANCE 2001

Notice to -

The above noted defendant.

WHEREAS the plaintiff has instituted a suit against you under section 9(5) of the Banking Companies Ordinance XLVI of 2001 for RS: 123531/01 balance of principal & interest/mark up/rent due to him of which copy can be obtained from this court, on or, hereby summoned to obtain leave from the court within 30 (thirty) days, from the service hereto to appear and defend the suit, and within such time to cause an appearance to be entered for you. In the default whereof the plaintiff will be entitled at any time after expiration of such 30 (thirty) days to obtain decree as prayed in the plaint. Leave to appear may be obtained on an application to the court supported by an affidavit or declaration showing that there is defense to the suit on the merits, or i.e. if, it is reasonable that you should be allowed to appear in the suit. Date of hearing is 28-11-2023. GIVEN under my hand and seal of the court, this 26th day of October, 2023.

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Indonesia to start direct flights with Pakistan for trade promotion

ISLAMABAD (INP). Adam M. Tugjo, Ambassador of Indonesia said that his country is to start direct flights with Pakistan in near future that would help boost people to people contacts and bilateral trade ties between the two countries.

He said that Indonesia is keen to further strengthen trade and economic ties with Pakistan and launch of direct flights would be helpful in achieving this goal. He said that an Indonesian Corner would be inaugurated soon in the National Book Foundation of Pakistan that would create better awareness about Indonesia in Pakistan and improve bilateral ties between the two countries.

Adam M. Tugjo said that Pakistan and Indonesia have good potential to explore untapped potential of cooperation in halal herbal medicines. He said that Pakistani pharmaceutical products are quite affordable and can penetrate the Indonesian market.

He said that Indonesia would organize Pakistan-ASEAN spe-

cific expo in Jakarta next year and the Pakistani business community should participate in it. He lauded the ICICI for sending its delegation to attend a trade expo in Indonesia and stressed that ICICI should send its regular delegations to Indonesia to explore all untapped areas of business collaboration between the private sectors of two countries.

Speaking on the occasion, Ahsan Zafar Bakhitwari, President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry said that Indonesia and the ASEAN region offer a lot of potential to Pakistan and stressed that Pakistan should focus on these countries for trade and exports.

He said that ICICI would encourage more trade delegations to Indonesia to explore new business opportunities with it. He said that Indonesian investors should also be encouraged to invest in Pakistan's tourism infrastructure and other sectors. He said that Pakistan, Indonesia and Nigeria are big markets of Muslim world

and they should sign an FTA to strengthen their trade ties that would bring prosperity to their nations. He reaffirmed ICICI's commitment to strengthen liaison with the Indonesian Embassy to improve business linkages between the private sectors of both countries.

Faaz Waheed, Senior Vice President ICICI lauded the efforts of HE Adam M. Tugjo for improving trade ties between Indonesia and Pakistan and hoped that his successor would take forward these efforts to bring both countries even closer. He highlighted Pakistan's prospective industries for cooperation with Indonesia including IT, tourism, pharmaceuticals, textiles, cooking oil and others.

Engr. Azhar ul Islam Zafar, Vice President ICICI briefed the Indonesian Ambassador about the successful recent visit of ICICI delegation to Indonesia and thanked them for the great hospitality extended by the Indonesian authorities.



RAWALPINDI: Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Naveed Ashraf calls on Minister for Defence, Lt Gen Anwar Ali Hyder (Rtd) in Ministry of Defence.

IHC restores Nawaz Sharif's pleas in Al-Azizia, Avenfield references

ISLAMABAD (INP). The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Thursday restored Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) supreme Nawaz Sharif's pleas against accountability courts' conviction verdicts in the Avenfield and Al-Azizia cases.

Nawaz, who has been in self-imposed exile since 2019, left for London in the middle of his seven-year jail term on medical grounds. The elder Sharif returned to Pakistan on October 21.

IHC Chief Justice Justice Aamer Farooq and Justice Gul Hassan Aurangzeb announced the verdict on Nawaz Sharif's pleas against his conviction in Al-Azizia and Avenfield cases.

The former prime minister reached the Islamabad High Court

in strict security. PML-N President Shehbaz Sharif, Khawaja Asif, Ishaq Dar, Azam Nazeer Tarar, Parvez Rashid, Marriyum Aurangzeb and others are accompanying the former prime minister in the courtroom.

In his arguments before the IHC, the NAB Prosecutor said appeals were filed against the verdict of the accountability court in the Avenfield and Al-Azizia cases.

The pleas once filed cannot be withdrawn and a decision on them has to be made on merit, the NAB prosecutor said.

As per law the appeals have to be decided on merit," the NAB prosecutor said and added the graft-buster body has no objection if the appeals are accepted.

After being asked by the

court NAB prosecutor said he would give arguments on plea if they are restored. Advocate Amjad Parvez in his arguments before the IHC two-member bench said the court in its verdict of acquitting Maryam Nawaz from the Avenfield case, remarked that NAB failed to establish any link of Avenfield with Nawaz Sharif.

The IHC after hearing arguments from both sides has reserved a verdict on the pleas of the former prime minister.

The former three-time prime minister is currently on protective bail in Avenfield and Al-Azizia cases.

Nawaz Sharif was convicted by accountability courts in Avenfield and Al-Azizia references.

Pakistan hopes that UNGA special session to help bring about ceasefire in Gaza

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tions contradict the US policy of export control waivers granting access to India to advance military technologies which is undermining the strategic stability in South Asia.

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QUETTA: Balochistan Tandoor Association Chairman Muhammad Naeem Khilji addressing a press conference.



ISLAMABAD: Defence analyst and security expert Iqbal Haq called on caretaker Prime Minister Anwar-ul-Haq Kakar.

President asks medical universities to increase graduate numbers

ISLAMABAD (INP). President Dr Arif Alvi on Thursday asked the medical universities to increase graduate numbers to fulfill the requirement of a large number of doctors and nurses in the country.

To enhance accessibility to healthcare facilities for the general public, there is a need to increase the number of trained individuals in health sector," the president said while presiding over the 6th session of the Senate of Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University, Islamabad.

He also stressed for taking special measures to maintain the services of female doctors in the field of health adding that creating a friendly and harassment-free environment for women at their workplaces was very important.

The president also advised that the universities should enhance their performance in research fields besides hiring the services of the experts to obtain research grants from abroad.

The session of the university's senate was attended by Senator Samina Mumtaz, Vice-Chancellor Professor Tanveer Chahque Ali Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University and other members of Senate.

During the session, a briefing was given on the university's performance and future development projects. It was highlighted in the meeting that Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University had increased number of admissions in various fields, including nursing.

The briefing also highlighted that the university has trained 429 specialists in various fields within a short period.

The university has secured significant international research grants in various fields. It has also shown remarkable performance in medical research. The meeting was informed that in the future, the university planned to initiate new PhD programs and complete the construction of its first teaching block. President Arif Alvi appreciating the university's contributions to medical education and acknowledging its overall performance, drew attention towards the need for policies related to healthcare, emphasizing the importance of focus on disease prevention.

KP Cabinet authorizes Rs529.118b expenditure for next four months

PESHAWAR (INP). Caretaker Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Finance, Ahmad Rasool Bangash here Thursday said that Rs529.118 billion expenditure has been authorized by the provincial cabinet for the second four months i.e. (1st November to 29th February 2024), showing 14pc increase as compared to Rs462.839 billion of the first four months (July to October 2023).

Addressing a press conference here, the Minister said that the total expenditure authorized for eight months is Rs992.055 billion for the financial year 2023-24, showing 12pc increase as compared to Rs888 billion of the first

eight months of the previous year's budget.

He said Rs 417 billion for the current and Rs112.118 billion for development expenditures of the second four months i.e. November to February 2024 showed a 19pc increase as compared to the first four months i.e. Rs350.041 billion current expenditure, was authorized for the second four months i.e. Rs767.040 billion in the current fiscal as compared to Rs609.200 billion for the eight months of the last financial year.

He said Rs366.298 billion current expenditure has been authorized for the second four months (Nov to Feb 2024) indicated 26pc

increase compared to the first four months (July to October 2023) i.e. Rs309.498 billion for settled areas.

The total authorized current expenditure for eight months is Rs675.796 billion compared to Rs626.533 billion for eight months of the last fiscal for settled areas.

For merged areas, he said the total current expenditure for the second four months is Rs50.702 billion against Rs40.543 billion of the first four months, showing 10pc increase.

He said the total development expenditure authorized for the second four months is Rs112.118 billion compared to Rs112.898 billion for the first four months, showing a 1pc decrease.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Finance, Revenue and Economic Affairs, Dr. Shamshad Akhtar in a meeting with the Governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK), Haji Ghulam Ali.

Govt. taking measures to facilitate IT industry: Minister

ISLAMABAD (INP). Caretaker Federal Minister for IT & Telecommunication Dr. Umar Saif Thursday said that the government was taking various steps to provide all possible facilities to the Information Technology and Telecom industry.

"No doubt about the potential in Pakistan's IT sector, the industry is playing a significant role in the stability of the country's economy, the government is taking steps to provide all possible facilities to the IT industry," he said, while addressing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing ceremony for strategic partnership between HBL and Pakistan Software Houses Association (P@SHA).

The minister said there was a need to be Brand Pakistan and marketed globally in the desired manner.

Dr. Umar Saif further said, "I am delighted to be part of the event and hope that this collaboration will play a vital role in fostering the growth and development of the IT sector domestically and internationally."

Mentioning the role of the Special Investment Facilitation

Council (SIFC), he said that all required facilities were being provided to boost the IT & Telecom sector.

Dr. Saif highlighted the SIFC's recent decision that IT companies could now retain 50% of their revenue in US dollar accounts. These companies will also be provided with corporate debit cards by the banks, which can be freely used to make international payments. This step, he said, had been taken on the recommendation of the IT industry (P@SHA) and aimed to encourage the Information Technology (IT) and IT-enabled Services (ITeS) to boost export earnings and bring additional foreign exchange into the country. As per the MoU, HBL, Pakistan's Best Bank, has entered a multi-year partnership with the Pakistan Software Houses Association (P@SHA), the country's only IT industry association, to support them in launching a series of impactful engagements locally and globally.

Through this collaboration, HBL aims to support P@SHA in positioning Pakistan as a growing tech destination in the global market.

Lahore clinches Inter Division National Basketball C'Ship Title

ISLAMABAD (INP). Lahore division clinches Inter Division National Basketball Championship title by defeating Islamabad with 100-59 points here at Pakistan Sports Complex Islamabad.

Eight top divisions Karachi, Faisalabad, Peshawar, Hazara, Gujranwala, Rawalpindi, Lahore and Islamabad were participated in the five days championship which organized by the Federal Basketball Association. Military Attaché of Embassy of Russia in Pakistan Col Surey A Tyurin was the chief guest of closing ceremony while Joint Secretary Ministry of IPC Fayyaz ul Haq, President Pakistan Basketball Federation (PBBF) Brig. (r) Iftikhar Mansoor, PBBF Federal General Khalid Bashir, Federal Basketball Association (FBBAA) President Egr Butt, FBBAA Secretary General Ouj E Zahoor, Deputy Director General Pakistan Sports Board Saeed Akhtar and other dignitaries were also attending closing ceremony. In the decisive final Lahore dominate throughout the match and never allowed their opponent to fight back for championship trophy. Lahore took lead of 20 points till the half time of decisive final by 52-32 points.