

# QUETTA VOICE

Editor :Asim khan

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## Empowering Balochistan's Youth: Turning Ambition into Action

Syed Ali Shah:

In a landmark revelation, Balochistan's Caretaker Finance Minister,

Amjad Rashid, has laid out an ambitious plan to propel the province's youth towards international employment opportunities. In an exclusive interview with Daily Quetta Voice,

Minister Rashid disclosed that over 12,000 young individuals have already enrolled in the Prime Minister's skill development program, signifying a pivotal step towards realizing the government's commitment to enhancing the prospects and livelihoods of the youth.

The essence of this initiative lies in the government's vision to send thousands of skilled individuals abroad, tapping into global employment markets and creating pathways for economic growth.

Minister Rashid emphasized that by fostering a culture of skill development, the aim is to elevate living standards while simultaneously contributing to the nation's economic development through remittances.

### Korea, Europe And Middle East Best Destination For Youth

The global demand for Pakistani manpower has been pinpointed by Minister Rashid, with a particular focus on regions such as Korea, Europe, and the Middle East.

However, the minister cautioned that success in these endeavors relies heavily on ensuring that the youth are equipped with the necessary skills and training demanded by the evolving



A student asking a question during a seminar held in Balochistan's Panjgur district

international job market. While the announcement of the Prime Minister's skill development program is undoubtedly a positive stride, it is crucial for the government to translate these words into tangible actions.

The call to action is clear: expedite the implementation of the program, streamline the process for aspiring individuals, and ensure that the training provided aligns with the demands of the global job market.

### Govt Needs To Establish Robust Mechanism

In urging the government to turn its promises into action, it is paramount to establish robust mechanisms for skill acquisition, accreditation, and placement. Furthermore, the collaboration between the federal and Balochistan governments must be seamless, fostering an environment conducive

to the success of this initiative. As Balochistan's youth eagerly anticipate the opportunities promised by the Prime Minister's skill development program, the government must now demonstrate its unwavering commitment to transforming aspirations into reality.

The success of this endeavor will not only empower the youth but also contribute significantly to the overall economic prosperity of the region.

## Imam e Kaaba Calls On COAS General Syed Asim Munir

Dawood Ahmed:



ISLAMABAD: His Excellency Sheikh Saleh bin Abdullah bin Muhammad Humaid, Imam-e-Kaaba called on General Syed Asim Munir (M), Chief of Army Staff (COAS) at General Headquarters, on Friday, the military's media wing said.

During the meeting, matters of mutual interest were discussed, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said. COAS welcomed the dignitary and highlighted that visit by H.E. Imam-e-Kaaba to Pakistan is a matter of honour for the people of Pakistan. He further mentioned that Muslims from all across the world

have boundless reverence for Harman Shraifain and profound respect for their custodian. H.E. Imam-e-Kaaba said Islam is a religion of peace & brotherhood and there is no space for misconstrued interpretations of Islam.

The dignitaries commended the ongoing atrocities in the Gaza Conflict and the oppression of the Muslims in IOJK and expressed solidarity with the people of Palestine and Kashmir.

COAS remarked that Pakistan and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia have strong strategic relations based on exemplary historic religious and cultural ties.

## UNDP Rep Meets CM Balochistan: Development Initiative Unveiled

Staff Reporter:

QUETTA: In a significant meeting held on Friday, a distinguished delegation led by Dr. Samuel Rizk, the designated representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Pakistan, engaged in fruitful discussions with the



Chief Minister of Balochistan, Mir Ali Mardaan Khan Donki.

The focus of the meeting centered around the ongoing and proposed projects that UNDP is supporting in Balochistan.

UNDP Balochistan Chief, Zulfikar Durrani and the principal secretary to the CM Rashid Razzaq were also present on the occasion.

### UNDP Allocates One-Third Of National Program's Resources For Balochistan

Caretaker Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardaan Khan Donki emphasized the vital nature of the ongoing programs in Balochistan, particularly those aimed at improving governance in areas such as planning, policy and law, education, health, and sustainable development.

He expressed gratitude for UNDP's commitment, noting that this year, one-third of the national program's resources for Pakistan have

been allocated to Balochistan—a welcomed initiative.

Mir Ali Mardaan Khan Donki highlighted the importance of these resources in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by bringing about positive changes.

### Measures Being Taken To Mitigate The Impacts Of Climate Change

He underscored the proactive measures being taken to address the impacts of climate change and ensure the successful implementation of the five-year development and reform program by UNDP.

The Chief Minister reassured the delegation of the provincial government's unwavering support,

pledging to provide all necessary assistance to make these initiatives a resounding success. The collaborative efforts between UNDP and Balochistan aim to usher in a new era of development and prosperity for the region.

## دو قطرے،

### صحت مند مستقبل کے لیے

27 نومبر سے قومی پولیو مہم کا آغاز

### Facilities provided to Imran in jail unimaginable for common people: interior minister

NEWS DESK: Caretaker Interior Minister Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti has said that a "common citizen cannot even imagine" the facilities being provided to former prime minister Imran Khan in jail.

In an interview with Independent Urdu published today, Bugti said: "The facilities provided to him (Imran) are more than those provided to an ordinary prisoner or a prime minister behind bars as he is, after all, a laada of the courts. "The kind of facilities being provided to him in jail, they weren't given to any prime minister and a common citizen cannot even imagine them," he added.

Recalling Imran's arrest on May 9, Bugti claimed directives were issued "within two minutes" to take the PTI chief to Islamabad Police Lines in a Mercedes. The caretaker minister also mentioned former chief justice Umar Ata Bandial's "good" to the court, remarks for Imran, saying that such instances strengthen his argument: "We directly need judicial reforms here," he stated. Asked about the special court's directives to present the ex-premier and former foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi.

## UNICEF's Melissa Corkum Administers Anti-Polio Drops to Children

Health Desk:

QUETTA: In a dedicated effort to combat the threat of polio, Melissa Corkum, UNICEF Polio Team Lead in Pakistan, took charge by personally administering polio drops to children across various parts of Quetta. Her hands-on approach not only showcased her commitment but also served as a motivating force for the anti-polio workers on the ground. Syed Zahid Shah, the Chief of the emergency operation cell (EOC), and other officials also accompanied the UNICEF team lead.

### Melissa's Presence Brought A Renewed Sense Of Urgency

Melissa's presence brought a renewed sense of urgency to the battle against the crippling disease. She actively engaged with the frontline workers, encouraging them to persist in their tireless efforts to ensure every child receives the life-saving vaccine. Her leadership played a pivotal role in



fostering a collective determination to eradicate polio from the region.

### Balochistan Polio Free

Balochistan, under the steadfast commitment of the government, has achieved a significant milestone by remaining polio-free for more than two years. This ac-

complishment reflects the collaborative spirit between health officials, UNICEF, and the dedicated workers in the field.

Melissa Corkum's hands-on involvement serves as a testament to the unwavering dedication required to maintain this vital progress, reinforcing the importance of ongoing vigilance and collective action in the fight against polio.

## THE OPINION

Editor: Asim Khan

### Funds lapse in financially-starved Balochistan

#### Editorial:

Lapsing of funds is a common phenomenon in the financially-starved Balochistan. The former provincial health minister, Syed Ehsan Shah revealed a bitter reality that his department lapsed Rs. 7 billion allocated for the purchase of medicines and equipment for government hospitals.

This exposed the poor political commitment coupled with bad governance and incompetent officers in Balochistan, which is already lagging behind other provinces in terms of key social indicators.

#### Hospitals without medicines for last three months in Balochistan

Government-run hospitals in Quetta, the provincial capital have been without medicines for the last three months. This compounded the problems of deserving and needy patients knocking the doors of government hospitals.

Since the elites can afford to go to Karachi for medical treatment. So the deserving and needy patients remained the worst sufferers of this incompetence of the government in general and the health department in particular.

#### Angioplasty and Angiography machines out of order for the last two and half years in BMC

Look at the irony, the angiography and angioplasty machines are out of order at the Baluchistan's largest government-run hospital i.e. Bolan Medical Complex (BMC) hospital for the last two and half years. This daily has repeatedly reported the out of order machines. Unfortunately, the reports are falling on deaf ears.

The BMC administration cites lack of funds as the underlying reason behind the non repair of machines.

#### Rs. 7 billion lapsed in health department Balochistan

This is strange, on one hand Rs. 7 billion are lapsed by the department, on the other hand, the same department complains about lack of funds for the repair of two machines in BMC. Simply, this is unacceptable and an investigation conducted by the media suggests the machines are deliberately made out of order to force the patients towards private clinics and hospitals.

#### Provincial government should put its own house in order prior to criticism in Islamabad

From the province's chief minister to a section officer everyone speaks about the financial crisis, currently, Blaming Islamabad for the all ills of the province has been the hallmark of all political leaders from government to opposition. However they are yet to put their own house in order and ensure financial discipline in this resource-starved province of the country.

## Facing the abyss

By Faisal Bari:

THE 2023 census puts our population at 241.499 million and our growth rate at 2.55 percent. This means we are adding some 6m people to the population every year.

For comparison, Finland, Norway and Denmark each has a population of less than the number of people we add to our population every year. The population growth rate had reportedly gone down to 1.9pc in the previous decade but has bounced back.

This, when most comparator countries, especially those in South Asia and others around us, have been quite successful in bringing down their growth and fertility rates substantially. Our failure is all the more stark and remarkable when we look at the figures for India (0.7pc), China (0.1pc) and Bangladesh (1.1pc).

Forty per cent of our children are malnourished. Our neonatal, infant, child and maternal mortality rates remain the highest in the world. We are one of only two countries, the other being Afghanistan, that has not been able to

eliminate polio. In this day and age, we still lose many children to diarrhoea. We are not even able to provide safe drinking water to all our people.

Hepatitis and tuberculosis are uncontrolled and many health officials in BMC. Simply, this is unacceptable and an investigation conducted by the media suggests the machines are deliberately made out of order to force the patients towards private clinics and hospitals.

Provincial government should put its own house in order prior to criticism in Islamabad. From the province's chief minister to a section officer everyone speaks about the financial crisis, currently, Blaming Islamabad for the all ills of the province has been the hallmark of all political leaders from government to opposition. However they are yet to put their own house in order and ensure financial discipline in this resource-starved province of the country.

Girls, children from rural areas, children from religious minorities, children from the dominant faith or minor castes, children from poorer families, all have a harder time accessing quality education in Pakistan.

The millions in schools, barring a minority who are enrolled in high-fee private or public schools, are getting an education of inferior quality. Our educational outcomes are a disaster, but again, more disastrous is the fact that we do not realise where we are, and irrespective of whether we realise it or not, we are not, as a polity, doing anything about it.

Pakistan is the world's third or fourth most polluted country. Living in Pakistan, almost in any big city, you are breathing in air getting a small strip of land that has been deprived of human living conditions for decades, which is constantly bombarded with ammunition provided by the world's best democracies and custodians of human rights', nearly two billion Muslims remain voiceless.

There is no end in sight to the sufferings of the Palestinians, except perhaps the death of a crippled life. The world's leaders look on. Of course, one can try and find some reason or thought of the Day of

Judgement, when all criminals will be brought before their victims and given just punishment. If one can do so, one might pray that those who remained silent or looked away when they could have done something would also be considered culpable and facilitators of these horrendous deeds.

As these words are being written, one is fully conscious of the fact that the Palestinian cause is neither in favour of Muslims nor against Jews or Christians. It is a tragedy wrought upon the people of a land that has been the West and some Arab states.

Their land was usurped and constantly encroached upon by Jews sent from Europe until they were restricted to a narrow strip and blocked from support from others.

It just so happens that the majority of Palestinians are Muslims who have not merely been forsaken, but deliberately targeted by the Israeli military that has learnt much from their avowed enemy, Hitler.

Two unrelated and very different events, one far away from us and the other in our own country — KP, to be specific — have given us cause to lament. Perhaps it is time to take notice.

Truth and justice tend to lose their meaning when fabulously rich countries and their extremely wealthy rulers are unwilling to provide food, water and medicines to thousands of battered people, the majority of them children.

By Nikhat Sattar:

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## Environmental Woes of Balochistan

Muhammad Jahangeer Kakar:

Environment and climate change are the prospective strategic guidelines that would define the international fraternity of relations.

The prosperity and longevity of nations around the world would be both defined and jeopardized by the elements of environmental preservation and climate change management. Pakistan in general and the Balochistan, in particular, are threatened by the climate change shifts and the throes of environmental degradation.

Balochistan attains a peculiar nature both in terms of geographic extension as well as the various trends addressed. Reason would demand a synergized level where the nature that we are turning into a potential curse.

The documentation of environmental laws is insufficient and not in currency thereby making it less effective being less rigorous. The inequality of law with time and space has made it hard for implementing the environmental restraint necessary to cause a chance that one

would want to see around intangible meters. Other than the Balochistan Environmental Protection Act 2012, there are no rules, regulations, or Provincial Environmental Quality Standards ever issued that could regulate the issues of environmental hazarousness.

The insufficient law further opens out a polarized institutional dichotomy which is also affecting the dealing with environmental and climate change as the horrors of the near future. The complete missing links between the departments of the forest, agriculture, water management, and environment are not systematically and institutionally addressed. Reason would demand a synergized level where the nature that we are turning into a potential curse.

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## PHMA demands representation in Commerce Ministry's Export Advisory Council

KARACHI (INP): The Pakistan Hosiery Manufacturers & Exporters Association (PHMA) has urged the Ministry of Commerce to ensure representation of apparel sector in the recently constituted Export Advisory Council of Textiles, as the largest export earning knitwear sector has been totally ignored for representation on this important platform.

Central Chairman PHMA Nahid Abbas, in a letter written to the federal Minister for Commerce Dr. Gohar Ejaz, has drawn his attention towards the formation of the new Export Advisory Council but unfortunately it has no representation of the PHMA despite the fact the Association is the premier trade organization representing the hosiery and knitwear industry, ac-

knitwear sector has been performing better than all other export sectors and the potential for its further growth is tremendous. If due support is extended this sector can outperform to bring the country out of all kinds of crises, besides earning foreign exchange and providing mass employment in the country.

"We have due regard for nomination of some respectable personalities on the Council, but ignoring and neglecting the extremely important Small and Medium components of the industry and the sector as a whole, is totally unacceptable," he added.

The PHMA leaders said that the sector has been major taxpayer in the largest employment generator in the entire textile chain and earning billions of dollars for foreign exchange through exports goods.



ISLAMABAD: First Lady begum Samina Alvi addressing a breast cancer awareness event

## Madad Ali commends PAGE's achieving UNESCO's prize for girls education 2023

ISLAMABAD (INP): Caretaker Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training, Madad Ali Sindhi has said that Pakistan Alliance for Girls' Education (PAGE)'s achieving of UNESCO's Prize for Girls and Women's Education 2023 in China is commendable.

The Education Minister and Secretary Education was seen Ajmal Chaudhry on Friday gave away shields to the participants during the celebration of UNESCO prize for Girls and Women's Education

2023 Empowering Girls Through Education at MSQ(V-X)G-7/2. Madad Ali Sindhi said that today's event was very special to him, as today one of our sisters, Fajr Rabia Pasha, had successfully fulfilled her duty to be a daughter of Pakistan. Fajr Rabia Pasha and her organization "PAGE" has been awarded the "UNESCO Prize for Girls and Women's Education 2023" in China for setting up schools for women and imparting them the jewel of knowledge. This award was given by the first lady of China.

The minister highlighted the role of the leadership of the ministry and praised its officers who nominated PAGE for this award by showing impartiality and judging the matter with utmost competence and merit.

He said, "PAGE is running around 170 non-formal schools across Pakistan, where most of the girls are being educated."

Afghan girls are also included in the educational projects. JICA of Japan and other charitable organizations are also providing financial support for these projects. These projects are playing an important role in poverty alleviation as well as women's welfare and sustainable development."

Madad said that women were half of the population of the country and no country could fully achieve its potential without alleviating them. The minister also reiterated his resolve to ensure equal learning opportunities for women in Pakistan so that they were not left behind.

## Riots erupt in Dublin after children stabbed

DUBLIN (INP): Three young children were among five people injured in a knife attack in Dublin on Thursday that sparked riots in the city centre and which police have not yet ruled out any motive over, including whether it could be terror-related.

Public transport was suspended and patients advised not to travel to a nearby maternity hospital unless absolutely necessary after clashes between riot police and anti-immigrant protesters, who arrived at the scene of the attack beside the main thoroughfare of O'Connell Street.

A double decker bus was burned to the ground in front of the Daniel O'Connell statue at the head of the street and windows were smashed at a nearby Holiday Inn hotel and McDonald's restaurant. A Footlocker store was looted.

"They are disgraceful scenes. We have a complete lunatic, boogaloo game driven by far right ideology engaged in serious violence," Police Commissioner Drew Harris told reporters after deploying 400 officers to restore public order.

Such rioting is almost unprecedented in Dublin. There are no far right parties or politicians elected to parliament, but small anti-immigrant protests have grown in the last year.

The government is reviewing security around parliament after a recent protest trapped lawmakers inside.

Harris said all lines of inquiry related to the attack remained open, contradicting a senior officer who had earlier told reporters that police were satisfied the incident was not terror-related.

"I'm not going to speculate any further in respect of a terrorist motive. Until we're sure what the motive is, we have to keep an open mind as to why this happened," he said.

A five-year-old girl was receiving emergency treatment after sustaining serious injuries in the stabbing.

A man in his late 40s, also being treated for serious injuries, was arrested by police who said they are not looking for any other suspect.

Police said it appeared the man attacked a number of people on Dublin's Parnell Square shortly after 13:00 GMT. Members of the public intervened at an early stage of the attack.

A woman in her 30s was also being treated for serious injuries while the two other children, a five-year-old boy and six-year-old girl, suffered less serious injuries. The boy has been discharged from hospital.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Minister for Planning Development and Special Initiatives, Muhammad Sami Saad awarded certificates to the officers after completion of their 38th Mid Career Management Course on November 24 at NIM.



NEW ZEALAND: New Zealand leader and future Prime Minister Chris Hipkins (centre) addresses Parliament in Wellington.

## Peshawar jail launches online hearing facility for prisoners

PESHAWAR (INP): The provincial government has inaugurated an online hearing facility for prisoners at Central Jail Peshawar to modernize the jail system in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Friday.

The facility was officially launched by Caretaker Provincial Minister for Prisons and Social Welfare Justice (ret'd) Irshad Qaiser.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony, Qaiser said the facility would bring numerous benefits of online hearings for prisoners, including ensuring timely court proceedings and reduced transportation expenses. He

emphasized that the facility will enable prisoners to appear in court remotely, eliminating the need for physical transfers, which often pose security threats and incur significant fuel costs.

The online hearing system will primarily serve accused individuals involved in serious cases, allowing them to participate in court proceedings without leaving the jail premises. Bail and release decisions will also be communicated electronically to the jail administration, streamlining the process and ensuring timely updates.

Qaiser further elaborated on the ongoing prison reforms, stating that the government is committed to improving jail infrastructure and providing vocational training opportunities for inmates. He mentioned that renovation work is underway at various jails, with four facilities, including Peshawar Jail, already completed.

In addition to infrastructure improvements, the provincial government is also prioritizing rehabilitation and reintegration programs for prisoners. Inmates are being provided with skills training to enable them to start their own businesses upon release, reducing the likelihood of recidivism.

The introduction of online hearings and the emphasis on prisoner rehabilitation reflect the provincial government's efforts to modernize the jail system and promote a more humane and effective approach to incarceration. By leveraging technology and providing vocational training, the authorities aim to enhance security, reduce costs, and empower inmates to become productive members of society upon their release.

## ANF recovers above 1 ton of drugs in various operations

KARACHI (INP): The Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) has recovered a total of 1,364 kilograms of drugs and arrested eight suspects during nine different operations across the country. In a detailed statement, an ANF spokesperson on Friday said that 7 kilograms of hashish were recovered from a parcel sent from Quetta at Jinnah International Airport Karachi. Additionally, 1 kilogram and 593 grams of ice were recovered from a passenger's trolley bag at Bacha Khan International Airport Peshawar. The accused was leaving for Qatar by flight number QR-601.

recovered from a vehicle. Two suspects were arrested during this operation.

In another operation near Sangiani Toll Plaza Islamabad, 18 kilograms of opium and 12 kilograms of hashish were recovered from a truck. Two suspects were also arrested during this operation. Additionally, 4 kilograms and 800 grams of hashish and 1 kilogram of ice were recovered from a vehicle near Shershah Toll Plaza Multan. The accused was taken into custody.

Furthermore, 792 grams of heroin were recovered from a parcel booked for Great Britain at the courier office in Lahore. During an operation near Motowery Toll Plaza Islamabad, 36 kilograms of opium and 28 kilograms and 800 grams of hashish were

of opium, 80 kilograms of heroin, and 650 kilograms of hashish were recovered. These drugs were concealed for the purpose of smuggling. According to the ANF spokesperson, cases under the Anti-Narcotics Act have been registered against all the suspects arrested during the operations. Further investigations are underway.

**TENDER NOTICE**

The Deputy Project Director (DDO) of Project PHM (Green) Pakistan Program invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2023 based on Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates: TSE-23241132763. 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 PPPRA. QCR. Tender Fee PKR Bid Security 5%.

S.No. Class of Object. EIC/EST

1. INSTALLATION OF SOLAR POWER SYSTEM. 3.000,000 PKR

Procurements shall be made under the Eprocurement Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Payer List. The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. Bids should be submitted to the Procurement Cell, Government of Punjab, Sector 10, F-7/3, Islamabad. The bidder must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Guarantee, Deposited at Call of 5% specified above in the name of the undersigned firm in a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The tender documents can be obtained from the office of the undersigned/issuance of tender documents. From the date of publication of NIT to 26 December, 2023 during office hours on working days. Last Date of bid submission: The tenders must be submitted latest by 04 December, 2023 at 02:00 PM. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the undersigned at 03:00 PM. Address: Quetta Phone No: 0819201137 Fax No: 0819201139 Email: buisardat@yahoo.com

PRO No. 1064/24-1-2023

DEPUTY CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS (PLANNING) QUETTA

Meanwhile, 2 kilograms and 400 grams of hashish were recovered from the accused near Wahari Chowk Multan.

In an operation in Dera Ghazi Khan, 970 grams of ice were recovered from the accused in a passenger bus.

The most significant recovery was made in Kapi Pani Mandy, Pashin area, where 520 kilograms

## DSP Umair Tariq sent jail on judicial remand in Orangi Town heist case

KARACHI (INP): In the high-profile Orangi Town robbery case, the court sent the prime suspect, an under-training Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Umair Tariq Bajan, to jail on judicial remand on Friday.

According to the details, the prime suspect DSP along with three police officers named in the FIR was presented before Karachi's city court.

After hearing the argument from both sides, the magistrate sent DSP Umair Tariq to jail on judicial remand, while the other three police officers were handed over to the police for two days of physical remand.

It is pertinent to mention here that an under-training DSP Umair Tariq Bajan and two Shaheen Force officials have been booked in Karachi's Orangi Town dacoity case.

## MILITARY ENGINEER SERVICES TENDERS NOTICE

- Office of CE (Const) Gwadar invites sealed tenders for the following works, in the light of PFPA Rules 13 (1) of 2004-
 

Ser	Description of work
a.	Misc Civil Works at Gwadar Cantt
- The contractors are required to submit their application for issuance of tender documents along with their complete credentials as shown at Serial 3. The application shall be scrutinized and the tender documents will only be issued to the firms who have sufficient experience in the relevant field and satisfy other special conditions required for the job and area. Tenders will only be issued to the pre-qualified contractors. The tenders must be received in the office of accepting officer, by 11:50 hours on 07 Dec 2023 and tender will be opened on 07 Dec 2023 at 12:00 hours.

NOTE: - Contractors shall provide certificate that they are not involved in any type of litigation with Government Department in the Court of Law and that no special report of Directorate of Inspection and Evaluation (E-Ins Branch) is outstanding against them.

- Firms / Contractors name on approved list of MES will furnish a certificate along with their application giving detail of works executed during last two years and those in hand, on percentage basis as below:-

No	Name of works executed during last two years and in hand	Amount of Works (PKR)	Time allowed in (Months)	Date of Commencement	Date of Completion	Percentage Progress in hand
4.	All Contractors will certify in writing that they are registered with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) and will submit a copy of their re-issuance certificate. Contractors not registered with PEC are ineligible to apply.					
4.	Contractors must have approved list of MES in Category 'A', 'B', 'C' & 'D' and also having experience of this type should only apply.					
5.	Contractors who desire may be present at the time of opening of tenders.					
6.	The accepting officer reserves the right to accept or reject the tender, rejected tenders will be dealt with as per para 33 of PFPA rules.					

### FIA Cybercrime Quetta Apprehends Suspects Involved in Alleged Sexual Harassment

Manan Mandokhail:

QUETTA: In a major operation, the Federal Investigation Agency's (FIA) Cybercrime Circle in Quetta has successfully apprehended two individuals involved in sexual harassment and blackmail.

The accused, identified as Malik Shariq and Saqib Abbas, were taken into custody from the Quetta area.

The suspects allegedly employed a deceptive loan app to exploit unsuspecting citizens. Under the guise of financial assistance, they targeted individuals, attempting to extort money by threatening to leak compromising pictures and videos of their victims. The FIA Cybercrime Circle launched an investigation into the matter following multiple complaints.

#### 2 Mobile Phones Confiscated From Accused

During the operation, law enforcement officials confiscated two mobile phones from the possession of the accused. These devices reportedly contained objectionable photos and videos of a citizen's daughter, reinforcing the severity of the charges against Shariq and Abbas.

A spokesperson for the FIA stated that the arrested individuals are currently under investigation, and the legal process is underway.

The agency is committed to ensuring justice for the victims and will leave no stone unturned in bringing the perpetrators to justice.

#### Arrest Aims At Upholding Rule Of Law

The arrest of Malik Shariq and Saqib Abbas highlights the continuous efforts of



Law enforcement agencies to combat cybercrimes that pose a threat to the privacy and security of citizens.

The FIA encourages citizens to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activities, emphasizing the importance of cybersecurity awareness in the digital age.

As the investigation unfolds, the FIA Cybercrime Circle in Quetta remains steadfast in its mission to safeguard citizens from online threats and to uphold the rule of law in the digital realm.



QUETTA: Balochistan Caretaker Home Minister, Captain (R) Zubair Jamali visiting District Jail Quetta

### Global economy paying for the U.S. debt crisis: Report

ISLAMABAD (INP): How the Global economy is paying for the U.S. debt crisis, a detailed report was made in a report published by Coward Pro on Friday.

Just one day before a potential U.S. government shutdown, U.S. President Joe Biden signed a stopgap funding bill on November 16th to keep the federal government operational.

This act essentially means that U.S. policy-makers have once again deflected the fiscal time bomb by a few months. In reality, the U.S. debt issue has become a persistent ailment for both the American government and global investors. As the Federal Reserve enters a cycle of interest rate hikes, U.S. debt has been snowballing and will potentially trigger an avalanche in the international financial system. Just how large has this snowball become?

The U.S. federal debt, as reported by the U.S. Treasury Department on October 26th, 2023, has skyrocketed to \$33.67 trillion, an increase of \$2.27 trillion since the temporary suspension of the \$31.4 trillion debt ceiling took effect on June 3rd, 2023, set to expire at the beginning of 2025. The debt is projected to exceed \$50 trillion by 2030.

The massive fiscal deficits accumulated over the long term are a significant driver of the ballooning federal debt.

During the 2018 financial crisis, the U.S. government implemented two rounds of fiscal stimulus, totalling approximately \$1.5 trillion. During the COVID-19 pandemic, six rounds of fiscal stimulus policies were introduced, nearing \$5.7 trillion. These policies were financed by issuing bonds on a large scale. From 2007 to 2019, the U.S. government debt

increased by about \$14 trillion, and in the little over three years since 2020, it has risen by more than \$8.2 trillion.

According to a report by National Public Radio (NPR), the recent significant rise in federal government spending can be attributed to major factors such as the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, the increased healthcare costs due to the COVID-19 pandemic and an aging population, as well as a rise in other social service expenditures by the government.

The three main budget items—defense, healthcare, and social security—collectively account for as much as 60% of the budget and are considered essential. Additionally, the long-standing current account deficit has been covered by increasing national debt. In 2022, the U.S. trade deficit in goods and services soared by 12.2% from \$845.1 billion in 2021 to \$948 billion, marking a record high for the third consecutive year.

The U.S. has long been in a state of trade deficit, necessitating substantial financing or borrowing to bridge the gap.

The U.S. Congress established a maximum debt threshold for the federal government as early as 1917, known as the "debt ceiling" or "national debt limit."

From a systemic design perspective, the debt ceiling aligns with the common interests of the United States and all its creditors. It serves as a critical component in maintaining the U.S. government's debt credibility and the hegemony of the dollar, as well as a declaration of creditworthiness to creditors. However, in practice, the U.S. Congress has raised the debt limit over 110 times since 1917, from \$11 billion in 1917 to \$1 trillion in 1982, \$10 trillion in

2008, \$20 trillion in 2017, and breaking \$30 trillion in 2022.

The debt ceiling has become a defensive line that greed continuously pushes back. This supposed limit has been stretched continuously, symbolizing a defense line under siege by insatiable greed.

The question arises: where is the ceiling for the debt limit? By the end of the 2022 fiscal year, the size of the U.S. debt ceiling as a percentage of GDP had soared to 125%, the Congressional Budget Office predicts it will reach 185% by 2052.

Legally, Congress is granted the regulatory authority to impose limits on the total national debt, but there is a lack of regulation regarding the direction and purpose of bond funds.

This has led to a situation where the federal government, to achieve its policy objectives, opts to continuously increase the scale of fiscal expenditures, which are fundamentally unable to cover fiscal outlays, resulting in a fiscal deficit.

This phenomenon pressures Congress to submit to reality and repeatedly raise the debt limit, compelling Congress to concede.

On November 10th, Moody's announced a downgrade of the U.S. sovereign credit outlook from 'stable' to 'negative', while affirming its Aaa rating.

Previously, Fitch and Standard & Poor's had downgraded the U.S. sovereign credit rating from the top-notch 'AAA' to 'AA+'. Now, all three major international rating agencies express significant concerns about the prospects of U.S. sovereign debt. The loss of confidence worldwide is catastrophic for U.S. Treasuries, a global anchor for asset values.



ISLAMABAD: Imam-e-Kabah Professor Dr. Sheikh Saleh bin Abdullah bin Humaid calls on Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar.

### Pakistan, Japan fully committed to further strengthen diplomatic relations

ISLAMABAD (INP): Mr. WADAMitsuhiko, the Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan has stated that Pakistan and Japan has celebrated the 70th anniversary of diplomatic relations last year and have continued to develop the relationship this year.

He stated that cultural and people-to-people exchanges are the foundation of the Japan-Pakistan relationship. This year, we are holding events such as a Karate session and a Japanese film festival, as well as conducting scholarship programs as in previous years.

While addressing the Journalist's Reception here, he stated that last summer, Pakistan experienced the largest flood in its history. On the occasion Prime Minister Kishida had sent a message viewed that Japan will always be with Pakistan and will spare no effort to provide the necessary support for the earliest possible recovery of the affected areas.

He stated that In January, Japan pledged approximately 77 million US dollars in assistance for the recovery from the flood damage, more than half of which has already been disbursed. As part of this pledge, a grant aid project was signed last month. This is a project to rebuild 9 schools or 44 classrooms in Sindh Province. JICA and Government of Sindh are being prepared for implementation.

Japan has been providing development assistance to Pakistan since 1954 and we will celebrate 70th anniversary of our ODA cooperation next

year. Please talk with Mr. Kinoshita and the staff of the Economic & Development Section later for details of our efforts, he reiterated.

"I hope tonight will be an opportunity to further deepen your understanding of Japan and Japan-Pakistan relations. My staff from Political, Economic & Development, and Public Affairs Sections are waiting for talking with you. JICA's Chief Representative, Mr. Kinoshita, is also here. Thank you, Mr. Kinoshita, for joining us tonight."

"I would like to mention Foreign Minister's visited to Japan in July. I attended the meeting between the two Ministers in Tokyo and saw them having an open and frank exchange of views. While Pakistan is heading toward general elections, we have a new Foreign Minister, Ms. Yoko Kamikawa. She recently visited Palestine and Israel to discuss the situation especially how to improve the humanitarian situation in Gaza.

Between the governments of Japan and Pakistan, we have several high-level consultation frameworks including Foreign Secretary Level Political Dialogue, which was held in June. In the coming year and beyond, we will make use of the frameworks to move bilateral relations forward, he added.

Regarding his recent visit to Sialkot, he stated that in September, he visited Sialkot with Japanese companies in order to explore further strengthening business ties.

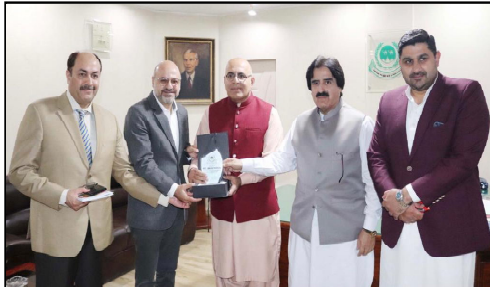
During the visit, I was very happy to learn that Japan's artificial leather, stainless steel, and other materials make it possible to produce high-quality soccer balls, surgical instruments and sports wears for export to the rest of the world.

Today, more than 80 Japanese companies are doing their business in Pakistan with a creation of more than 80,000 jobs. They have shared and transferred their knowledge, technologies and experiences while local partners have facilitated the Japanese business people in all phases of business cycle as "derechah dosti."

They are currently facing a difficult time amid the current economic situation in Pakistan. I would like to do my best to ensure that the business relationship between the two countries does not suffer any setbacks.

Last but not least, cultural and people-to-people exchanges are the foundation of the Japan-Pakistan relationship. This year, we are holding events such as a Karate session and a Japanese film festival, as well as conducting scholarship programs as in previous years.

In this regard, I would like to mention that the Government of Japan has conferred the Imperial Decorations on Mr. Imtiaz Ahmad, former Ambassador to Japan. He trained in Japan to master the Japanese language and contributed to strengthening friendship, cultural and economic relations and mutual understanding.



QUETTA: Information Minister Balochistan, Jan Achakzai handing over a shield to UNDP Pakistan Rep Dr. Samuel Rizk. DGPR Noor Khetrnan also present on the occasion

### Two cancer hospitals at govt level to be made operational soon: CM Naqvi

LAHORE (INP): Caretaker Punjab Chief Minister Mohsin Naqvi reviewed the progress on upgradation work on 43 priority projects for the convenience of the public including the upgradation of hospitals on Friday, besides announcing that two cancer hospitals are being made operational at government level for the first time in the history of Punjab.

The chief minister reached the office of the Planning and Development Board, Lahore and held a 3-hour long meeting to review the progress on development projects.

He directed to speed up work on the upgradation of Lahore hospitals including Sir Ganga Ram, Mayo, Children's Hospital, Services, and Institute of Cardiology.

He also ordered authorities to complete development work at Multan's Children's

Hospital, Nishtar Hospital, Nishtar II, Holy Family Hospital in Rawalpindi, Benazir Bhutto Hospital.

Allied Hospital in Faisalabad, DG Khan Institute of Cardiology within the stipulated period.

CM Naqvi said that the Institute of Dental Sciences in Jubilee Town is being made functional after a delay of 16 months.

He said that Mayo Cancer Hospital will be constructed in Manawan Hospital while a cancer hospital is being built at Indus Hospital in Jubilee Town.

Mohsin Naqvi said that two cancer hospitals are being made operational at the government level for the first time in the history of Punjab.

He directed the authorities to complete the construction of a new bridge over River Ravi

by January. The issues related to Imama Colony Flyover and Abdullahpur Faisalabad Flyover should be resolved soon, he added.

The chief minister was informed about the real-time monitoring of the projects through drone footage.

Board Chairman Ihtikhar Sahu briefed about the physical progress of each project, construction of a two-way road from

Wahandu Interchange to Benazir Chowk to Link Gujranwala with Sialkot-Lahore Motorway, Gajunta to Kasur Ferozpur Road and Manga Raiwind Road projects.

The chief minister was also briefed about the upgradation of the Lahore Zoo and Safari Park, and Safe City projects in Faisalabad, Rawalpindi, and Gujranwala.



CHINA: Tourists enjoy the view at Qinghai Lake in the northern province of Changhai