

# QUETTA VOICE

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## What Is Next ? Bugti, Raisani, Hassani Step Down Ahead of General Elections

Syed Ali Shah:

QUETTA: In a significant turn of events, two caretaker provincial ministers in Balochistan, Nawabzada Jamal Raisani and Umar Muhammad Hassani, have tendered their resignations following the recent landmark Supreme Court judgment related to the upcoming general elections on February 8, 2024. The resignations were accepted by Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Kakar, on Saturday, adding to the political reshuffle in the province.

### Resignations and Political Shift:

Nawabzada Jamal Raisani, the former caretaker minister of sports and youth affairs, has aligned himself with the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and is anticipated to contest elections from Mastung on the party's ticket. Meanwhile, Umar Muhammad Hassani, the ex-caretaker minister of mines and minerals, has not disclosed his political affiliation but is likely to contest from Balochistan's Chaghi district on the Pakistan Muslim League (N) ticket, being the son of central PML-N leader Sardar Fatch Muhammad Hassani.

### Governor's Acceptance and Political Ambitions:

A reliable source within the Governor's House confirmed the acceptance of both ministers' resignations, revealing that the caretaker officials decided to step down to pursue their political ambitions in the impending general elections. The move is seen as a strategic response to the evolving



political landscape in Balochistan post the Supreme Court's ruling. Sarfaraz Bugti's Resignation and Negotiations:

Notably, the federal caretaker interior minister, Sarfaraz Bugti, also submitted his resignation, which was accepted by caretaker Prime Minister Anwar ul Haq Kakar.

Bugti, a key political figure, has yet to announce his political allegiance but is reportedly in talks with multiple parties, including the Pakistan Muslim League (N), Jamiat ul Ulema Islam (I), and

Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP). Sources suggest that Bugti is considering a run for the Dera Bugti constituency and is viewed as a potential candidate for the chief ministership if successful in the elections.

### Upcoming Political Developments:

As the political landscape in Balochistan undergoes rapid changes, all eyes are on Sarfaraz Bugti's impending decision, expected within the next couple of days. The outcome of Bugti's political negotiations and his poten-

tial candidacy for chief ministership add an intriguing dimension to the evolving scenario in the province.

### Conclusion:

The resignations of caretaker ministers and the political realignments in Balochistan signify a dynamic prelude to the approaching general elections.

With candidates affiliating with various political parties, including the PPP, PML-N, and potential chief ministerial contenders, the province is poised for a transformative political landscape in the wake of the Supreme Court's judgment.

## Caretaker Balochistan Govt Resolves 7-Year Project Stalemate in 4 Months

News Desk:



QUETTA: The Caretaker Provincial Government, led by Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki, has successfully concluded the Quetta Development Package project, which had been pending for seven years. In four months, the caretaker government addressed the sluggish progress of the ongoing development projects, tackling challenges that had been impeding the welfare of the residents in the area.

Upon assuming office, the caretaker government ensured the prompt allocation of funds for the development projects and provided comprehensive administrative support, utilizing all available resources to overcome obstacles. This concerted effort resulted in the timely completion of various projects, contributing to the well-being of the public.

### CM Domki Emphasized On Timely Completion

Chief Minister Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki emphasized the priority placed on the welfare of the people, noting that the completed communication projects, such as the Sabzal Road to Link Road, Samangli Cross, and Airport Road in Quetta, would significantly improve traffic flow in the city. The projects aim to provide alternative routes, alleviating congestion on existing roads. Furthermore, the caretaker government is committed to com-

pleting other projects under the Quetta Development Package, including Sarab Road, Sabzal Road, and Ansonbe Road, shortly. During a ceremony, Chief Minister Domki inaugurated the Link Balim two-way road extension project and laid the foundation stone for the Sabzal Road to Link Road Simangli Cross and Shabu projects.

### CM Inaugurated Projects

Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki commended the rapid progress on all ongoing projects, attributing it to continuous visits, supervision, and special interest from the caretaker Chief Minister. He stated that all projects would be completed within two weeks, ensuring their inauguration.

In recognition of the outstanding performance in the Quetta Development Package projects, Chief Minister Domki, along with Additional Chief Secretary, Development and Planning, Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki, Commissioner Quetta Division Hamza Shafiq, Project Director Quetta Development Package Rafiq Baloch, and other officers were presented with certificates of appreciation.

Additionally, the project director honored the caretaker Chief Minister with a token of appreciation at the end of the ceremony.

## PKMAP Announces Protest Demos On Dec 19 In Support Of Chaman Sit-In

Staff Reporter:

QUETTA: The Pashtoonkwa Milli Awami Party (PKMAP) on Sunday announced to stage protest demonstrations outside all deputy commissioner's offices on December 19th (Tuesday). The party announced protest demonstrations in solidarity with the Chaman sit-in.

Addressing a press conference at the Quetta Press Club, Abdul Rahim Ziaratwal, the central leader of the party said that despite repeated appeals and requests, the federal government was reluctant to accept the demand of Chaman sit-in. Dr. Hamid Khan Achakzai, Syed Sharaf Agha and other party leaders were also present on the occasion.

Therefore, the party has decided to stage protest demos on December 19th to press the gov-



ernment for acceptance of Chaman sit-in's demands, he mentioned. Thousands of people have been protesting at the Pak-Afghan border Chaman against the introduction of passports and visa at the border for more than a month. "We demand the government to address the grievances of protesters in Chaman", Mr. Ziaratwal said.

## DHA, CBC told to remove road dividers for smooth traffic flow, storm water discharge into drains

KARACHI: The Sindh High Court has directed the Defence Housing Authority (DHA) and Cantonment Board Clifton (CBC) to remove all dividers from various roads in order to allow storm water flow into drains and regulate traffic flow.

A two-judge bench comprising Justice Nadeem Akhtar and Justice Mohammad Abdur Rahman also observed that dividers had been placed on either side of storm water drains, constructed in the centre of roads, which would prevent water from entering such drains and frustrated the very purpose of construction of drains. The court directed the respondents to comply with its order within three weeks and file a compliance report.

Dr. Mazhar Naeem had petitioned the SHC in July against bifurcation of streets/roads in DHA Phase-I and placing dividers on both sides of drainage pathway in the middle of roads, resulting in offending effective discharge of storm water as well as to disturb the smooth flow of traffic. News Desk

## Changaiz Hayee Baloch Joins National Party

Staff Reporter:

QUETTA: Changaiz Hayee Baloch, the son of the late Dr. Abdul Hayee Baloch, announced joining the National Party (NP).

Addressing a news conference at the Quetta Press Club, Mr. Baloch and his political colleagues from various parts of Balochistan announced the joining of the NP.

Former Chief Minister of Balochistan, Dr. Malik Baloch, the Central Secretary General of NP, Jan Buledi, Senator (R) Kabir Muhammad Shahi, and others were also present on the occasion. "I have decided to join the NP given the party's struggle for democracy and supremacy of the constitution," Changaiz Hayee Baloch told reporters. He said the party, under the leadership of Dr. Malik Baloch, was playing a significant role in protecting the Baloch rights and the rights of other small nationalities living in the country.



"Dr. Hayee Baloch Was My Mentor", Dr. Malik Baloch

Welcoming Changaiz Hayee Baloch to the NP, Dr. Malik Baloch said Shaheed Dr. Hayee Baloch was his political mentor, and it was a matter of immense pleasure for him that Changaiz joined the party today.

"This is a success for all democracy-loving people," Dr. Baloch said.

The former CM stated that despite all odds, the NP was trying hard to protect the Baloch rights and coast. He said no compromise would be made on the rights of the people of Balochistan. "We stand for the common man of Balochistan," he emphasized.

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Smart Way



### Need to overhaul power sector as anti-theft drive fails to give results: PIAF

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Pakistan Industrial and Traders Association Front (PIAF) has emphasized to overhaul the power sector through some drastic measures as the total cost of inefficiencies in the power sector is continued to rise, crossing Rs2.6 trillion by Oct 31, 2023, showing 13 percent over or Rs 75.25 billion per month growth in its flow, indicating that anti-theft drive failed to give results. Referring to the latest data, Chairman PIAF Faheem Rehman Sagol observed that circular debt stock touched Rs2.310 trillion at the end of FY 2022-23, which has now reached Rs2.611 trillion during July-October 2023-24 with a growth of Rs301 billion against growth of Rs249 billion in same pe-

riod of 2022-23. Faheem Sagol said that the Dicos' losses, inefficiency stood at Rs77.7 billion during July-October 2023-24 as compared to Rs 65 billion in the same period of 2022-23, showing addition of Rs 16 billion in total circular debt stock. He said that in present scenario the energy efficiency and conservation are key measures used by countries across the globe to mitigate associated risks. However, in the case of Pakistan, both energy efficiency and conservation were generally treated as alien concepts. The business standards and street enforcement, besides re-

placement of inefficient appliances and consumer awareness for responsible use of energy were other key areas which should be identified for action as a national priority. He estimated that a dollar outflow of around \$ 1.25 billion could be potentially saved annually through implementation of energy efficiency and conservation measures. The PIAF Chairman pointed out that the line losses ran as high as 9 percent over and above the percentage allowed by NEPA. He informed that theft and line losses should be addressed through advanced metering and cabling. Payables to power producers have reached Rs1.750 trillion during first four months of FY from Rs 1.434 trillion at the end of FY 2022-23, showing an addition of Rs316 billion. The stock of payables to IPPs was Rs 1,750 trillion during July-October 2023-24. However, Gencos' payables to fuel suppliers have declined to Rs96 billion from Rs 111 billion in FY 2022-23 and posted Rs 5 billion growth during July-October 2023-24 from Rs 91 billion in the comparable period of 2022-23. No change was witnessed in Rs 765 billion parked in Power Holding Limited (PHL). PHL parked amount was Rs 753 billion during the same period of 2022-23. Key reasons for the substantial growth in flow of circular debt are issues of K-Electric (KE), AJ&K, release of subsidies, delay in implementation of QTA adjustments.



QUETTA: President Muslim League (N) Balochistan Sheikh Jaffar Khan Mandokhail and PML-N women workers cutting the cake on the occasion of the leader of PML-N Mian Nawaz Sharif's birthday.

### Digitalization of revenue land, Online facilitation center inaugurated

KARACHI (INP): Sindh Caretaker Minister for Revenue, Industry and Commerce Muhammad Yunus Dagher inaugurated the digitalization of Revenue Land and Online Facilitation Center at the office of Association of Builders and Developers Pakistan (ABAD), here Sunday. On the occasion, Yunus Dagher said, "Caretaker Sindh Government has established a facilitation center in the office of ABAD for digitalization of revenue land and provision of online services. Under which ABAD members can now submit their appli-

cations at ease and can also get information about their applications online," said a statement. He said, "Facilities of e-service will be provided in all the revenue offices of Sindh including Deputy Commissioners, Assistant Commissioners, Mukhtari offices as now the people of the province can submit their applications online in these offices and get results while documents can be received at home by courier." Muhammad Yunus Dagher said, "Through digitization, the work will be completed with trans-

parency in revenue and the difficulties of the customers will be reduced." He said, "Through the digitalization of land, we are also computerizing the land records of the entire Sindh, with this process, no one's land ownership record can be changed through manipulation and now no one will be deprived of his right." He said, "Through this application, we are providing 10 different services, one of which is the provision of domicile. He said, "E-services launched in the Department of Industry and Commerce and board of



QUETTA: Governor Balochistan Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar is taking oath from the elected cabinet of Balochistan Civil Service Officers Association.

### Australia dominates as Pakistan falls short, all out for 89

PERTH (INP): Nathan Lyon took his 500th Test wicket on Sunday as Australia dismissed a rattled Pakistan for just 89 to post a thumping 360-run win in the opening Test at Perth. Pakistan's bid to win a first Test in Australia since 1995 was left in tatters by spinning Lyon and the home side's formidable pace attack, who wrapped up the game inside four days. The hosts resumed day four on 84-2, with the declaration coming soon after lunch when opener Usman Khawaja was

out for 90. Mitchell Marsh was unbeaten on 63 when skipper Pat Cummins made the call with Khuram Shahzad the best of the bowlers with 3-45. Earlier, Usman Khawaja and Mitchell Marsh steered Australia to an ominous lead. Khawaja was unbeaten on a fighting 68, with Marsh not out 42, in a partnership worth 79. Opener Khawaja began on 34 and Steve Smith 43 after the hosts bowled out Pakistan for 271 on the cusp of tea Saturday, well short of Australia's first innings total of 487.

But on a deteriorating pitch with cracks appearing, it was hard going early on Sunday, with pace bowlers beating the bats but causing problems. Impressive debutant Khuram Shahzad got a breakthrough in the fourth over of the day, trapping Smith lbw for 45 with a ball that nipped back. Smith reviewed but replays showed it clipping the top of the bat with the Australian veteran shaking his head and muttering to himself as he trudged off. Enter the aggressive Travis Head, who stroked a

straight drive boundary off the second ball he faced to signal his intent. But he lived dangerously and a misjudged drive off Aamer Jamal went straight to Imam-ul-Haq at cover, out for 14. Both Marsh and Khawaja survived reviews in the same eventful Jamal over as Pakistan ratcheted up the pressure. Marsh hit sixes off Jamal then spinner Agha Salman to keep the scoreboard moving, before a huge escape on 23 when skipper Shan Masood dropped a sitter at mid-off.

### LESCO detects 278 power pilferers on 99th day of anti-theft campaign

LAHORE (INP): The Lahore Electric Supply Company (LESCO) has detected a total of 278 connections from where the customers were pilfering electricity in all its circles of five districts (Lahore, Sheikhupura, Nankana Sahib, Kasur and Okara) on the 99th day of grand anti-power theft campaign. The LESCO spokesman told media here Sunday that the company has also submitted FIR applications against 278 electricity thieves, out of which 144 FIRs have been registered in respective police stations, while 13 accused have been arrested. Grand anti-power

theft operations against electricity thieves are being conducted on the directives of the Federal Power Division and the LESCO Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Engineer Shahid Hussain is supervising these operations. The LESCO chief vowed that the operations would continue without discrimination until the complete end of electricity theft. The electricity pilferers as well as the LESCO officers and employees who facilitate them are also being brought to justice. On the 99th consecutive day of the anti-power theft campaign, the spokesman added, large commercial consumers were also found involved in electricity theft and all of them were also disconnected. Among the seized connections were 05 commercial, 03 agricultural, 01 commercial and 270 domestic. All the power pilferers were charged with a total of 291,345 units as detection bill amounting to Rs 9,538 million. Apprising the media about some major power pilferers, he explained that LESCO charged detection units worth Rs 300,000, on an electricity pilferer in Behtani area of Lahore; Rs 120,000 to another customer stealing electricity in Suddar area of Shadara Town; Rs 120,000 to a power

thief in Factory Area, and Rs 110,000 detection bill to a power thief in Ferozwalla area. During the 99 days of grand anti-theft campaign, the spokesman mentioned, the LESCO detected pilferage on 36,087 power connections, and submitted 36,367 FIR applications against electricity thieves in the relevant police stations out of which 15,976 FIRs have been registered, while 16,005 accused have so far been arrested by the police. The LESCO has so far charged a total of 57,497,837 detection units worth Rs 2,241,588,768 to all the power pilferers.



QUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Minister for Information Jan Achakzai lighting a candle in memory of the martyrs of the attack on December 17, 2017 at the Methodist Church.

### FGEHA not paid any compensation to affectees in sector G-12, F-12

ISLAMABAD, Dec 17 (INP): The Federal Government Housing Authority (FGEHA) has not paid any compensation for land to any affected parties in sectors G-12 and F-12 of the federal capital. "However, the compensation will be made to the affected parties as per the criteria laid down by the FGEHA," said an official in the authority. He said the FGEHA has opened registration for allotment of plots to the general public in sectors G-12 and F-12 in the federal capital in August 2023. The award of land in sectors F-12 and G-12 was announced by the Deputy Commissioner of the Capital Development Authority (CDA) in June 1985 and April 1985, respectively, under Section 25 of the CDA Ordinance 1960, an official informed. He said there is no provision for de-notifying the award once it is

announced, nor is there any provision in the Land Acquisition Act of 1894 that allows for setting aside an award. Accordingly, he said the Judgment of Land Award was passed by DC, FGEHA, on April 20, 2021, after addressing the court orders and other relevant issues. The rate for an award issued is Rs. 62,90,000/- 15% compulsory land acquisition charges (total Rs. 72,35,000/-).

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FID 11/2023 PRRA 152023/1E	Hiring of the courier/vehicle to assist in the clearance of health and non-health products at airport / Support and Dry cost and deliver to CMU Hyderabad. (S&M-MTH/REG/2023)	December 18, 2023 close of business	December 18, 2023 at 11:00am (GMT+5:00)

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QUETTA: Director Professor Nawaz Soomro, Abdul Khaliq Bulghani and Barkat Ismail addressing the in-service teachers training event.

# Sardar Latif Khosa Advocate Joins PTI

Dawood Ahmed:

In a major political development, Sardar Latif Khosa Advocate joined the Pakistan Tehrik e Insaaf (PTI) on Sunday. Sardar Latif Khosa was the central leader of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and remained the Governor of Punjab during the party-led government.

Speaking to the media in Lahore, the lawyer — who has represented PTI chief Imran Khan in several cases — said he had taken the step with the hope of taking the country towards a "beautiful" future.

"The world says that people do press conferences to leave [the party] and you are doing a press conference to join," he quipped, referring to how several PTI leaders had left the party in the aftermath of the May 9 violence. "I am doing this deliberately. If rendering services for your mother country makes you a lunatic, then yes I am a lunatic," he said. He further said that one should not be fearful to speak the truth, adding that life, death, honor, respect, and sustenance were all in God's hands.



# Collaborative Growth with German Consulate's Focal Person for Economic Development

Syed Ali Shah :

In the bustling city of Quetta, where the echoes of development are becoming increasingly audible, the people and business leaders of Balochistan extend a heartfelt appeal to the German Consulate in Karachi. Today, as we reflect on the dynamic friendship between Pakistan and Germany, we take a moment to express our gratitude to the German government for its sponsorship of various development projects that have notably enhanced the socio-economic conditions of our province.

Balochistan, with its vast and untapped potential, stands as a reservoir of economic opportunities awaiting exploration through international partnerships. Recognizing this significant potential for collaboration, we underscore the crucial role that the German Consulate can play in promoting economic growth, facilitating trade, and attracting investments to our resource-rich region.

The spirit of our appeal lies in a call for enhanced cooperation, urging the German Consulate to initiate dialogues and engagement sessions with local entrepreneurs, industrialists, and investors.

This collaborative approach promises not only to benefit the business community but also to contribute significantly to the overall economic development of



Balochistan.

Our province boasts unique offerings in sectors such as minerals, agriculture, and fisheries, aligning harmoniously with Germany's interests and expertise.

By actively involving the business community, the German Consulate has the opportunity to identify mutually beneficial opportunities and contribute to the prosperity of both regions.

While expressing our appreciation for the appointment of a focal person for the business community of Sindh and Balochistan, we humbly stress the importance of broader consultation with all stakeholders in Balochistan.

We believe that inclusive decision-making will undoubtedly enhance the success of such initiatives. We are optimistic that, under its current leadership, the German Consulate will not only recognize

the significance of Balochistan's economic landscape but also take proactive steps to strengthen economic ties.

Our people and business leaders eagerly anticipate constructive engagement that fosters a lasting partnership between the German Consulate Karachi and our province.

Together, as great friends on the global stage, Pakistan and Germany can unlock the full potential of economic collaboration and contribute to the shared prosperity of our regions. Balochistan, with its rich tapestry of opportunities,

should not be overlooked in development and key appointments. We trust that our collective efforts will pave the way for a brighter future for all, and as a newspaper, we remain committed to facilitating this collaborative journey toward progress and prosperity."

# ECP bans registration and deletion of votes from electoral rolls

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) has banned registration and deletion of votes, citing. According to media reports, the electoral body has imposed ban on registration of new votes, deletion, change and correction of votes in electoral rolls.

ECP has also imposed ban on leaves of its officers, other employees and returning officers. The election commission's regional offices will remain open today (Sunday) for provision of voter lists

and other material. The ECP has also imposed ban on transfers and postings of provincial and federal government employees. It is to be mentioned here that the election commission had issued the election schedule for the February 8 general election in compliance with the Supreme Court order on Friday. The development came hours after the apex court ordered the ECP to announce the election schedule as it suspended a Lahore High Court (LHC) order on the ap-

pointment of returning officers (ROs) and district returning officers (DROs) from bureaucracy, which had cast a shadow over holding of general elections.

During a chat with newsmen, Chief Election Commissioner Sikandar Sultan Raja vowed to provide level-playing field to all political parties. "I had never said the elections would be delayed in the country. It is better to do the confirmation before the dissemination of the news," the CEC told newsmen.



ISLAMABAD: Participants oppose for a group photo during a training session "How BRI and CPEC is being reported in Pakistan: An outlook of 10 years of CPEC" organized by the center for Democracy and climate studies (CDCS) in collaboration with the Chinese Embassy.



QUETTA: Chairman Balochistan Peace Forum and Former Senator Nawabzada Haji Mir Lashkari Raisani speaks during a dialogue session of a book by Dr.Taj Raisani "Where We Bent".

# FM urges UN to ensure implementation of resolutions on Kashmir

ISLAMABAD (INP): Caretaker Foreign Minister Jalil Abbas Jilani has called on the UN Security Council to ensure full implementation of its resolutions on Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

According to a press release of the Foreign Office, the Foreign Minister in his letters to the leadership of the United Nations, Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the European Union has invited their attention to the illegality of the recent judgment by the Supreme Court of India on the status of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

The Foreign Minister also called on the international organizations to urge India to end the grave and systematic human rights violations in IIOJK and to reverse all its illegal and unilateral actions undertaken since 5 August 2019. In these letters, the Foreign Minister underscored that under international law, domestic legislation and judicial verdicts cannot be invoked to determine the final status of an internationally-recognized disputed territory.

He also condemned the unlawful measures of the Indian authorities to consolidate their occupation of IIOJK and persistent suppression of the rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. He said India's illegal and unilateral actions of 5 August 2019, and a series of subsequent steps, are aimed at altering the demographic structure and political landscape of IIOJK. The clear goal of these unlawful steps is to convert Kashmiris into a disempowered community in their own land. Foreign Minister Jilani Abbas Jilani has termed the recent judgment of the Supreme Court of India, a breach of international law and relevant UN Security Council resolutions.

# PJL leader demands transparent general elections in country

ISLAMABAD (INP): Rana Zaman Saeed, leader of the Pakistan Jamhoori League (PJL), expressed his contentment over the announcement of the schedule for the upcoming general elections in February 2024. However, he emphasized the need for stringent measures to ensure the elections are fair, transparent, and accepted by all political parties.

While talking with journalists here on Sunday, Saeed lamented the historical trend of elections in Pakistan not being recognized by political parties, citing this as a major obstacle to strengthening democracy in the country. He warned against any clandestine efforts to favor a single political party, asserting that such a move would be detrimental to democracy and political stability.

"Whatever elections have been held in the country's history due to their non-recognition by the political parties, democracy could not be strengthened," remarked Saeed during the briefing. He underscored the potential consequences of unfair and non-transparent elections, stating that it could result in political instability, further damage to the economy, and increased hardship for the nation's poor through inflation. Saeed called upon all relevant institutions, including the Election Commission, to prioritize the interests of the people over any particular political party. He stressed the need of allowing citizens to exercise their right to vote freely, emphasizing that the elected candidate, chosen by the people, should assume the responsibilities of governance. Highlighting the contrast with prosperous nations, Saeed remarked that the rich countries of the world are developing due to their strong systems. He expressed concern that, instead of progressing, Pakistan is experiencing degradation daily. Saeed attributed this decline to self-interested politicians and elements within the establishment who, he claimed, attained power through unconventional means, labeling them as criminals against the nation. As the country approaches the crucial 2024 elections, Rana Zaman Saeed urged for collective efforts to ensure a democratic and transparent electoral process that reflects the will of the people and contributes to the progress and stability of Pakistan.



ISLAMABAD: Counselor of the Media Session, Embassy of China to Pakistan, Bao Zhong, speaking to the journalists of Balochistan and khyber Pakhtunkhwa during a training session.

# Durrani calls for investigations into supply of US weaponry to terrorists

ISLAMABAD (INP): Ex-Federal Minister and senior politician Muhammad Ali Durrani has expressed grave concerns over the source and trafficking of the latest American weapons and technology to terrorists in the war against Pakistan. "Where are the terrorists fighting against Pakistan obtaining the latest American weaponry?" Durrani questioned as he demanded an inquiry into the matter.

"It is imperative to undertake these investigations to root out terrorists and eliminate the scourge of terrorism," he said in a statement issued here on Sunday. He said that the United States of America (USA) should assist Pakistan with cutting-edge technology which is in the interests of both the US and global security. "The possibility of another 9/11 cannot be ruled out if the supply of the latest weaponry

to terrorists is not curtailed," Durrani urged. The former minister said that the availability of sophisticated arms to terrorists is a matter of concern for national and global security. "A new war is being orchestrated against Pakistan through the latest American arms," he said. In such circumstances, the US should support Pakistan with latest technology in the war against terrorism. "It is the interest of the US to play a role for peace in the region," he said. Durrani said that American weapons and technology are being used against Palestinians by Israel and against Pakistan by terrorists. The presence of such weaponry and technology among terrorists raises numerous questions that cannot be ignored, he added. Senator Durrani said that the responsibility lies with the

United Nations and especially with the United States to prevent the supply of new technology and weapons to terrorists and terrorist organizations. "The goal of terrorists, be they state or non-state actors, is to sow chaos, posing a threat to the safety and security of the world," Durrani said. He said that Pakistani armed forces and the nation defeated terrorism with their unparalleled bravery and sacrifices and "all political parties, institutions and the masses will have to stay united and move forward with a comprehensive and robust plan of action." Pakistan nation and armed forces would once again defeat terrorists, who are using American weapons and technology, he said. "Strong defense and robust democracy are the guarantees of Pakistan's integrity and security," Durrani concluded.