

QUETTA VOICE

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Wednesday, January 31,2024

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Imran Khan, Shah Mahmood Qureshi sentenced to 10 years in jail in cipher case

NEWS DESK: A special court established under the Official Secrets Act on Tuesday handed both former premier Imran Khan and ex-foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi 10 years in jail in the cipher case.

The cipher case pertains to a diplomatic document that the Federal Investigation Agency's charge sheet alleges was never returned by Imran. The PTI has long held that the document contained a threat from the United States to oust Imran as prime minister.

The verdict comes nine days before the February 8 general elections, which the PTI is contesting amid a state crackdown and without an electoral symbol.

Both Imran and Qureshi have been in jail in the run-up to the elections. While Imran's candidature was rejected, Qureshi was cleared to run for an NA seat from Thar. But today's conviction means that both of them have been disqualified from contesting elections for the next five years.

This is Imran's second conviction as he was also convicted in the Toshkhana case on Aug 5, and sentenced to three years imprisonment. The Islamabad High Court (IHC) had suspended his sentence. However, a division bench had later rejected Imran's petition seeking the suspension of the conviction.

This is the former foreign minister's first conviction. Special Court Judge Abul Hasanat



Zulqarnain announced the verdict in the case. At the outset of the hearing, Imran and Qureshi were given a questionnaire under Section 342 (power to examine the accused) of the Code of Criminal Procedure. After Imran recorded his statement, the court asked him about the whereabouts of the cipher to which he replied: "I have said the same in my statement that I do not know. The cipher was in my office." The judge then sentenced the two to 10 years in jail in the case. After announcing the verdict, the judge stepped out of

the courtroom, at which Qureshi protested that his statement was not recorded. In an informal conversation with reporters after the hearing, Imran alleged that former army chief Gen (ret) Qamar Javed Bajwa "conspired" against his government for "extension". "Bajwa wanted another extension in November. Shehbaz Sharif had promised him an extension," the ex-premier claimed, adding that PML-N's Nawaz Sharif prevented the same from happening as he knew the former army chief's men were a part of the team

probing the Panama Papers case. In a post on X, PTI's official account issued a statement saying that Pakistan stood with Imran and Qureshi "who defended Pakistan and stood for haqqeeq azadi". "No such sham trial can change what happened in March-April 2022, on the orders of Donald Lu," the statement added. "A complete mockery and disregard of the law in the cipher case shall not lead us to forget our primary responsibility in order to provide justice to Imran and Qureshi."

Postal Ballots Among Prisoners in Balochistan; Only 166 Apply Out of 3,000

Syed Ali Shah:

QUETTA: In an unexpected turn of events, a mere 166 out of the 3,000 prisoners across 12 prisons and 17 judicial lock-ups in Balochistan have applied for postal ballots, signaling a notable lack of enthusiasm for the upcoming elections.

Among the applicants, 162 prisoners from Loralai, Pashin, and Sibi have submitted their requests to their respective Returning Officers, indicating a concentrated interest in certain areas. The breakdown includes 103 prisoners from Central Jail Mach, 3 from Central Jail Mastung, 18 from District Jail Dera Murad Jamali, and 15 inmates from Loralai. Additionally, 12 inmates from District Jail Zhob, 6 from District Jail Sibi, and 5 from District Jail Pashin have also expressed their intention to vote via postal ballot.

Low Number Raises Questions

The low number of applications raises questions about the level of political engagement within the incarcerated population of Balochistan, a senior prison official said.

He said various factors, including limited awareness or indifference, may be contributing to this lackluster response.



Balochistan's prison authorities and electoral officials are working to ensure that eligible prisoners are informed about their right to vote and the process of applying for postal ballots, he mentioned. As the election date approaches, efforts are being intensified to encourage more active participation from the prison community in shaping the democratic process.

The prison administration and election authorities are collaborating to address any concerns or obstacles that may be discouraging prisoners from participating in the electoral process.

No action against journalists over criticism of verdicts: CJP Isa

ISLAMABAD: As the Supreme Court emphasised journalists should not be booked over a social media campaign against superior judges, Attorney General for Pakistan Mansoor Usman Awan assured the apex court that criminal cases will not be registered against reporters since "honest criticism" of a judgement was not a crime.

Led by Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa, a three-member bench also comprising Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar and Justice Masarat Hali had taken up a suo motu case regarding the harassment of journalists.

The court, however, did not pay heed to a request for the suspension of proceedings conducted by the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) against journalists.

Against the backdrop of a smear campaign against judges, the FIA had issued notices to over a dozen journalists and called them on Monday (Jan 29).

The CJP observed that he did not mind if "someone makes fun of him but mocking the judiciary brings harm to the country, re-



minding the limits the Constitution imposes on criticism".

The suo motu notice was taken on a joint resolution of the Press Association of the Supreme Court (PAS) and the Islamabad High Court Journalists Association (IHCJA). In the roster, an earlier case on the same issue instituted in 2021 — also at the request of the PAS — was clubbed with the instant case.

During the hearing, PAS President Aqeel Aziz recalled that on Sunday caretaker Information Minister Murtaza Solangi claimed that out of a list of 47 journalists, notices were issued to 22 by the FIA.

According to AGP Awan, the benchmark will remain that journalists should keep a balance between the requirements of Article 14 — which ensures the dignity of man — and Article 19 which ensures freedom of speech. He added that criticism

should be targeted towards the judgement.

The benchmark, however, will remain that the criticism should be targeted towards the judgement instead of becoming part of a smear campaign against the judges," the AGP said.

CJP Isa said "fair criticism" was not only the right of journalists but also of every citizen; therefore, no criminal action could be initiated if the criticism was related to judgements as stipulated under Article 19. He said the court would ensure freedom of expression for every journalist.

It ordered AGP Awan to furnish comprehensive statements regarding the outcome of investigations and actions taken in relation to earlier incidents of harassment of journalists, for instance, coercive actions against journalists Matullah Jan, Asad Ali Toor, Imran Shaqfat, and Aamir Mir.

The CJP asked AGP Awan to reach out to any intelligence agency, including the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) — and if he failed to get any co-operation on their behalf then he should report it back to the top court.

IMF downgrades Pakistan's 2024 growth estimate to 2pc

News Desk: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has downgraded Pakistan's growth estimate for fiscal year 2024 to two per cent, according to a report issued on Tuesday.

The Fund's World Economic Outlook (WEO) for January said the estimate was downgraded by 0.5pc from 2.5pc in October's outlook.

The IMF's latest growth forecast is lower than the government's 3.5pc GDP growth target for the current year.

Meanwhile, the IMF raised its 2024 global growth forecast to 3.1pc, citing unexpected resilience in major advanced and emerging market economies around the world, including the United States and China.

The updated figure is 0.2 percentage points higher than the October forecast.

"The global economy continues to display remarkable resilience, with inflation declining steadily and growth holding up."

IMF chief economist Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas told reporters in South Africa on Tuesday. "The chance of a soft landing has increased, but the pace of



expansion remains slow and risks remain," he added, alluding to policymakers' attempts to successfully cut inflation by raising interest rates while avoiding a recession. Despite the upgrade, the IMF predicts that global growth will remain below its recent historical average of 3.8pc this year and the next due to continued impacts of elevated interest rates, the withdrawal of pandemic-related government support and persistently low levels of productivity. Among the Group of Seven (G7) advanced economies, growth in European countries looks set to remain weak, reflecting ongoing challenges, while Japan and Canada are expected to fare slightly better.

The IMF's overall inflation outlook remained unchanged at 5.8pc for 2024, but that masks a significant underlying shift between richer and poorer countries.

PTI Rally Targeted In Sibi, 4 Killed Several Injured

Nashad Baloch:

SIBI: At least four people were killed when a blast targeted a rally of the Pakistan Tehrik e Insaaf (PTI) on Tuesday evening. Dr. Babar, the Medical Superintendent of District Headquarters Hospital confirmed the killing of four people in the blast.

"We received four dead bodies from the spot of the blast", Dr. Babar said. He said five were injured in the blast were brought to the Sibi hospital for medical treatment. Police sources said the bomb went off when the rally of the former ruling party was passing through the main Innah Road Sibi.

Names of the Injured:

Sohrab Khan, son of Akbar Khan

Ronq Kumar, son of Naresh Kumar

Nader Hussain, son of Muhammad Warsi

Mir Muhammad, son of Noor Muhammad

Abdul Hasceb, son of Muhammad Khan

According to medical reports, these individuals are currently receiving treatment at District Hospital Sibi.

Potential Perpetrators:

The authorities have released a list of individuals believed to be responsible for the



bomb blast:

Hamad Khan, son of Sarwar Khan

Abdul-Was, son of Abdul-Basit

Muhammad Rafiq, son of Hussain Baloch

Unknown individual

Law enforcement agencies are actively pursuing leads to identify the fourth suspect.

Ongoing Investigation:

The local police, in collaboration with intelligence agencies, are conducting a thorough investigation to determine the motive behind the attack and apprehend all individuals involved.

Security has been heightened in the area to prevent any further untoward incidents.

Appeal for Information:

Authorities urge the pub-

lic to come forward with any information regarding the whereabouts of the suspects.

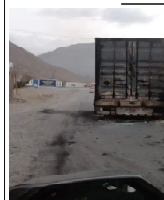
Anonymous tips can be submitted to the local police hotline.

This devastating incident has shaken the community and authorities are committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of residents.

Updates on the investigation will be provided as more information becomes available.

Major Attack Thwarted, 5 Terrorists Killed in Mach: Balochistan Minister

Staff Reporter:



QUETTA: Security forces thwarted three major terror attacks at the Central Jail Mach Bolan. Jan Achakzai, the Balochistan Caretaker Information Minister said five terrorists were also neutralized when security forces timely retaliated.

However, levies sources said a sub inspector of police identified as Sajid Solangi was also martyred in the attack. They said six shops and a private hotel were also severely damaged in the attack.

The outlawed Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) claimed the responsibility for the attack. Eye witnesses say thick black smoke was also rising

from the spot of the attack. However, Jan Achakzai said three major terrorists bid were foiled and now the situation was under control.

Residents of the area were confined to their homes in the aftermath of the terrorist attack. Huge security deployment after the attack, levies sources said.

Levies sources said several people were also injured in the attack. Videos shared on social media shows injured being rushed to nearby hospitals.

Waseem Baig, the Spokesman of the Civil Hospital said 13 injured of the Mach incident were brought to the Trauma Centre for medical treatment.

Ten Hag ready to select strongest Man Utd team as stars return

LONDON (INP) - Erik ten Hag believes he is set to finally pick his strongest Manchester United team against Wolves on Thursday as a host of stars return from injury. United return to Premier League action at Molinoux buoyed by Casemiro, Lisandro Martinez and Luke Shaw featuring in Sunday's FA Cup fourth round win at minnows Newport. Hampered by injuries, it was the first time the trio had started together since the second game of the season at Tottenham in August.

Harry Maguire also made a late cameo from the bench in the 4-2 victory for

his first appearance since December 12 following a groin problem. Cameroon goalkeeper Andre Onana will also be available against Wolves after returning from the Africa Cup of Nations.

Whether Marcus Rashford will feature after missing the Newport tie remains to be seen. Rashford said he was ill on Friday after reportedly spending the previous evening at a Belfast nightclub, with Ten Hag declaring the issue an 'internal matter' that he would deal with. But asked if the Wolves game could be the first time he played his strongest team, Ten Hag said: 'It could be, potentially - yeah. Maybe for the first time as long as I was manager that we can pick a team from a squad that is probably the strongest.'

United are languishing in eighth place in the Premier League and were dumped out of the Champions League in the group stage. On the importance of the return of his key players, the under-fire Ten Hag added: 'I believe it is very important. Now they have to step up to match fitness 100 per cent. This game definitely helped, but we know also when we go into the Premier League the intensity is higher and they are forced to high levels. They had minutes in the week against Burnley. Now they have more minutes. This game was very helpful to make the next step and to be ready for Thursday.'

After a difficult season marred by poor form and off-the-field issues, United winger Antony set up Bruno Fernandes for the opener ending his 31-game scoreless streak stretching back to last April.

Ten Hag hopes Antony can use his performance as a springboard for a successful run in the second half of the season. 'Antony had the assist on the first goal for Bruno and a goal. So end product, that is what we demand from him,' Ten Hag said.



ISLAMABAD: Chief Minister GB Haji Gul Bar Khan in a meeting with caretaker Federal Minister Interior Industry & Production Dr. Gohar Ejaz at his office.

APHC leader urges UN to address Kashmir dispute amidst deteriorating situation in IIOJK

ISLAMABAD (INP) - Shahab Ahmad Shah, a senior leader of the All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) currently detained in the infamous Tihar jail in New Delhi, has fervently appealed to the United Nations to intervene and address the worsening situation in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

According to Kashmir Media Service, Shah, in a statement from jail emphasized the urgency of resolving the Kashmir

dispute in accordance with UN resolutions. Expressing deep concern over India's nefarious designs to infringe upon the fundamental rights of the people in occupied Kashmir and its treatment of them as worse than animals, the APHC leader decried the rude and inhumane behavior of the Indian authorities. He condemned the use of brute military and police force to suppress the legitimate demand for the right to self-determination of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Shah criticized the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) regime for its oppressive tactics, arguing that it undermines the principles of a global village. He pointed out that non-Kashmiris have gained control of civil administration and bureaucracy, and the Muslim majority has been virtually alienated from trade, business and bureaucracy resembling with the Dogra Maharaja rule of 1947. The APHC leader, lauding the valor and steadfastness of the freedom-loving people of Kashmir, said: 'We are indebted to the great sacrifices of our people and we shall leave no stone unturned to take the ongoing righteous demand to its logical conclusion.' He urged the United Nations to take cognizance of the Indian state terrorism in IIOJK and help stop the ruthless harassment, arbitrary arrests and human rights abuses in the territory and resolve the Kashmir dispute in accordance with the UN resolutions.

Super Six fixtures confirmed for ICC U19 World Cup 2024

ISLAMABAD (INP) - The fixtures in the Super Six stage of the ICC U19 Men's Cricket World Cup 2024 were confirmed following the conclusion of the last round of group stage matches. The top three teams in Groups A and D combine, as well as the top three sides in Groups B and C, creating two groups of six where the top two sides in each would progress to the semifinals, said a press release.

India and Pakistan topped Groups A and D respectively, and they would be joined by fellow qualifiers Bangladesh, Ireland, Nepal and New Zealand to form the first group. The second group would feature the top teams in Groups B and C, South Africa and Australia - joined by England, Sri Lanka, West Indies and Zimbabwe. Teams carry points, wins & net run rate earned against their fellow qualifying teams into their respective Super Six groups, and will each play two further matches before the semi-finalists were determined. Super Six fixtures would take place from January 30 to February 3 across four venues: Mangaung Oval in Bloemfontein, Kimberley Oval in Kimberley, JB Marks Oval in Willowmoore Park in Benoni - the venue which would host the semifinals and final. Among the standout fixtures in the Super Six stage were defending champions India



QUETTA: Ali Ahsan Rind, Country Manager of Ricodic Mining Company Limited and Tariq Mian of Hunar Foundation signing the Memorandum of Understanding.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs meeting of the Federal Cabinet.

PPP candidates booked on murder charge after clash with MQM-P

KARACHI, Jan 30 (INP) - Muttaqida Qammar, Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P) has lodged a first information report (FIR) against the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) candidates for the General Elections 2024 and others on charges of 'killing' its worker during the clash in Karachi's Nazimabad area. As per reports, the MQM-P filed an application with Gulbhar

police station under murder and terrorism-related clauses of the Pakistan Penal Code and Anti-Terrorism Act, 1997. The PPP's candidates from NA-249 Rao Abdul Wahed, PS-124 Arif Qureshi, and six others have been nominated while 25 to 30 unidentified persons were also booked in the FIR. Earlier on Sunday, the supporters of both the parties came

face to face while the PPP rally was passing from outside MQM-P's election office. After the incident, unidentified persons set two vehicles on fire in Nazimabad No. 02. The police officials said that fire tender has extinguished the fire. Earlier on January 22, the MQM-P and the PPP registered cases against each other over violence in Karachi's Hyderiara.

Australia the 'security partner of choice' in South Pacific: PM Albanese

SYDNEY (INP) - Australia is the 'security partner of choice' for neighbouring Papua New Guinea (PNG), Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said on Tuesday, after the biggest Pacific Island nation said China was seeking to undermine its security deal. Major trade partner PNG in September with an offer to assist in police force training equipment and surveillance technology. PNG Foreign Minister Justin Tkachenko told Reuters on Monday. Talks were at an

early stage, and PNG would not jeopardise its security ties with Australia and the United States, he added. PNG struck a \$200 million security agreement with Australia in December to boost police training after forging a defence agreement with the United States in May, although both deals are yet to be implemented. 'We are the security partner of choice for Papua New Guinea, as we are for most of the countries in the Pacific,' Albanese told reporters on Tuesday, in response to questions. China's ambassador to Australia said this month Beijing has understood the need to increase security ties in countries where Australia has long standing and genuine relationship with China, where we can agree to disagree. 'I know that's added. In an effort to counter China's push to increase security ties in countries where Australia has long provided policing support, Australia pledged \$35 million for policing assistance in East Timor on Monday.

Shamar Joseph lands PSL deal with Peshawar Zalmi

LAHORE (INP) - West Indies fast bowler Shamar Joseph's match-winning spell against Australia at the Gabba on Sunday has helped him land a deal at the PSL with Peshawar Zalmi.

He is expected to join the franchise at the start, and remain with them for the entirety of the tournament. While Joseph was announced by Zalmi

TENDER NOTICE

Dr. Zayed Al-Nahyan Institute of Cardiology invites bids from eligible Bidders for supply of following items. TSE-222401373561 Only electronic bid will be submitted. No physical bids to be received. 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 e-PPRA GOB. Tender Fee: Rs.1000/-

partial replacement for England fast bowler Gus Atkinson, ESPNcricinfo understands he will remain with Zalmi for the entirety of the tournament - even after Atkinson joins the England Test squad in India for the five-match series that runs till March 11, ensuring his unavailability for all but the playoff games. The announcement to sign Joseph didn't come at the replacement and supplementary draft, which took place earlier today. At the time, Zalmi announced they had replaced Afghan legspinner Noor Ahmed, also unavailable, with Atkinson for the whole tournament. But Atkinson's current engagement with the national side in India serves their pick.

Tender notice details including item list, bidder information, and contact details for the Zayed Al-Nahyan Institute of Cardiology. Includes a table with item details and a QR code.

PTA to extend all-out support for promoting ICT sector: Chairman

ISLAMABAD (INP): Chairman, Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) Maj. Gen. (R) Hafeez ur Rehman has said that the Authority was making many collaborative efforts to promote ease of doing business and attract foreign investment. He said these collaborations would help address industry challenges and facilitate more favorable business environment.

He stated this while talking to a delegation of the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) led by its President Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari which called on him on Tuesday.

Maj. Gen. (R) Hafeez ur Rehman said that Pakistan's telecommunications and digital technology sectors were undergoing transformative changes, driven by development of comprehensive regulatory frameworks. He said that PTA was working to provide customers with affordable and high quality services and ensure reasonable returns to investors.

The Chairman PTA said that

the mobile phone sector has achieved a remarkable growth of 29% during the last 5 years due to which mobile services are available to 90% of the country's population while the broadband subscribers have soared to over 130 million. He assured that PTA would continue to focus on improving coverage, access and quality of services to promote ease of doing business and attract more investment. Speaking on the occasion, President ICCI Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari said that in this competitive business environment, availability of affordable telecommunication services and digital technology is very important for businesses and PTA should focus on this to promote ease of doing business.

He said that suspension of mobile broadband services badly affects the digital transactions of businesses and causes them significant losses and stressed that the PTA should address this issue to save businesses from losses. He said that better cyber security was

important for the protection of critical data of businesses from attacks and emphasized that PTA should take measures to this effect. The ICCI President said that Pakistan needs to promote indigenous manufacturing of mobile phones and their parts. He said that PTA should bring further reforms in the regulatory framework to attract foreign investment in local production of mobile phones.

Ahsan Zafar said that PTA should play a role for some good broadband packages for students and SMEs. He assured that ICCI would cooperate with PTA in efforts to make Pakistan an IT hub to promote digital economy and exports.

Former President ICCI and Secretary General UBG Pakistan, Zafar Bakhtawari stressed for enhanced broadband accessibility, especially in rural and far-flung areas to create business opportunities and improve the economy.

Ameer Hamza, Saif ur Rehman Khan and others were also present on the occasion.



QUETTA: Chairperson of the National Commission on the Status of Women, Nilfar Bakhtiar, presented a shield to the Caretaker Provincial Health Minister, Dr. Amir Mohammad Khan Jozgazi.

Social change vital to promote Punjabi language: Dr Shahid Munir

LAHORE (INP): Chairman Punjab Higher Education Commission (HEC), Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir said that for the promotion of Punjabi language, efforts should be made without waiting for government patronage. He said that it was important to change our social behavior to promote Punjabi language.

This was stated by him while addressing the inaugural ceremony of two-day international Punjabi conference on 'Punjabi as an Academic and Functional Language' organized by Punjab University Institute of Punjabi & Cultural Studies in collaboration with Punjab Institute of Languages, Art & Culture Lahore at Sherani Hall, Old Campus on Tuesday.

The event was attended by Punjab University Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood, Director PU Institute of Punjabi and Cultural Studies Prof. Dr. Nabila Rehman, Dr. Jagmohan Sanga, Sardar Ajaib Singh Chhattha, Sardar Ajaib Singh Chhattha senior journalist Mudassar Iqbal Butt, former Chairman PHEC Prof. Dr. Nizamuddin, faculty members, students, Sikhs and other Punjabi experts from Canada, America, England and Turkey.

Addressing the participants, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir said that Punjab was a different region in the world in which there were green and waving fields here, but unfortunately, people were suffering from poverty. He said that the development of

Punjabi associated with the harmony of modern technology of industries. He said that instead of establishing new institutions, the efficiency of already established institutions should be increased.

He said that we should be proud of Punjabi language. He said that land can be divided but culture cannot be changed.

Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood said that it becomes easy to understand any difficult matter in mother language and we should not feel inferior for speaking Punjabi language.

He said that the English was not spoken in any official meeting in China and Iran and developed nations promote their language to show that they were not victims of any mental slavery.

Dr. Jagmohan Singh said that Punjabis were believed and respected in Canada. He said that Punjabis were members of the parliament in Canada and hold important government positions.

He said that Punjabi progress in any country by working hard and there were many Punjabi language organizations in Canada. He said that Pakistani and Indian Punjabis jointly organize various activities together.

Dr. Nabila Rehman said that languages were intermingling with each other. She said that Punjab has been a land of skills and talent for centuries. She said that it was unfortunate that even

though the soil of Punjab was fertile, agricultural commodities worth billions of dollars were being imported. She said that Punjab had been the most literate region. She said that every city and town of Punjab has its own identity and its own livelihood. She said that there was a need for an education system that teaches moral values.

Mudassar Iqbal Butt said that the topic of the conference was the need of the hour. He said that practical efforts were now needed for the promotion of Punjabi language. He said that Punjabi language should be made the language of education. He said that local languages were taught in Sindh, Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

He said that Punjabi should be made compulsory from 1st to 6th grade. He said that the teachings of Punjabi Sufis play a role in creating a good person.

Sardar Ajaib Singh Chhattha said that the aim of teaching moral values should be to create the best human beings and with education. Dr. Nizamuddin said that Turkish, Chinese, Korean and Japanese teach in their own languages. He said that for the promotion of mother tongue and national language, there was a need to promote the field of translation.

Later, souvenirs were distributed among the guests. The conference will continue on Wednesday as well.



QUETTA: BNP senior vice president Sajid Tareen addressing a press Conference.



QUETTA: Caretaker Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Ali Mardan Khan Domki is presiding over a high-level meeting on peace and security through video link.

Met Office forecast rainfall in country from 31st Jan to 04th Feb

ISLAMABAD (INP): Met Office has forecast rainfall and snowfall on mountains in country from 31st Jan to 04th Feb.

Heavy rain may generate flash floods in Balochistan on 2 and 3 February as a westerly wave is affecting the country and may persist till 04th February.

Under the influence of this weather system, rain with isolated heavy falls (snowfall over the hills) is expected at Balochistan's Nokkundi, Dalbandin, Chagai, Kalat, Khuzdar, Lasbella, Awaran, Turbat, Keesh, Gwadar, Jiwani, Pasni, Ormara, Panjgur, Kharan, Noushki, Washuk, Mastung, Sibbi, Naseerabad, Zhob, Sherani, Barkhan, Musakhel, Kohlu, Jhal Magesi, Loralai, Ziarat, Quetta, Chaman, Pishin, Qila Abdullah and Qila Saifullah on 02nd or 03rd February. Pakistan Meteorological Department

(PMD) said in a weather report.

Moderate to heavy rainfall over the hills is expected in Gilgit-Baltistan and Kashmir from 31st Jan to 04th Feb with occasional gaps.

Moderate to heavy rainfall over the hills is expected in Chitral, Dir, Swat, Abbottabad, Mansehra, Haripur, Peshawar, Charsadda, Nowshera, Swabi, Kohat, Bannu and Dera Ismail Khan from 31st Jan to 04th Feb with occasional gaps. Rain with snowfall is expected in Murree and Gulliyat from 31st Jan to 01st Feb and on 03rd and 04th Feb with occasional gaps.

Light to moderate rain is expected in Islamabad/Rawalpindi, Pothohar region, Lahore and other districts of Punjab from 31st Jan to 01st Feb and on 03rd & 04th Feb, while in Multan, Bhakkar, Layyah, Bahawalpur,

Bahawalnagar, Dera Ghazi Khan and Rahimyar Khan on 02nd and 03rd Feb.

Light to moderate rain is expected in Sukkur, Larkana, Dadu, Mirpurkhas, Karachi, Shaheed, Benazirabad, Jacobabad and Kashmir on 02nd and 03rd Feb, while cold and partly cloudy weather is expected in other parts of the province. Heavy rainfall may cause flash flooding in local nullahs of Barkhan, Kohlu, Sibbi, Naseerabad, Dalbandin and Khuzdar in Balochistan on 02nd and 03rd February.

Moderate to isolated heavy rain/snowfall may cause landslides and closure of roads in Murree, Gulliyat, Naran, Kaghan, Dir, Swat, Kohistan, Mansehra, Abbottabad, Shangla, Astore, Hunza, Skardu, Neelum valley, Bagh, Poonch and Haveli on 31st January and 01st February.

All principles of a fair trial badly violated in cipher case: Hamid Khan

RAWALPINDI (INP): Hamid Khan, the lawyer of PTI Founder Inran Khan, said that this is not a trial, it is an abuse of power. "It seems they are in a hurry to punish Inran Khan and Shah Mahmood Qureshi. All principles of a fair trial are being violated," said Hamid Khan.

Speaking to the media outside Adiala Jail, he expressed that it's not clear whose orders the court is following to announce the verdict hastily. All this is a violation of laws and constitution and against the principles of justice in every way. "Constitutional requirements should be fulfilled, we

should go to no one but the court. No matter what the crime is, the right to defense should not be abolished. Our lawyers did not appear in court just one day; what was the urgency that they deny the right to defense?" he further said. The court has no right to appoint a defense counsel without the consent of the accused. "We will consult with our fellow lawyers and follow the next course of action," said Hamid Khan.

It should be noted that yesterday, the hearing of the cipher case was conducted by Special Court Judge Abul Hasanat Zulqarnain in Adiala Jail. Under

the Official Secrets Act, the lengthy hearing continued for more than thirteen hours in the special court.

The statements of 11 more witnesses in the cipher case had been completed. After the cross-examination of the witnesses, questionnaires were prepared to record the statements of 342 accused. Former Chairman of PTI, Inran Khan, also appeared in court, he said.

"I have come before you, note my presence. Now this fixed match is underway, what am I to do here?" After that, the former Chairman of PTI left the court.



QUETTA: Caretaker Provincial Interior Minister Captain Muhammad Zubair Jamali, Chief Secretary of Balochistan Shaheed Qadir, and Inspector General of Police (IG) Balochistan Abdul Khaliq Sheikh, along with the Shaheed SHO Sajid Solangi, were on a visit.

Shabbir Shah urges UN to address Kashmir dispute amidst deteriorating situation in IIOJK

SRINAGAR (INP): Shabbir Ahmad Shah, a senior leader of the All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) currently detained in the infamous Tihar jail in New Delhi, has fervently appealed to the United Nations to intervene and address the worsening situation in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

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and bureaucracy resembling with the Dogra Maharaja rule of 1947.

The APHC leader, lauding the valour and steadfastness of the freedom-loving people of Kashmir, said:

"We are indebted to the great sacrifices of our people and we shall leave no stone unturned to take the ongoing righteous demand to its logical conclusion." He urged the United Nations to take cognizance of the Indian state terrorism in IIOJK and help stop the ruthless harassment, arbitrary arrests and human rights abuses in the territory and resolve the Kashmir dispute in accordance with the UN resolutions.