

# QUETTA VOICE

Editor: Asim Khan

Thursday, November.07.2024.

dquettavoice@gmail.com



Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfaraz Bugti awarding certificates to students: Photo provided by DGPR

## Jan Muhammad Gohar Appointed As Registrar of Balochistan High Court

**Staff Reporter:**  
QUETTA: Jan Muhammad Gohar has been appointed as the Registrar of the Balochistan High Court, according to a notification issued on Wednesday.

Previously, Gohar served as a judge in the Anti Corruption Court and Banking Tribunal in Quetta.

He has also held a position in the Anti-Terrorism Court, bringing extensive judicial experience to his new role as Registrar.

## Parliament passes key bills on SC expansion, military chiefs' tenure extension

**NEWS DESK:** The National Assembly on Monday approved a legislative amendment to extend the tenures of all armed services chiefs from three to five years. Hours later, the Senate approved the same set of bills, sending them to President Asif Ali Zardari for final approval. Defence Minister Khawaja Asif presented amendments to the Pakistan Army, Navy, and Air Force Acts, which were passed by majority vote amidst intense protests from opposition members. This amendment will extend the tenure of all military chiefs from three to five years.

The proposed changes will align the retirement and reappointment regulations across the armed forces, giving the president authority, upon the prime minister's advice, to appoint, reappoint, or extend terms for these positions for up to five years. The amendments remove previous age limits and extend tenure options, enabling the Chief of Army Staff and other military leaders to continue serving as generals beyond the earlier prescribed 64 years, should national security or critical needs arise.

## CM Balochistan on Allama Iqbal Day: Elements Abroad Misleading Youth Against the State

**Manan Mandokhail:**

QUETTA: Speaking at an Iqbal Day event hosted by Iqbal-e-Nau College in Quetta, Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Bugti called on young Pakistanis to embrace the philosophy of Allama Iqbal. He voiced concerns over foreign elements working to mislead the nation's youth against the state, using propaganda to stir division. Bugti emphasized that through Iqbal's concept of "Khudi" (selfhood), the youth can discern between truth and deception, drawing strength from knowledge and inquiry.

Reinforcing the idea of a united identity, Bugti remarked, "We are Pakistanis first, above all regional or ethnic identities."

He encouraged the youth to adhere to Iqbal's vision of the "Shabeen," symbolizing resilience and intellectual growth, to withstand these influences. Bugti announced significant developments for education in Balochistan, including the creation of a Fazal Haq Mir BS facility at the college and an annual grant of Rs 1 crore. Additionally, he introduced a unique "Meark-to-PhD" scholarship program aimed at students from families of civilian martyrs, as well as minorities and the transgender community. He also highlighted an interest-free loan initiative to support youth business ventures.

The Chief Minister urged students to counter terrorism through positive social media engagement, affirming that education would be their weapon against extremism. "We will honor our martyrs by establishing institutions in their name, standing united against those who wish to harm us," he stated.

## Quetta Police Arrest Over 200 Drug Addicts in Major Operation at City Nullah

**Syed Ali Shah:**

QUETTA: In a large-scale operation targeting drug activity at the City Nullah, Quetta Police arrested more than 200 drug addicts, including over a dozen children, and transferred them to a rehabilitation center managed by the Social Welfare Department. The operation, conducted under the directives of DIG Police, sought to address the rising number of drug addicts in the area.

Police reported that more than 50 temporary shelters were destroyed during the raid in the central canal area, which has been a frequent gathering spot for addicts. Despite ongoing efforts by security forces to clear the site, addicts often return shortly after each operation, raising questions about the effectiveness and sustainability of these initiatives.

## PM announces 100MW power supply, Rs1bn endowment fund for Gilgit Baltistan

**NEWS DESK:** Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday announced an immediate power supply of 100 megawatts and an Rs1 billion merit-based endowment fund for university students of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB).

While chairing a special meeting of the GB cabinet during his daylong visit, the premier expressed satisfaction and pleasure over the timely completion of Buhar Model Village, which he had inaugurated earlier to provide housing facilities to the people affected by floods in 2022.

He instructed the GB administration to establish educational institutions, playgrounds, power

transmission and other facilities in the Ghizer district. Besides announcing an immediate power supply of 100 megawatts to GB, the prime minister announced a Rs1bn merit-based endowment fund for the students of Balistan University and Karakoram University. The premier also told the GB cabinet members that the federal government would establish Daanish Schools in the area, similar to those in the Punjab province, adding that his government was actively working for the uplift and welfare of the GB people.

He recalled that while being the Punjab chief minister, his government had given a Rs1bn gift to

uplift GB's education sector. He said that the provincial governments' cooperation with the federal government for economic stability was significant.

The prime minister told the participants that the stock exchange crossed the 92,000 mark and the increase in remittances, tax return filers and reduction in inflation were pleasant developments for the national economy. He lauded the role of all provinces. Azad Jammu and Kashmir and GB in the national development and highlighted his government's special focus on the uplift of GB, merged districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan.

## US Elections: Social Media Boosts Trump's Victory

**Monitoring Desk:**

In the latest U.S. elections, social media has proven more influential than traditional legacy media, shaping public opinion and voter behavior in unprecedented ways. Elon Musk, owner of the social media platform X, is credited with playing a crucial role in Donald Trump's strong performance and victory.

ing the importance of strengthening diplomatic and economic ties. The Prime Minister highlighted that positive collaboration could contribute significantly to regional and global stability. Unlike legacy media, which often faced criticism from Trump supporters for perceived bias, X offered a platform with fewer content restrictions, allowing Trump's messages to spread more freely and widely. Analysts point out that this open environment enabled Trump to connect directly with millions of voters, potentially tipping the scales in his favor. Observers now view Musk's ownership of X as a defining factor in shifting media influence, as social media eclipses traditional outlets in political impact. This trend highlights the evolving role of digital platforms in shaping U.S. elections and suggests that social media's influence may continue to grow in future political landscapes.



With Musk's emphasis on free speech and his platform's massive reach, X became a key space for Trump's campaign and a hub for his supporters, who amplified his messages on issues like economic recovery, immigration, and national security.

**PM Shehbaz Sharif Congratulates Trump**  
Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has extended congratulations to the newly elected President of the United States, Donald Trump. In his message, Sharif expressed optimism that President Trump would work to enhance bilateral relations between the U.S. and Pakistan, emphasizing

## Secretary Information Balochistan Supports Girls' Sports in Quetta

**Sports Desk:**

QUETTA: Provincial Secretary for Information, Inran Khan Afridi, emphasized the importance of sports competitions for students' physical and mental development, highlighting the need for a balance between education and sports. During the final match ceremony of the 24th Mini Olympic Games' All-Quetta Inter-Schools Girls Throw Ball and Catch Ball competitions, Afridi, who also serves as the Chairman of the Throw Ball Association, commended the enthusiasm of Balochistan's girls for throw ball, a relatively new sport in the region. He expressed optimism about their future success and hoped they

would bring glory to the nation through sports. In the throw ball final, Hazara town Girls School emerged victorious over Kili Ibrahimzai Girls School, and also clinched the catch ball championship by defeating Postal Colony Girls School. As the guest of honor, Afridi awarded certificates, trophies, and medals to the winners and runners-up, encouraging all participants and pledging his continued support. At the event's conclusion, Atta Muhammad Kakar, known as the "Father of Sports in Balochistan," presented Afridi with a commemorative shield.



## Punjab gov orders school closures, shift to online education amid deadly smog

**NEWS DESK:** The Punjab government on Wednesday ordered the closure of all educational institutions from November 7 to 17 as the province grapples with deadly smog and an alarming Air Quality Index (AQI). On Thursday, the Punjab government declared smog a calamity as the provincial administration notified a host of measures, such as vacations for disabled children and a ban on all activities "causing or leading to smog formation" to improve the hazardous air quality across the province, particularly

in Lahore. A day earlier, the provincial government imposed a green lockdown in several areas of Lahore it considered "smog hotspots," but enforcement remained lax at best on the first day. The Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) has now declared smog a calamity under Section 3 of the Punjab National Calamities (Prevention and Relief) Act, 1958. This law allows the government to "provide for the maintenance and restoration of order in areas affected by certain calamities."

## Polio Crisis Worsens in Balochistan: 23 Cases, Flawed Strategy Under Fire

Continued on page 2

## Artificial Intelligence Just Taking Baby Steps

Continued on page 2

## Crackdown against unauthorized wall chalking launched

Continued on page 4

## OPINION VOICE

Editor: Asim Khan

### Polio Crisis Worsens in Balochistan: 23 Cases, Flawed Strategy Under Fire

Editorial:

QUETTA: Balochistan continues to grapple with a worsening polio crisis, with 23 cases now reported in the province, contributing to a nationwide total of 46 cases.

Despite numerous vaccination campaigns and financial aid from international organizations like UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO), the virus remains rampant, particularly in Balochistan, which has the highest caseload despite making up only 5% of Pakistan's population.

In a recent high-level meeting, Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Bugti instructed health officials to urgently raise the province's polio immunization rate from 38% to 60%.

Chief Minister Bugti, along with Provincial Health Minister Bakht Muhammad Kakar and senior health officials, reviewed current strategies and emphasized the need for an efficient, structured approach to eliminate the virus.

Bugti directed Lady Health Visitors (LHV) and Lady Health Workers (LHW) to intensify their roles in the anti-polio drive, stressing community-friendly methods and reducing public inconvenience.

However, the provincial government's response has come under fire as the virus continues to spread. Despite an emergency declaration and ongoing campaigns, critics argue that both the government and international health agencies are failing to address the root causes behind low immunization rates.

Observers note that outdated strategies and ineffective outreach are contributing to persistent gaps, with children in remote and high-risk areas left vulnerable.

This publication has repeatedly advocated for adopting indigenous approaches tailored to the unique needs of Balochistan's communities.

As polio cases rise, the province's struggle highlights governance and management deficiencies in the health sector. Health Secretary Mubeen-ul-Khan acknowledged gaps in routine immunization, but meaningful change remains to be seen as the government efforts, with rising risks of infections and limited improvements, it is clear that Balochistan needs a revamped, locally driven strategy if Pakistan hopes to become polio-free.

### At the crossroads of rivers and rivalries

By Anna Hashmi:

Water is more than just a lifeline - it's a tool of power, diplomacy and survival, especially in regions where access to it is a source of tension and conflict. As the world faces growing water scarcity, managing shared water resources is becoming a geopolitical challenge of the highest order. Nowhere is this more evident than in the water conflicts involving Israel, Palestine, India and Pakistan, where diplomatic maneuvering over rivers and dams shapes the political landscape as much as any border dispute.

In the arid Middle East, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is deeply intertwined with water. Israel controls nearly 85% of the shared water resources in the West Bank including the Mountain Aquifer and Jordan River, leaving Palestinians to survive on the project of the available supply. UN figures say the Israeli population used to be virtually 300 liters per person, whereas the Palestinians are now barely accessing 70 liters, as opposed to 100 - the minimum recommended by WHO.

In South Asia, the stakes are equally high. The Indus Waters Treaty's limitations have become glaringly obvious as India continues to build dams and hydroelectric projects on the western rivers (Indus, Jhelum and Chenab) that are supposed to flow freely into Pakistan. India's Kishanganga and Baglihar dam projects, which, Pakistan claims, reduce the flow of water

into its territories, have led to multiple disputes being taken to international arbitration. For Pakistan, these projects represent not just an environmental concern but an existential threat. The headworks of major Pakistani rivers are located in Indian territory, making Pakistan vulnerable to India's water policies. This dependence is a ticking time bomb, especially in times of drought or political tension.

Internally, Pakistan faces a similar water management crisis, with the Kalabagh Dam issue epitomising the deep divisions within the country. Proposed as a 3,600 MW hydroelectric project capable of storing 6.1 mat' water, the Kalabagh Dam has been a political flashpoint for decades. The provinces have different views on the project, with Punjab opposing the project as a measure to regulate floods and provision of electrical power which is much in demand. Sindh, KPK and Balochistan have strong objections to the proposal. Sindh apprehends the dam would curtail the water flow of the Indus river and its farms will be deprived of water. KPK believes the dam will only pave the way for large projects of Nowshera and many will be made homeless. The project has been transformed from one of inundation to the most stark definition of inter-regional distrust, the consequences of which only serve to demonstrate the need for a more participatory approach in dealing with national

water projects. The way forward is clear: regional cooperation and sustainable water management must be prioritised. First, water-sharing agreements, like the Indus Waters Treaty, need to be updated to reflect modern realities - climate change, rising populations and increased water demand. Nations must invest in efficient water infrastructure, from modern irrigation systems to dams that do not disrupt ecosystems or displace large populations. International bodies should oversee disputes to ensure agreements are upheld, and any new projects should be subject to environmental impact assessments that consider not just technical feasibility but the human element. Moreover, governments and populations alike must come to terms with a critical reality: there is no mega project without a mega sacrifice. However, adequate compensation, resettlement plans and livelihood support must be guaranteed to all those displaced by large-scale infrastructure projects.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

Water diplomacy is no longer an option - it is a necessity. Countries must view cooperation, not competition, as the only way forward. Whether it's sharing the Kalabagh Dam debate, the future of water diplomacy will determine the fate of millions. Only by we hope to secure a future where water flows not just as a resource, but as a tool of peace and stability.

## Artificial Intelligence Just Taking Baby Steps

Syed Muhammad Qaseem:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the simulation of human intelligence in computer systems. In simple words, AI enables machines to perform tasks that require human intelligence. Those tasks can be learning from past experiences, solving problems, and making predictions based on provided data. Until now, AI has just started taking baby steps but it is growing at a much rapid rate.

Every invention had various positive and negative impacts on human civilization. According to Google's CEO, Sundar Pichai "AI will have a more profound impact on human beings than fire, electricity, and the internet". This innovation also has both positive and negative impacts on human beings. If it is left unchecked it will have severe impacts on human creativity, the job market, and the flow of information. However, the positive use of AI will bring major advancements in medical science, education, agriculture, etc.

**AI's use in War**  
Using AI for the purpose of war has become ferocious weapons. Because AI unlike humans has no fear, doesn't get tired, and doesn't get tired, and it has no mercy. So, it can fight much better than a soldier.

Thus, Countries are trying to develop AI fighters, robots, and drones for the militarization of power. This will attract the attention of their rival countries to build AI for military purposes for the balance of power.

**Negative Impacts of AI:**  
AI is a technological tool and its use can be both positive and negative, although, it is in the hands of human beings on how to use it. Following are some negative impacts of AI on humans.

**Deep Fakes Through Generative AI:**  
In the age of information technology, misinformation is a major issue.

The introduction of generative AI into public space has further worsened the predicament of misinformation. Through generative AI, deep fakes are generated.

These deep fakes are difficult to judge, as original or fake, for a person who has no knowledge of AI. The deep fakes can be an image, a video, or

other side, it takes much effort and time for a human to do all these tasks. Due to the lazy and comfort-seeking nature of human beings, now they mostly rely on AI to perform these tasks. With the passage of time, AI is learning more skills and human's reliance on AI is further increasing. This increase in reliance on AI will cause the death of creativity in humans.

**AI and Job Market**  
"AI is coming to take your job", this news was seen on many news platforms when ChatGPT was launched in Nov 2022. As stated earlier, AI is efficient and less time-consuming in performing a task. Therefore, it has made millions of people jobless in almost every field, whether they are hotel waiters, drivers, journalists, software engineers and content writers etc.

AI-driven cars neither have sleep problems, consequently, companies are manufacturing AI-driven cars to avoid road accidents. Journalists and content writers demand huge salaries for their work, while ChatGPT is a free AI app that can do the same tasks freely and quickly. More interestingly, AI will replace its own founders (Software Engineers) as AI can write code and find errors in it. To sum up, AI has much potential to replace the human workforce.

**Positive Impacts of AI:**  
Along with negative impacts, AI can also be advantageous for humans if used for welfare purposes. In the following paragraphs, some advantages of AI are described if AI is used positively.

**AI can Revolutionize the Medical Field**  
AI along with synthetic biology can transform the world shaped until now. AI and synthetic biology can eradicate debilitating diseases, and find treat-

ments for pandemics, thus providing health benefits. AI has also made a lot of achievements in the field of surgery. Last year, an AI robot performed a successful egg surgery in which the inner layer of an egg was stitched. Additionally, an AI Chatbot can also prescribe medicines and treatment for the provided symptoms. In the coming years, AI will further advance itself in the medical field and people will take numerous benefits from it.

**Prediction Based on Provided Data**  
Humans remain curious to predict things of the outcome of events. If data is fed to an AI, it can find patterns in that data, and based on those patterns it can give predictions. For example, AI can predict election results, market demand for a product, predict weather etc. In the US 2020 presidential elections, an AI model was trained to predict the outcome of elections.

Tweets and Facebook posts were fed to the model from which AI separated positive and negative sentiments about former US President Trump and current US President Joe Biden. Based on the high number of positive sentiments, the AI model predicted that Trump would win the elections, and he won. So, humans can take advantage of this feature of AI and can reap its benefits.

**Boosting Agriculture Through AI**  
Pakistan is an agriculture-based country, and enhancing the agriculture sector will boost the country's economic performance. AI companies should include a watermark to the content generated through AI to cope with misinformation. In the end, AI will be more hazardous if it gets consciousness and moves physically freely without being dependant on humans.

**AI can analyze the**

market's supply and demand chain. AI will be efficient in saving the loss of water during irrigation.

Secondly, it will provide a suitable environment for the plants to grow through maintaining soil fertility and water needs.

To sum up, equipping agriculture with AI systems will boost agricultural production and prevent heavy water losses.

**Recommendations for the Pakistani Government**  
The world has entered into the race of AI development. Fortunately, Pakistan has a huge human resource, but making them skillful in the field of AI is a hard task to do. All provincial governments should include AI in the school curriculum.

There should be an AI portal for students, from where they can get updates about AI developments around the globe and jobs announced by the government. Furthermore, universities must be directed to increase practical work in AI rather than theoretical.

**Conclusion**  
In conclusion, AI is a breathless advantageous, poses a grave threat to human civilization. If AI is left unchecked, it can spread misinformation through deep fakes, worsen the status quo of security dilemmas, cause the death of human creativity, and take jobs.

So, all countries should adopt a single platform and form laws to control the development and introduction of AI tools in public space. In addition, AI companies should include a watermark to the content generated through AI to cope with misinformation. In the end, AI will be more hazardous if it gets consciousness and moves physically freely without being dependant on humans.

AI can analyze the

## A vision to behold

By Rafia Zakaria:

Q UER the course of its tumultuous existence, the story of Pakistan has been told in myriad ways.

In keeping with the debate surrounding its very creation, Pakistan's narrative has often been manipulated by enemies who wished for its annihilation. Dictators who sought control, and by terrorists and nihilists wanting to impose their own ideology.

Poets and artists have sought to unravel these malicious yarns with words and paint; not all have succeeded, though some have left a positive imprint.

A laudable effort to showcase the country's talents was initiated recently and is ongoing. The Manzara Museum of Architecture from Pakistan 1940s to today is open for viewing at the Qatar National Museum in Doha, Qatar.

Designed by architect Raza Ali Dada, and curated by the team of the ArtMill, Qatar's Museum of Modern Art, with Indus Valley School's director of graduate studies Zameen Shah, Manzara does not limit itself to paintings, its multidimensional approach includes sculpture, architecture, and installations that together weave the tapestry of

a vibrant museum culture in Qatar. Featuring some 200 works of art, Manzara includes a multi-dimensional, multilayered and dynamic narrative of the country that can only be told through its art.

It eloquently captures a moment of simultaneity in time and space as reflected in Salima Hashmi's painting 'Zones of Dreams', which delivers a complicated texture of Pakistani history and visual culture. Manzara does not limit itself to paintings, its multidimensional approach includes sculpture, architecture, and installations that together weave the tapestry of

Pakistan's visual legacy. While it is impossible to enumerate and mention the many iconic pieces included in the exhibition, one of the unmistakable stunners is Rashid Rana's 'The Red Carpet'.

Viewed from afar, the piece appears to be a print of a beautiful and intricate red Persian rug. On closer inspection, it is revealed to be a mosaic compilation of hundreds of photographs of butchered meat.

The beguiling red of the carpet is, in fact, an apt metaphor for the story of a very complicated country. The salt in Doha's air recalls a Pakistani city on another shore that has too often

been erased or overlooked in the recollections of art culture.

Also remarkable is acclaimed Pakistani artist Shahzia Sikander whose pioneering reclamation of Mughal miniature is presaged through some resplendent pieces including two stills from her 2016 animation 'Disrupt' on the Kapture. Sikander's work underscores the interpretive genius of Pakistani art and its ability to reclaim ancient form for modern times. Sikander, whose work has been exhibited everywhere from America to New Zealand, is a prime example of a Pakistani artist who began her journey at the National College.

changes are backed by genuine enforcement. Civil society must be empowered to hold the government accountable.

Lifting restrictions on free speech, dismantling laws that allow for harassment of activists, and fostering a free press are crucial first steps. If the government truly intends to hold inclusive institutions, it must allow civil society to operate freely, without fear of retaliation.

Only by embracing these bold actions can Pakistan hope to break free from its cycle of poverty and underdevelopment.

KP gov initiates interest free Ehsas Loan Scheme

PESHAWAR (INP)- The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has taken a public friendly step and completed all the action points to commence interest free Ehsas Loan Scheme.

Dr Amjad Ali, Special Assistant to the Chief Minister for Technical Education and Vocational Training Tufail Anjum and Secretary Zakat Nazir Hussain Shah and relevant stakeholders participated in the meeting.

Finance Muzammil Aslam said that Ehsas Loan Scheme will create new business opportunities while making the people employed and poverty eradication will be possible in the province.

He said that Akhuwat Organization was supporting the provision of the Ehsas loan scheme by this month. He said that the interest-free Ehsas loan scheme is a continuation of the loan scheme launched in 2022 by the then KP government.



QUETTA: A delegation led by PML-N leader Nazir Musakhail is meeting Governor Balochistan Jafar Khan Mandokhel.

Senate committee pushes for transparency in higher education amid fraud concerns

ISLAMABAD (INP)- Senator Bushra Anjum Butt emphasized the need for timely allocations for the HEC's International Research Support Initiative Program (IRSIIP), noting that a final decision is anticipated by the end of December.

The meeting also addressed the issue of derogatory remarks against Pashtuns in an O-Level Urdu book, raised by Senator Bilal Ahmed Khan during the Senate sitting on October 18, 2024, was thoroughly discussed. It was reported that actions have been taken to ban the book, and the author has submitted a written apology.

She was chairing the Senate Standing Committee on Federal Education and Professional Training in Islamabad. Currently, 266 out of 515 candidate reviews have been completed, and the Chair stressed the importance of documenting this timeline to ensure results are released as scheduled.

She also recommended that the author must provide explanations, offer an apology, and be held accountable in the next meeting. The meeting also addressed the issue of derogatory remarks against Pashtuns in an O-Level Urdu book, raised by Senator Bilal Ahmed Khan during the Senate sitting on October 18, 2024, was thoroughly discussed.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh chairing a session of Sustainable Development Conference.

Finance minister launches SECPs Electronic Mortgage Register of Companies

ISLAMABAD (INP)- Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Muhammad Aurangzeb launched SECPs Electronic Mortgage Register of Companies, a landmark initiative designed to provide a centralized system for accessing and verifying mortgage information of companies.

making and fostering trust in the financial sector, said a press release issued here. Electronic Mortgage Register, a centralized database, will enable Banks/Non-Banking Financial Institutions to quickly verify existing status of registered mortgages, thus, reducing the time, effort and administrative cost required for manual processes.

streamlining the process for Banks/Non-Banking Financial Institutions to open corporate accounts for companies incorporated through the newly launched online e-File. Companies filing statutory documents and will not only significantly reduce the turnaround time for opening corporate bank accounts but also bring better transparency in KYC and CDD processes.

SECP's records. Since its launch, 49 Banks/Financial Institutions are using the portal, to gain real time access to statutory records of companies. This innovative step allows Banks/Non-Banking Financial Institutions to open corporate accounts without requiring physical certified copies of statutory documents and will not only significantly reduce the turnaround time for opening corporate bank accounts but also bring better transparency in KYC and CDD processes.

ECP summons 48 political parties' heads for failing to submit tax returns

ISLAMABAD (INP)- The Election Commission of Pakistan has summoned 48 political parties' heads, including PTI Nazariat and Summieth Council, for failing to submit their tax returns. As per details, the commission had directed all parties to report their annual income, expenditures, funding sources, and assets by August 29. However, the ECP summoned senior party leaders: Akhtar Mengal and Hamid Raza, and directed them to appear before the commission to explain the non-compliance with the requirements. In a separate development, the ECP summoned Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan's emeritus chief and former Minister for Religious Affairs, Dr. Muhammad Saleem, to appear before the commission to explain the non-compliance with the requirements. In a separate development, the ECP summoned Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan's emeritus chief and former Minister for Religious Affairs, Dr. Muhammad Saleem, to appear before the commission to explain the non-compliance with the requirements.

August 29. However, the ECP summoned senior party leaders: Akhtar Mengal and Hamid Raza, and directed them to appear before the commission to explain the non-compliance with the requirements. In a separate development, the ECP summoned Jamaat-e-Islami Pakistan's emeritus chief and former Minister for Religious Affairs, Dr. Muhammad Saleem, to appear before the commission to explain the non-compliance with the requirements.

the election watchdog to submit a reply. The ECP finalized a plan to establish three-tier Election Monitoring and Control Centres (EMCC) to oversee the local government by-elections in 26 Sindh districts being held on November 14. The Election Monitoring and Control Centres (EMCC) to oversee the local government by-elections in 26 Sindh districts being held on November 14. The Election Monitoring and Control Centres (EMCC) to oversee the local government by-elections in 26 Sindh districts being held on November 14.

the election watchdog to submit a reply. The ECP finalized a plan to establish three-tier Election Monitoring and Control Centres (EMCC) to oversee the local government by-elections in 26 Sindh districts being held on November 14. The Election Monitoring and Control Centres (EMCC) to oversee the local government by-elections in 26 Sindh districts being held on November 14.

'WSSC committed to providing better living conditions to people'

DI KHAN (INP)- Chairperson of the Board of Water and Sanitation Services Company (WSSC) DI Khan Naimat Ullah Khan has said that the company was committed to providing better living conditions to the people of the city, added that improving cleanliness system of the city was the top priority in order to facilitate the citizens.

He expressed these views during a field visit to monitor the cleanliness condition of the city here Wednesday. He visited various areas of the city to review the ongoing cleanliness drive of major drains and issued instructions to Chief Sanitary Inspector WSSC Javed Baloch to further improve the sanitation and drainage system.

The chairman emphasized the importance of utilizing all the available resources effectively to ensure the timely delivery of quality services to citizens. The chairman expressed his satisfaction on the performance of the staff and sanitary workers and said that all the available resources will be utilized to provide best sanitation services to the citizens of DI Khan.

He said that WSSC DI Khan had already launched the cleanliness drive of major drains and issued instructions to Chief Sanitary Inspector WSSC Javed Baloch to further improve the sanitation and drainage system. The chairman expressed his satisfaction on the performance of the staff and sanitary workers and said that all the available resources will be utilized to provide best sanitation services to the citizens of DI Khan.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER. The Executive Engineer, Khairpur Canal Division, Usta Muhammad, invites through sealed tenders forms (as per schedule B) based on composite schedule of rates 2023 Government of Balochistan from interested contractors/firms for the works listed below.

REQUIRED POSTGRADUATE TRAINEES (REGISTRAR) COMBINED MILITARY HOSPITAL QUETTA. Applications are invited in following specialties for FCP-4 Training: GENERAL MEDICINE, GENERAL SURGERY, RADIOLOGY, DENTISTRY, etc.

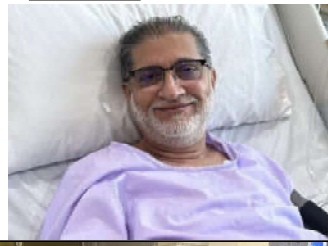
Executive Engineer Khairpur Canal, Division Usta Muhammad. PRC No. 18256-11-2024. www.dpr.gov.pk

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER URSAN PLANNING & DEV. DEPARTMENT QUETTA, BALUCHISTAN. PRC No. 18003-11-2024. www.dpr.gov.pk

## BNP Chief Sardar Akhtar Mengal Undergoes Successful Angioplasty in Dubai

Monitoring Desk:

Sardar Akhtar Mengal, Chief of the Balochistan National Party (BNP), successfully underwent an angioplasty operation at a private hospital in Dubai. The procedure was carried out after one of Mengal's heart arteries was found to be blocked. The surgery was a success, and Mengal is currently reported to be in stable condition. His family and party supporters are relieved and hopeful for his swift recovery. Party members and followers have extended their well-wishes and prayers for the BNP leader's health.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Industries and Production Rana Taveer Hussain is addressing an unveiling exhibition ceremony of models of electric bikes at Engineering Development Board.

## Sherry Rehman calls for internationally determined contributions at COP29

ISLAMABAD (INP): At the Senate Standing Committee on Climate Change, Senator Sherry Rehman called for a new mechanism of measuring financial pledges from developing countries at the upcoming COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan. Senator Rehman asserted "Old mechanisms are not working." The Global South, including frontline countries like Pakistan with tiny emission footprints are getting negligible transfers of climate finance, while the scale and fury of warming and emissions are only growing upwards despite a decade of commitments made at the Paris Agreement in 2015. She called for Internationally Determined Contributions to be sought from donor countries, to match the Nationally Determined Contributions that measure action and are being sought this year with revised targets from all countries."

Senator Rehman emphasized the need to hold large emitters accountable for financing climate resilience, particularly in frontline states like Pakistan. She highlighted that the recent flood disaster of 2022 left Pakistan with a damage bill of \$30 billion, against a backdrop of woefully inadequate global funding for climate adaptation and resilience, estimated by the World Bank to require \$348 billion by 2030 for Pakistan alone.

Senator Rehman noted "The global shortfall in climate action funding is alarmingly high. Existing data is inconsistent and likely underestimates the actual needs."

## PM announces power supply of 100 megawatts for Gilgit Baltistan

GILGIT (INP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday announced the immediate power supply of 100 megawatts for Gilgit Baltistan and Rs1 billion endowment fund for the universities students.

The prime minister, who chaired the special meeting of the GB cabinet during his daylong visit here, expressed satisfaction and pleasure over the timely completion of Babar Model Village, which he earlier inaugurated, to provide

housing facility to the people affected by flood in 2022.

He instructed the GB administration to establish educational institutions, playgrounds, power transmission and other facilities in Ghizer district.

Besides announcing an immediate power supply of 100 megawatts to GB, the prime minister announced Rs 1 billion merit-based endowment fund for the students of Baltistan University and Karakorum University.

Prime Minister Shehbaz told the GB cabinet members that the federal government would establish Daanish Schools in GB, on the pattern of Punjab province.

He said that his government was actively working for the uplift and welfare of the GB people.

He recalled that while being Punjab chief minister, his government had given Rs1 billion gift to uplift GB's education sector.



ISLAMABAD: Coordinator to Prime Minister on Climate Change, Romina Khurshid Alam presenting a souvenir to Azerbaijan's Ambassador to Pakistan, H.E. Khazar Farhadov, during his visit to her office.



GILGIT: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a special meeting of the Gilgit Baltistan Cabinet in Gilgit.

## Islamabad admin introduces tough new regulations to control toxic emissions, curb smog levels

ISLAMABAD (INP): Islamabad district administration has introduced tough new regulations, implementing Section 144 to control toxic emissions and curb smog levels in the Federal Capital.

According to a notification, Islamabad's district administration has imposed Section 144 to limit the release of harmful gases in an effort to combat air pollution.

The restrictions apply to emissions from vehicles, factories, kilns, and the burning of garbage and crops.

Additional District Magistrate Islamabad, issued these orders for two months, during

which violators will face legal consequences.

As part of this crackdown, the Islamabad Transport Authority (ITA) is actively inspecting vehicles for compliance.

In this connection, the ITA Secretary recently conducted an inspection at the vegetable market and checked 75 vehicles.

During the checking, as many as 35 vehicles were fined for violating emission standards. One heavily polluting vehicle was impounded and moved to the police station.

According to Deputy Commissioner Islamabad,

Irfan Memon, these daily inspections are part of the city's broader effort to manage air pollution and reduce smog.

Warning letters have been issued to non-compliant vehicles, with fines imposed where necessary.

The administration's keep-pollution under control as winter approaches, bringing with it heightened risks of smog.

The district's intensified approach reflects a commitment to cleaner air and public health protection.

as enforcement continues against sources of pollution citywide.

## Punjab CM introduces special historic reward package for wheat farmers

LAHORE (INP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has introduced a special historic reward package for the wheat farmers, under which 1,000 tractors

worth billions of rupees would be given for cultivating wheat on 25 acres and more area while on 12.5 to 25 acres of wheat cultivation 1,000 larger land leveler would be provided to farmers through a transparent bidding.

Provincial Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Syed Ashiq Hussain Kirmani shared this information while presiding over the wheat cultivation meeting at the Commissioner's Office, Lahore.

While giving a briefing, the minister was told that this

year, the target of wheat cultivation in Lahore division has been set at 133,000 acres and to achieving it all resources and means are being used.

Facilitation is being provided to the farmers as per wheat action plan. Special teams are monitoring with the support of district administration for supply of quality fertilizers, seeds and pesticides in the market.

Mega farmer gathering and exhibition plots are being prepared to guide the farmers.

Regular meetings of divisional and district committees are being held. Apart from this, linkages with Agriculture and Irrigation Department have been further improved to ensure water supply for wheat

crop. An effective awareness campaign through print, electronic and social media is also ongoing.

The provincial minister for Agriculture said that this year, the target of wheat cultivation in Punjab province has been set at 1 crore and 65 acres, the achievement of which is indispensable for the country's food security.

According to this, the achievement of the target of wheat cultivation in all the districts of the province will be ensured in any case.

In this regard, the young agricultural graduates recruited under the Chief Minister Punjab Internship Programme have also been assigned special responsibilities to guide the farmers.



KARACHI: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb addresses the 8th Edition of the Future Summit in Karachi, discussing Pakistan's economic prospects and future financial strategies.

## Crackdown against unauthorized wall chalking launched

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) administration launched a city-wide crackdown against unauthorized wall chalking, leading to several arrests and charges.

This swift action aims to enforce the recent ban on wall chalking in public spaces, targeting those who deface city walls for promotional campaigns, said the spokesman of ICT administration on Wednesday.

In a recent operation, the Islamabad district administration intensified efforts against illegal wall chalking across the city.

As many as eleven people were arrested for violating the ban. Of these, seven were de-

tained by the Assistant Commissioner (AC) of the Secretariat area in Barakahi, while four were taken into custody by the AC Sadder from Margalla Avenue.

Authorities have registered cases against all accused individuals involved.

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Islamabad, Irfan Nawaz Memon, has issued strict instructions to clamp down on wall chalking across the city.

Memon emphasized that both the individuals creating the chalking and the businesses behind them will face consequences.

The crackdown targets advertisements by various entities, including private clinics,

flats, marriage halls, a wood company, and a training institute, which had been promoting their services through wall chalking.

Meanwhile, five more individuals were apprehended in connection with recent theft cases linked to this ongoing campaign.

The AC Secretariat registered a case at the local police station against the latest group of individuals, reinforcing the administration's stance against defacing public property.

DC Islamabad Irfan Memon has directed his team to identify all parties involved in running such ad campaigns on city walls and ensure compliance with the wall chalking ban throughout Islamabad.