

QUETTA VOICE

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Balochistan cabinet offering fateha for the victims of Quetta Railway Station blast victims: Photo shared by DGPR

National Party Leader Muhammad Akbar Baloch Killed in Kachhi District Attack

Nashad Baloch:

SBH: Muhammad Akbar Baloch, a prominent local leader of the National Party and former General Secretary of the Baloch National Party in Kachhi district, was killed by unknown assailants on Jafal Khan Road in the Bhag area of Kachhi district. Baloch, who also served as the Assistant District Education Officer, was reportedly targeted by armed men, police confirmed.



The body was shifted to Civil Hospital Quetta for post-mortem examination, and an investigation is ongoing. Authorities have intensified efforts to identify and apprehend the attackers to ensure justice is served.

Justice Mansoor questions legitimacy of regular bench handling constitutional cases

NEWS DESK: Justice Mansoor Ali Shah has questioned the legitimacy of a regular bench handling constitutional cases.

Presiding over the three-member bench hearing a tax-related case, Justice Shah remarked, "If no constitutional bench is seated, does this mean we are unconstitutional?"

His comments came as the court deliberated on whether the case should be heard by a constitutional bench instead of a regular bench.

Justice Ayesha Malik noted that the current bench was handling the matter until a constitutional bench could be convened.

Justice Shah raised further questions, saying that even if the regular bench ruled on the case, its authority might be questioned without a formal constitutional bench.

Justice Aqeel Abbasi added to the discussion, asking if the court had the jurisdiction to proceed with the case in its current structure.

Balochistan Cabinet Meeting Focuses on Security and Development Initiatives

Staff Reporter:

QUETTA: In a pivotal meeting chaired by Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Bugti, the Balochistan Provincial Cabinet condemned the recent bombing at a local railway station, offering prayers for the martyrs and pledging renewed efforts to combat terrorism. Chief Minister Bugti emphasized that the cabinet vowed to deploy full resources and energy to eliminate the threat of terrorism across the province.

Key Approvals and Security Measures

The cabinet approved the "Balochistan Security of Venerable Establishment Act 2024," which mandates increased coordination among security agencies to establish peace. This legislation also defines the respon-

sibilities of each agency in maintaining security. Alongside, the government sanctioned the establishment of new police stations in Rada Shim, Kangri, and a Levies station under the Chaman Master Plan. The cabinet also approved funds for Quetta's development, with Chief Minister Bugti pledging swift allocation to enhance infrastructure and beautify the capital.

Commitment to Development and Public Security

Highlighting Quetta's importance, Chief Minister Bugti directed that new police station boundaries align with public needs, aiming to enhance security cov-

erage. He committed to expanding the Quetta Development Package for the city's improvement, promising that necessary funds will be released without delay. "Quetta represents the face of Balochistan, and we're committed to its prosperity," Bugti stated.

The cabinet also confirmed appointments to the Balochistan Sales Tax on Services Revenue Appellate Tribunal, strengthening administrative governance. With a clear strategy to tackle terrorism and advance urban development, the Balochistan government reaffirmed its commitment to peace and progress, echoing Chief Minister Bugti's determination to bring enduring security to the region.

500,000 children missed vaccinations in recent anti-polio drive: report

NEWS DESK: An estimated 500,000 Pakistani children missed polio vaccinations during this month's nationwide inoculation drive, confirmed the country's chief health official to foreign media outlet.

The primary reasons cited were refusal to vaccinate or unavailability due to travel during the campaign.

Pakistan has reported 48 polio cases this year, with 23 from Balochistan, 13 from Sindh, 10 from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), and one each from Punjab and Islamabad. The rising number of cases prompted the government to launch a nationwide vaccination campaign from October 28 to November 3, to vaccinate over 45 million children.

Polio continues to be endemic in Pakistan, one of only two countries worldwide where the disease remains a serious concern. The campaign faces numerous challenges, including misinformation, vaccine refusal, and violent attacks on health workers by militants.

Malik Mukhtar Ahmed Bharath, Pakistan's coordinator on national health services, told Arab News that despite the setback, the government is committed to tracking down and vaccinating the missing children. "We will chase them, we will track them, and we will vaccinate them," Bharath said.



The resurgence of polio cases in Pakistan is alarming, especially after a significant decline in cases over the past few years.

In 2023, Pakistan reported only six cases, but this year the figure has sharply risen. This surge is partly due to a large number of unvaccinated Afghan refugees who were repatriated and moved across the country, carrying the virus.

The security situation in some areas has also hindered vaccination efforts, with attacks on polio teams and law enforcement personnel increasing in recent months.

Last month, a bomb blast targeted police protecting polio workers, killing five children and two police officers.

Bharath highlighted that over 90

polio workers have been killed in the line of duty since 2012. Despite these challenges, he emphasized that Pakistan's polio program has one of the best surveillance systems in the world. The authorities are focusing on high-risk areas such as Karachi, Quetta, and parts of KP, where polio remains persistent. A targeted strategy has been developed for these areas, and synchronized vaccination campaigns with Afghanistan are being planned to eliminate the disease.

The government remains hopeful that increased coordination with neighboring countries, along with a more tailored approach to each region's unique challenges, will eventually lead to the eradication of polio.

2 suspects arrested in Karachi airport attack on Chinese nationals: Sindh home minister

NEWS DESK: Sindh Home Minister Ziaul Haq Janjani on Monday confirmed the arrest of two suspects involved in the Karachi airport attack last month that targeted Chinese officials. On October 6, a massive explosion occurred on a road near Jinnah International Airport, killing a total of three people—including two Chinese engineers—and injuring at least 11 others.

The attack was claimed by the banned outfit Baloch Liberation Army (BLA). Police registered an FIR against leaders of the BLA and others three days after the incident.

A day after the attack, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif assured the Chinese of personally overseeing the investigation into the terror attack. A few days later, China said it

said. He added that the BLA took responsibility for the attack via social media.

Janjani also confirmed that the Sindh Counterterrorism Department (CTD) registered a first information report (FIR) of the case and that a high-level joint investigation team was formed which included law enforcement agencies (LEAs) and other intelligence bodies.

"The team utilised advanced forensic methods to examine the scene and gather critical evidence," Janjani said.

Last night, during an intelligence-based operation, one of the masterminds of the suicide bombing, Javed alias Samser, and his accomplice Gul Nisa were arrested at CD Highway near Umar Goth Chowk, Karachi, while riding a bike.



would work with Pakistan to protect the safety and security of Chinese personnel and projects and institutions in Pakistan.

Speaking at a press conference alongside the inspector general of Police, Janjani confirmed that a "suicide bomber driving a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VIED), at around 11pm on Oct 6, attacked a convoy carrying Chinese nationals near Karachi's Jinnah International Airport." The explosion resulted in the deaths of two Chinese nationals and one Pakistani citizen, with Janjani saying it injured 21 others. Several other vehicles were also damaged as a result of a fire caused by the explosion. "This attack seeks to disrupt Pakistan-China relations and sabotage the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project," Janjani

The two had entered Karachi via Hub, Janjani said.

"An investigation revealed Javed's direct involvement in the suicide bombing, while Gul Nisa had facilitated [him]," Janjani added.

The minister went on to say that the identity of the suicide bomber, Shah Fahad, was figured out through his fingerprints since his face and much of his torso were burnt during the explosion. "With the help of eyewitness accounts, investigators prepared sketches of accomplices of the suicide bomber," Janjani told the press conference. During further investigation, records of the suicide bomber's vehicle were checked, which revealed that the vehicle used in the attack had been purchased in September 2024 for Rs7.1 million.

Expected date of MDCAT reconduct by SZABMU and IBA Sukkur

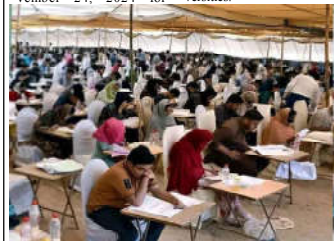
Health Desk:

Islamabad: As the reconduct of the Sindh province and Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University (SZABMU) Medical and Dental College Admission Test (MDCAT) has been announced, aspirants are eagerly awaiting the official test date.

Sources from the Institute of Business Administration (IBA) Sukkur suggest that the Sindh MDCAT reconduct may be held on Sunday, December 1, 2024. However, various social media platforms have hinted at a potential reconduct date of November 24, 2024 for

SZABMU.

While these are unofficial dates, it is highly likely that both the Sindh and SZABMU MDCAT reconducts will be conducted on the same day, as proposed by IBA Sukkur. Official Confirmation Awaited The Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PMDC) is yet to release an official notification confirming the exact date for the MDCAT reconduct. Medical and dental college aspirants are advised to stay updated with official announcements from the PMDC and respective universities.



Call for Immediate Launch and Expansion of Pink Bus Service in Quetta

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2-Week Extended Weather Forecast For Quetta Pakistan

Continued to page 4

Australia vs Pakistan T20 Head-to-Head: Record, Wins, and Stats

Continued to page 4

Pakistan's climate crisis: Rising urgency, dwindling action

By Muhammad Ali Rashid:

Ensuring Lasting Peace in Balochistan: A Call for Revamped Security Strategy

Editorial: A recent suicide attack at Quetta's railway station, claiming 26 lives and leaving 60 injured, marks yet another grim chapter in Balochistan's ongoing struggle with terrorism. This devastating event underscores the urgent need for a reinforced, comprehensive approach to securing the province. Balochistan has endured an escalating pattern of terror attacks, each incident deepening the public's sense of insecurity and fear. Now more than ever, it is critical for the federal and provincial authorities to take decisive, lasting action to protect the lives and property of the people of Balochistan.

Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi's recent meeting with Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Bugti in Quetta demonstrates a renewed commitment to peace in the province. Their dialogue and pledges of increased federal support are timely and essential steps. However, the promise to expand intelligence-based operations and modernize the Levies, Police, and Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) should now translate into immediate, visible actions that citizens can feel.

A long-term, people-centered approach is essential. Government officials must prioritize public safety by strengthening on-ground security, upgrading intelligence networks, and fortifying critical infrastructure. Comprehensive coordination between federal and provincial law enforcement agencies is vital to address the evolving tactics of terror groups and dismantle their operational networks. Immediate reforms to the security strategy, along with increased community engagement, will play a vital role in restoring confidence among the masses.

This tragic incident calls for more than emergency responses; it demands a reevaluation of existing strategies to ensure lasting peace and security across Balochistan. The people of Balochistan deserve to live free from the shadow of violence. The government's commitment to achieving this must be unwavering, with resources allocated not only to prevent such attacks but to provide swift justice and relief for affected families. It is time for a sustained, strategic response that prioritizes the safety and well-being of every resident in Balochistan, turning promises into impactful action for a peaceful future.

An unwanted fifth season

By Umair Javed:

PUNJAB'S unwanted fifth season — smog — is currently in full bloom. Air quality in cities like Lahore, poor throughout the year, is at its toxic worst between October and January, with AQI readings well above 500 on most days. The government's response so far hinges on school closures and the enforcement of location-specific lockdowns. While keeping vulnerable groups like children away from public spaces filled with poisonous air is understandable, it is unlikely that air quality will be much cleaner at home.

Protest and despair at poor air quality is now a standard ritual during these months. Since at least 2015, when the onset of smog became sharply apparent in October, environmentalists and other experts have deliberated on what can be done to solve the issue. The answers are wide-ranging, and the absence of government ownership of the problem in the first few years didn't help.

Almost a decade on, we can claim some clarity on the proximate causes of the air quality crisis. We know, thanks to source apportionment studies, that transport and industrial emissions are a major source of the problem, when averaged out through the year. On account of further work by Cambridge and Oxford-based scientists Abdullah Bajwa and Hassan Sheikh, we know that vehicle fleet age, two-stroke engines in motorcycles and rickshaws, along with fuel quality are significant features of the problem. Air quality is an issue that cannot be

privatised beyond the mere use of air purifiers in private spaces. We also know that crop burning in East Punjab contributes to the spike in smog levels during these current months, partly because of the direction and the inversion of temperature that keeps particulate matter suspended in the air for longer.

Knowing all what we know now, the set of solutions available to us is also fairly clear. Changes in fuel quality, enforcement of fitness standards to phase out polluting vehicles, stricter regulations on industrial emissions, and the development of mass transit solutions to reduce the number of private vehicles on the road are all steps adopted by cities that grappled with air quality issues during the 20th century. In the present context, we have the additional option of ensuring public transport doesn't add to the problem, or, underlining New Energy Vehicles. Similarly, given that emissions do not respect the Radcliffe line, cross-border collaboration between the two Punjab is a categorical necessity. Domestic standards and interventions mentioned earlier will clear up the air, through the year on average, but spikes during October-November remain, and as housing, water, health, education, even energy, have done so. The market caters to all such needs, as long as people can pay. With the rich and powerful no longer reliant on the state, there is even less pressure on officials to cater to the needs of those who have no other option.

State capacity is the ability of public sector institutions to implement whatever rules, regulations, objectives it sets out to achieve. As sociologist Michael Mann put it, this ability itself is a function of power, despotic, which usually relies on punitive and coercive capacity, and infrastructure, which relies on cooperation, coordination, and behavioural shifts. The weakness of infrastructural power among Pakistani public sector organisations is fairly clear. Rules and regulations, when they do exist, are subverted by powerful societal actors, or undermined by state officials themselves. When the state attempts to deliver services itself, it runs into significant resource constraints, or falls prey to various forms of inefficiencies. These weaknesses are both a cause and a consequence of 'incomplete privatisation' in every domain. People who can afford to opt out of state delivery in domains such as housing, water, health, education, even energy, have done so. The market caters to all such needs, as long as people can pay. With the rich and powerful no longer reliant on the state, there is even less pressure on officials to cater to the needs of those who have no other option.

The world was already bracing for Donald Trump's return to power. And it is a stunning comeback. His clean sweep in the election, winning the White House, Senate and most likely the House of Representatives, will mark him a more powerful president than he was in his first term, with a stronger mandate. What his foreign policy will look like is being feverishly assessed across the world. Will it mimic his first term's America First approach which translated into an America Alone policy? Will it prove as disruptive and destabilising as in the past?

Influencing assessments is the widespread view among the international community that Washington's engagement with the world in recent years has neither been sustained nor consistent, which raises questions about US reliability. This is at a time when the US is no longer the sole dominant power in an increasingly multipolar world. China's places limits on its ability to shape global geopolitics and determine outcomes. Trump's unpredictability will intensify uncertainty about the course of American policy especially given his penchant for suddenly changing course.

His 'America First' policy has already created much discontinuity and volatility in foreign policy in his first term. US-China trade and perhaps other contentious issues, including Taiwan, White House officials have made it clear that the rivalry with China, Trump would want to avoid a collision course or military conflict over Taiwan. He has in fact, been critical of Taiwan, saying it should pay the US for defending it in a state of chaos.

Disruptions in US policy are likely at a time when the world is already in a state of chaos. Trump has proposed a 10 to 20pc tariff on all imported goods, which will strain relations with America's European allies, who Trump treated with derision in his first term, casting them as free-loaders. Aimed at all countries that have a trade surplus with the US, it would be a blow to European economies and dampen global economic growth.

While Trump is an avowed protectionist, the question is how far he will go to press this agenda. According to economic experts, his plan to raise tariffs and order mass deportations of immigrants will further fuel inflation that Trump has promised to tackle. Where a radical change in US policy is likely is on the Ukraine war. Often claiming he can end the war "in a day", Trump is expected to push for talks to end a conflict he says "should never have happened". This is cause for concern for Europe. Trump has said he will meet with Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and Russian President Vladimir Putin to enter negotiations for a peace deal. He may not be able to enter an outcome that favours Moscow in which Ukraine has to cede territory. He is unlikely to respond to reservations of European nations in this regard.

Trump has frequently chastised NATO for not sharing the defence burden. He has also said in his second term, America will fundamentally rethink NATO's purpose and mission and ask European nations to reimburse the US billions of dollars for the cost of the war. This is a two-state solution even though that remains the US position. Any deal that might push for will be on Israel's terms and will also aim to goad other Arab countries to accept the Abraham Accords — his signature Middle East initiative in his first term. This will principally involve encouraging Saudi Arabia to normalise ties with Israel, although Riyadh has made it clear that "in many cases, our allies are worse than our so-called enemies". Trump sees European countries not contributing enough to their own security and taking advantage of the US, a situation he wants to end. He has no intention with allies. Or, with multilateralism. The crisis in the Middle East presents a clear and present challenge that Trump might seek to address by forcing a ceasefire in Gaza. While avoiding specifics, he repeatedly said during the campaign he wants to see peace in the region and Israel should end the war quickly — by winning it and "finishing the job". He is even more pro-Israel than President Joe Biden and has no empathy for the plight of the Palestinians (Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu once called Trump the "best friend Israel has ever had in the White House").

Nor has Trump shown any commitment to a two-state solution even though that remains the US position. Any deal that might push for will be on Israel's terms and will also aim to goad other Arab countries to accept the Abraham Accords — his signature Middle East initiative in his first term. This will principally involve encouraging Saudi Arabia to normalise ties with Israel, although Riyadh has made it clear that "in many cases, our allies are worse than our so-called enemies". Trump sees European countries not contributing enough to their own security and taking advantage of the US, a situation he wants to end. He has no intention with allies. Or, with multilateralism. The crisis in the Middle East presents a clear and present challenge that Trump might seek to address by forcing a ceasefire in Gaza. While avoiding specifics, he repeatedly said during the campaign he wants to see peace in the region and Israel should end the war quickly — by winning it and "finishing the job". He is even more pro-Israel than President Joe Biden and has no empathy for the plight of the Palestinians (Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu once called Trump the "best friend Israel has ever had in the White House").

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He has also consistently raised awareness about the urgent need for climate change, particularly in the context of Pakistan's vulnerability to climate-related issues. It helps that he is young himself. The Pakistan People's Party has dedicated 13 sections on climate change in its election manifesto earlier this year. Its aims to make permanent changes can be seen through the promise of a Green New Deal which the party has been working on avidly. It focuses on climate change investments in different sectors, but most importantly in our infrastructure, with focus on climate resilience. It includes

promoting renewable energy sources and advocating for stronger climate policies at both the national and international levels. He has focused on rebuilding efforts that incorporate climate resilience, ensuring that communities are better prepared for future climate impacts. With a funding of Rs39 billion to reconstruct 2.1 million homes, Bilawal and the party's effort to rehabilitate flood-affected homes is tireless. And this is despite the fact that there is little political advantage to this in today's charged political atmosphere where most focus is on court cases, amendments and tenure extensions.

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Bracing for Trump 2.0

By Malleha Lodhi:

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Digital sabbath is needed for self-discovery

By M Nadeem Nadir:

Standing in the eye of the storm of technology, man today faces at every moment the interplay between his self and technology. Interestingly, the interplay opens up a paradox: the more man is connected to the world around through mass media and social media, the more he finds himself marooned from his inner true self. The craving for novelty and FOMO have incapacitated him from discovering his own self. Yuval Noah Harari warns: "Intelligence is decoupling from consciousness."

The big-bang arrival of technology in the modern world promised man the dawn of his self-growth through connection to the outer world, but from the inner world, he was proportionately cut off, in actuality. Through technology, the discovery of novelty, it poses a serious threat to self-discovery, the guardian of self-actualisation. Self-discovery is a deeply personal journey that involves introspection, exploration, and a confrontation with one's values, beliefs and desires. Traditionally, this process is fostered

through experiences that encourage critical thinking and self-reflection: travel, reading, personal relationships, and even solitude. Technology, particularly social media, has peddled a mentality rivaled only by dopamine, where one's idealised version (one's digital dopplegänger) is displayed, widening the gap between one's digital persona and true self.

The spying algorithms understand our impulses better than we do, exploiting them to make us linger. Like the sirens of ancient myths, apps beckon us with staccato of seductive notifications. Addiction to digital dopamine is a hormone released in abundance in a state of mindfulness and happiness. Digital sabbath is the only remedy to shake off the screen addiction.

The real hazard posed by technology to self-discovery is the scarcity of time for following metacognition. We are afraid of willingly

restive scrolling of social media pages, causing attention deficit order our efforts to laser-focus on what is real or cerebral activity legato. Human spiritual faculties are depleted by digital persona varieties: likes and follows on social media. Mainstream and social media waste human time and energy, rendering us metacognitively raise questions and ferret out answers — the prerequisites for self-discovery.

The myth of Narcissus reflects the dangers of self-obsession and external validation. The blind pursuit of one's self-aggrandisement on digital platforms is an easy Faustian bargain between today's man and the digital lure.

Yuval Noah Harari questions the nomenclature of human species as homo sapiens, which means "the wise human." "If humans are so wise, why are we doing so many self-destructive things? Why are we on the verge of committing ecological and technological suicide?" Definitively, we are on the self-destructive mode in this age of technology.

promoting renewable energy sources and advocating for stronger climate policies at both the national and international levels. He has focused on rebuilding efforts that incorporate climate resilience, ensuring that communities are better prepared for future climate impacts. With a funding of Rs39 billion to reconstruct 2.1 million homes, Bilawal and the party's effort to rehabilitate flood-affected homes is tireless. And this is despite the fact that there is little political advantage to this in today's charged political atmosphere where most focus is on court cases, amendments and tenure extensions.

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By Malleha Lodhi:

The world was already bracing for Donald Trump's return to power. And it is a stunning comeback. His clean sweep in the election, winning the White House, Senate and most likely the House of Representatives, will mark him a more powerful president than he was in his first term, with a stronger mandate. What his foreign policy will look like is being feverishly assessed across the world. Will it mimic his first term's America First approach which translated into an America Alone policy? Will it prove as disruptive and destabilising as in the past?

Influencing assessments is the widespread view among the international community that Washington's engagement with the world in recent years has neither been sustained nor consistent, which raises questions about US reliability. This is at a time when the US is no longer the sole dominant power in an increasingly multipolar world. China's places limits on its ability to shape global geopolitics and determine outcomes. Trump's unpredictability will intensify uncertainty about the course of American policy especially given his penchant for suddenly changing course.

His 'America First' policy has already created much discontinuity and volatility in foreign policy in his first term. US-China trade and perhaps other contentious issues, including Taiwan, White House officials have made it clear that the rivalry with China, Trump would want to avoid a collision course or military conflict over Taiwan. He has in fact, been critical of Taiwan, saying it should pay the US for defending it in a state of chaos.

Disruptions in US policy are likely at a time when the world is already in a state of chaos. Trump has proposed a 10 to 20pc tariff on all imported goods, which will strain relations with America's European allies, who Trump treated with derision in his first term, casting them as free-loaders. Aimed at all countries that have a trade surplus with the US, it would be a blow to European economies and dampen global economic growth.

While Trump is an avowed protectionist, the question is how far he will go to press this agenda. According to economic experts, his plan to raise tariffs and order mass deportations of immigrants will further fuel inflation that Trump has promised to tackle. Where a radical change in US policy is likely is on the Ukraine war. Often claiming he can end the war "in a day", Trump is expected to push for talks to end a conflict he says "should never have happened". This is cause for concern for Europe. Trump has said he will meet with Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and Russian President Vladimir Putin to enter negotiations for a peace deal. He may not be able to enter an outcome that favours Moscow in which Ukraine has to cede territory. He is unlikely to respond to reservations of European nations in this regard.

Trump has frequently chastised NATO for not sharing the defence burden. He has also said in his second term, America will fundamentally rethink NATO's purpose and mission and ask European nations to reimburse the US billions of dollars for the cost of the war. This is a two-state solution even though that remains the US position. Any deal that might push for will be on Israel's terms and will also aim to goad other Arab countries to accept the Abraham Accords — his signature Middle East initiative in his first term. This will principally involve encouraging Saudi Arabia to normalise ties with Israel, although Riyadh has made it clear that "in many cases, our allies are worse than our so-called enemies". Trump sees European countries not contributing enough to their own security and taking advantage of the US, a situation he wants to end. He has no intention with allies. Or, with multilateralism. The crisis in the Middle East presents a clear and present challenge that Trump might seek to address by forcing a ceasefire in Gaza. While avoiding specifics, he repeatedly said during the campaign he wants to see peace in the region and Israel should end the war quickly — by winning it and "finishing the job". He is even more pro-Israel than President Joe Biden and has no empathy for the plight of the Palestinians (Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu once called Trump the "best friend Israel has ever had in the White House").

Nor has Trump shown any commitment to a two-state solution even though that remains the US position. Any deal that might push for will be on Israel's terms and will also aim to goad other Arab countries to accept the Abraham Accords — his signature Middle East initiative in his first term. This will principally involve encouraging Saudi Arabia to normalise ties with Israel, although Riyadh has made it clear that "in many cases, our allies are worse than our so-called enemies". Trump sees European countries not contributing enough to their own security and taking advantage of the US, a situation he wants to end. He has no intention with allies. Or, with multilateralism. The crisis in the Middle East presents a clear and present challenge that Trump might seek to address by forcing a ceasefire in Gaza. While avoiding specifics, he repeatedly said during the campaign he wants to see peace in the region and Israel should end the war quickly — by winning it and "finishing the job". He is even more pro-Israel than President Joe Biden and has no empathy for the plight of the Palestinians (Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu once called Trump the "best friend Israel has ever had in the White House").

Punjab behind KP in federal economic performance report

ISLAMABAD (INP): Federal Finance Ministry has released its report on the economic performance of provinces for the first quarter of the fiscal year 2024-25.

According to the report, Punjab (KP) has shown an impressive economic performance, with a surplus budget of Rs 103 billion leaving Punjab behind with a major deficit of Rs 160 billion.

The report highlights KP's impressive economic performance, with a surplus budget of Rs 103 billion, a notable improvement from the

previous year's deficit of Rs 10 billion.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) recorded a surplus of Rs 103 billion, with revenue of Rs 316 billion and expenditures of Rs 212 billion.

Punjab faced a deficit of Rs 160 billion, with revenue of Rs 866 billion and expenditures of Rs 1026 billion. Sindh recorded a surplus of Rs 131 billion, with revenue of Rs 568 billion and expenditures of Rs 437 billion.

Based on the report, Punjab achieved a surplus of Rs 85 billion, with revenue of Rs 168 billion and expenditures of Rs 83 billion.

It's worth mention-

ing here that Pakistan's economy grew by 2.52% in the fiscal year 2024, primarily owing to strong growth in the agriculture sector.

The agriculture sector of the country saw better crop yields contributing to the overall economic performance. In the final quarter—April to June 2024—the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increased by 3.07%, Arif Habib Limited (AHL) said citing the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS).

The first three quarters of the fiscal year 2024 also experienced positive, yet varying growth

rates: 2.69% in the first quarter, 1.97% in the second quarter, and 2.36% in the third quarter. As the country was grappling with economic challenges, the agriculture sector played a crucial role in achieving this year's growth.

IMF recently approved a 37-month Extended Fund Facility for Pakistan amounting to US\$ 5.32bn (USD 7 billion), the second highest amount ever agreed upon under an IMF programme in terms of SDRs. Following this approval, an initial disbursement of SDR 760 million (USD 1.1bn) has been released.



QUETTA: Principal Shireen Gul Kakar presenting a commemorative shield to Governor Balochistan Jafar Khan Mandokhail on the occasion of the first convocation of Government Girls Degree College Quarry Road Quetta, Education Minister Ms. Raheela Hameed Durran is also Present.

Urdu journalism's legacy and future discussed at Srinagar event

SRINAGAR (INP): In Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir, the Anjuman Urdu Sahafat organized a significant event at Tagore Hall in Srinagar in connection with the World Urdu Day.

According to Kashmir Media Service, the event focused on the current state of Urdu journalism, its opportunities, and the challenges it faces.

During the ceremony, Lifetime Achievement Awards were presented to Anjum Anjum, Editor of Daily Uqab, and Abdul Rashid Shah, Editor-in-Chief of Nida-e-Mashriq.

The award was attended by several prominent personalities from the media and political spheres, including former Minister. Naem Akhtar, Anjum Anjum Urdu Sahafat's patron Hamid Hamid, Javid Azar of Kashmir Uzma, Mohammad Asim Bhat of Kashmir News Service, Haroon Rashid of Nida-e-Mashriq, Zahoob Ahmed Shorria of Roznama Roshni, Rashid Rahil of Asian Mail, Haroon reshi, Tariq Bhat of The Vibe, Majid Jahangir of BBC Hindi Service, Quarat-ul-Ain, Hava Basheer, Professor Muslim Jan, Javid Matiy of Urdu Council, Professor Hamida Naem, Dr. Mushtaq Haider, Dr. Kousner Rasool of Kashmir University, columnists Mohammad Saleem Baig, Professor Hamida Naem.

Additionally, Shamin Ahmad Shamim Award was presented to Mohiuddin Shari Samanani, founder Editor-in-Chief of Daily Uqab.

The event also honored late stalwarts of Urdu journalism, including the founder-editor of weekly Rahbar, Late. Anjum Anjum, Editor of Daily Uqab, and Abdul Rashid Shah, Editor-in-Chief of Nida-e-Mashriq, in recognition of their outstanding contributions to Urdu journalism.

Along with his two brothers, Habib runs three handcraft stores in Shanghai that offer a wide selection of items, including carpets, bronze sculptures, onyx artifacts, camel-skin lamps and Himalayan pink salt lamps.

Furthermore, they have ventured into a new arena by establishing the Pakistan Pavilion at the Global Commodity Trading Port, strategically situated opposite the CIE venue.

"This platform serves as an exceptional venue for us to showcase our products to a broader audience throughout the year," he said.

After the six-day CIE concludes each year, the trading port continues to operate as a "365-day CIE", providing a continuous showcase and sales outlet for China's imported goods and fostering global trade and cultural exchange.

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QUETTA: President Balochistan Goods Truck Owners Association Noor Muhammad Shahwani addressing a press conference at Quetta Press Club.

At least 40 Palestinians killed in Israeli strikes in Gaza, medics say

CAIRO (INP): At least 40 Palestinians were killed by Israeli strikes across Gaza, including two dozen when a residential building in the northern town of Jabalia was hit, Palestinian health officials and a human rights group said.

The Palestinian Center for Human Rights (PCHR) in Gaza said at least 24 people were killed when an Israeli strike destroyed the three-story building in Jabalia at dawn. Thirty other people from nearby houses were wounded, PCHR said in a statement.

Footage circulating on social media, which Reuters could not immediately verify, showed about a dozen bodies wrapped in blankets and laid on the ground outside a hospital near Jabalia.

Local media said they were the bodies of people killed in the attack on the residential building, which housed at least 30 people, according to residents. The Israeli military said it struck a site in Jabalia in which "terrorists were operating."

"These terrorists posed a threat to IDF (Israeli Defence Forces) troops operating in the area. The details are under review," the Israeli military said.

In Gaza City, an Israeli airstrike on a house in the Sabra neighbourhood on Sunday killed Wael Al-Khour, an official at the welfare ministry, as well as his wife, Khour, one of two daughters and three grandchildren, medical officials and relatives said.

The Palestinian Red Crescent Society said its teams, in collaboration

with the International Committee of the Red Cross, evacuated 20 patients from Al-Awda Hospital in Jabalia on Sunday to another facility in Gaza City.

It said one of the patients died as the ambulances were held up for hours at an Israeli checkpoint separating northern Gaza areas from Gaza City. The three hospitals in and around Jabalia have been besieged by Israeli forces for several weeks and hospital officials have refused army orders to evacuate the facilities or leave their patients unattended despite the depletion of food, medical and fuel supplies.

The Israeli military accuses Palestinian militant group Hamas of exploiting the civilian population and property in Gaza for military purposes, a charge the militant group denies.

Hamas' armed wing said it killed 15 Israeli soldiers in an attack in the city of Beit Lahya, north of Jabalia, on Sunday.

There has been no comment from Israel and Reuters could not independently verify the account. The Palestinian Civil Emergency Services says its operations have been halted by an ongoing Israeli raid on two towns and a refugee camp in northern Gaza that began on Oct. 5.

Israel says it sent forces since Oct. 5 into Jabalia, Beit Lahya and Beit Hanoun in northern Gaza to fight Hamas militants waging attacks from there and to prevent them from regrouping. It says its troops have killed hundreds of militants in those areas since the new offensive began.

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Chelsea, Arsenal draw 1-1 in lively London derby

LONDON (INP): Chelsea and Arsenal shared the spoils in a tense and at times bruising 1-1 battle at Stamford Bridge on Sunday, keeping the London sides level in the Premier League, but still nine points adrift of leaders Liverpool.

Gabriel Martinelli put the visitors in front in the 60th minute, turning in a neatly lifted ball from Martin Odegaard, whose influence on his return from injury proved crucial after the Gunners' fail-ure to score in their last two games. Chelsea equalised 10 minutes later when substitute Enzo Fernandez pushed the ball to the ever-lively Pedro Neto just outside the Arsenal area and the Portuguese stepped to one side and shot low to David Raya's left.

The result lifted Chelsea to third and Arsenal to fourth in the table, both on 19 points.

In Sunday's earlier matches, Manchester United recorded a 3-0 win over Leicester City while Ipswich Town stunned Tottenham Hotspur 2-1 for their

slow starts at home as they went behind for the 13th time in 15 Premier League games at home this year.

Ipswich's Sammie Szmodics opened the scoring when an overhead kick on 31 minutes and Liam Delap doubled the visitors' lead.

Rodrigo Bentancur reduced the arrears for Spurs with a powerful header but they fell to a fifth league defeat in 11 games. Ipswich move out of the relegation zone, while Spurs slip to 10th.

At the City Ground, Forest, who are only behind Liverpool and Manchester City at the top of the table, took the lead through Muri-Ilo's towering header from Anthony Elanga's free-kick. But Newcastle hit back strongly after

half-time.

Alexander Isak's fourth goal in as many games began the fightback. Joelinton then curled in a sensational strike from the edge of the box before Harvey Barnes sealed the three points that lifts the Magpies into eighth. On Saturday, Liverpool opened a five-point lead at the top as breakthrough goals by Darwin Nunez and Mohamed Salah sealed a 2-0 win at home to Aston Villa.

City's earlier defeat was a perfect pre-match tonic for Liverpool and Nunez's 20th-minute strike following a lightning counter-attack set the tone at Anfield. Liverpool goalkeeper Caoimhin Kelleher made some vital saves to preserve his side's lead, but Salah sealed in the 84th minute.

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Pakistani merchants thrived in China's market exploring new opportunities to sell their products

SHANGHAI (INP): Pakistani merchants thrived in China's market exploring new opportunities to sell their products like jewelry, carpets, bronze sculptures, onyx artifacts, camel-skin lamps and Himalayan pink salt lamps.

According to a Guowen Pro's report, the 7th China International Import Expo (CIE) held here from November 5 to 10 has emerged as a place of opportunities for businesses across the globe.

Pakistani jeweler Aqeel Chaudhry is one of the many international entrepreneurs who have benefited from this annual exhibition.

For the seventh consecutive year, Chaudhry has brought his family's jewelry brand to the CIE, with his company one of the 186 companies around the world that have participated in the seven editions of the world's first national-level import-themed exhibition.

Over the past 6 editions, Chinese and international enterprises have recorded intended transactions totaling more than \$420 billion, underscoring the expo's effectiveness in facilitating international trade.

"CIE is a global trade carnival, and it's a fantastic platform for us to showcase our products to the world," said Aqeel Chaudhry, who is busy engaging with visitors and potential customers throughout the exhibition.

This year, handcrafts made from camel bones are debut in his booth, attracting a steady stream of customers.

Chaudhry observes that China's competitive market favors quality products.

With 11 years of experience in the Chinese market, he has a large customer base and is now looking to expand his presence in the country.

"We want to expand our presence in China, not just in Shanghai, but also in Beijing and other cities," he added. "China's market is open and inclusive, and it's full of vitality."

Capitalizing on the spillover effect of CIE, Aqeel Chaudhry has opened his own stores in prime commercial districts in Shanghai and Shenyang.

Currently, dozens of additional franchise stores are in the pipeline for more than ten cities.

Furthermore, this year, he launched the Pakistan Pavilion at the Shanghai Waigaoqiao Free Trade Zone, showcasing Pakistani handcrafts throughout the year.

Habib, a seasoned Pakistani handicraft merchant with years of residence in Shanghai and a six-time CIE exhibitor, also sees great potential in the Chinese market.

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EXTENSION IN BID OPENING.

This office Notice for inviting Tender for the work of "RECONSTRUCTION OF ROAD ZHOIB-BAHRA (AZDA) DISTRICT ZHOIB (PKG-II)" vide TDS-242518591443 published in daily leading Newspapers under PRQ No. 104426/07-2024 has been revised as per the order passed by Honourable District High Court, in C.P No. 1089/2024 order dated: 04-11-2024. Moreover, the date of submission of documents is 20-11-2024 at 01:00 PM and tender opening on the same date at 10:00 AM. The other terms and conditions will remain same.

PRQ No.1000111-11-2024

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (ROADS) CWP/PH, DEPARTMENT ZHOIB

BEFORE THE JUDGE BANKING COURT QUETTA OFFICE AT DISTRICT COURT/KACHEHRY SHARA-E-IQBOL QUETTA

SUIT NO.31/2024

Plaintiff: Askari Bank Limited, M.A Jinnah Road Branch Quetta.

VERSUS

Defendant: Falak Sher Vs Kamal Khan, Designation: Sub Engineer (Civil) BPS-11, Department: Communication Works Department. Address: Near AL. Fasi Shaifin Center.

1. Post Office Duki Killi Duki Tehsil Duki District. Loralai, Balochistan.

2. Execution Engineer Gas Division Spini Road Quetta

3. Phase 2 Zarghoun abad Quetta.

Cell: 0313-825316, 0300-8830435. CNIC: 56301-1930792-3.

DEFENDANT

SUIT FOR RECOVERY RS: 252,423.38/- BEARING ACCOUNT NO. 119/KF0003284/58 OF THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTION (RECOVERY OF FINANCES) ORDINANCE #XMI/1, 2001.

Notice to -

WHEREAS the plaintiff has instituted a suit against you under section 9(5) of the Banking Companies Ordinance XLVI of 2001 for RS: 252,423.38/- balance of principal & interest/mark up/rent due to him of which copy can be obtained from this court, on or hereby summoned to obtain leave from the court within 30 (thirty) days, from the service hereof to appear and defend the suit, and within such time to cause an appearance to be entered for you.

In the default whereof the plaintiff will be entitled at any time after expiration of such 30 (thirty) days to obtain decree as prayed in the plaint.

Leave to appear may be obtained on an application to the court supported by an affidavit or declaration showing that there is defence to the suit on the merits, or i.e, if it, reasonable that you should be allowed to appear in the suit. Date of hearing is 09-12-2024.

GIVEN Under my hand and seal of the court, this 04th day of November, 2024.

(SAIFULLAH KHAN)
Registrar Banking Court Quetta

2-Week Extended Weather Forecast For Quetta Pakistan

NEWS DESK:



Mon, 11 Nov, Partly cloudy afternoon, 20 / 20.6 km/h 7.22%, 0%₃ (Moderate) 06:54, 17:37

Tue, 12 Nov, Morning clouds, 20 / 20.6 km/h 7.14%, 0%₃ (Moderate) 06:55, 17:36

Wed, 13 Nov, Afternoon clouds, 21 / 22.1 km/h 7.18%, 0%₃ (Moderate) 06:55, 17:36

Thu, 14 Nov, Overcast skies, 22 / 23.6 km/h 7.18%, 0%₃ (Moderate) 06:56, 17:35

Fri, 15 Nov, Scattered clouds, 19 / 19.7 km/h 7.26%, 0%₃ (Moderate) 06:55, 17:35

Sat, 16 Nov, Clear skies, 17 / 18.7 km/h 7.28%, 0%₃ (Moderate) 06:58, 17:34

Sun, 17 Nov, Sunny day, 18 / 19.7 km/h 7.13%, 0%₃ (Moderate) 06:59, 17:34

Mon, 18 Nov, Bright and sunny, 21 / 0, 18.7 km/h 7.20%, 2%₃ (Moderate) 06:59, 17:34

Tue, 19 Nov, Clear skies, 22 / 23.6 km/h 7.14%, 1%₃ (Moderate) 07:00, 17:33

Wed, 20 Nov, Partly cloudy, 23 / 24.7 km/h 7.18%, 4%₃ (Moderate) 07:01, 17:33

Thu, 21 Nov, Mostly sunny, 22 / 23.6 km/h 7.15%, 2%₃ (Moderate) 07:02, 17:32

Fri, 22 Nov, Clear and sunny, 22 / 23.6 km/h 7.23%, 2%₃ (Moderate) 07:03, 17:32

Sat, 23 Nov, Clear skies, 23 / 24.7 km/h 7.20%, 2%₃ (Moderate) 07:04, 17:32

Sun, 24 Nov, Sunny, 24 / 25.4 km/h 7.11%, 1%₃ (Moderate) 07:04, 17:32

Mon, 25 Nov, Bright and sunny, 24 / 25.4 km/h 7.12%, 1%₃ (Moderate) 07:05, 17:31

Australia vs Pakistan T20 Head-to-Head: Record, Wins, and Stats

Sports Desk:

The Australia vs Pakistan T20 rivalry has been intense over the years, with the two teams facing off in 25 T20 matches. Pakistan holds a slight lead with 13 wins, while Australia follows closely with 11 victories.

One match concluded without a result, reflecting the closely matched competition between these cricket powerhouses.

Fans can look forward to more thrilling games as the teams continue their T20 journey, with each match promising intense action, impressive performances, and record-breaking moments.



BUITEMS VC Welcomes New Students, Inspires Growth and Innovation

Education Desk:

QUETTA: Dr. Khalid Hafeez, Vice Chancellor of Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering, and Management Sciences (BUIITEMS), warmly welcomed new students at an orientation event. Emphasizing BUIITEMS' commitment to academic excellence and professional development.

Dr. Hafeez encouraged students to embrace learning opportunities and the supportive campus environment.

"Our university fosters growth, innovation, and resilience, preparing students to excel globally," Dr. Hafeez remarked.

"We aim to equip each student with the skills needed for a successful career."



The event inspired enthusiasm among students eager to embark on their academic journey at BUIITEMS.

"At BUIITEMS, we don't just educate. We inspire and challenge students to push boundaries and think creatively."

"Our goal is to develop leaders who are not only skilled but also ethically driven to make a positive impact on society."

"Every student here has the potential to make a difference, and we're committed to providing the resources and guidance needed for that journey."

PIOs Trained in Quetta on Access to Information Act

Manan Mandokhail:

QUETTA: A comprehensive training session for Public Information Officers (PIOs) from federal institutions under the Access to Information Act 2017 was held in Quetta. Organized by the Pakistan Information Commission in collaboration with the Balochistan Information Department and the Center for Peace and Development Initiatives (CPDI), the event focused on equipping PIOs with essential knowledge about their roles under the Access to Information Act.



The training aimed to enhance PIOs' understanding of their duties in facilitating public access to information, strengthening government transparency. Chief Information Commissioner Shoaib Ahmed Siddiqui, Secretary Information Intran Khan, Director General of Public Relations Mohammad Noor Khetrat, Ejaz

Hasan Awan, and former Punjab Information Commissioner Mehbob Qadir Shah attended. Addressing the attendees, Shoaib Ahmed Siddiqui emphasized the significance of his visit to Quetta, underscoring the right to information guaranteed by Article 19A of Pakistan's Constitution. He highlighted that the Act empowers federal officers to ensure public access to vital information, fostering transparency and accountability in governance.

Imran's political future uncertain; PTI must engage politically: Rana Sanaulah

MULTAN (INP): In a recent interview, Federal Adviser on Political Affairs, Rana Sanaulah, discussed a range of political issues surrounding the current political landscape in Pakistan, particularly focusing on the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party and its leader, Imran Khan.

Sanaulah's comments offered a mix of political insights, allegations, and speculation about the future of Pakistan's political environment.

Rana Sanaulah, a senior leader of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), emphasized that the political situation in the country could only be resolved through political dialogue.

According to Sanaulah, while the establishment is currently led by a figure who is neither "an eye-winner" nor one to seek "winks," he insisted that political forces need to engage directly with each other.

He particularly stressed that PTI must approach political problems through dialogue, acknowledging that Imran Khan himself was largely responsible for his own political troubles.

Sanaulah made a pointed reference to the ongoing legal challenges faced by Imran Khan, specifically his involvement in the high-profile ₹90 million case.

He expressed confidence that Khan would eventually be punished in this case, though he refrained from providing further details at this time. "Imran Khan is his own enemy," Sanaulah remarked, suggesting that the PTI leader's actions had brought him to a difficult political juncture.

Further addressing the broader political landscape, Sanaulah revealed that leaders like Mehmood Achakzai and Maulana Fazlur Rehman are in contact with PTI members, indicating that there might be room for political reconciliation, even with political adversaries.

He suggested that such discussions could only be found through engagement and understanding among the political forces.

In a response to a question about the PML-N's stance on historical political matters, Sanaulah criticized PTI for its past actions during the 26th Constitutional Amendment, suggesting that PTI, and particularly Imran Khan, were well aware of the political maneuvers that occurred at that time.

He alluded to the idea that PTI members, who once facilitated certain political moves, should now recognize their role in shaping the current political reality and be more accountable to the political process.

Finally, when asked about the political future of PTI's Ali Amin Gandapur, Sanaulah expressed skepticism.

He questioned whether Gandapur could recover politically, particularly in light of his recent actions, which seemed driven more by party loyalty than by genuine political conviction.

"Gandapur may recover on his own, but it plays both ways," said Sanaulah, referring to his apparent attempt to please both party leadership and the establishment.

He added that some of Gandapur's recent actions, such as trying to influence political outcomes at D-Chowk, reflected a lack of consistency in his approach.



ISLAMABAD: H.E. Mr. Shoaib Sarwar, Ambassador of Pakistan to Denmark, called on the Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, at the Finance Division.

Shehbaz led PML-N government doesn't have mandate or performance: Abbasi

MURREE (INP): Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, the head of the Awam Pakistan Party (APP), has harshly criticized the current central government, claiming it lacks both the mandate and the governance necessary to provide stability in the country. Speaking with a private TV channel, Abbasi stated that the government believes it has achieved stability due to the incompetence of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-

Insaf (PTI), but emphasized that true political power stems from both a legitimate mandate and strong government, neither of which, according to Abbasi, the current party possesses.

"The government is strong when the public is strong. It is clear that this government does not have either the mandate or the performance," Abbasi said, highlighting that effective governance requires both a solid mandate and

the ability to deliver results, which he believes the present administration lacks.

In response to ongoing discussions regarding the privatization of Pakistan International Airlines (PIA), Abbasi expressed skepticism over the government's expectations of raising \$5 billion rupees from the sale of the national carrier. He suggested that the market was not inclined to accept such a high valuation and that a more realistic figure for PIA's privatization would be around 10 billion rupees, which he still considered excessive given the airline's current financial structure.

Abbasi also took aim at the role of the opposition in current Pakistani politics. Criticizing PTI's approach, he argued that the party was more focused on securing the release of its leader, Imran Khan, from prison, rather than addressing the pressing issues facing the nation.

"The opposition's primary goal today is not to engage with the country's problems. PTI is obsessed with getting Imran Khan out of jail, and they continue to hope for external intervention, particularly from figures like Donald Trump, to force Pakistan to release him. This is a crude illusion," he remarked. He added that the opposition should be focusing on the country's economic challenges, governance issues, and social problems, rather than fixating on the fate of one individual.



RIVADH: Saudi Investment Minister Engr. Khalid Bin Abdul Aziz Al-Falih and Advisor Royal Court Mohammed Al-Tuwaijri call on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on the sidelines of Arab-Islamic Extraordinary Summit.

Markets close as toxic smog engulfed Lahore, adjoining areas

LAHORE (INP): On the streets of Pakistan's second biggest city, smog stings eyes and burns throats. Inside homes, few people can afford air purifiers to limit the damage of toxic particles that seep through doors and windows.

Lahore—a city of 14 million people stuffed with factories along the border with India—regularly ranks among the world's most polluted cities, but it has hit record levels this month. Schools have closed in the main cities of Punjab, of which Lahore is the capital, until November 17 in a bid to lower children's exposure to the pollution, especially during the morning commute when it is often at its highest.

The children are constantly coughing, they have constant allergies. In schools we saw that most of the children were falling sick," said Hafsa Iqbal, a 38-year-old primary school teacher in Lahore.

Her husband Muhammad said a 41-year-old advertising professional, said the level of pollution "is making daily living impossible".

"We cannot move around, we cannot go outside, we can do nothing at all," he told.

Smog continued to engulf Lahore as with the air quality index (AQI) recorded at 565 on Monday morning, the Punjab capital again emerged as the world's most-polluted city, and the situation is worsening with each passing day, as no relief is in sight as there are less chances of rain, reported 24NewsHD TV channel.

The smoke emitted by vehicles and rising from the chimneys of factories, when combined with moisture in the air, produces smog. The AQI over the city's Syed Maratub Ali Road stood at 852, followed by 732 over the DHA's Phase-8, 609 over the US consulate, 603 over the Ghazal interchange, and 526 over the Askari-10.

It was cold in the morning while the minimum temperature was recorded at 21 degrees Cel-

sius. The Met Office forecast the temperature to go up to 28 degrees Celsius later in the day.

Multan, with the AQI recorded at 955, was the most polluted city in the country.

The city was followed by Lahore with AQI recorded at 565 and Peshawar with AQI 332.

The Punjab government on Monday issued a notification regarding closure of all markets, bazaars and shopping malls in Lahore, Faisalabad, Multan and Gujranwala region from today (November 11, 2024).

These restrictions will end on November 17, 2024, while all outdoor activities including holding of any sports event completely banned. The Punjab government made the move after Lahore High Court's orders to combat worsening smog.

As per LHC orders all shops, markets, bazaars, and shopping malls will be closed from 8 pm to 11 am.

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