

# QUETTA VOICE

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## Justice Hashim Kakar Elevated to Supreme Court of Pakistan: Five Other Judges Appointed

Dawood Ahmed:

ISLAMABAD: In a significant move, Justice Muhammad Hashim Kakar, the Chief Justice of Balochistan High Court, has been appointed as a judge of the Supreme Court of Pakistan.

Alongside him, five other high court judges have also been elevated, including Justice Muhammad Shaif Siddiqui, Justice Salahuddin Panhwar, Justice Shakeel Ahmad, Justice Aamer Farooq, and Justice Ishfaq Ibrahim.

The Judicial Commission of Pakistan (JCP), which convened for its meeting on Monday, made the appointments after a majority vote among its members. During the session, Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb was nominated as the acting judge of the Supreme Court.

The announcement has been met with protests in Islamabad, with lawyers demanding that the meeting be postponed.

These protests come at a time when four apex court judges have voiced opposition to the elevation of certain judges.

Additionally, the transfer of judges to the Islamabad High Court (IHC) has sparked further controversy, with five IHC judges publicly opposing the reshuffling.

The decisions made by the



JCP are expected to have far-reaching implications for the judicial landscape in Pakistan as new appointments are made at the country's highest judicial body.

## FIRs Against PTI Balochistan President, Others

Qasem Shah:

QUETTA: Authorities in Balochistan have registered FIRs against key leaders of the Pakistan Protection of Constitution Movement for allegedly violating Section 144 during their protest demonstrations against the February 8 general elections.

According to police sources, the SHO of City Police Station lodged complaints against PTC Provincial President Dawood Shah Kakar and Noor Khan Khilji.

The FIRs include charges of blocking roads, delivering inflammatory speeches, and chanting slogans against the government and security forces.

Legal sections 153-A, 188, 341, 149, and 147 of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC) have been invoked, alongside allegations of violating the Loud-speaker Act.

The movement has been actively protesting what they claim were engineered elections, alleging that their mandate was stolen and demanding its restoration.

Kabir Afghan, one of the leaders of the movement, condemned the FIRs in a press conference, calling them an attempt to silence democratic voices. He reiterated that the movement would continue its struggle for electoral justice despite government pressure.



PTI leaders at a press conference in Quetta.

## IT minister reaffirms Pakistan's commitment to transparency, accountability on digital platforms

NEWS DESK: Minister of State for Information Technology and Telecom Shaza Fatima Khawaja on Monday reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to transparency and accountability in digital platforms at a technology conference in Riyadh.

The Leap 2025, being held in Riyadh from Feb 9 to 12, witnessed a "large gathering of Pakistani and Saudi business leaders, government officials, and industry experts", according to a news release.

Speaking at one panel called "Shaping the future of ethical AI: multilateral perspectives on governance and risk management", the minister highlighted "the transformative impact of AI, urging multilateral cooperation and strong regulatory frameworks to ensure AI benefits all segments of society".

She stressed the importance of data privacy, security, and fairness in artificial intelligence (AI) systems, calling for global collaboration to establish responsible AI governance models that



prevent discrimination and ensure equal access to digital opportunities.

The minister also emphasised bridging the digital divide, particularly in developing nations, by promoting inclusive policies and capacity-building initiatives.

Khawaja advocated for AI to be a tool for social empowerment, ensuring that its benefits extend beyond economic growth to create a more equitable digital future.

Addressing sustainability and accountability, she urged for environmentally responsible AI development, highlighting the need to minimise AI's carbon footprint. She reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to transparency and accountability in digital platforms, advocating for a global governance framework that ensures ethical AI deployment while fostering innovation.

Speaking on Pakistan's AI

strategy, the minister underscored the government's dedication to developing a comprehensive AI policy that prioritises technological advancement alongside ethical considerations.

She emphasised that Pakistan aims to leverage AI to enhance public services, drive economic growth, and build a sustainable digital ecosystem.

Shaza called for strengthened international cooperation to shape an inclusive, transparent, and accountable AI-powered future.

She encouraged government leaders to work together to establish global ethical AI frameworks that promote stability, innovation, and sustainable progress.

The IT minister also recently moved a bill called "The Digital Nation Pakistan Bill, 2024", which aims to create a digital identity for citizens — to centralise social, economic and governance data — and to provide for the transformation of Pakistan into a digital nation, enabling a digital society, digital economy and digital governance.

## Swift Action Needed to Bring Muhammad Musawir Home

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## Protesting lawyers stage sit-in at Islamabad's D-Chowk

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## Turbat Attack: Two Killed, One Injured by Armed Assailants

Monitoring Desk:

TURBAT: In a tragic incident, two individuals were killed, and one was injured by unidentified armed assailants in Turbat. The attack occurred behind the residential quarters of Star Plus Market. According to reports, the armed individuals opened fire, resulting in the deaths of two people and injuring another.

### Key Details:

Victims Identified: Hari Lal (Tando Allahyar), Motal Lal (Tando Adam), and injured

Shero Mal (Tando Adam) Location: Star Plus Market, Turbat Police Action: Bodies and injured transferred to Teaching Hospital Turbat Investigation: Ongoing. Authorities are working to apprehend the perpetrators Background: The motive behind the attack remains unknown, and authorities are diligently investigating the incident. The police arrived promptly at the scene and took the necessary actions to ensure the safety of the area.



## PM Shehbaz departs for UAE to attend World Governments Summit

NEWS NEWS: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has embarked on a two-day official visit to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to participate in the World Governments Summit (WGS) in Dubai.

At the invitation of UAE Vice President and Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, PM Shehbaz will join global leaders, policymakers, and private sector figures to discuss governance, innovation, and international cooperation, according to a statement from Pakistan's Foreign Office.

He is accompanied by a high-level delegation, including Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar and other key cabinet members, reflecting Pakistan's commitment to strengthening ties with the

UAE and engaging with global partners.

During the summit, the prime minister is expected to deliver a keynote address outlining Pakistan's vision for inclusive economic growth, digital transformation, and governance reforms.

He will also hold bilateral meetings with the UAE leadership, as well as interact with heads of state and multinational CEOs attending the event.

"Pakistan and the UAE share a deep-rooted relationship based on mutual trust and cooperation," the Foreign Office stated, adding that the UAE remains a key economic and strategic partner for Pakistan across multiple sectors.

The visit comes as Pakistan seeks to enhance economic collaboration and attract foreign investment.



## Seven terrorists killed in D.I. Khan, North Waziristan operations: ISPR

PESHAWAR/DERA ISMAIL KHAN: Seven terrorists were killed and a soldier was martyred in different encounters in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Sunday, official sources said.

According to the military's media wing, Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), security forces carried out an intelligence-based operation (IBO) in the Madli area of Dera Ismail Khan district on the reported presence of armed men in the area on the night between Feb 8 and 9.

During an exchange of fire, three terrorists were killed and two others were wounded.

Sources said the militants killed in the operation were experts in making improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and bombs, and they were involved in multiple acts of terrorism. After the operation, the sources said, security forces launched a search operation in the area to track down accomplices of the militants.

The ISPR said that another

operation against terrorists was carried out in the Mir Ali tehsil of North Waziristan.

The operation triggered an exchange of fire during which security forces shot dead four militants while three others were injured.

It added that a sanitisation operation was being conducted in the area to eliminate any other terrorist as members of security forces were determined to wipe out the menace of terrorism from the country.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif appreciated security forces for carrying out a successful operation against the 'Fitna-al-Khawarij' terrorists in D.I. Khan and North Waziristan districts, adds APP. Meanwhile, a soldier was martyred and three others were injured in an exchange of fire with terrorists in the Hassan Kher sub-division on the border between Peshawar and Kohat.

"The operation was carried out by members of security forces," the sources said.

## Mastung Police Successfully Recover Abducted Child in Swift Operation

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### Zartaj Gul criticizes constitutional violations to extend tenure of Govt with only 17 seats

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader and former federal minister Zartaj Gul stated on Monday that constitutional violations were being made to extend the tenure of a government with only 17 seats.

Speaking to the media in Islamabad, PTI leader Zartaj Gul said that the government had not spared the judiciary or journalists, and they have already portrayed political workers as terrorists.

She added that under the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) government, the constitution, provinces, and political parties were not safe, and in the end, only the judiciary remained untouched.

She expressed regret that after the 26th constitutional amendment, the Supreme Court, judges, and all benches have been made controversial.

She questioned the state of the country under PML-N's rule,

saying that even lawyers were facing lawsuits for defending innocent people.

The PTI leader emphasised that political ideologies can vary, and politicians may cooperate with anyone. She clarified that if Maulana Fazlur Rehman or any other political party joins them, it does not mean their ideology aligns with PTI's. Political parties have different ideologies.

Zartaj Gul stated that regarding a grand alliance, the entire nation must unite to support PTI. Everyone must stand with Imran Khan, as PTI is the only party firmly standing at the moment, and all political parties should support the founder of PTI.

The former federal minister said that the statement, Supreme Court, and judges were being undermined, and everything was being compromised to prolong the government's party with only 17 seats. She claimed that on February 8th, their mandate was stolen.



PESHAWAR: Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazil (JUI-F) Maulana Fazlur-Rehman addressing to the gathering of Mushawerti Jirga at Nishtar hall.

### Vessel carrying 65 sinks off Libyan coast; Pakistani embassy seeks details of nationals

NEWS DESK: The Foreign Office on Monday said Pakistan's embassy in Libya was seeking details of "Pakistani affectees" as a vessel carrying around 65 passengers capsized near the Marsa Dela port. The development follows a similar incident last month in which a boat carrying 80 passengers capsized near Morocco. While the identities of at least 13 Pakistanis killed in the incident were confirmed, over 40 Pakistanis were reportedly murdered by African human traffickers on the boat and only 22 survived the tragedy. In a statement today, the FO said: "Our Embassy in Tripoli has informed that a vessel carrying approximately 65 passengers capsized near the port of Marsa Dela, northwest of Zawiyah city, Libya."

It added that the Pakistani Embassy in Tripoli had immediately dispatched a team to "Zawiyah hospital to assist the local authorities in the identification of the deceased".

"The embassy is also trying to ascertain further details of the Pakistani affectees," the statement said.

It is unclear if the passengers onboard the vessel were migrants. "The Crisis Management Unit of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Mofa) has been activated to monitor the situation," the FO said, providing the following contact details for any query. Last week, the bodies of at least 29 migrants were recovered in two locations in the southeast and west of Libya, a security directorate and the Libyan Red Crescent said, according to Reuters.

The Alwahaat district Security Directorate said in a statement on Thursday that 19 bodies were discovered in a mass grave in a farm in Jikhara, some 441 kilometres from Benghazi, Libya's second largest city, and said the deaths were related to smuggling activities. Separately, the Libyan Red Crescent said on Facebook late on Thursday that its volunteers recovered the bodies of 10 migrants earlier in the day after their boat sank off Dila port in Zawiyah — the same city referred to in the FO statement today.

The Red Crescent posted pictures showing volunteers on the dockside placing bodies in white plastic bags, while one volunteer put numbers on one of the bags. It said the bodies were found in a total of three graves on the farm, with one grave holding about a second grave holding four bodies, and the remaining 14 bodies found in the third grave. "The bodies were all referred to a forensic doctor to conduct the necessary tests," the directorate said.

Libya has turned into a transit route for migrants fleeing conflict and poverty to Europe across the Mediterranean. In December, about 40 Pakistanis died in boat capsized incidents off the coast of Greece, with 35 of them presumed dead after going missing. According to the report, 47 Pakistanis were among those rescued. Around 50 Federal Investigation Agency officials have been booked and dismissed from service over their alleged collusion with human smugglers in illegally sending Pakistanis abroad. Similarly, 65 FIA officials were blacklisted for posting at an immigration check post.

Boat tragedies have prompted the FIA to introduce "rigorous screening" at all airports of the country, as a result of which it offloaded 2,500 passengers in January at Lahore airport alone.

In June 2023, an Italy-bound fishing trawler reportedly carrying at least 800 people capsized off Greece. It was one of the deadliest boat disasters ever in the Mediterranean Sea and data suggested up to 300 Pakistani victims were onboard. In April of the same year, Pakistanis were among dozens dead as two migrant boats sank in the Mediterranean off different towns in western Libya. In February of that year, Pakistanis were among 59 people killed when a wooden sailing boat carrying migrants crashed against rocks on the southern Italian coast.



QUETTA: Spokesperson of Tehreek Tahafuz Ayeen-in-Pakistan Kabir Afghan addressing a press conference.

### Over 600 arrested for working illegally in United Kingdom (UK)

LONDON (INP): UK immigration enforcement teams made over 600 arrests in January, a 73 per cent increase on the same period a year ago, as part of the new Labour government's plan to tackle undocumented migrants and people smuggling gangs, officials said on Monday.

The 609 arrests, compared to 352 in January 2024, were made during visits to over 800 premises including nail bars, restaurants, car washes and convenience stores, a government statement said.

On taking office last year Labour Prime Minister Keir Starmer immediately scrapped his Conservative predecessor Rishi Sunak's plan to deter undocumented migration to the UK by deporting new arrivals to Rwanda.

Instead he pledged to "smash the gangs" to bring the numbers down. Home Secretary Yvette Cooper said employers had for too long been able to "exploit illegal migrants and too many people have been able to arrive and work illegally with no enforcement action ever taken".

"We are boosting enforcement to record levels along with new legislation to smash the criminal gangs that undermine our border security and who have been getting away with it for far too long," she said.

Undocumented migration by people who take small, perilously unsafe boats across the English Channel from northern France to southern England was a major issue at last July's general election which brought Starmer's Labour Party to power.

Regular migration, which is currently running at historically high levels, estimated at 728,000 for the year to June 2024, was also a hot button issue at the polls.

Starmer needs to reduce both legal and undocumented migration to UK party, according to the previous Conservative government, including with France and Albania.

The government also points to an increase in the return of irregular migrants to their countries of origin, the highest since 2017.

Its new Border Security, Asylum and Immigration Bill, designed to give law enforcement officials "counter-terror style powers" to break up gangs bringing irregular migrants across the Channel, is due to get its second reading in parliament on Monday.

### Iranian schools, offices shut as cold snap bites

TEHRAN (INP): Authorities in Iran ordered schools and offices in at least 10 provinces to close to conserve energy amid a severe cold snap and heavy snowfall, state media reported.

Freezing temperatures have gripped the northern half of the country over the past few days, causing a spike in energy consumption.

"All government offices and schools are closed on Sunday, and remote learning has been arranged for students," the state news agency IRNA announced.

Among the provinces affected are Lorestan in the west, Semnan in the east, and Gilan in the north.

Some parts of Gilan, around 30 kilometres (80 miles) north of Tehran, saw snow fall to a depth of 220 centimetres (87 inches), meteorologist Mohammad Dadrast told the Fars news agency.

The shutdown decision followed a similar measure on Saturday, when authorities ordered closures in more than 20 of the country's 31 provinces because of the extreme weather.

The capital also saw

closures on Saturday but those affected reopened on Sunday — a working day — despite the windy conditions.

IRNA said on Sunday some area of Tehran received up to 30 centimetres (12 inches) of snow overnight, a 25 per cent increase from the 29,437 who arrived in the Channel in 2024, a 25 per cent increase from the 29,437 who arrived in the Channel in 2023, provisional figures from the interior ministry showed.

As part of his plan to reduce undocumented migration, Starmer has also set up a new Border Security Command and strengthened cooperation with European partners, including Europol.

Britain has signed joint action plans with Germany and Iraq aimed at tackling the smuggling gangs.

They build on earlier agreements signed under the previous Conservative government, including with France and Albania.

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### Dacoit carrying Rs7m head-money killed in police encounter

MUZAFFARGARH (INP): A notorious and wanted dacoit named Muneer alias Mini Baloch, with a bounty of Rs7 million on his head, was killed during an encounter with police in Rohilawal area of District of Muzaaffargarh.

A spokesman of Punjab police said that the dead dacoit was wanted by police as

62 cases were registered against him in different police stations.

The spokesman further revealed that after noticing the police van under the supervision of DSP Suddar reached the area for launching a counter action. During heavy exchange of firing the wanted dacoit was critically wounded while a police constable received severe bullet injuries and a police vehicle was partially damaged.

The injured dacoit died on way to hospital while his other colleague constable who was identified as Asim was in a stable condition and also recovering fast.

### Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) seizes over 107kg drugs in 9 operations

RAWALPINDI (INP): Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting 9 operations across the country managed to recover over 107 kg drugs worth over Rs 110 million and arrested 9 accused, said an ANF spokesman here on Monday.

He informed that 2.4 kg hashish was recovered from an accused arrested near the park in F-8 Islamabad.

100 grams ice and 48 intoxicated tablets were recovered from an accused netted near Khanna PUL Expressway Islamabad.

In third operation, 500 grams hashish was recovered from a personal possession of an accused rounded up near a college in Islamabad.

70 intoxicated tablets were recovered from the possession of an accused held near a university

in Rawalpindi. The arrested suspects confessed to selling drugs to the students of educational institutions.

10.750 kg ice absorbed in 3 ladies' suits was recovered from a parcel booked for Australia through a courier office in Karachi.

2.850 kg ice was recovered from the trolley bag of a passenger going to Jeddah at Peshawar International Airport. In 7th operation, 63 kg heroin was recovered from an area of Qila Saifullah district in Balochistan.

18 kg hashish hidden in a car near Sawan Adda Bus Stop Rawalpindi and 2 suspects were arrested during the operation.

Cases have been registered against the arrested suspects under the Narcotics Control Act and further investigations are under process.



QUETTA: Finance Secretary Imran Zircon is presiding over the review meeting regarding solid waste management.

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

The DIRECTOR GENERAL FARMS & FEED RESOURCES QUETTA invites bids from eligible Bidders for supply of following items: TRS-24520242921 Only electronic bid will be submitted. No physical bid is required. Note: In All Procurements of GOB Weather Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, it is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. T/Fee Not required.

S.No	Class of Object	Qty/Security
1	Manufactured Fertilizers & Accessories	1,000,000 PKR.
(Total Bids/Count):		

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Assignments of Similar Nature and Estimated 1,000,000 in Previous 3 Years Turn over of at least 10,000,000 PKR in 2 Subsequent Previous Years. Presence in Active Tax Payer List Sales Tax Certificate. The bidding form must not be currently blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. JV is not permissible. Submission of the required Bid Security in case Bid Security is not found as required during financial evaluation the bidding form shall be declared as ineligible and non-responsive. Bidder must agree to serve the contract within 30 days from the date of issuance of Supply work order authorization from the Manufacturer/Inventor of the Bidder. If Manufacturer is not participating directly Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Deposit or Call of amount 1,000,000 PKR specified above in the name of the under-logged from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The NIT & Bidding Document can be obtained electronically from www.bppra.gov.pk. Issuance of tender Documents: Complete Bidding Document can be viewed at www.bppra.gov.pk. Last Date of bid submission: Bid can only be submitted electronically till 28 February, 2025 11:00 AM through supplier interface. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at 12:00 PM on EPPS System Address: Brewery Road Near CAS VAB Quetta. Phone no: 0812613147. Fax no: 0812613147. Email: dgff@dgff.gov.pk

PROJ No. 2217/10-2-2025

DIRECTOR GENERAL FARMS & FEED RESOURCES QUETTA

### Mastung Police Successfully Recover Abducted Child in Swift Operation

**MASTUNG:** Mastung police have successfully recovered a kidnapped child in an immediate and effective operation.

The recovered boy, identified as Sajad, son of Imam Bakhtsh, was abducted by unidentified motorcycle riders near Sarawan Digital Library.

According to police officials, as soon as the abduction was reported, a search operation was launched under the leadership of SHO City Abdul Fatah Kiyazai.

The police swiftly sealed potential escape routes, forcing the kidnappers to abandon the child during the chase and flee. The child was safely recovered and taken to the police station, where he and his father provided their statements. After completing legal formalities, the police handed over the child to his family.

Authorities have assured that efforts are underway to track down the kidnappers and bring them to justice.

Police officials reaffirmed

From Our Correspondent:



their commitment to ensuring the safety of Mastung's residents and maintaining law and order in the region.

### BUJ Demands Immediate Removal of ARY Journalist Name from Nasirabad FIR

**NASIRABAD:** In Nasirabad, a First Information Report (FIR) has been registered under Section 144, naming ARY News correspondent Naser Ahmed Mastoi for covering protests.

The Balochistan Union of Journalists (BUJ) has strongly condemned this decision in a joint statement.

BUJ President Khalil Ahmed General, Secretary Ghani Kakar and other members demanded the immediate removal of Mastoi's name from the FIR.

They argued that, instead of using Section 144 to curb violent protests, the authorities have misused it to suppress critical journalism.

The BUJ stressed that the

Staff Reporter



journalist was merely performing his professional duties, and his inclusion in the FIR is entirely unacceptable. BUJ has called on Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Bugti and the Inspector General of Police to urgently address the matter and ensure the journalist's name is promptly expunged from the case.

### Armed Men Set Ufone Tower on Fire in Duki's Bani Kot Area

**DUKI:** Armed assailants torched a Ufone tower in the Zaki area of Bani Kot, causing significant damage to its machinery, according to Levies sources.

Officials confirmed that the incident resulted in severe losses

**Hussain Zarkoon:** to the tower's equipment, disrupting communication services in the region.

The attackers managed to flee the scene after committing the act. Law enforcement agencies

have launched an investigation to track down the perpetrators and restore the damaged infrastructure.

Authorities have assured that measures will be taken to prevent such incidents in the future.

### Protesting lawyers stage sit-in at Islamabad's D-Chowk

**ISLAMABAD (NP):** A large number of lawyers, protesting against the passage of the 26th Constitutional Amendment and the Judicial Commission of Pakistan (JCP) meeting, have staged a sit-in at D-Chowk in Islamabad as a heavy contingent of the police has made efforts to prevent them from marching on to the Red Zone on Monday. In order to ensure that the protesters do not enter the Red Zone, the police have closed the routes leading from D-Chowk to the Red Zone with barbed wires while two prison vans have also been parked at the site of the protest.

Islamabad High Court Bar Association President Riasat Ali Azad was also at the scene as the lawyers alleged that the police have baton-charged their colleagues at Serena Chowk.

They have further said that some of their colleagues have already reached outside the Supreme Court (SC) while others are

protesting outside the Islamabad High Court (IHC).

Also on Monday, Barrister Ali Zafar said that the law and the constitution necessitated the postponement of the Judicial Commission of Pakistan (JCP) meeting until and unless the issue of seniority of the Supreme Court (SC) judges was resolved. Speaking to the media outside the Supreme Court, he said that if Chief Justice of the Islamabad High Court (IHC) Justice Aamer Farooq was made the SC judge, who would be the senior-most judge after him.

However, he announced he would attend the meeting. "If we boycott the meeting, then we will fail to meet our objectives," Barrister Zafar said, "Let the issue of the seniority of judges be resolved."

He wondered why judges from high courts were stuffed into the IHC. "The seniority of these judges will be determined from the

start of their service in their parent court," he opted.

Admitting that the legal fraternity was split on the issue, he expressed the resolve to continue the struggle along with his colleagues. Earlier, leaders of the Lawyers Action Committee, who have reached Islamabad from Karachi and other parts of the country to register their protest against the passage of the 26th Amendment as well as the JCP meeting, have held a demonstration outside a private hotel in the federal capital.

Speaking to the protesters, senior lawyer Munir A Malik, while reminding the government that lawyers had held protests in the past too, described the passage of the 26th amendment as "an assault on the judiciary and the state."

He lamented that nearly all routes in the federal capital had been sealed in order to prevent lawyers from protesting.

### Nawaz Sharif, Maryam hold another meeting with MPs

**LAHORE (NP):** Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) President Mian Nawaz Sharif and Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz held another meeting with MPs in Lahore on Monday.

Talking with the MPs, Nawaz Sharif said that he witnessed many ups and downs in his life but with the support of Almighty Allah Pakistan will again take off economically. He said that they rescued

Pakistan from falling into a ditch. Nawaz Sharif said that whenever PML (N) government came into power, Pakistan made progress.

Nawaz Sharif said that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is working tirelessly to put Pakistan back on track of progress and prosperity. Nawaz Sharif said "the people of Pakistan are feeling satisfaction and happiness after a long time". He further said that if our journey had continued which was

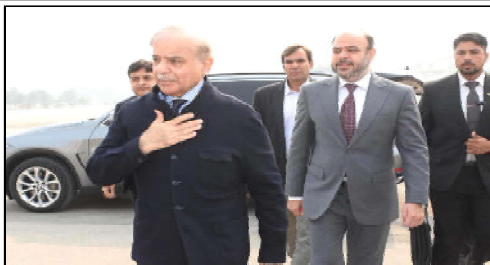
started in 1990, Pakistan would have achieved its economic stability.

He said that interest rate was decreased from 22 percent to 12 percent.

The MPs who were present on the occasion said that happiness is returning to Pakistan. The MPs paid glowing tributes to Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz for starting development projects in the province.



ISLAMABAD: Coordinator to the Prime Minister for Climate Change, Romina Khurshid Alam chairing a meeting of the Forestry Board.



LAHORE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Monday left for a two-day official visit to United Arab Emirates (UAE) to participate in the World Governments Summit (WGS) in Dubai.

### Turkiye's President Erdogan to visit Pakistan this week amid three-nation Asia tour

**NEWS DESK:** Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan will visit Pakistan later this week as part of a three-nation Asia tour to boost ties with Malaysia, Indonesia and Pakistan, according to Turkish news outlet Daily Sabah.

Erdogan will begin his four-day trip today in Malaysia before heading to Indonesia and concluding the tour in Pakistan.

His meetings will "focus on enhancing cooperation in various fields, as well as hot topics on the international agenda, from the Russia-Israel conflict to the situation in Syria... as well as the Russia-Ukraine conflict," the Daily Sabah said.

"Erdogan's last stopover will be Pakistan, whose relations with

Turkiye reached the highest level under successive tenures of the Turkish president," the daily reported. It noted that the two countries have particularly increased cooperation in the defence industry, with deals signed on the acquisition of naval vessels and uncrewed aerial vehicles (UAVs).

Pakistan was the first country to sign a deal to purchase Turkey's nationally-made naval vessels as part of the MILGEM (National Ship) project, it added.

The Turkish president last visited Pakistan on a two-day visit in February 2020, where he met with then-president Arif Alvi and prime minister Imran Khan. The trip was aimed at strengthening bilateral strategic partnership

and economic ties. President Asif Ali Zardari on Monday held a meeting with Erdogan during a brief stopover at Istanbul Airport en route to Portugal.

Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan warmly received the president at the airport. Zardari and his Turkish counterpart discussed bilateral ties and matters of mutual interest during their meeting.

President Zardari is currently on a visit to Portugal to express condolences on the passing of Prince Karim Aga Khan and meet with Prince Rahim Al-Husseini, who was named the 50th hereditary imam following his father's death.

### Almost all nations miss UN deadline for new climate targets

**NEWS DESK:** Nearly all nations missed a UN deadline on Monday to submit new targets for slashing carbon emissions, including major economies under pressure to show leadership following the US retreat on climate change.

Just 10 of nearly 200 countries required under the Paris Agreement to deliver fresh climate plans by February 10 did so on time, according to a UN database tracking the submissions.

Under the climate accord, each country is supposed to provide a steeper headline figure for cutting heat-trapping emissions by 2035, and a detailed blueprint for how to achieve this.

Global emissions have been rising but need almost halve by the end of the decade to limit global warming to safer levels agreed under the Paris deal.

"Climate chief Simon Stiell has called this latest round of national pledges "the most important policy documents of this century."

Yet just a handful of major polluters handed in upgraded targets on time, with China, India and the European Union the biggest names on a lengthy absentee list.

Most G20 economies were missing in action with the United States, Britain and Brazil — which is hosting this year's UN climate summit — the only exceptions. There is no penalty for submitting late targets, formally titled nationally determined contributions (NDCs).

They are not legally binding but act as an accountability measure to ensure countries are taking climate change seriously and doing their fair share toward achieving the Paris goals.

The sluggish response will not ease fears of a possible backslide on climate action as leaders juggle Trump's return and other competing priorities from budget and security crises to electoral pressure.

Ebony Holland from the International Institute for Environment and Development said the US retreat was "clearly a setback" but there were many reasons for the tepid turnout.

"It's clear there are some broad geopolitical shifts underway by elections and internal processes and is bracing for fresh polls in Germany and Poland. An EU spokeswoman said a collective target for the 27-nation bloc would be unveiled "well ahead" of the UN COP30 climate conference in November.

"We will continue to be a leading voice for international climate action," she said. Analysts say China — both the world's biggest polluter and

its largest renewable energy investor — was also expected to release its much-anticipated NDC in the second half of 2025.

The United Arab Emirates, Ecuador, Saint Lucia, New Zealand, Andorra, Switzerland and Uruguay rounded out the list of countries that made Monday's cut-off.

Evans Njewa, a Malawian diplomat and chair of the Least Developed Countries group, said many poorer nations lacked the financial resources and technical expertise to compile such complex, economy-wide policies.

"Big emitters, whose historical and ongoing pollution has driven the climate crisis, must take responsibility and lead by example," he told AFP.

Countries have been consistently late in filing periodic updates to their NDCs since the Paris accord was signed in 2015.

Last week, Stiell asked that countries turn in "first-rate" submissions by September so they could be properly assessed before the UN climate summit in Belem.

"The worsening climate crisis will not wait or pause its disastrous impact as nations delay their action plans," said Tracy Carty from Greenpeace International. Linda Kalcher, executive director of the Strategic Perspectives think tank, said in some cases it was better that countries work on fine tuning quality proposals, rather than rushing out something weaker.



BELARUS: "Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan Warm Welcome in Belarus, set to Co-Chair Pakistan-Belarus Trade Talks"

### Five hardcore terrorists killed in CTD operation in Karak

**KARAK (INP):** Five hardcore terrorists were gunned down during heavy exchange of firing in an intelligence-based operation conducted by Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) personnel in Karak.

According to details, the CTD team conducted the grand operation in Mir Kalam Banda area of tehsil Banda Daud Shah after receiving credible intelligence report about presence of terrorists and their facilitators in the area. A clearance operation was still underway to clear the area from remaining terrorists.

The CTD has already issued high security alert for general public keeping in view law and order situation.

The CTD advised citizens to remain alert and adopt precautionary measures to avoid any untoward incident.

The development came after three police personnel were martyred while six others were injured when militants attacked Bahadur Khel police checkpoint at Karak late last Wednesday night. On Sunday, seven terrorists were killed and a soldier was martyred in different encounters in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Security forces carried out an intelligence-based operation (IBO) in the Maddi area of Dera Ismail Khan district on the reported presence of armed men in the area on the night between Feb 8 and 9, and during the exchange of fire, three terrorists were killed and two others were wounded.

The ISFR said that another operation against terrorists was carried out in the Mir Ali tehsil of North Waziristan. The operation triggered an exchange of fire during which security forces shot dead four militants while three others were injured.