

QUETTA VOICE

Email address:

dquettavoice@gmail.com

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Sohail Afridi sworn in as 30th chief minister of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa

Pakistan Announces 48-Hour Ceasefire with Afghanistan at Taliban's Request

Dawood Ahmed, News Desk:
ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Wednesday announced a 48-hour ceasefire with Afghanistan following several days of intense cross-border clashes, agreeing to the truce at the request of the Taliban regime.

According to a statement issued by the Foreign Office (FO), the temporary ceasefire was mutually agreed upon by both sides and will remain in effect for the next two days, starting 6 p.m. Wednesday.

"A temporary ceasefire has been decided between the Government of Pakistan and the Afghan Taliban regime, with the mutual consent of both parties, for the next 48 hours from 6 p.m. today, at the request of the Taliban," the FO said.

"During this period, both sides will make sincere efforts to find a positive solution to this complex but solvable issue through constructive dialogue," the statement added.

Afghan Taliban spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid confirmed on X (formerly Twitter) that Afghan forces had been instructed to respect the ceasefire "unless any aggression takes place."

Precision Strikes in Kabul and Kandahar

Earlier, state broad-



caster PTV News reported that Pakistan Armed Forces had carried out precision strikes targeting Taliban positions in Kandahar province and Kabul.

Quoting security sources, PTV said:

"Pakistan Army's retaliatory action destroyed key hideouts of the Afghan Taliban in Kandahar. Battalion No. 4 and Border Brigade No. 6 were completely neutralized, with dozens of Afghan and foreign militants killed."

Additional strikes were later confirmed in Kabul, where "the cen-

tre and leadership of Fitna al-Hindistan" were reportedly targeted—a term used by the state for terrorist outfits operating in Balochistan.

Security sources said the selected targets were "isolated from civilian areas and successfully destroyed."

Border Hostilities and Heavy Casualties

The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) earlier confirmed that Pakistani security forces had repulsed multiple Taliban attacks along the Spin Boldak border area in Balochistan, killing

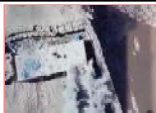
15-20 Afghan Taliban fighters.

The ISPR described the assaults as "cowardly attacks" initiated from four positions inside Afghan territory.

The latest confrontation marks the third major border clash between Pakistan and Afghanistan within a week.

Earlier skirmishes occurred in Kurram and other border regions, resulting in the martyrdom of 23 Pakistani soldiers and injuries to 29 others.

According to Pakistan's military, intelligence reports estimate that over 200 Taliban fighters and affiliated militants have been neutralized since the escalation began.



Pakistan Repels Taliban's Cowardly Cross-Border Attacks

Pakistan Repels Taliban's Cowardly Cross-Border Attacks



NEWS DESK:

RAWALPINDI: In the early hours of 15 October 2025, Afghan Taliban resorted to cowardly attack at four locations in Spin Boldak area of Balochistan. The attack was effectively repulsed by Pakistani Forces, the military's media wing said.

Unfortunately the attack was orchestrated through divided villages in the area, with no regard for civil population. The Afghan Taliban also destroyed Pak-Afghan

Friendship Gate on their side that clearly displays the mindset with regards to mutual trade and easement rights of the divided tribes.

While repulsing the attack, 15-20 Afghan Taliban have been killed and many injured. The situation is still developing. There are reports of further build up in staging points of Fitna Al Khwarij and Afghan Taliban.

The attack in Spin Boldak was not an isolated event. On night 14

15 October, Afghan Taliban and Fitna Al Khwarij tried to attack Pakistani border posts in Kurram Sector in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

These attacks were effectively repulsed causing heavy losses to Afghan Posts. Eight posts including six tanks were destroyed in the effective yet proportionate response of Pakistani troops.

25-30 Afghan Taliban and Fitna Al Khwarij fighters were suspected to have been killed.

The insinuations that the attack was initiated by Pakistan, are outrageous and blatant lies, just like the claims of capturing Pakistani posts or equipment.

The propaganda of Taliban regime can be debunked with basic fact checks.

The Armed Forces stand resolute and fully prepared to defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Pakistan. All acts of aggression against Pakistan will be responded to with full force.

FBR again extends deadline for filing income tax returns to Oct 31

NEWS DESK: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) on Wednesday announced that the October 15 deadline for filing income tax returns will now be extended to October 31.

A notification issued by the revenue board read that the deadline was being extended following requests from trade bodies and tax bar associations,

and was being implemented as per Section 214A of the 2001 Income Tax Ordinance.

"The Federal Board of Revenue is pleased to communicate that the date of filing of Income Tax Return for Tax Year



2025, for the persons who were required to file their returns by September 30, 2025 and was ex-

tended up to October 15th, 2025... is further extended to October 31, 2025, in view of the re-

quests from various trade bodies and tax bar associations," the notification read.

Sohail Afridi sworn in as 30th chief minister of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa

NEWS DESK: Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi on Wednesday administered the oath of office to newly-elected Chief Minister Sohail Afridi at the Governor House, marking an end to the tense political standoff and days of uncertainty in the province.

Prominent political and administrative figures, including Speaker of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly Babar Saleem Swati, Deputy Speaker Suraya Bibi, former governor Shah Farman, senators, MNAs and MPAs, PTI's provincial president Junaid Akbar, and the party's central secretary general Salman Akram Raja witnessed the oath-taking.

Chief Secretary Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Shahab Ali Shah, Inspector General of Police Zulfiqar Hameed, Peshawar Commissioner, and heads of various provincial departments were also in attendance, along with several political and social personalities.

Following the ceremony, Governor Kundi congratulated new CM on assuming the charge of office and extended his best wishes for the tenure ahead.

The event, however, descended into chaos as party workers rushed to the stage to extend well-wishes to the new CM and chanted slogans that disrupted further proceedings.

Afridi's appointment as CM followed di-



rectives from Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan. According to party sources, Khan's instructions concerning Afridi's oath-taking and the formation of the cabinet were conveyed to the PTI parliamentary party in K-P. Sources said, the newly-elected chief minister has been granted full authority to choose his cabinet from among party's elected representatives.

Consultations between Afridi and the central leadership have already begun, and some ministers are expected to retain their portfolios, including provincial finance adviser Muzzamil Aslam.

Staff Reporter:

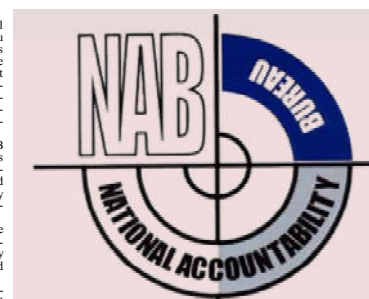
QUETTA: The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) Balochistan has retrieved more than one million acres of forest land across the province, valued at approximately Rs1.3 trillion, during an extensive eight-month operation.

According to NAB officials, the land was recovered in close coordination with the Board of Revenue and Deputy Commissioners of respective districts.

The large-scale campaign aimed to reclaim forest property from land grabbers and illegal occupants,

ensuring the protection of state-owned land from future encroachments.

The recovered land has now been formally handed over to the Balochistan Forest De-



partment. As senior NAB officer said the provincial government has also established Forest Settlement Boards in every district and Forest

Tribunals at the divisional level to address local concerns. "These institutions will help resolve disputes related to land

ownership and usage in a fair and transparent manner, while safeguarding community rights," the officer added.

NAB Balochistan Recovers Forest Land Worth Rs1.3 Trillion

Earlier in the day, a PTI delegation, led by the party's Central Secretary General Salman Akram Raja, called on Governor Kundi at the Governor House. The delegation included Speaker Babar Saleem Swati, former governor Shah Farman Khan, PTI Punjab leader Shaikat Basra, provincial president Junaid Akbar Khan, MNAs Mehboob Shah, Atif Khan, Shahram Khan Tarakai, and other senior leaders.

Former chief minister, Ali Amin Gandapur's resignation triggered a legal dispute after Governor Kundi refused to accept it, citing discrepancies in signatures on two separate resignation letters submitted on October 8 and October 11. The governor returned both letters and summoned Gandapur on October 15 for clarification.

In a public statement on X, the governor said, the resignation had been returned with objections and released an official letter highlighting the signature mismatch. Gandapur, meanwhile, insisted that both letters bore his genuine signature.

Amid the controversy, the provincial assembly convened on October 13 under Speaker Babar Saleem Swati to elect a new Leader of the House. Afridi, the PTI nominee, secured 90 votes to become 30th chief minister of the province.

Governor Kundi had declared the election unconstitutional, maintaining that no new chief minister could be elected until sitting governor's resignation was officially accepted. PTI subsequently approached the Peshawar High Court, which ruled in Afridi's favour and directed the governor to administer the oath by 4pm on October 15.

The court further mentioned, if the governor failed to comply, the Assembly Speaker would be authorised to conduct the oath.

Governor Kundi, who was in Karachi at the time, rushed to Peshawar and followed the court orders by administering the oath to Afridi.

QUETTA VOICE

Editor: Asim Khan

Balochistan Doesn't Need New Buildings—It Needs a Future



Editorial: The decision to demolish the historic Balochistan Assembly building and construct a new one for Rs. 5 billion is not just unwise—it is outrageous. At a time when the province is struggling with extreme poverty, a failing education system, and a collapsing healthcare sector, prioritizing infrastructure over people's well-being raises serious questions about governance and leadership. Balochistan has the highest child mortality rate in Asia, with maternal mortality also at alarming levels. According to the Directorate of Nutrition Cell, 54% of children suffer from stunting, while over 60% of women are anemic. Hidden hunger, a silent crisis, is worsening health conditions, especially among women. The province's female literacy rate has hit a historic low, and over 3 million children remain out of school. Given these grim realities, how can

any rational mind justify spending billions on a new building while millions of people suffer from malnutrition, disease, and illiteracy? The existing assembly building is not just a structure; it is a part of Balochistan's history and culture. It stands in a secure zone with ample space to function effectively. There is no logical reason to shift it elsewhere. More importantly, in a province where resources are scarce, this massive sum should be directed towards improving the Human Development Index (HDI). Balochistan doesn't need more concrete structures—it needs a healthy and educated population capable of facing the growing global challenges. The priorities of the government must be questioned. Should Rs. 5 billion be wasted on a new assembly building, or should it be used to improve healthcare, provide clean drinking wa-

ter, ensure food security, and address the devastating impacts of climate change? The answer is clear to anyone who values human lives over political vanity projects. Shockingly, most of the opposition has chosen to remain silent on this reckless decision—except for Jamaat-e-Islami chief Maulana Hidayat ur Rehman, who has voiced his opposition. This silence is both disappointing and alarming. If those who claim to represent the people do not stand against such misplaced priorities, who will? Balochistan does not need another building—it needs a future. It needs leadership that understands the struggles of its people. It needs investment in its children, its women, and its environment. If Rs. 5 billion is to be spent, let it be on human lives, not on another structure that adds no real value to the province's future.

BUIITEMS Gains Dual Global Recognition: THE Rankings 2026 & UNAI SDG 8 Vice-Chair

Syed Dara

Shahid Amir
The Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering and Management Sciences (BUIITEMS) has brought new pride to Pakistan

tries. Institutions are evaluated across core areas such as teaching quality, research performance, industry collaboration, and international reputation. In 2026, 99 Pakistani

for the UNAI SDG Hub 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth, collaborating with the University of Auckland, which serves as the Global Chair. The University of Auckland, ranked

development. With 10,000+ students, 600 faculty members, and 60 academic programs, the university stands as a beacon of growth and opportunity. Its vibrant alumni

tions are a testament to the hard work of our faculty, students, and administration who continuously strive for excellence.

These dual international recognitions —



and Balochistan by achieving two major international milestones—its inclusion in the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2026 and its appointment as the only university from Balochistan to be ranked internationally — a remarkable achievement that underscores its commitment to innovation, research, and quality education. Alongside this ranking success, BUIITEMS has been appointed as the Vice-Chair

among the top 1% of universities worldwide and 4th in Oceania in the 2025 Sustainability Rankings, partners with BUIITEMS to promote sustainable development, inclusive education, and youth empowerment in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Representing Pakistan and South Asia, BUIITEMS continues to drive academic excellence and sustainable progress through innovation, applied research, and education-driven

network of over 11,000 graduates and partnerships with global institutions highlight its pivotal role in advancing human capital and economic growth. Prof. Dr. Khalid Hafeez, Vice Chancellor BUIITEMS, remarked: "BUIITEMS' inclusion in the Times Higher Education Rankings and our appointment as UNAI SDG 8 Vice-Chair reflect our dedication to advancing higher education, research, and sustainable development. These recogni-

from Times Higher Education (THE) and the United Nations Academic Impact — reaffirm BUIITEMS' position as a leading higher education institution in Pakistan, setting new standards in academic excellence, sustainability, and global collaboration. With its vision of "Quality and Excellence in Education," BUIITEMS continues to symbolize Balochistan's progress and Pakistan's commitment to global education and sustainable development.

Illegal Israeli Attack on Gaza Hospital Sparks Outcry over Violation of Human Rights

By Samiullah:

In recent years, the Israel-Palestine conflict has witnessed numerous escalations, resulting in the tragic loss of countless lives and extensive damage to infrastructure. Among the most shocking incidents in this ongoing conflict is the illegal Israeli attack on a hospital in Gaza, which has sparked international outrage and underscores the pressing need for international intervention to protect the most vulnerable individuals caught in the crossfire.

The Inhuman Act: Targeting Hospitals:

War, even when waged between states with longstanding conflicts, is subject to rules and conventions. The fundamental principle of international humanitarian law is to protect civilians, including the wounded, children, and the elderly. Hospitals are meant to be sanctuaries in times of conflict, places where the injured can receive medical care without fear of attack. Yet, the attack on a hospital in Gaza flagrantly violated these principles and sent shockwaves through the international community.

The Impact of the Attack:

The repercussions of the attack on a hospital in Gaza were catastrophic. Innocent civilians, including chil-



dren, the wounded, and the elderly, were directly affected by this grave violation of international law. Lives were lost, and the injured faced dire circumstances with limited access to medical care. Moreover, such actions fur-

ther fuel the cycle of violence in the region, making it increasingly difficult to achieve a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

International Responsibility:

The United Nations and powerful nations must step up and play a pivotal role in addressing the Israel-Palestine conflict. The concept that "the enemy of my enemy is my friend" has been a longstanding principle

in international relations. In this context, it should translate into a resolute commitment to safeguard the rights and safety of the most vulnerable. Powerful nations should exert diplomatic pressure on the conflicting parties

to adhere to the rules of war and peace.

Thucydides' Insights: Rules of War and Peace:

The ancient Greek historian Thucydides,

element of the international order. The attack on a hospital in Gaza stands as a blatant violation of these principles and underscores the necessity of enforcing them.

To Sum Up:

The illegal Israeli attack on a hospital in Gaza serves as a stark reminder of the tragic consequences that the Israel-Palestine conflict continues to impose on innocent lives. It is imperative for the international community to unite in its efforts to promote peace, protect the most vulnerable, and ensure the principles of war and peace are upheld.

As Thucydides noted, these principles are not a sign of weakness but the cornerstone of a just and humane world order.

It is high time for the United Nations and powerful nations to take proactive measures to end the suffering and work towards a lasting solution in the region.

About the Author:

The author, Mr. Samiullah, holds an M.Sc. in International Relations from Quaid-i-Azam University in Islamabad and is also a law graduate. He currently serves as the Public Relations Officer for the Ministry of Information and Public Relations in Balochistan. His unique perspective on international relations and conflict resolution adds depth and authority to this article.

Ceasefire in Gaza a welcome development: Bilawal

KARACHI (INP): Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has said that the world witnessed the genocide of Palestinians, and the ceasefire in Gaza is a welcome development.

Speaking at a ceremony in Karachi,

Bilawal said the truce agreement in Gaza is commendable, but fears remain that it might once again be short-lived or deceptive. "Doctors and journalists in Gaza were deliberately targeted. The world has seen the brutal reality," he added.

Bilawal highlighted

that during his tenure as Foreign Minister, he raised Pakistan's stance on Palestine in meetings with his international counterparts. Turning to domestic affairs, he said that the Sindh government initiated the Economic Zone during Qaim Ali Shah's tenure, which

has gained international recognition. "This is not a competition with other provinces – it is a Sindh government achievement acknowledged globally," he stated. He further noted the praise Sindh received for its public-private partnership projects and stressed the

importance of unity over internal division, saying, "We must focus on competing globally, not internally." On healthcare, Bilawal said that cancer treatment – often unaffordable globally – is provided free of charge in Karachi, calling it a significant

success for Pakistan. He also highlighted the effectiveness of the Benazir Income Support Program (BISP), noting that foreign ministers abroad often express admiration for the initiative and even replicate it. Even the PTI founder used BISP during

COVID-19 relief efforts, merely changing the program's name," Bilawal claimed. He added that former Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif also utilized BISP for aid distribution. Regarding climate change and disaster response, Bilawal stated that 2 mil-

lion homes were damaged in Sindh during the 2022 floods, caused by a crisis not of Pakistan's making. "We invited the UN Secretary-General to witness the devastation. PPP ensured that homeless people were given land ownership," he concluded.



Provincial Assembly members Rehmat Saleh Baloch and Gul Khan are meeting with Governor Balochistan Jafar Khan Mandokhel.

Event in Seoul calls for urgent global action on Kashmir: Ali Raza Syed

SEOUL (INP): Chairman of the Kashmir Council Europe (KCEU), Ali Raza Syed, has urged the international community to take immediate and decisive action to resolve the Kashmir dispute in accordance with UN resolutions and international law.

Ali Raza Syed was addressing a landmark international seminar titled "Black Day: The Cry of Kashmir for Justice and Freedom" held in Seoul, South Korea. The event, organized by the International Interchange Development Association (IIDA), brought together international figures, human rights advocates, and civil society representatives who condemned the ongoing human rights violations in India illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

Ali Raza Syed, in his address, denounced India's unilateral revocation of Jammu and Kashmir's special status on August 5, 2019, as a blatant violation of UN resolutions and international law. He said that IIOK remains one of the world's most militarized zones, where fundamental freedoms are suppressed and dissent is brutally crushed. He also drew attention to India's demographic engineering in the occupied territory, calling it a clear violation of the Four Change Development aimed at displacing indigenous Kashmiris and altering the region's Muslim-majority character.

The KCEU Chairman highlighted the rights violations in Kashmir and human rights defenders

including Muhammad Yasin Malik, Shabbir Ahmad Shah, Khuram Parvez, and journalist Sajjad Gul, who remain imprisoned under fabricated charges. "Despite decades of oppression, the Kashmiri people's determination for freedom remains unshaken," he asserted.

Dr. Yongio Mun, Global President of IIDA, expressed solidarity with the Kashmiri people and vowed to continue their cause through his organization's representatives in thirty countries. He stressed that the Kashmir issue must be resolved peacefully, and Kashmiris must be granted their inalienable right to self-determination.

Pakistan's Ambassador to South Korea, Syed Moazzam H. Shah,

reaffirmed Pakistan's unwavering diplomatic and moral support to the Kashmir people. He said India's continued denial of Kashmiris' right to self-determination poses a serious threat to regional peace and stability.

Ali Raza Syed concluded by emphasizing that the Kashmir issue is not only a regional dispute but a global test of conscience and humanity. He called upon world nations, including South Korea, to use their moral and diplomatic influence to pressure India to end its human rights violations and grant freedom to the oppressed people of Jammu and Kashmir.

The event concluded with a collective call for justice, peace, and the realization of the Kashmiri people's right to self-determination under UN resolutions.

IFA seals five bakeries, production units over poor cleanliness in Islamabad

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Islamabad Food Authority (IFA) has stepped up its inspection drive to ensure safe and hygienic food for citizens, sealing five bakeries and production units over poor cleanliness and expired food during surprise operations in various areas of the Federal Capital.

According to the spokesman, the operations were conducted by the food safety teams under the supervision of Deputy Director of IFA, Dr. Tahira Siddique. Inspections were carried out in Jamol, 26 No. Jungi Syedan and Shams Colony, where teams found unhygienic conditions and substandard items being used in food preparation.

During the inspections, around 200 kilograms of expired food products were confiscated and destroyed on the spot to prevent their sale in local markets.

The sealed outlets were also found violating basic food safety protocols, such as improper storage, lack of sanitation, and use of expired ingredients.

On the occasion, Dr. Tahira Siddique stated that the authority's teams are conducting regular surprise inspections across Islamabad to ensure that all eateries, bakeries, and factories comply with food safety regulations. She said that any establishment found selling expired or substandard food would face strict legal action, including sealing and fines.

The deputy director emphasized that the Primary goal of the Food Authority is to eliminate the sale of unsafe food and ensure citizens have access to healthy and hygienic products. She added that the teams will continue routine monitoring in both urban and rural areas of Islamabad

without prior notice. Dr. Siddique further noted that the authority has been receiving public complaints about the sale of expired items, especially in local bakeries and small manufacturing units.

In response, the food safety teams have intensified field inspections to verify quality standards and ensure public safety.

She said that awareness sessions and training programs are also being organized for food handlers, shopkeepers, and factory workers to educate them about cleanliness, food labeling, and proper storage practices.

The Islamabad Food Authority has also urged residents to report any violation of food safety standards through the official helpline or social media channels. Citizens' cooperation, she said, plays a vital role in curbing the sale of low-quality and expired food

items in the capital. According to the Food Authority's ongoing monitoring report, several inspection teams are currently active across Islamabad's rural and urban sectors.

These teams are checking bakeries, restaurants, milk shops, and small production units to ensure full compliance with food safety rules.

Dr. Tahira reaffirmed the commitment to continue strict action against violators, saying that the sale of expired and unhygienic food in Islamabad will be made impossible through consistent field operations and community participation.

The Islamabad Food Authority plans to expand its operations in the coming days to more localities, focusing particularly on small-scale food businesses and industrial kitchens operating without proper certification.



HYDERABAD: Opposition leader HMC PTI's Nuzair Khan speaking at a press conference at Hyderabad Press Club (HPC).

President Zardari reiterates govt's commitment to protect rights of visually impaired persons

ISLAMABAD (INP): President Asif Ali Zardari, reiterating the government's commitment to protect the rights of visually impaired persons, extended an open invitation to every citizen, as well as all public and private institutions across Pakistan, to actively facilitate persons with visual impairments in their daily interactions, whether through simple acts of consideration or more substantial accommodations. Respecting their independence and autonomy, recognising that assistance should be offered but never imposed, he

and celebrate the extraordinary resilience, determination, and spirit of visually impaired persons.

"On this White Cane Safety Day, I extend an open invitation to every citizen, as well as all public and private institutions across Pakistan, to actively facilitate persons with visual impairments in their daily interactions, whether through simple acts of consideration or more substantial accommodations. Respecting their independence and autonomy, recognising that assistance should be offered but never imposed," he

reiterated that the instrument of a truly civilised and progressive society was measured not by its tallest buildings or strongest economy, but by its commitment to ensuring that every individual, regardless of physical ability, enjoyed the freedom to move safely through their communities and had equal access to opportunities in all spheres of life.

He reiterated that the Government of Pakistan, working in close collaboration with various relevant stakeholders,

also called for integrating the remarkable talents and capabilities of visually impaired persons into the social and economic development of the country as their perspectives, skills, and contributions were invaluable assets to collective progress. He said that the white cane, besides being a mere mobility tool, stood as a powerful symbol of courage in the face of adversity, confidence in one's abilities, and self-reliance in navigating a world often designed without consideration

for diverse needs. President Zardari also reminded society that a truly civilised and progressive society was measured not by its tallest buildings or strongest economy, but by its commitment to ensuring that every individual, regardless of physical ability, enjoyed the freedom to move safely through their communities and had equal access to opportunities in all spheres of life.

He reiterated that the Government of Pakistan, working in close collaboration with various relevant stakeholders,

Pakistan condemns India for lies, "recycled script of distortions" on Jammu and Kashmir

NEW YORK (INP): Pakistan has condemned India for its lies and "a recycled script of distortions" on Jammu and Kashmir, urging the United Nations to take an action to resolve the issue. Asif Khan, a member of the Pakistan's Permanent Mission to the UN, stated this after he took the floor to respond to the disinformation-laden remarks of the representative of India.

"Each year, India comes to this august forum with a recycled script of distortions. Today is no different," he said.

Setting the record straight, he said the UN has not only the right, but the obligation to discuss the Jammu and Kashmir dispute.

"Jammu and Kashmir is not, and has never been, an integral part of India."

It is an internationally recognized disputed territory whose final status is to be determined through a free and impartial plebiscite under the auspices of the United Nations, as prescribed in multiple Security Council resolutions.

India itself had brought the matter to the Council, yet now refuses to honor its solemn commitments under international law and the Charter of the United Nations," he said.

"Second, let me reiterate that the Declaration of 1960 decrees that

"all peoples' under alien subjugation have the right to self-determination."

The right is also enshrined in the first article of the United Nations Charter, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights."

He highlighted that in occupied Jammu and Kashmir, India maintains one of the densest military occupations in the world, deploying nearly 900,000 troops against an unarmed civilian population.

"For long, India has tried to sell a false narrative, branding the just struggle of the people of Jammu & Kashmir as terrorism. India rather needs to introspect to find the real reasons behind the mass resistance in the occupied territory," he explained.

India's backtracking from its obligations under the UNSC resolutions, its intransigence in denying the Kashmiri people their right to fundamental rights, extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, mass incarcerations, sexual violence, and demographic engineering are the real reasons for the 'indigenous' freedom movement. Since August 2019, India has accelerated its settler-colonial project in flagrant violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention," he said.

He pointed out that India seeks to deflect attention from its own no-

Shah Mahmood Qureshi's acquittal in May 9 case challenged in LHC

LAHORE (INP): The acquittal of senior PTI leader and former foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi in the May 9 case has been challenged in the Lahore High Court.

The prosecution has filed an appeal against Qureshi's acquittal, arguing that the trial court decision was contrary to the facts of the case.

According to the appeal, the trial court failed to properly assess the evidence against Shah Mahmood Qureshi and acquitted him without due consideration of the case's factual aspects.

The prosecution has requested the Lahore High Court to annul the acquittal and reinstate the charges against the PTI leader.

May 9 riots: Yasmin Rashid, Mehmooodur Rasheed, Umar Cheema get 10 years in jail; Shah Mahmood Qureshi acquitted.

Earlier, an anti-terrorism court in Lahore has acquitted Shah Mahmood Qureshi in cases related to the arson and siege of Shadman police station, including the burning of police vehicles. The verdict was announced in connection with the events that occurred on 9 May.

سلسلہ	تاریخ	مقام	مذمت
1	22	لاہور	پاکستان مسلم لیگ ق کے قائد مولانا فضل الرحمن کی قیادت میں ایک وفد نے لاہور ہائی کورٹ میں داخلہ کیا۔
2	22	لاہور	پاکستان مسلم لیگ ق کے قائد مولانا فضل الرحمن کی قیادت میں ایک وفد نے لاہور ہائی کورٹ میں داخلہ کیا۔
3	22	لاہور	پاکستان مسلم لیگ ق کے قائد مولانا فضل الرحمن کی قیادت میں ایک وفد نے لاہور ہائی کورٹ میں داخلہ کیا۔
4	22	لاہور	پاکستان مسلم لیگ ق کے قائد مولانا فضل الرحمن کی قیادت میں ایک وفد نے لاہور ہائی کورٹ میں داخلہ کیا۔
5	22	لاہور	پاکستان مسلم لیگ ق کے قائد مولانا فضل الرحمن کی قیادت میں ایک وفد نے لاہور ہائی کورٹ میں داخلہ کیا۔
6	22	لاہور	پاکستان مسلم لیگ ق کے قائد مولانا فضل الرحمن کی قیادت میں ایک وفد نے لاہور ہائی کورٹ میں داخلہ کیا۔
7	22	لاہور	پاکستان مسلم لیگ ق کے قائد مولانا فضل الرحمن کی قیادت میں ایک وفد نے لاہور ہائی کورٹ میں داخلہ کیا۔
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Maryam Nawaz for immediate measures to stabilize prices, ensure adequate availability of vegetables

LAHORE (INP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has expressed deep concern over the rising prices of tomatoes and other vegetables and directed all authorities concerned to take immediate and effective measures to stabilize prices and ensure adequate availability of vegetables in markets across the province.

During a meeting here on Tuesday, the chief minister instructed that price lists of essential commodities be prominently displayed at all shops and market entrances to enable consumers to easily view and compare prices. She stressed that the Punjab government's welfare measures aimed at reducing prices of essential edibles must have a visible and positive impact at the public level.

A comprehensive strategic plan was presented by the Price Control and Commodity Management Department, outlining reforms and technological interventions for strengthening price regulation and consumer protection.

Officials briefed the CM that a centralized digital dashboard and mobile application were being launched to provide real-time data on the availability, stock levels, and market prices of vegetables. The system will also monitor supply chains through GPS tracking of vegetable trucks, flour availability, and wheat grinding at the Price Monitoring and Control Centre.

It was further informed that uniform-design vegetable carts would be introduced across Punjab to promote standardization in street vending, while uniform branding would be implemented at all 239

"Maryam Nawaz Farmers and Vegetable Markets." These markets will feature standardized uniforms for staff, uniform designs for stalls and shades, and mechanical sweepers to maintain cleanliness.

The CM was also apprised of the ongoing

crackdown against violators of price control laws. During recent inspections of 368,000 shops, fines amounting to Rs54.8 million were imposed, 321 FIRs registered, and 4,607 arrests made for violations of the Price Control Act.



ISLAMABAD: Outgoing High Commissioner of Australia to Pakistan Neil Hawkins called on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

PHC disposes of petition seeking to nullify KP CM election

PESHAWAR (INP): The Peshawar High Court (PHC) on Wednesday disposed of a petition seeking to nullify the election of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's new chief minister, just hours before Governor Faisal Karim Kundi is scheduled to administer the oath to CM-elect Sohail Afridi.

The petition, filed by JUI-F leader Maulana Lutfur Rehman a day earlier, requested the court to declare Afridi's election as chief minister "illegal and void." Later, the PHC directed Governor Kundi, who had been outside the province to ensure the oath-taking takes place by 4 p.m.

A two-judge bench, comprising Justice Arshad Ali and Jus-

tice Waqar Ahmad, heard arguments from Barrister Yaseen on behalf of Rehman, while PTI's Salman Akram Raja represented the opposing side.

Raja contended that the JUI-F petition had "become ineffective" following the PHC's earlier order, but Justice Ali said the court would still hear the petitioner's arguments.

Barrister Yaseen questioned whether chief minister could be elected when the resignation of former CM Ali Amin Gandapur had not yet been accepted, arguing that under Article 105 of the Constitution, only the governor can formally acknowledge such a resignation. He pointed

out that Gandapur's resignation had been sent by post, not submitted in person.

Justice Ali acknowledged his concern, noting that the chief minister's office remains vacant until the resignation is officially accepted. Yaseen maintained that the election was unconstitutional and risked creating a constitutional crisis, since Gandapur and his cabinet were technically still in office.

The bench asked whether Yaseen had reviewed the chief justice's previous order, to which he responded affirmatively, claiming that PTI had filed a misleading petition. Justice Ali then offered two options: to withdraw the petition

or proceed with a ruling on merit. Rehman's plea challenged Afridi's election, naming six respondents—including the KP government, Governor Kundi, the KP Assembly through Speaker Swati, the assembly secretary, Gandapur, and Afridi. He requested that the election be declared null and void, arguing it was "unlawful, arbitrary, and without jurisdiction."

The petition also urged the court to suspend all related proceedings until Gandapur's resignation had been legally verified and to order a fresh election in accordance with the Constitution and assembly rules.

Phase III of CM 'Dhee Rani Program' launched

LAHORE (INP): Under the flagship welfare initiative of Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif, the "Dhee Rani Program", a grand and vibrant ceremony marking the formal launch of Phase III of mass weddings was held in Lahore.

As many as 103 daughters were sent off to their new homes with dignity and honour, including 18 belonging to minority communities and one special daughter. The ceremony was attended by Provincial Minister for Social Welfare & Baitul-Mal Sohail Shaukat Butt and Provincial Minister for sports Faisal Ayub Khokhar, who graced the occasion as chief guests.

Addressing the gathering, Provincial Minister Sohail Shaukat Butt congratulated the brides and their families, describing the event as a historic manifestation of Chief Minister

Maryam Nawaz Sharif's compassion and commitment to public welfare. "I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all my sisters and daughters participating in the Dhee Rani Program," he said. "This is a visionary initiative by Chief Minister Punjab, who has become the voice of countless daughters who long dreamt of this day with hope in their hearts."

He added that through this program, the Chief Minister had shared the burden of those parents who worried about fulfilling their sacred responsibility. "In the past, many chief ministers came and went, but none ever launched a welfare project of this sincerity and scale. Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif's vision is that real work speaks louder than words. The Dhee Rani Program has become a symbol of dignity, hope, and empowerment for daughters

across Punjab."

The Minister announced that 5,000 mass weddings will be organized this year under the program, adding that even if 10,000 or 15,000 applications are received, no deserving daughter will be left behind. "Whether Muslim or from a minority community—every daughter will receive equal respect and protocol. The Dhee Rani Program stands as a model of simplicity, transparency, and honour," he affirmed.

On the occasion, Provincial Minister for Sports Faisal Ayub Khokhar said the people of Punjab were witnessing the realization of a dream long cherished by mothers and daughters across villages, the dream of dignity and a respectful beginning to married life.

"This is not merely about resources; it reflects compassion, empathy, and love," he said.

"A daughter has become the Chief Minister and she is thinking like a daughter for all daughters. This is not charity but the people's right for it is their own money being spent for their welfare." He said that under Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif's leadership, hundreds of welfare projects were underway, but two initiatives stand out as truly divine, the Dhee Rani Program and the Women Protection System. "Now, no one dares to look at women with disrespect in Punjab. For the first time, the province has leadership that truly safeguards women's dignity," he added.

Faisal Ayub Khokhar concluded by praying for the lifelong happiness and prosperity of all newly-wed couples, saying, "Today, I proudly stand here as part of the groom's side and share in the joy of these blessed unions."



ISLAMABAD: Egypt's Ambassador, Dr. Ihab Mohamed Abdelhamid Hassan called on Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry.

Balochistan's Political Parties Sign Charter for Responsible Social Media Use

NEWS DESK:

QUETTA: In a historic move to promote ethical and responsible online communication, seven major political parties in Balochistan have signed a Charter for Responsible Social Media Conduct, under the leadership of Individual and



event, Nasrullah Zari of PkNAP lauded the effort, stating,

"Bringing all political parties together on one platform to commit to responsible online behavior is a welcome move. I hope this initiative will help us all act with greater responsibility online."

Ali Ahmed Langove of the National Party highlighted the growing challenge of fake news, saying,

"Recently, false reports about our leadership circulated online. Initiatives like this charter can help political parties adopt more cautious and accountable online en-

gagement."

He suggested that Individual and Pakistan organize digital ethics and social media management trainings for party media teams to enhance fact-checking and content verification skills.

Saifulah Khoso, Integration Operations and Program Manager at Individual and Pakistan, said the charter's goal is to promote accountability and responsible digital behavior. He announced that political parties would be given access to individual's online learning platform, which offers courses on responsible digital

communication.

Renowned journalist and former PEJU President Shehzada Zulfiqar praised the initiative and emphasized sustained engagement:

"There should be a joint review after three months to assess the progress made through this charter. Consistent follow-up will ensure its long-term impact."

The event is part of Individual and Pakistan's national campaign promoting digital responsibility, media literacy, and democratic integrity through collaboration with political and media stakeholders across the country.

Police claim to have recovered gold, foreign currency during raid on TLP office

LAHORE (INP): Low enforcement agencies, including the police, Federal Investigation Agency (FIA), and National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency (NCCIA), claim to have recovered a large cache of gold, foreign currency, and other valuables during a raid on the Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) office.

According to offi-

cials, the recovered items from the TLP office include approximately 2 kilograms of gold, foreign and local currency amounting to Rs 11.42 crore, and 750,000 in Indian rupees, along with other precious goods.

Authorities said the foreign currencies seized include US dollars, euros, pounds, Saudi riyals, and Indian rupees, among others.

The raid at the TLP office also led to the recovery of 1 kilogram and 922 grams of gold and 598 grams of gold and 598 grams of silver, in addition to 69 branded wristwatches, 28 gold bangles and kadas weighing 445 grams, 12 bracelets (490 grams), 24 necklaces, chains, and lockets, and 46 gold rings (355 grams).

Furthermore, 460 grams of silver, including one silver crown and 32 silver rings, were also seized from the TLP office.

Officials stated that the detailed inventory of recovered valuables from the TLP office has been compiled and released by the police, NCCIA, and FIA following the operation.



ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari in a meeting with Chief of Army Staff, Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

Govt launches crackdown against fake news networks

ISLAMABAD (INP): The government has launched a nationwide crackdown against fake news networks allegedly operating at the behest of Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP), sources told ARY News.

According to officials, multiple social media accounts and digital networks involved in creating and sharing fake content related to TLP have been identified. Lists of key suspects are ready,

and cases will be registered under the National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency

(NCCIA). The FIA Cyber Crime Wing and other special units have been instructed to carry out immediate arrests.

Authorities confirmed that deepfake videos and audio clips falsely linked to TLP are undergoing forensic analysis in a specialized digital lab. Social media companies have been served official notices to remove misleading or fake material about TLP within 24 hours.

Officials have also warned that individuals repeatedly spreading fake news about TLP could face permanent suspension of their accounts. Citizens have been urged to remain cautious and avoid sharing unverified videos or clips related to TLP, as strict legal action will be taken under cybercrime laws.

A zero-tolerance policy has been implemented against propaganda and hate campaigns targeting national institutions in the name of TLP, the sources said.

Investigations have also begun to trace overseas networks allegedly funding and managing fake TLP-related content, with legal and diplomatic measures being

prepared. Interpol red notices and international cooperation mechanisms are under review to bring the culprits to justice.

The government has directed media outlets, vloggers, and bloggers to ensure double verification before publishing any news regarding Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan.

A targeted operation has also started against misleading hashtags, trolling cells, and financial facilitators promoting fake TLP content, while authorities continue screening suspicious financial transactions.