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2,000+ Acres of Cannabis Crop Destroyed in Gulistan



Sudan War: 150,000 Dead, 12 Million Displaced World's Largest Humanitarian Crisis

Conditions set by Afghanistan hold no significance, elimination of terrorism matters to Pakistan: DG ISPR

NEWS DESK: Director-General Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Lieutenant General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry said on Monday that the conditions set by Afghanistan hold no significance and only the elimination of terrorism matters to Pakistan.

On October 19, Pakistan and Afghanistan had agreed to an immediate ceasefire following high-level negotiations in Doha, where both countries pledged to respect each other's sovereignty; they were expected to meet again on October 25 to discuss matters further. The second round of talks on October 25 kicked off in Istanbul, with Islamabad eyeing a "concrete" mechanism to monitor Afghan Taliban actions aimed at preventing cross-border terrorist attacks.

The military's spokesperson delivered a closed-door briefing to senior journalists belonging to select media outlets. "The conditions set by Afghanistan hold no significance," Lt Gen Chaudhry told the journalists. "The important thing is the eradication of terrorism."

He added that the guarantors of Pakistani security are the armed forces, not Afghanistan and that Islamabad has "never celebrated" the



arrival of the Taliban. The military spokesperson further said that operations are underway against banned groups, including the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA), with 1,667 terrorists killed.

"In Istanbul, the Afghan Taliban were clearly told that they

need to control terrorism," Lt Gen Chaudhry stated. "How they do it is their job. We conducted a counter-terrorism operation, and the terrorists fled to Afghanistan. Hand them over, we'll deal with them according to the Constitution and the law."

"There will be no talks with terrorists, and

Pakistan gave the Afghan Taliban a befitting response, which yielded the results we wanted," DG ISPR highlighted the role of the nexus between criminals and terrorist organisations, noting that through opium cultivation, terrorists make between Rs1.8 and 2.5 million per acre.

"The entire popula-

tion joins them, even warlords join in, and they all work together," Lt Gen Chaudhry said.

He added that drugs are being smuggled from Afghanistan into Pakistan and further. "Afghan drug smugglers are interfering in Afghan politics."

Senior journalist Hamid Mir, who attended the briefing, told Geo

News that the journalists were presented with evidence of Afghan Taliban soldiers involved in terrorism in Pakistan.

"We were presented with the same evidence shared with the Afghan Taliban in Doha," Mir reported. "These soldiers had Afghan and Afghan Army identification cards."

Pakistan and Afghanistan saw a worsening of ties during recent weeks, which featured border skirmishes, counter-statements and allegations.

The hostilities began last month when the attack was launched on Pakistan from Afghanistan on the night of October 11. The attack had followed an allegation

from the Afghan Taliban of airstrikes by Pakistan into Afghanistan — an accusation which Islamabad has neither confirmed nor denied.

For its part, Islamabad has long demanded that the Taliban stop terror groups from using its soil against Pakistan. The Taliban, however, deny the allegation of allowing terrorists to operate from Afghan soil.

Meanwhile, Pakistan continues to grapple with the issue of terrorism and has suffered multiple casualties among security forces in intelligence-based operations.

After the initial skirmish on October 11, multiple others took place along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border. Meanwhile, strikes by Islamabad also targeted Gul Bahadur group camps in Afghanistan.

Eventually, the two sides came together for dialogue in Doha, which resulted in a temporary ceasefire, as well as a commitment to reconvene in Istanbul to work on mechanisms for lasting peace and stability between the two countries.

Turkiye and Qatar have deep ties with Pakistan, while Qatar also played a major role in the negotiations between the Afghan Taliban and Nato forces.

Balochistan Government Decides to Reclaim Chilton Ghee Mill After 33 Years of Illegal Occupation

Staff Reporter:

QUETTA: The Balochistan government has decided to seal and reclaim the Chilton Ghee Mill after more than three decades of illegal occupation by a private company. The decision was taken during a high-level meeting chaired by Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti.

During the briefing, the Secretary of Industries informed the meeting that the lease agreement with the private company was cancelled in 1992 due to repeated violations of the contract. Despite the lease termination, the company continued to occupy



the government property unlawfully.

It was further revealed that the private firm's petitions were

rejected by both the Supreme Court and the High Court, yet the mill remained under illegal possession. The

briefing also highlighted that the company owes more than Rs. 230 million to the Government of

Balochistan.

Expressing strong displeasure over administrative delays, Chief Minister Bugti directed the concerned departments to take immediate and decisive action against those responsible for negligence.

He emphasized that state assets belong to the people of Balochistan and must be utilized for public welfare and industrial development.

The Chief Minister also instructed authorities to ensure transparent legal proceedings against the former lessees and to prevent similar cases of misuse of public property in the future.

2,000+ Acres of Cannabis Crop Destroyed in Gulistan



Qasem Shah KILLA ABDULLAH: The Excise and Taxation Department of Balochistan continues its intensive operations against narcotics cultivation. Under the Cannabis Elimination Campaign, authorities have successfully destroyed 2,054 acres of illegal cannabis cultivation in various parts of Gulistan. According to official details, effective opera-

tions were conducted in Gulistan Karez and Sagai areas, where within two days 310 acres of land were cleared of narcotics crops. The Excise Department and the Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) jointly carried out the operation using modern drone technology and advanced machinery. A spokesperson for the department stated that 270 acres of cannabis crops were destroyed by field teams, while 40 acres withered naturally due to water shortage. So far, 21 cases have been registered, including two new cases filed during the recent operation.

The Excise and Taxation Department of Balochistan affirmed that anti-narcotics operations will continue until the complete eradication of illegal drug cultivation in the province.

Sudan War: 150,000 Dead, 12 Million Displaced World's Largest Humanitarian Crisis

Syed Muhammad Qasem: KHARTOUM: More than 150,000 people have been killed and around 12 million displaced as the devastating Sudan civil war continues to plunge the country into chaos.

The United Nations has described the situation as the world's largest humanitarian crisis, calling for urgent global intervention.

Background of the Sudan Conflict

The war began on April 14, 2023, after a

violent power struggle erupted between Sudan's Armed Forces (SAF) and the powerful Rapid Support Forces (RSF).

The fighting stemmed from disagreements over the integration of the RSF into the national army — a key part of Sudan's transition to civilian rule.

The conflict pits General Abdul Fattah Al-Burhan, Sudan's Army Chief, against his former deputy Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo (Hemetti), the RSF commander. Both leaders blame each other for starting



the war and have so far refused to negotiate a peace settlement.

Massive Humanitarian Disaster Unfolding

Since the outbreak of the war, Khartoum and Darfur have wit-

nessed relentless bombardment, widespread looting, and massive displacement.

The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and World Food Programme (WFP) report severe shortages of food, water, and medicine, leaving millions in dire need of assistance.

Entire communities have been wiped out or displaced, hospitals destroyed, and infrastructure paralyzed, making it one of the worst humanitarian disasters in decades.

The United Nations, African Union, and international hu-

manitarian organizations are calling for an immediate ceasefire and unhindered humanitarian access to conflict zones.

Calls for International Ceasefire Mediation

Analysts warn that without urgent diplomatic action, Sudan could face total economic and social collapse.

Global powers are being urged to intensify peace efforts to prevent further loss of life and stabilize the war-torn nation.

6 cops injured as North Waziristan DPO's vehicle targeted in Bannu: official

BANNU (INP): Six cops were injured on Monday when gunmen opened fire at the North Waziristan district police officer's (DPO) vehicle near Bannu district's Mamash Khel town, an official said.

Police Officer (RPO) Sajad Khan confirmed to a newspaper, adding that the incident took place on Miranshah road, which connects Bannu and North Waziristan. "Armed men open fire at the vehicle of North Waziristan's

DPO," RPO Khan said. "The DPO remained unhurt," he added. He further said the injured police personnel were taken to the Bannu District Headquarters Hospital. "The unidentified attackers have hidden in

nearby areas and a search operation is underway [to trace them]," the Bannu RPO said. Pakistan has witnessed an uptick in terror activities over the past year, especially in KP and Balochistan, after the banned Tehreek

i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) broke its ceasefire with the government in November 2022. The past few months have seen an escalation in attacks on law enforcement agencies, with police forces in KP being targeted re-

peatedly. Yesterday, a station house officer and two other cops were injured in a blast caused by an improvised explosive device (IED) in KP's Hangu district. Last week, terrorists kidnapped a police official from Bannu's

Havaid Adda area. Separately, the Bannu police on Friday also claimed to have recovered Constable Noor Zaman, who had been kidnapped by terrorists in North Waziristan's Mir Ali town. The cop was on his way to attend

the last rites of his brother, Constable Javed Khan, who had been martyred in a gun attack in Bannu. Faced with the heightened militancy, security forces have also intensified counter-terrorism operations in KP and Balochistan.



ISTANBUL: Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan meeting with Türkiye's Minister of Trade, Prof. Dr. Ömer Bolat, on the sidelines of the 41st Session of COMCEC. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing bilateral trade and economic cooperation between Pakistan and Türkiye.

PMDC Clarifies MBBS, BDS Passing & Attendance Rules

Syed Muhammad Yaseen
ISLAMABAD — The Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PM&DC) has issued an important clarification regarding minimum passing marks and attendance requirements for MBBS and BDS programs across medical and dental institutions in Pakistan.

According to the official notification issued on November 3, 2025, the Council in its meeting held on October 21, 2025, decided that the newly revised passing percentage and attendance criteria will not apply retrospectively to students already enrolled in the academic session 2024-25.

This means that current MBBS and BDS students will continue to follow the previously applicable criteria—a minimum of 50% passing marks and 75% atten-



dance, as stipulated at the time of their admission.

For future admissions, however, the PM&DC has proposed a 5% increase in both minimum passing marks and attendance requirements. The Council

stated that this proposed revision will be finalized in consultation with universities, medical colleges and other stakeholders in due course. The notification also supersedes all earlier circulars issued on January 31, February 10, and April 15, 2025, concerning the same subject. The PM&DC has directed all medical and dental colleges and their affiliated universities to ensure strict compliance with the updated decision.

Rain, wind with snowfall expected in Upper Parts on Nov 04

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) has forecast a spell of rain, wind, and thunderstorms, accompanied by snowfall over the mountains, in the upper parts of the country from November 04.

The Met Office said a westerly wave is likely to approach the upper regions on the night of November 03 and persist till November 05, bringing a marked drop in temperatures across the northern and central parts of Pakistan.

Under the influence of this system, rain-windstorm and thunderstorm with snowfall over mountains are expected in Chitral, Dir, Swat, Kohistan, Shangla,

Battagram, Buner, Mansehra, Abbottabad, Haripur, Malakand, Bajaur, Mohmand, Khyber, Swabi, Nowshera, Peshawar, Mardan, Charsadda,

Kurram, Orakzai, Hangu, Kohat, Galiyat, as well as in various districts of Kashmir including Neelum Valley, Muzaffarabad, Rawalakot, Poonch, Hattian, Bagh, Haveli, Sudhanoti, Kotli, Bimber and Mirpur. The same weather pattern is also likely in Gilgit-Baltistan areas such as Diamir, Astore, Skardu, Gilgit, Hunza, Ghanche, and Shigar from November 04 to the morning of November 05.

The PMD has also warned of isolated hailstorms during

the period. Rain, wind, and thunderstorms are also expected in Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Murree, Attock,

Chakwal, Talagang, Jhelum, Sargodha, Khushab, Gujranwala, Sialkot, Narowal, and Lahore on November 04, where isolated hailstorms are also likely to occur.

The PMD stated that day temperatures are expected to drop significantly during the wet spell, followed by a further decrease in night temperatures.

Foggy and smoggy conditions prevailing in parts of Punjab are likely to subside temporarily during the rainy period but may redevelop afterwards.

For regular weather updates and alerts, the public is encouraged to visit the PMD website www.pmd.gov.pk, use the "Pak Weather" mobile application, or follow the department's social media platforms.

Farmers have been advised to plan their field activities keeping the weather forecast in view, while travelers and tourists are urged to schedule their trips, especially to hilly areas, with caution due to the possibility of rain, snowfall, and slippery conditions.

The department also cautioned that windstorms, hailstorms, and lightning could cause damage to loose structures in exposed areas.

For regular weather updates and alerts, the public is encouraged to visit the PMD website www.pmd.gov.pk, use the "Pak Weather" mobile application, or follow the department's social media platforms.

Shehbaz Sharif had invited the opposition on the floor of the House for dialogue and joint efforts, but the offer was repeatedly declined.

Answering a question, minister said that lowering the political temperature was in the government's interest, adding that if the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder truly desired national stability, he should also contribute toward reducing tensions.

He clarified that the cases against the PTI founder were

based on solid legal grounds and that the government had not imprisoned him.

"Any relief in these cases can only be granted by the courts," he added. The minister expressed concern over incidents of terrorism in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and cross-border infiltration from Afghanistan, urging the provincial government to take practical measures instead of issuing political statements that hurt the sentiments of the families of martyrs.

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FinMin Aurangzeb announces major economic reforms to ensure stability

ISLAMABAD, Nov 03 (INP): Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb on Monday announced that Pakistan is undertaking major reforms across the tax, energy, and pension systems to ensure long-term economic stability.

He said these steps mark a shift from short-term measures to a framework of structural, sustainable change.

Speaking at a press conference in Islamabad alongside FBR Chairman Rashid Mahmood Langrial, Energy Minister Awais Leghari, and IT Minister Shaza Fatima, the Finance Minister said the government's reform agenda aims to consolidate recent economic gains.

He said, "Economic stability has been achieved in the country. We have done important work related to macro-economic stability, and our goal is to ensure

sustainable economic stability. Reforms are indispensable for this purpose."

Aurangzeb emphasized that international credit rating agencies have recognized Pakistan's improving economic outlook, while the recent staff-level agreement with the IMF also confirms progress.

He added that the government is introducing reforms in tax, energy, and pension systems, along with a broader initiative to "right-size" institutions and reduce inefficiencies. "FBR Does Not Need to Impose More Taxes," FBR Chairman Rashid Mahmood Langrial revealed that tax collection and compliance have improved significantly this year, noting that income tax returns rose by 18 percent, bringing the total number of taxpayers to 5.9 million.

He stated that the

FBR has increased the tax-to-GDP ratio by 1.5 percent for the first time, reflecting stronger compliance measures and coordination with institutions. "The rate of submission of individual tax returns has increased. The FBR does not need to impose more taxes," he added.

Langrial said that the government's target is to raise the tax-to-GDP ratio to 18 percent within the next three to four years, with cooperation from provincial governments. "The federation will contribute 13.5 percent through the FBR and 1.15 percent through the Petroleum Development Levy (PDL), while provinces will contribute about 3 percent," he explained. He also spoke about challenges faced by tax enforcement teams, including threats and attacks during operations. "Two of our people were martyred in

the Kohat tunnel. Our training is not to fight, but to enforce tax compliance. Now, with the support of Rangers and other institutions, this work has become safer and more effective," he said. Govt to exit power purchasing business

Federal Energy Minister Awais Leghari announced sweeping reforms in the power sector, including the government's decision to stop buying electricity directly — a move described as "the biggest energy reform in 20 years." "We inherited very expensive electricity, but despite challenges, we reduced prices by Rs10.5 per unit in the past 18 months," Leghari said. He highlighted relief for industries, including a three-month package offering power at Rs26 per unit and a reduction in electric vehicle (EV) rates from Rs71 to Rs39 per unit.

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Gwadar Port hosts special event to inspire Youth's participation in Maritime Sector

GWADAR (INP): A special ceremony was held at Gwadar Port as a part of the nationwide Maritime Week, organized by the Ministry of Maritime Affairs.

Students and teachers from the Government Girls Degree College Gwadar participated in the event, which was arranged under the guidance of Gwadar Port Authority Chairman Noor-ul-Haq Baloch on the ministry's directives, Gwadar Pro

According to an official statement, the event aimed to raise awareness among the younger generation, particularly female students, about the significance of the maritime sector and Pakistan's emerging blue economy.

Addressing the participants, Chairman Noor-ul-Haq Baloch highlighted the growing opportunities for youth, especially women in the maritime industry.

He said that Gwadar Port plays a pivotal role in Pakistan's economic development and

urged students to explore the vast potential within the blue economy.

"The maritime sector offers immense opportunities for Pakistan's youth, and women have a vital role to play in shaping the country's future through this industry," Baloch said.

Students were given a guided tour of key sites, including Gwadar Port operations, the China Business Center (CBC), the Free Zone, and the Desalination Plant.

They were briefed on the port's

daily operations and ongoing commercial projects, gaining first-hand insights into Pakistan's maritime progress.

Gwadar's expanding role in regional connectivity. The initiative, held under the Maritime Week 2025 campaign, sought to connect young minds with the strategic and economic importance of the country's maritime assets, from Gwadar's operational growth to national efforts in developing a sustainable blue

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QUETTA: Tehreek Tahafuz Ayeen-i-Pakistan leader Dawood Shah Kakar along with Abdul Rahim Ziaratwal addressing a press conference.

Dialogue essential for national unity, says Tariq Fazal

ISLAMABAD (INP): Federal Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Dr. Tariq Fazal Chaudhry said that the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) has always believed in political dialogue and consensus for national progress and stability.

Talking to a private news channel, he said that the PML-N had consistently promoted the spirit of reconciliation, both during its tenures in government and while in opposition.

He said that the Prime Minister

based on solid legal grounds and that the government had not imprisoned him.

Answering a question, minister said that lowering the political temperature was in the government's interest, adding that if the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder truly desired national stability, he should also contribute toward reducing tensions.

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QUETTA: Eman Mushtaq a MDCAF test candidate addressing a press conference.