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Weaponisation of IWT cannot and will not succeed: President Zardari

Severe Nursing Shortage in Balochistan: Only 1,700 Nurses for 10,000 Needed



News Desk: QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti has expressed serious concern over the acute shortage of nurses in the province, revealing that only 1,700 nurses are available against the requirement of 10,000.

Chairing a high-level meeting on the nursing sector, the Chief Minister announced the establishment of nursing colleges across all divisions and major districts

of Balochistan under a public-private partnership model.

It was decided that around 2,000 trained nurses will be produced annually with the assistance of Khyber Medical University, while existing government nursing colleges will continue to operate as usual.

CM Bugti said the provincial government is committed to providing modern nursing and healthcare training to

the youth of Balochistan in line with international standards.

He further highlighted that the provincial government is focusing on training, technology, and improved facilities to strengthen the health sector in Balochistan.

The meeting was attended by Provincial Health Minister Bakh Muhammad Kakar, Chief Secretary Shakil Qadir Khan, and senior officials from the Health Department and Khyber Medical University.



ISPR: Pakistan Army Kills Four Terrorists in Kalat, Balochistan; Weapons and Explosives Seized

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AWALPINDI (News Desk): The Pakistan Army successfully conducted an intelligence-based operation (IBO) in Kalat district of Balochistan, killing four terrorists and recovering a large cache of weapons and explosives, according to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR).

The ISPR stated

that the operation took place on the night of November 1 after credible intelligence was received about the presence of terrorists in the area.

During the intense exchange of fire, four militants were eliminated. The killed terrorists were reportedly involved in multiple terrorist and sabotage activities targeting security forces and civilians in Balochistan. The operation also led to the recovery of arms, ammunition, and explosive materials.

The military spokesperson confirmed that a clearance and sanitization operation is currently underway to eliminate any remaining threats and ensure lasting peace and stability in the region.

The Pakistan Army reiterated its commitment to eradicating terrorism and maintaining security and stability across Balochistan, emphasizing that such operations will continue until the province is fully cleared of militant networks.

27th Constitutional Amendment to be tabled in Parliament soon, Dar says

NEWS DESK: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Tuesday said that the much-talked about 27th Constitutional Amendment will be tabled soon in Parliament.

Speculation and debate over a possible 27th Constitutional Amendment reached fever pitch on Monday after the PPP claimed the government had sought its support for the proposed changes to the Constitution.

The proposed changes have sparked a nationwide debate, with political parties weighing their positions amid concerns that the move could roll back some powers devolved under the landmark 18th Constitution Amendment. The opposition PTI has announced its intention to oppose the proposed



amendment 'tooth and nail'.

Addressing the matter while speaking in the Senate session today, the deputy PM said: "Of course the government is bringing it and will bring it... the 27th Amendment will arrive... and is about to arrive. We will try that it be tabled in accordance with principles, laws and the Constitution."

He reassured the opposition that the

the "standard process" of legislative activity, saying it was consulting the PPP for now since it was the biggest ally of the government. "I have had at least three rounds (of consultations) and the law minister has also held," he added.

The deputy PM said the government would also approach its other allies and take them on board before presenting the document of the amendment.

Referring to PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari's X post announcing that the government had approached his party over the issue, Dar said he had a complete right to do so.

"The areas he identified are not in the air. Let me also confess this thing, there have been talks on those topics."

Dar said the government was following

Quasim Shah

QUETTA: The Balochistan High Court has issued strict directives to the Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC), ordering it to withdraw all excess gas bills for October 2025 within one week and issue corrected bills in accordance with the court's earlier judgment dated June 13, 2024.

The order was passed by a two-member bench comprising Chief Justice Rozi Khan Bareeh and Justice Sardar Muhammad Helmi during the hearing of a constitutional petition filed by Advocate Syed Nazir Agha.

During the proceedings, the petitioner informed the court that the SSGC had violated previous court orders by issuing unusually high bills, some exceeding Rs. 6,000 per consumer. Expressing strong displeasure,



the court directed the gas authorities to immediately withdraw all inflated bills and reissue accurate ones.

Advocate Syed Nazir Agha also highlighted the ongoing problems of gas load

shedding and low gas pressure across Balochistan, which continue to cause hardship for citizens. In response, Chief Justice Bareeh ordered that Balochistan must be given priority in gas

supply to ensure public relief. The court adjourned the hearing until November 18, 2025, and instructed SSGC to submit a compliance report detailing the implementation of the court's order.

Weaponisation of IWT cannot and will not succeed: President Zardari

NEWS DESK: President Asif Ali Zardari said on Tuesday that the violation of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) by India could not and would not succeed, and warned against the weaponisation of water.

India in April held the IWT in abeyance following the attack in occupied Kashmir's Poonch that killed 26 — an incident New Delhi blamed on Islamabad without evidence. Pakistan termed any attempt to suspend its water share an "act of war", noting the IWT had no provision for unilateral suspension. It later said it was considering court action, citing a violation of the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties.

President Zardari addressed the issue while speaking at the Second World Summit for Social Development in Doha, Qatar today, saying: "We in Pakistan, on one hand, face the brunt of the impact of climate change, which has caused devastation for our people in the form of large-scale floods... on the other hand, we face a new threat in the form of water weaponisation. Water, which all the world knows, is an equal right of any human being and humanity."

"We are being threatened from across the border with a new threat in the form of weaponisation of water, violation of the IWT. This poses a serious threat to 240 million Pakistanis. Such tactics cannot and will not succeed."

A supplemental award by the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) in The Hague in June held that India could not unilaterally hold the treaty in



abeyance. India, in response, said it did not recognise the court or its decisions.

Under the 1960 IWT, three rivers that flow westwards were awarded to Pakistan, with India getting three eastern-flowing rivers. In 2023, Pakistan brought a case to the PCA over the design of Indian hydropower projects on rivers that were awarded to Pakistan under the treaty.

The court, in its August ruling in the case, said it had jurisdiction over the dispute and ruled the treaty "does not permit India to generate hydro-electric power on the Western Rivers based on what might be the ideal or best practices approach for engineering" of these projects. Instead, the design of

these projects must adhere "strictly" to the specifications laid down in the treaty, the court said, adding that India must generally "let flow" the waters of the western rivers for Pakistan's "unrestricted use".

The president also reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to social justice, inclusive development and global solidarity, emphasising the need to eradicate poverty, promote decent work and ensure equality and human rights for all.

The president expressed full support for the Doha Political Declaration and highlighted that the country's vision for inclusiveness and sustainable development aligned with the spirit of the declaration. "Pakistan remains steadfast in placing people at the centre of policy," President Zardari added.

Showing Pakistan's progress, he cited the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), which he said had empowered over nine million families through income assistance, healthcare and education. The initiative, he said, was recognised globally as one of the best social protection models.

He also reaffirmed the country's commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals, pledging to raise literacy to 90 per cent and ensure every child attended school within five years.

The president also mentioned initiatives such as the National Youth Internship Programme and green and resilient housing projects, which aim to empower young people and strengthen climate resilience through nature-based solutions, including mangrove restoration.

QUETTA VOICE

Editor: Asim Khan

Trump's Peace Plan: Legitimising Israel's Occupation

Zia ud Din:
A Peace agreement often loses its credibility when it fails to recognize the rights of the oppressed. This is the case with President Trump's much-surfaced Gaza peace plan. Far from being a genuine step toward peace, it presents a surrender document that legitimizes Israel's long-standing occupation of Palestine. Sadly, this so-called peace plan was endorsed by major Muslim countries, including Pakistan.

While standing with Trump, Netanyahu, accused of war crimes, accepted the plan and also threatened to finish the job if Hamas does not accept the plan wholeheartedly. However, outrage sparked among various analysts when Netanyahu claimed victory in Hebrew language at Tel Aviv. The question arises: How can Trump propose a plan for peace without involving an international arbitrator—the United Nations Organisation? Critics have rejected this plan on various grounds.

First, the plan has no two-state solution. In fact, it blurs the possibility of an independent Palestinian state in the future. Sadly, Netanyahu has already repudiated the idea of an independent state. Also, President Trump called Palestine recognition by France, Britain, Canada, and Spain a reward to Hamas. So far, the United States has stopped Israel from occupying the West Bank, but some government officials of Netanyahu intended to do so.

Second, Hamas and the Palestine National Authority, the only representatives of Gaza and the West Bank, have been eliminated in the process. Even the United States barred the Palestinian Authority from entering New York during the UNGA annual session. It reflects the colonial plan because peace is mutual; it cannot be imposed at the dictate of aggressors. Zahid Hussain in his essay pointed out as in the practically brings to an end the concept of a Palestinian state.

Third, in the post-war administration, both Hamas and PA have no share. The proposed



plan contains the demilitarization of Hamas. They can live in peaceful coexistence after getting amnesty, and also safe passage will be given to those who want to exit. What kind of peace is this, where those who suffer have no voice in the decisions that shape their future? This is total surrender to be forced on the group.

Fourth, this official instrument lost its credibility when the UN was excluded. It discredits the international organization. Although the question is raised about the ineffective role of the UN—unable to stop genocide—its sanctity must prevail. Critics always blamed the United States. For instance, every time the US vetoed a resolution to stop Israel's evil deeds.

Fifth, Hamas has been given the ultimatum of 72 hours to accept the plan. It is not a plan but a surrender charter for the group. It means Hamas has no choice but to go with the plan. They are not consulted on their fate. The Trump-Netanyahu plan has benefited Israel further. It openly advocates for Greater Israel.

Sixth, this plan also outlines that the area will be governed by a political committee under the supervision of a Board of Peace chaired by the US. The plan is headed by Donald Trump and Tony Blair. Tony Blair, the former prime minister of the UK, during 2003, had been widely criticized for the invasion of Iraq based on false claims about weapons of mass destruction. He is regarded as a war criminal in the UK as well as in the Muslim world. Therefore, his appointment provoked worldwide criticism.

Seventh, no future guarantee is mentioned in the proposed frame-

work. It fails to prevent Israel from occupying. Most important, the aggressor's accountability has not been outlined. In fact, Israel has impunity in its every action. The President assured Tel Aviv that they can do what they want if Hamas rejects the plan.

Eighth, no recognition, no peace. Durable peace hinges on the recognition of Palestine. Both the US and Israel have rejected recognition. Seemingly, they have no plan to recognize Palestine in the near future. The record of history demonstrates that illegal occupation and peace cannot move together. Peace remains impossible without an end to illegal occupation.

On the positive side of the plan, if this project is implemented, it will end ruthless killing and Gaza genocide. The aid blockade will be drawn. The supporters of this plan also cited the same reason. The deputy prime minister, Isiah Dar, also said that the first priority is to remove all Netanyahu's excuses to continue war.

In the end, occupation, annexation, and illegal settlements cannot run with peace. Two states are the only answer for long-term peace. This controversial plan is biased and destined to crumble.

Gazans cannot be left to the mercy of warmongers. It is a wake-up call for the United States and the World to let Gazans live a free life in their own independent state. Netanyahu's transgression must not go with impunity. The only solution lies in an independent Palestinian state.

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The Future of Pakistan's Higher Education – Where Are We Heading

Dr. Faisal Ahmed Khan
One year on, the chaos continues at the highest institution mandated to oversee higher education in the country. At the Higher Education Commission, the current chairman, Dr. Tariq Binuri, is still battling for his survival. While Dr. Binuri might barely complete his term this May, the future of higher education in Pakistan is set on a downward spiral.

The Higher Education Commission had evolved as an institution in two decades, assimilating many essential attributes and continually weeding out ill practices along the way. Exactly when the institution was in the middle of its development, it was struck with an unneeded blow of an arbitrary ordinance. The events that followed, it has directly exposed higher education to the whims of the power corridors for good.

The status of the Higher Education Commission is fast on its way to becoming a mere equivalent of a board of intermediate and secondary education overseeing tertiary education. It is approaching being completely subsumed in the black hole of public officialdom. Perhaps it was frowned upon as a peculiar case in the public sector for its relatively superior standards in education and governance. Therefore, it was felt that it needed to be governed by colleagues who oversee the rest of the education domain.

The role of the federal government enhanced in HEC affairs

It is clear from the fact that the tenure of the chairman is reduced to two years and the role of the federal government has been enhanced in the HEC affairs. Inevitably, the same wizards in the government will oversee HEC, who have earned some interesting distinctions for us. For example, according to a UNICEF report, we have the second-largest number of out-of-school children after Nigeria, i.e., about 22.8 million children out of school. Only about 67% of our kids finish primary school; and only 55% of those in grade 5 can solve a two-digit subtraction (reported in a survey by South Asia Forum for



Provincial-level, higher education is merely treated as part of the riches to distribute among the stakeholders of the government

Similar occurrences are likely to follow in other provinces given the frail existence of the HEC. At the provincial level, higher education is merely treated as part of the riches to distribute among the stakeholders of the government. The advances last year have only made things worse. The push for a subordinated HEC will cause more than just saying goodbye to Dr. Binuri.

It is not intended here to establish that everything has been exquisite in higher education in the past. There is a long list of improvements and reforms that hold the actual spirit of a regulator and patron of higher education in the country. Some might argue that the existing model in the HEC required delegation within the institution instead of concentration of power with the chairman. A more inclusive model of working with the universities and the provinces was required. Therefore, a reflection within the institution was needed instead of an intrusion from above. The advances last year have only made things worse.

The push for a subordinated HEC will cause more than just saying goodbye to Dr. Binuri.

The push for a subordinated HEC will cause more than just saying goodbye to Dr. Binuri. It will undo the progress made in the sector in the last two decades. Universities will only become dominions of politicians and the bureaucracy with bountiful interests for them.

Yet we can hope that it is still not too late for the new government to realize the damage already done.

The stature of the HEC should be restored to its original form with a plan of enabling the team within the institution and promoting the inclusive participation of academics and stakeholders from across the country.

Political interests and enmities should be set aside for the sake of our youth and future generations. Socrates has summed it well: "The secret of change is to focus all your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new."

PPL and the Case of Balochistan

Mehfooz Ali Khan
As Secretary of Finance, I had initiated a case for getting Balochistan in PPL, the biggest oil and gas producing company. This company owes all its assets based on Balochistan's Sui Gas Field. Unfortunately, political leadership didn't press for its due share.

Here is my analysis of PPL from inception. Recent developments have not been captured, but it tells the story.

Overview
Pakistan Petroleum Limited (PPL) has been a major player in the energy sector since the mid-1950s.

As a major supplier of natural gas, PPL today contributes over 20 percent of the country's total natural gas supplies besides producing crude oil, Natural Gas Liquid, and Liquefied Petroleum Gas.

The company's history can be traced back to the establishment of a public limited company in June 1950, with major shareholding by Burma Oil Company (BOC) of the United Kingdom for exploration, prospecting, development, and

production of oil and natural gas resources.

PPL employees were allotted 12 percent shares from the government's equity

In September 1997, BOC disinvested from the Exploration and Production (E&P) sector worldwide and sold its equity in PPL to the Government of Pakistan (GOP). Subsequently, the government reduced its holding through an initial public offer in June 2004, which was further decreased with the initiation of the Benazir Employees Stock Option Scheme (BESOS) in August 2009 when PPL employees were allotted 12 percent shares from the government's equity. More recently, GoP further disinvested its 5 percent shares, around 3.55 percent of the total paid-up capital, in PPL through Secondary Public Offering in 2014.

Currently, the company's shareholding is divided between the government, which owns



about 68 percent, PPL Employees Empowerment Trust which has approximately 7 percent, and private investors, which hold nearly 25 percent. PPL has acquired 100 percent shareholding of MND E&P Limited, a company incorporated in England and Wales. The name of the subsidiary has been changed to PPL Europe E&P Limited.

PPL operates eight producing fields across the country

The company has also established a wholly-owned subsidiary, PPL Asia E&P B.V., with a corporate seat in Amsterdam, Kingdom of Netherlands. The subsidiary will focus on the exploration and production of oil and gas in the region. PPL has assigned its interest in Block 8, Iraq, under the Exploration, Development, and Production Service Contract to Midland Oil Company, Iraq to PPL Asia E&P B.V.

PPL operates eight producing fields across

the country at Sui (Pakistan's largest gas field), Adhi, Kandhkot, Chachar, Mazrani, Adam, Adam West and Shaddad and holds working interest in fifteen partner-operated producing fields, including Qadirpur the country's second-largest gas field. As a major stakeholder in securing a safe energy future for the country, PPL pursues an aggressive exploration agenda aimed at enhancing hydrocarbon recovery and replenishing reserves. PPL, together with its subsidiaries has

a portfolio of 47 exploration assets of which the company operates 27, including one contract in Iraq, while 20 blocks, comprising three offshore leases in Pakistan and two onshore concessions in Yemen, are operated by joint venture partners.

PPL has developed a reliable foundation and infrastructure for providing clean and safe energy

Over the years, PPL has developed a reliable foundation and infrastructure for providing clean and safe energy through sustainable exploitation of indigenous natural resources while adhering to best practices of corporate governance and employee health and safety and constraining the ecological footprint of its operations. As a result, Monitoring and Inspection, Design and Construction, Drilling and Well Engineering, Joint Operations, Operational Technical Support Ser-

vices and Projects departments, Mazrani, Adhi and Kandhkot fields, Sui Field Gas Compressor Station, Sui Production, Sui Field Engineering and Sui Purification stand certified for ISO 9001 Quality Management System. Similarly, Kandhkot, Mazrani and Adhi fields, Sui Field Gas Compressor Station, Sui Field Stores, Sui Field Engineering and Drilling and Well Engineering, Design and Construction, Projects, Health, Safety and Environment and Exploration departments and Sui Field Hospital have been certified for ISO 14001 Environmental Management System and OHSAS 18001 Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series. Sui Purification is also certified for OHSAS 18001.

Currently Government of Pakistan holds 68% Shares out of total shares outstanding of 676,95% Current Year

Current Financial position of PPL. Currently Government of Pakistan holds 68% Shares out of total shares outstanding of 676,95% Current Year. The Company paid 80% dividend to shareholders and government of Pakistan got Rs. 36,826 billion as Dividend. The net Profit registered by the company was Rs. 30.0 Billion. Government also earned billions in tax revenue as well.

The government of Balochistan only got slightly above Rs. 3.0 billion as Royalty from the Sui Field Legal position. Legally after 18th Constitutional Amendment, Article 172(3), province of Origin should have an equal share in the profit of oil and gas companies operating in a province. In this case, no such arrangement has yet been made even after a lapse of 10 years. So it is the right of the province to claim its interest in the profits of the company.

The company divested 5% shares to the public in 2014 to the government of Balochistan was not consulted in violation of the Constitution.

APHC-AJK pays tribute to martyr leader Dr. Ghulam Qadir Wani

ISLAMABAD (INP): A solemn prayer meeting was organized in Islamabad by the All Parties Hurriyat Conference Azad Jammu and Kashmir (APHC-AJK) to mark the martyrdom anniversary of Dr. Ghulam Qadir Wani, a prominent leader of

the Kashmiri freedom movement. The event was chaired by Ghulam Muhammad Safi, the Convener APHC-AJK. During the ceremony, speakers hailed Dr. Ghulam Qadir Wani as the ideological architect and a pillar of the Kash-

mir freedom struggle, describing him a symbol of resilience and unwavering commitment. They paid tribute to his invaluable contributions to the cause.

In his address, Ghulam Muhammad Safi emphasized that Dr. Ghulam Qadir Wani was

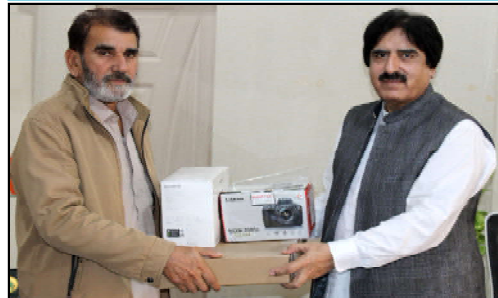
not only a political leader, but also an intellectual, ideological, and organizational figure who devoted his entire life to the Kashmiri freedom movement. He pointed out that Dr. Wani had served as an active Nazim-e-Aala (president) of the Jamaat-e-Talaba Jammu

and Kashmir, later joined Jamaat-e-Islami in occupied Kashmir, and subsequently became Chairman of the Islamic Students League, providing the youth of Kashmir with ideological, political, and organizational direction.

Safi further stressed that Dr. Wani's contributions not only strengthened the political aspect of the freedom movement but had also established a strong intellectual and cultural foundation. He noted that leaders like Dr. Wani are an inseparable part of Kashmir's history,

one whose legacy cannot be erased. Safi reaffirmed the Kashmiri people's unwavering resolve to carry forward the mission of their martyrs to its logical conclusion, regardless of the challenges ahead.

The ceremony concluded with prayers and a special supplication for the elevation of the souls of Dr. Ghulam Qadir Wani and all other martyrs of Kashmir. The event was attended by senior Hurriyat leaders, including Muhammad Farooq Rehmani, General Secretary, Advocate Pervaz Ahmad,



QUETTA: Quetta: Director General Public Relations Balochistan Muhammad Noor Khetran is handing over a drone camera and other equipment to Deputy Director Public Relations Naik Muhammad

,100 Indian Sikhs reach Pakistan for Guru Nanak birth anniversary

NOROWAL (INP): Around 2,100 Sikh pilgrims from India arrived in Pakistan to participate in events marking the 556th birth anniversary of Baba Guru Nanak Dev Ji, with commemorations being held under the supervision of the Evacuee Trust Property Board.

The pilgrims were warmly received at the Wagah border by ETBP Chairman Dr. Sajid Mahmood Chaudhri, Additional Secretary (Shrines) Nasir Mushtaq, and Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee President Sardar Ramesh Singh Arora. Senior Sikh leaders, including Jatinder Akal Takht Kaldeep Singh Gargaj, SGPC group leader Bibi Gurminder Kaur, and Delhi Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee representative Ravinder Singh Sawhney, were also present.

Speaking on the occasion, Nasir Mushtaq said pilgrims are being provided accommodation, meals, transport, and medical facilities during their stay. After completing immigration and cus-

tom formalities, the pilgrims departed for Gurdwara Janam Asthan in Nankana Sahib via special buses.

The main ceremony to mark the birth anniversary will be held on November 5 at Gurdwara Janam Asthan, where federal and provincial ministers are expected to attend. All gurdwaras in Nankana Sahib, including the birthplace of Baba Guru Nanak, have been decorated with illuminated displays for the celebrations. Security and medical arrangements, including 1122 and ETBP medical teams, along with backup generators, have been put in place.

The pilgrims will visit multiple religious sites during their 10-day stay, devoting time to the birth anniversary of Guru Nanak on November 13. Dr. Sajid Mahmood Chaudhri welcomed the visiting devotees, saying Pakistan is honoured to host Sikh pilgrims for this sacred occasion.

Light rain forecast across Punjab, to ease smog. LAHORE, Nov 04 (INP): The Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) Punjab has forecast light rain in most districts of Punjab starting today, with showers likely to continue until November 5.

A PDMA spokesperson said the rain spell could help improve air quality and lower temperatures across the province.

According to the PDMA, rain is expected in Lahore, Rawalpindi, Murree, Galiyat, Attock, Talagang, Jhelum, and Sargodha, while Khushab, Gujranwala, Sialkot, and Narowal are also likely to receive showers.

The PDMA also predicted snowfall in Murree, Galiyat, and other hilly regions, marking the beginning of the winter weather season in upper Punjab.

PDMA Director General Irfan Ali Kathia stated that temperatures across Punjab are expected to drop significantly following the rain. He added that the possible rainfall will help disperse smog, which has reached alarming levels in Lahore and surrounding areas.

"Rains will not only bring down the temperature but also reduce the intensity of smog in ma-

nor urban centers," said DG Kathia.

Despite the forecast, Lahore remains shrouded in dense smog today, with air pollution reaching dangerous levels, according to the latest air quality data.

The city's Air Quality Index (AQI) currently stands at 440, which is categorized as "hazardous."

"The concentration of harmful chemicals in the air has been measured at 59% higher than World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines, posing serious health risks to residents."

Pollution levels are particularly severe in central Lahore.

The highest smog readings have been recorded in Gulberg and surrounding areas at 726 AQI, followed by Johar Town (700), Iqbal Town (696), Model Town (699), and the area near the Defence Road and nearby localities (602).

Environmental experts warn that such high pollution levels can cause respiratory and cardiovascular issues, especially among children, the elderly, and people with pre-existing health conditions.

LHC orders complete ban over commercial activities on Sunday

LAHORE (INP): The Lahore High Court has ordered a complete ban over commercial activities on Sunday while hearing the smog and environmental pollution case.

The bench while hearing the case on Tuesday also directed for strict compliance of the order about the wedding halls' closure at 10 in the night.

Deputy Commissioner Lahore Musa Raza appeared in the court and produced a notification with re-

gard to closure of markets and restaurants at 10 PM.

"Only issuance of notification is not sufficient, it should also be enforced strictly," the bench said. Justice Shahid Karim said that the ban orders aimed at addressing increasing pollution and smog in the atmosphere.

Wasa projects and their timeline. The court also ordered presence of a director level officer of the environment department in each hearing of the case.

The bench also directed further hearing of the case until November 07.

The LHC on Monday expressed its dissatisfaction over the government's measures to address the menace of smog, expressed concern over increasing air pollution and resented

over non-compliance of restaurants' working hours.

Justice Shahid Karim said that this court working for redressal of smog issues since last seven years. "The court proceeding is not against anyone but to guide and assist the government," Justice Karim said.

The court observed that the cause of 70 percent pollution in the city, has been transport. "Instead of alleging others, we have to correct ourselves," the Judge said.

CPEC metro train celebrated 5 years of successful operation

ISLAMABAD (INP): First electric railway transportation project under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) "The Orange Line Metro Rail (OLMT)" Lahore celebrated its 5th year of successful operation with a grand event organized at its Head Office.

Depot Harbanspura, Gwadar. The project exemplifies the professional partnership and joint venture spirit between China and Pakistan.

He emphasized that it represents mutual investment, transparency, and shared responsibility for the well-being of citizens.

He further appreciated Punjab's initiatives in public welfare and infrastructure, aligning them with China's own development goals under the new 15th Five-Year Plan.

"Pakistan has become my second home. My children have grown up here, and I love its people, culture, and spirit. May the friendship between China and Pakistan remain everlasting," he added.

The event was attended by a distinguished gathering of government officials,

Punjab, Orange Line Metro Train Lahore CEO Tan Zidong, emphasized that the Orange Line was not merely a transport project, but a living symbol of cooperation, perseverance, and friendship between China and Pakistan.

He added that the Orange Line team faced and overcame challenges such as national lockdowns, political unrest, and extreme weather conditions, yet maintained uninterrupted service for the people of Lahore.

"Pakistan has become my second home. My children have grown up here, and I love its people, culture, and spirit. May the friendship between China and Pakistan remain everlasting," he added.

The event was attended by a distinguished gathering of government officials,

Chinese dignitaries, organizational leaders, and media representatives.

The arrangements reflected elegance, professionalism, and cultural harmony, creating a festive and memorable atmosphere.

A special award and appreciation ceremony was held to recognize the contribution of key organizations and individuals who supported the Orange Line's operations.

After the awards segment, a commemorative plaque celebrating 270 million passengers was unveiled, marking another historic achievement in Lahore's urban transport.

The milestone was followed by a cake-cutting ceremony, symbolizing five years of unity, teamwork, and progress. Guests and staff then enjoyed a light refreshment break before the start of the entertainment segment.

Pakistan to bring diverse exports and digital vision to 8th CIE

SHANGHAI (INP): Pakistan is set to present a diverse range of export products while advancing its digital cooperation goals at the 8th China International Import Expo (CIIE), running from November 5 to 10, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Tuesday.

With more than 20 participating companies, the country will showcase traditional specialties including handicrafts, marble, furniture, apparel, carpets and jewelry, demonstrating the breadth of its manufacturing capabilities.

Pakistan's continuous presence at the expo reflects the nation's trade ambitions. According to Pakistani Consul General in Shanghai Shehzad Ahmad Khan, "Pakistani companies are increasingly opting for larger, customized stands to maximize their market impact, which reflects growing confidence in the CIIE platform."

While the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) maintains its support for small and medium enterprises through the national pavilion, the rising private sector involvement signals a maturing business approach. Among the notable participants is Wimsa, a Pakistani jewelry brand with operations in China, celebrating its seventh year at CIIE. The diplomat highlighted their special showcase: "This year they are exhibiting a

natural kunzite certified by the Guinness World Records – demonstrating the unique treasures Pakistan has to offer."

Beyond traditional trade, Pakistan is actively pursuing a digital transformation partnership with China. The consul general pointed to the successful B2B investment conference held in Beijing in September this year where numerous memorandums of understanding and joint venture intentions were signed between Pakistani and Chinese ICT companies, especially from the Yangtze River Delta region.

"These digital transformation initiatives are progressing rapidly, with full implementation expected within one to two years," he stated, adding that Pakistan firmly believes in China's leadership in technological innovation. Recent economic data have confirmed the strengthening of China-Pakistan trade relations.

During the first quarter of FY 2025-2026, Pakistan's exports to the Yangtze River Delta (YRD) region surged 21.1% year-on-year to reach \$297 million, with total trade with the region standing at \$2.69 billion. Noting this commercial momentum, the consul general stressed that robust economic ties should be further underpinned by strong people-to-people ties.

"Trade and investment cannot flourish without human interaction," he affirmed, outlining a full calendar of cultural exchanges in Shanghai including festi-

val, film events and culinary promotions. As the 8th CIIE prepares to open, Pakistan's multifaceted participation – spanning traditional exports, digital collaboration and cultural engagement –

Pakistan, Switzerland reaffirm commitment to strengthen cooperation in education and development

ISLAMABAD (INP): State Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training, Wajihah Qamar, met with Swiss Foreign Minister of Switzerland, Ignazio Cassis on the sidelines of the 43rd Session of the UNESCO General Conference in Samarkand, Uzbekistan.

During the meeting, both sides discussed avenues to enhance bilateral cooperation in education, vocational train-

ing, research, and sustainable development, said a press release issued here.

They emphasized the importance of knowledge exchange, innovation, and institutional linkages to equip youth with future-ready skills. Wajihah Qamar highlighted Pakistan's ongoing education reforms focused on inclusive learning, digital literacy and skill development, underscoring the government's commitment to improving access to education and quality

across all levels of education. She appreciated Switzerland's support for global education and development programs and expressed Pakistan's interest in expanding collaboration in the technical and higher education sectors.

Ignazio Cassis acknowledged Pakistan's active role at UNESCO and praised its efforts in promoting equitable education and capacity-building initiatives. He reaffirmed

Switzerland's willingness to strengthen bilateral engagement in areas of mutual interest, including sustainable education and innovation-led growth.

The meeting concluded with both sides expressing their resolve to deepen cooperation under UNESCO's framework and to continue working together to advance achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG-4 on quality education.



QUETTA: IPI head Dr. Afab Bakar addressing on the advocacy awareness seminar for Journalist on Measles & Rubella campaign 2025 at QPC organized by UNICEF and WHO.

TENDER NOTICE

TSE-252019011811 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 As Electronic Public Procurement System of EPBPA.

Tender Fee 1000 PKR

S.No	Class of Object	Est. Price
1	Procurement of Medicines for Rural Transplant Patients under Bal-U-Mad Program (Total Bidding Count: 16)	200,000 PKR

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: 3A) Applicants of Similar Nature and Complexity 10,000,000 in Previous 3 Years Turn over of at least 20,000,000 PKR in 3 Subsequent Previous Years. Presence in Active Tax Payer List Sales Tax Certificate. The bidding firm must not be currently blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. It is not permissible Submission of the required Bid Security in case Bid Security is not found as required during financial evaluation the bidding firm shall be declared as ineligible and non-responsive. Submission of the required Bidding document Fee Must unconditionally agree with all the instructions, terms & conditions specified in the bidding documents & contract agreement. The Bidder must provide 2 piece samples of every quoted item at the time of submission of Bid. The Bidder must be responsible to replace the near expiry items Drug Sales License from DGI Health Sector must agree to serve the items within 15 days of the supply order. Authorization from the Manufacturer / Side-Agency in favor of the Bidder Registration with drug regulatory Authority of Pakistan or provisional import license as Non-Declaration of substantial, sources, adulterated, mislabeled or any other section of the Drug Act 1978 imposed by any Drug Testing Laboratory or Regulatory body of any quoted item, is withdrawn before 15 days before the supply order. (Side/Item) must be 75% & 75% from the date of supply of medicines for local products & imported products respectively. Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure. Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Deposit at Call of amount 200,000 PKR specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The NT & Bidding Document can be obtained electronically from www.epbpa.gov.pk. Issuance of tender Documents: Complete Bidding Document can be viewed at www.epbpa.gov.pk. Last Date of bid submission: Bid can only be submitted electronically latest by 21 November, 2025 11:00 AM through supplier dashboard. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at 12:00 PM on EPBS System. Address: Balochistan Institute of nepro-Urology Quetta (BINUQ) Samungli Road Quetta Phone no 0919204701. Email: ctns.bal@gmail.com

Chief Executive Officer
Balochistan Institute of nepro-Urology Quetta (BINUQ)
PRN No. 227104-11-2025
Go to www.epbpa.gov.pk for details. For help: 1. epbpa@epbpa.gov.pk

Amendments essential for improvement in constitution: Rana Sanaullah

ISLAMABAD (INP): Prime Minister's Adviser on Political Affairs Rana Sanaullah has said that while a country's constitution is a sacred document, it is not the "final word".

Speaking to the media, he noted that the

Constitution of Pakistan has undergone 26 amendments so far, emphasizing that any further change is possible whenever two-thirds of parliament agrees.

"Changing times and circumstances of

ten require amendments to improve governance and balance powers. Political processes never stop, debate and discussion on different issues are essential features of democracy," he said.

Rana Sanaullah

went on to say that the proposed 27th Constitutional Amendment is needlessly being portrayed as a "storm", whereas it posed no threat to democracy or the political system.

The senior PML-N

leader clarified that there is no immediate plan to introduce a 27th Amendment, but consultations among parliamentarians and political parties are ongoing on various issues.

He stressed that the Pakistan Muslim

League-Nawaz has no objection to the 18th Amendment, which was unanimously passed by all political parties at the time. Discussing the 18th Amendment, Rana Sanaullah said it primarily deals with distribu-

tion of resources between the federation and provinces. He added that there is now a need to create a better balance between the centre and the provinces.

"The defense bud-

get is not only the responsibility of the federal government but also of the provinces," he said, noting that after defense expenditures, the federal government's available resources become limited.

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Capital Development Authority (CDA) Mohammed Ali Randhawa, called on Acting President Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani at the Alwan-e-Sadr.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Capital Development Authority (CDA) Mohammed Ali Randhawa, called on Acting President Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani at the Alwan-e-Sadr.

CPEC's 2x330 MW Thar Power Projects reach completion milestone

ISLAMABAD (INP): The lenders of two 330-megawatt coal-fired power projects in Thar, developed under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), have declared the Project Completion Date (PCD) on October 31, 2025, according to filings made by Fauji Fertilizer Company Limited (FFC), The Hub Power Company Limited (HUBCO), and Thal Limited to the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX). According to official documents available with Gwadar Pro, lenders of Thar Energy Limited (TEL) and Thal Nova Power Thar (Private) Limited (TN) have declared the occurrence of the PCD for their respective 2x330 MW nine-month coal-fired power plants on October 31, 2025.

The announce-

ments were formally conveyed to the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) on November 3 by FFC, HUBCO, and Thal Limited, the key stakeholders in the Thar energy complex.

In its disclosure, FFC stated, "We are pleased to inform you that the lenders of Thar Energy Limited (TEL) have declared the occurrence of the Project Completion Date (PCD) of the 330 MW power plant on October 31, 2025... TEL is a nine-month coal-fired IPP operating in Thar, which successfully achieved Commercial Operations Date on October 31, 2025. FFC holds 30 percent shares in TEL."

The company added that the declaration "will enable TEL to pay dividend to its shareholders subject to availability of distribut-

able profits and completion of procedural approvals," noting that the milestone "demonstrates FFC's commitment to protect the interests of its shareholders and giving them the best possible value."

HUBCO directly holds 60 percent shares in TEL, and indirectly through its wholly owned subsidiary Hub Power Holdings Limited, 38.3 percent shares in TN. Both projects are recognized as priority projects under CPEC, reflecting their strategic importance in Pakistan's power development agenda. Thal Limited, another leading investor in the Thar power cluster, also informed the PSX that lenders of Thal Nova Power Thar (Private) Limited (TN) have declared the project completion on October 31, 2025. Its official statement said: "TN is a nine-month coal-fired IPP operating in Thar, which successfully achieved Commercial Operations Date on February 17, 2025."

The achievement of PCD further demonstrates HUBCO's commitment to protect the interests of its shareholders and giving them the best

High-quality sesame seeds are bearing fruit across Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (INP): This year's sesame varieties were selected by the expert, and with the accompanying planting techniques, my sesame is now of high quality and high yield, which can also be exported to generate income," China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Tuesday.

Sesame is one of Pakistan's traditional crops, with Punjab province as the largest sesame-producing region in Pakistan.

Historically, local varieties have suffered from slightly weaker resistance to adverse conditions, lower yields, and significant annual yield fluctuations.

In the fields of Sahiwal, Arif Rafiq Farista could be seen busy putting bags of plump sesame seeds into storage, with joy evident on his face.

Professor Zhang

Lixin from Northwest A&F University (NWAU), whom Arif referred to the Chinese expert, co-founded the Silk Road Bio-Health Agriculture Industry Alliance in 2017.

From the initial three Pakistani member units, it has now grown to 13 member institutions covering Pakistan's main agricultural production areas, as well as the Islamabad Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, Rawalpindi Dry Agriculture University, and Sindh Agricultural University as the main

cooperation. Today, the two countries have established a cooperative framework with Faisalabad Agricultural University and Ayub Agricultural Research Institute as the demonstration areas, as well as the Islamabad Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, Rawalpindi Dry Agriculture University, and Sindh Agricultural University as the main

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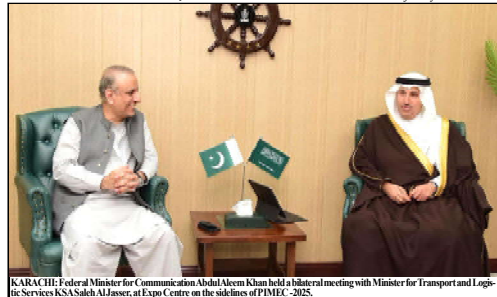
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KARACHI: Federal Minister for Communication Abdul Aleem Khan held a bilateral meeting with Minister for Transport and Logistic Services KSA Saleh Al-Jasser, at Expo Centre on the sidelines of PIMEC-2025.

PAK-Afghan confrontation more than a bilateral dispute

ISLAMABAD (INP): Reshaping of influence in Central Asia. In this context, any perception of disproportionate force or legally ambiguous actions could complicate Islamabad's diplomacy as well.

It is heartening to note that Pakistan and Afghanistan remain in a fragile calm after mid-October ground clashes and Pakistani airstrikes, including inside Afghanistan, were followed by a ceasefire mediated by Qatar and Turkey and announced in Doha on the 19th of October. UN monitors urged "a lasting end to hostilities" after recording at least 18 killed and more than 360 wounded on the 16th of October.

The heaviest fighting was reported around Spin Boldak in Kandahar and parts of Pakista, underscoring how quickly the frontier can tip from skirmishes to wider confrontation.

Torkham, the main Khyber Pass crossing linking Pakistan's Khyber district with Afghanistan's Nangarhar, has since been partially reopened to allow Afghan nationals to return.

Pakistan resumed limited movement on the 1st of November to let stranded Afghans cross back under its repatriation plan, while commercial traffic remained shut. Mediators said both sides agreed in Istanbul to keep the truce in place and to set up a mechanism to monitor and verify alleged ceasefire violations, including cross-border fire, incursions and support for militants.

The consequences for non-compliance are to be decided at the next meeting on the 6th of November.

Islamabad claims that the confrontation stemmed from militant

attacks launched from Afghan soil and has tied any durable truce to Kabul taking action against the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan.

"We have a ceasefire agreement as long as there is no violation," Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif said on the 20th October, adding that the truce "hinges" on curbing attacks from across the border. In a later interview he warned that, if talks fail, Pakistan has the "option of open war". The Taliban administration firmly denies harbouring anti-Pakistan militants.

In Doha, spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said "neither country will take hostile actions against the other" and that there would be no support for groups attacking Pakistan.

Reports indicate a high civilian toll inside Afghanistan.

GDA showcases Gwadar's Maritime potential, blue economy vision at PIMEC 2025

KARACHI (INP): The Gwadar Development Authority (GDA) has spotlighted Gwadar's transformation into a regional maritime and economic hub at the Pakistan International Maritime Expo and Conference (PIMEC-2025), emphasizing the port city's strategic role and Blue Economy potential vision.

The second edition of PIMEC was inaugurated by Federal Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal at the Karachi Expo Centre.

Organized by the Pakistan Navy, the four-day event runs through November 6, aiming to highlight Gwadar's rapid transformation, its geo-economic significance, and the immense opportunities for investment, and maritime

Gwadar Pro reported on Tuesday.

Representing GDA, Deputy Director of Town Planning Abdul Razzaq is leading the delegation, accompanied by Nasir Raja and Engineer Nazia Baloch.

The GDA pavilion drew wide attention from visitors, investors, and experts eager to learn about Gwadar's development under the Smart Port City Master Plan 2050. "Our participation at PIMEC reflects Gwadar's rising profile as a smart, sustainable port city at the crossroads of global trade routes," GDA said in a statement released Monday.

The aim is to highlight Gwadar's rapid transformation, its geo-economic significance, and the immense opportunities for investment, and maritime

development vision. The second edition of PIMEC was inaugurated by Federal Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal at the Karachi Expo Centre.

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ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb address today as the Chief Guest at the inaugural session of the Pakistan International Maritime Expo and Conference (PIMEC), organized at the Expo Centre Karachi by the Pakistan Navy and the Ministry of Maritime Affairs.

Mohmand HPP achieves key construction milestones in October

ISLAMABAD (INP): This step will enhance the project's overall construction efficiency and allow for faster water diversion management during subsequent phases.

Concreting pouring at the dam's high toe block has also begun, marking the project's transition into the peak phase of dam construction. In parallel, consolidation grouting for Diversion Tunnel No. 2 has started, reinforcing the tunnel structure to ensure long-term safety and stability under high hydrostatic pressure.

Located on the Swat

River in Mohmand district, the 800

MW hydropower project will produce approximately 2.86 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh) of renewable electricity each year.

Beyond power generation, the project will provide over 140 million cubic meters of clean drinking water annually, irrigate more than 16,700 hectares of farmland, and help mitigate flooding in downstream areas such as Nowshera, Charsadda, and Peshawar.

The Mohmand

Dam is being implemented by the Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) in collaboration with the China En-

ergy Engineering Corporation (CEEC) and other local partners. Officials have praised CEEC's advanced engineering techniques, adherence to safety protocols, and efficient construction management that have helped maintain steady progress despite challenging terrain and weather conditions.

Once completed, the project is expected to significantly strengthen Pakistan's water storage and energy security while promoting sustainable agricultural development and regional resilience against climate-induced water stress, according to Gwadar Pro.