



Page No 5

## INTERNATIONAL

Israeli strikes kill 20 more in Gaza, violating US-backed ...

Page No 3

## NATIONAL

Pakistan, Kazakhstan sign 30-plus MoUs as Shehbaz ...

Page No 8

## SPORT

Sunderland make home a fortress as possible place...

Page No 7

Rs.10.00 Vol.VII:No:127

Email address: dquettavoice@gmail.com

Website: www.quettavoice.com

Thursday 05, February, 2026

First Digital, Print Daily of Balochistan

Editor: Asim Khan.

# QUETTA VOICE



## Field Marshal Asim Munir Briefed on Balochistan Security, Vows Zero Tolerance for Terrorism

## NEWS DESK:

Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir NI (M), HI, COAS & CDF, visited Quetta on Wednesday, the military's media wing said. Field Marshal received a comprehensive operational briefing on the prevailing security environment and internal security opera-

tions. The briefing covered recent terrorist attacks orchestrated by Indian-backed internationally-designated terrorists of Fins al Hindustan and the prompt aggressive response of security.

Forces which failed their ulterior motive of compromising peace, stability, and development in Balochistan.

Measures being undertaken further enhanced the writ of the state and ensured protection of the populace and critical infrastructure were also discussed.

The COAS & CDF remarked that no terrorist and its facilitator will be spared and all will be dealt strictly as per law and that no one can rationalise violence and terror-

ism on any pretext.

He appreciated the professionalism, valour, and sacrifices of officers and troops of all law

enforcement agencies in thwarting nefarious anti-Pakistan designs and maintaining law and order.

Later, Field Marshal Syed

Asim Munir along with CM Balochistan visited Combined

Military Hospital (CMH) Quetta, where he met the injured personnel of Army, FC Balochistan and Police.

He lauded their high morale and commanded their bravery and steadfastness in protecting the motherland from foreign-sponsored terrorists.

Earlier on his arrival he

was received by Commander Quetta Corps.

### Four more years for Imran's attacker in illegal arms case

## NEWS DESK:

A court in Wazirabad has awarded an additional four-year sentence to Muhammad Naveed, already serving two life terms for the attack on Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder and former premier Imran Khan, in a case of illegal possession of arms.

Judicial Magistrate Fazl Elahi declared the convict guilty under the Punjab Arms (Amended) Ordinance 2015.

After reviewing the evidence in Case/No 142/2022, the magistrate sentenced Naveed to four years of simple imprisonment along with a fine of Rs40,000.

The court has directed that the sentence run concurrently with any other sentences the convict is serving.

According to a warrant issued by the court on February 2, the Superintendent of Central Jail Gujratwala, has been authorised to take Naveed into custody to implement the four-year sentence.

The sentence relates to an incident on November 3, 2022, when Naveed attempted to assassinate Imran during PTI's long march in Wazirabad by opening fire on the rally.

The former premier was shot in the shin and left injured. Senator Faisal Javed and several others were also injured while one party worker was killed.

Following the attack, Imran accused the then Pakistan Democratic Movement government and certain officials of involvement in the incident.

Police arrested Naveed at the scene. The FIR was formally registered at City Police Station on November 7, and a joint investigation team was formed under the Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA) of 1997.

In April 2025, Anti-Terrorism Court Judge Muhammad Naemul Saleem sentenced Naveed to two life terms under Pakistan Penal Code Section 4(b), which pertains to condemned murder and ATA Section 7(a), which pertains to acts of terrorism.

Two co-accused, Tayab Jahangir Butt and Waqas, were acquitted after being granted the benefit of doubt.

### Mobile internet remains suspended in parts of Balochistan

## NEWS DESK:

Mobile internet remains suspended in parts of Balochistan for the fifth consecutive day, with provincial authorities also halting train services in the province in the wake of last week's coordinated terrorist attacks across the province.

"Keeping in mind the worsening law and order situation in the province, mobile internet has been suspended in Balochistan," Chief Secretary Hanza Shahzad while speaking to Dawn about the situation in Quetta. However, he added, "Now that the situation is returning to normal, it has been decided to restore mobile internet services in the province by 2am midnight." Meanwhile, mobile data services reportedly remained suspended in Nushki and Sibi, as well as in Mastung where services were briefly restored.

Mobile data has been incessantly suspended in Kalat, Khuzdar, Awaran, Panjgur and Turbat for varying periods due to prior security concerns.

Separately, a spokesperson for Pakistan Railways' Quetta division, Muhammad Kashif,

## Balochistan Grand Alliance Calls Off Protests, Government Orders Release of Employees

## Syed Ali Shah:

An all-parties representative delegation on Tuesday announced the suspension of protests across Balochistan following constructive talks with a government committee.

The decision was taken as a goodwill gesture in view of the prevailing situation in the province, while the Balochistan government agreed to release all employees arrested during the demonstrations.

The breakthrough came during a meeting between government representatives and leaders from several political parties, including the Awami National Party (ANP), National Party, Pakhtunkhwa National Awami Party (PKNAP), Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), and other stakeholders.

The all-parties delegation was led by ANP provincial president Asghar Khan Achakzai and included National Party central vice president Dr Ishq Baloch, PKNAP provincial president Nasrullah Khan Ziaray,



PTI leader Salam Agha, HDP's Kasi, and NDM leader Inayat Shah. On behalf of the National Party's Mir Inayat Buzdar, employees' representative Ismail

Minister Ali Madad Jatak, PPP leader Syed Iqbal Shah, Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister Imran Zarkoos and Special Secretary Finance Arif Khan Achakzai.

During the talks, the all-parties delegation formally announced the end of province-wide protests, citing the need for unity and stability in Balochistan. In return, the government committed to releasing all detained employees, a move welcomed by political leaders and employee representatives alike.

Both sides agreed to continue the dialogue with a follow-up meeting scheduled for February 12.

The upcoming session will bring together senior political leaders and the government committee to develop a clear roadmap for addressing all outstanding and long-standing issues.

Observers see the development as a significant step toward restoring trust, reducing tensions, and promoting political consensus in Balochistan.

## QUETTA VOICE

Editor: Asim Khan

## Balochistan's Climate Fund – A Lifeline Against Growing Disasters

**Editorial:**

Balochistan has taken a historic and timely step by establishing its first-ever Climate Fund, a move that signifies the province's recognition of the existential threat posed by global warming and climate change. In his recent meeting with British High Commissioner Jane Marriott, Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Bugti rightly underlined the importance of mobilizing resources to safeguard communities from natural calamities that are growing in frequency and intensity.

**Floods in Bunerai**  
The tragic flash floods in the Bunerai area of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa this month, which claimed precious lives and lives are a stark reminder of Pakistan's extreme vulnerability. The province sits on a fragile ecological and seismic zone — prone not only to floods but also to severe droughts, earthquakes, and the looming threat of desertification. Each disaster further strains an already fragile infrastructure, displaces

communities, and deepens poverty.

**Stop Deforestation**

The Climate Fund, if implemented transparently and effectively, has the potential to become a lifeline for millions.

It can provide the financial base for disaster preparedness, early warning systems, reforestation, water management, and community resilience projects. Equally important, it can build trust between the government and people by showing that the resources — like the Rs. 10 billion curtailed in non-development expenditures — are being invested in protecting lives and livelihoods.

**The Battle Cannot Be Fought Alone**

Indeed, climate change is not a battle that Balochistan can fight alone. Partnerships, such as the United Kingdom, are providing technical expertise, innovative solutions, and funding support. Training local institutions, particularly in areas like disaster management

and environmental governance, should be a top priority.

The provincial government's commitment to reforms in governance, education, and health is commendable, but the climate emergency must remain at the center of its development agenda. Without climate resilience, all other reforms risk being undermined by the next flood or crippled by the next drought.

Balochistan has shown leadership by creating this Climate Fund.

The next step is to ensure that it does not become another underutilized priority. Effective monitoring, independent oversight, and community involvement will be key to making it a success.

In the face of global warming, every delay carries a cost. The Climate Fund must now take all possible steps to translate the promise of the Climate Fund into tangible protections for the people of Balochistan.

## Multivariate Aspects of Climate Change in Pakistan

**Syed Mansoor Ahmed**

Climate change steams unbeatable challenges in the future. According to the World Bank report, Pakistan stands 6th in affected of climate change. The awful and deadly floods of 2010, and 2011, extremely dry weather in a rainy area, and fluctuation in actual cli-

pendant on water flow from the Indus river. Glacial floods outburst also pose a serious threat to the country's climate in the Karakoram range. The sole aim was reaching and understanding the possible nodes of surge-type glaciers, which are characterized by unsteady movements and frequent frontal

tify the future threats of climate change in the region. The lake flooding disrupted more than 6,000 people from upstream villages and inundated over 19 kilometers of the Karakoram Highway. Recently, global warming and subsequent climate change have increased the constant state of fear

hand, 36 glaciers build ice barriers in the running rivers due to frontal advance, near to the densely populated areas of the Karakoram region. By constant observation of the prevailing and growing threat of climate change, it is airing the endless future threat only due to the GLOFs. For instance, the Indus

ing with a potential corridor through the Karakoram Highway from Khammam to the port at Gwadar in Balochistan (CPEC) on the Indian Ocean. Therefore, the smooth running of the traffic on the roads is the keynote for progressive economic development. While the ice barriers in rivers due to frontal advance



mate pattern is alarming and despairing signs among all the dwellers of the town.

**Climate Change and Agriculture in Pakistan**

In addition, Pakistan is a semi-arid country. The focal and dependent source of water is from the snow-covered Himalayas and the Karakoram in the Northern Areas, Indus, Jhelum, Chenab, Ravi, and the Sutlej rivers flow through this area. Within the water calculus, the country's entire agriculture is de-

advances of glaciers. As result, it causes natural hazards by obstructing river channels, forming ice-dammed lakes, which will ultimately cause GLOFs and pose threats downstream of the water. After meaningful analysis, it revealed that a surge between 1998 and 2002 generated

and the risk of massive outburst flooding in the respective mountainous region. The comprehensive field evidence, local testimonies by the natives, modern applications of remote sensing, and cross-correlation feature-tracking techniques provided the innovative understanding of glacier surges and ice-dam formation disclosed the scale of

**Glaciers in Pakistan:**

Glaciers in Pakistan: It is also noted, historically, in the Karakoram Range 39 glaciers are responsible for ice-dam formation. On the other

River System (IRS) is inundate the jugular vein of irrigation in Pakistan. It is providing water for almost 90% of the food product in Pakistan.

The ice-dam formation due to the GLOFs will slow the water flow downstream. And could raise a deep impasse among the units for water distribution formula. In the end, it will ultimately surface the challenge of food in security in Pakistan.

The Karakoram Range, more importantly, is the home of the anticipating One Belt One Road Initiative (OBOR) by giving

blacktops of the Karakoram Highway. The dislocation and dissolution of roads will give birth to never-ending challenges due to the factor of GLOFs. In the same run, these lakes and GLOFs attracted media and diplomatic attention because of the repeated outburst of floods. So, it needs the heart blood as well as collective efforts to bring down the scale of the future threat without causing infinite miseries. The writer is a Public Policy Analyst and Lecturer at BUET, Khuzdar.

## Artificial Intelligence Just Taking Baby Steps

**Syed Muhammad Qaseem:**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the simulation of human intelligence in computer systems. In simple words, AI enables machines to perform tasks that require human intelligence. Those tasks can be learning from past experiences, solving problems, and making predictions based on provided data. Until now, AI has just started taking baby steps but is growing at a much rapid rate.

Every invention has various positive and negative impacts on human civilization. According to Google's CEO, Sundar Pichai, "AI will have a more profound impact on human beings than fire, electricity, and the internet". This innovation also has both positive and negative impacts on human beings. If it is left unchecked, it will have adverse impacts on human creativity, the flow of information. However, the positive use of AI will bring major advancements in medical science, education, agriculture, etc. In the following paragraphs, the impacts of AI on humans are described.

**Negative Impacts of AI:**

AI is a technological tool and its use can be both positive and negative, although, it is in the hands of human beings on how to use it. Following are some negative impacts of AI on humans.

**Deep Fakes Through Generative AI:**

In the age of information

misinformation is a major issue. The introduction of generative AI into public space has further worsened the predicament of information flow.

These deep fakes are difficult to judge, as original or fake, for a person who has no knowledge of AI. The deep fakes can be an image, a video, or a voice note.

According to a 2022 report, fake voices of a party's leader and a journalist were shared on social media, in which they were talking about purchasing votes from the poor population. This voice badly reduced the trust of the public in the party during elections.

Another example of the deep fakes that created uncertainty was pictures of the former US president, Donald Trump's arrest, which provoked his supporters' sentiments in the society. Therefore, if the use of generative AI is left unchecked, bad actors in society will use it for their own purposes and spread wrong information.

**AI's use in War**  
Using AI for the purpose of war will be ferocious results. Because AI unlike humans, doesn't fear, doesn't commit mistakes, doesn't get tired, and has no mercy. So, it can fight much better than a soldier. Thus, AI can be used to develop AI fighters, robots, and drones for the maximization of power. This will attract the attention of their rival countries to build AI war machines

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so

for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is Major Threat to Human Creativity

Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and easiness in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so



## India can no longer keep occupied Kashmir enslaved: GB Chief Minister

GILGIT (INP): Chief Minister of Gilgit-Baltistan, Justice (Rtd) Yaqoob Muhammad, has said that India can no longer keep occupied Jammu and Kashmir under subjugation, reaffirming that supporting

the Kashmir freedom movement at every level and on every front is a religious and moral obligation.

The CM expressed these views while speaking at a meeting held in honour of Hurriyat AJK

leader Zahid Safi during his visit to Gilgit-Baltistan. The chief minister said that the people of Gilgit-Baltistan and Jammu and Kashmir are with the oppressed people of occupied Kashmir and will continue to extend their full support to the just struggle for freedom.

Zahid Safi, on the occasion, thanked Justice Yaqoob Muhammad and the valiant people of the northern areas for their unwavering solidarity. He said that after Operation Bonyan-un-Marsooq, India has been left with no credibility and is no longer in a position to show its face to the world. He added that Pakistan's continued

support for the Kashmir freedom struggle in all circumstances is clear proof of the resolve that "we are Pakistanis and Pakistanis are with us".

Highlighting the significance of February 5, Kashmir Solidarity

Day, the Hurriyat leader said the day symbolizes a renewed pledge to remain united and steadfast in all circumstances to continue the freedom movement until it reaches its logical conclusion.

The meeting was also attended by Gilgit-Baltistan Home Minister Sajid Ali Baig, Minister for Water Mumtaz Hussain, Minister for Food Min Dad, Minister for Education Bahadur Ali Khan.



ISLAMABAD: President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and held bilateral Meetings at Prime Minister House.

## Defence Housing Authority (DHA) Lahore's residents allowed to fly kites on Basant

LAHORE (INP): The Defence Housing Authority (DHA) has announced conditional permission for kite flying in the areas of its residential areas of Lahore after obtaining a no-object certification from the Punjab government.

Before this Basant Festival was only allowed in DHA Phase VII.

According to the new framework, kite flying will be permitted strictly on approved days and within designated areas.

Organizers, residents, or community bodies seeking to arrange kite flying activities must secure prior clearance from relevant government departments, including local administration and law enforcement agencies.

The permission process is intended to ensure compliance with safety protocols, particularly regarding the use of hazard-free aerial hazards near roads, power lines, and sensitive installations.

Officials associated with the Defence Housing Authority stated that the authority will coordinate with the district administration to monitor implementation of kite flying.

Moochi Gate and other adjacent areas to review safety measures for the Basant Festival. She said that Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz is personally overseeing the safety arrangements.

Aurangzeb also reviewed the security plan for the Basant Festival. She said that Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz is personally overseeing the safety arrangements.

Aurangzeb appealed to citizens to reduce the use of private vehicles and prioritize collective transportation.

She added that joint measures are being taken to reduce traffic congestion and air pollution, artificial intelligence is being used to identify pollution hotspots.

The minister also highlighted that drone surveillance is being used to monitor factories, brick kilns, and vehicles, ensuring strict enforcement of environmental regulations.

Maryam Aurangzeb visited the

## India-US trade deal reflects strategic compulsion for Delhi: Masood Khan

ISLAMABAD (INP): Ambassador Masood Khan, former President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir and former Ambassador of Pakistan to the US, and the United Nations, has said that India's recent trade agreement with the United States reflects strategic compulsion rather than strategic intent.

In a statement in Islamabad, Ambassador Masood Khan asserted that Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has little room for maneuver following the US's strategic and strategic setbacks after the May 2025 India-Pakistan conflict.

He observed that the agreement emerged after India had become increasingly isolated in the aftermath of the conflict, with bilateral tensions and international scrutiny narrowing New Delhi's diplomatic space. He noted that both India and Pakistan had reached a strategic

stalemate, while President Donald Trump openly criticized India and its leadership, placing additional pressure on PM Modi to repair strained relations with Washington.

He said that to receive diplomatic pressure from Washington accelerated the US-India trade arrangement, which he described as largely favorable to American economic interests.

Highlighting the strategic implications of the deal, Ambassador Khan noted that India had little room for maneuver following the US's strategic and strategic setbacks, particularly in agriculture, where tariff protections had historically been regarded as politically and economically important.

Commenting on the strategic dimension of the deal, Ambassador Khan stated that India's concessions would pose serious domestic challenges for the Modi government, especially in convincing India's farming community that such measures would not undermine their live-

stools, while simultaneously facilitating an influx of luxury goods, advanced technologies, and industrial products from the US market, making it highly competitive prices.

Commenting on the strategic dimension of the deal, Ambassador Khan stated that India's concessions would pose serious domestic challenges for the Modi government, especially in convincing India's farming community that such measures would not undermine their live-

stools.

Ambassador Khan further observed that the agreement, coupled with India's free trade arrangement with the European Union, has exposed vulnerable sectors of the Indian economy to intense external competition. He warned that these agreements might disproportionately affect low-income communities, while simultaneously facilitating an influx of luxury goods, advanced technologies, and industrial products from the US market, making it highly competitive prices.

Ambassador Khan said that India's foreign policy narrative of "strategic autonomy" has increasingly come under scrutiny, with critics within India arguing that recent policy decisions have pushed the country toward what they describe as strategic vulnerability and economic dependency.

He added that India's international image has also been affected by its aggressive posture during last year's conflict with Pakistan, which exposed gaps between its projected military capabilities and operational realities. While analyzing these developments, Ambassador Khan stressed that Pakistan must remain vigilant.

A woman and her nine-month-old daughter lost their lives after falling into an open sewage drain near Bhati Gate on January 28, 2026.

The child's body was recovered approximately 17 hours later, nearly eight kilometres from the site, while the mother's body was recovered around six hours after the incident.

The prosecution demanded further extension of remand, while the defense lawyer opposed it. After hearing arguments from both sides, the court extended the physical remand of the accused by five days.

According to the inquiry report, three police officers — the



HYDERABAD: Vice Chancellor, Liaquat University of Medical & Health Sciences (LUMHS), Prof. Dr. Iqra Din Ujjani led a Cancer Awareness Walk held at LUMHS on World Cancer Day.

accused in the Lahore manhole tragedy case, in which a woman and her nine-month-old daughter lost their lives after falling into an open sewage drain near Bhati Gate on January 28, 2026.

The accused included Project Manager Asghar Sandhu, safety in-charge Humza, site in-charge Ahmad Nawaz and two brothers Salman and Usman working for a private company.

An inquiry committee formed by the Punjab Inspector General of Police (IGP) earlier completed its investigation into torture allegations of Ghulam Murtaza following the Bhati Gate incident in Lahore, in which his wife and nine-month-old daughter lost their lives after falling into an open manhole.

The panel was

headed by AIG CIA Imran Mahmood, with DIG Ahmed Nasir Aziz and DIG Imran Kishore as members.

## Lahore manhole tragedy: Court extends physical remand of accused

LAHORE (INP): A local court Wednesday extended physical remand of five accused in Lahore manhole tragedy case, in which a woman and her nine-month-old daughter lost their lives after falling into an open sewage drain near Bhati Gate on January 28, 2026.

The accused included Project Manager Asghar Sandhu, safety in-charge Humza, site in-charge Ahmad Nawaz and two brothers Salman and Usman working for a private company.

An inquiry committee formed by the Punjab Inspector General of Police (IGP) earlier completed its investigation into torture allegations of Ghulam Murtaza following the Bhati Gate incident in Lahore, in which his wife and nine-month-old daughter lost their lives after falling into an open manhole.

The panel was

headed by AIG CIA Imran Mahmood, with DIG Ahmed Nasir Aziz and DIG Imran Kishore as members.



TAXILA: Akamatsu Shuichi, Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan, cutting ribbon to inaugurate the provision of exhibition and conservation equipment to the Taxila Museum under the Grant Assistance project titled "Inauguration of Equipment, Exhibition and Conservation of the Taxila Museum. The assistance, amounting to 48.8 million Japanese Yen, reflects Japan's continued commitment to the preservation of cultural heritage in Pakistan.

SP City, the SDPO, and the concerned SHO — were found responsible for negligence.

The committee

stated that Ghulam Murtaza, the husband of the Bhati Gate victim, was subjected to torture inside the SHO's retainer room, allegedly in the presence of the SP.

The inquiry committee was constituted to probe allegations of custodial torture after the victim's husband was taken into custody following the incident.

The panel was

headed by AIG CIA Imran Mahmood, with DIG Ahmed Nasir Aziz and DIG Imran Kishore as members.

## Governor Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandokhail Reaffirms Pakistan's Unwavering Support for Kashmir on Kashmir Solidarity Day

QUETTA: Governor of Balochistan, Jaffar Khan Mandokhail, in his message on the occasion of Kashmir Solidarity Day, stated that Pakistan has always supported the legitimate stance of its Kashmiri brothers and sisters at every international forum.

He said that Pakistan has consistently highlighted the human rights violations and oppression committed by India in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJK) at the global level.

The Governor emphasized that Pakistan's moral and diplomatic support will continue for the Kashmiri people until they are granted their right to self-determination.

He added that the purpose of observing Kashmir Day is to express complete solidarity with the oppressed people of



Kashmir. Jaffar Khan Mandokhail reiterated that Pakistan's principled position on the Kashmir issue has always been clear—that the people of occupied Kashmir must be given the right to decide their future in accordance with United Nations resolutions. He stressed the

need to draw the attention of the international community towards the Kashmir dispute and to shape global public opinion in favor of the Kashmiri people.

The Governor further stated that the brave and resilient people of Balochistan stand shoulder to shoulder for the just struggle of the Kashmiri people.

Kashmiri brothers and sisters in every difficult time, reaffirming their unwavering support for the just struggle of the Kashmiri people.

## Provincial Advisor Naseem-ur-Rehman Khan Malakhel Calls Kashmir Issue a Global Human Rights Concern

QUETTA: Provincial Advisor for Environment and Climate Change, Naseem-ur-Rehman Khan Malakhel, in his message on the occasion of Kashmir Solidarity Day, said that this day reiterates the nation of solidarity with the Kashmiri brothers and sisters and of the sacrifices they have made in their struggle for freedom.

He said that Kashmir Solidarity Day is not merely a symbolic day, but a collective message of unity from the entire Pakistani nation in support of the Kashmiri people. It is in this context, he added, that February 5 is observed across Pakistan at the national level every year.

The Provincial Advisor stated that the day is observed to raise a strong voice at the international level against the atrocities committed by Indian forces in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJK) and to pay tribute to the ongoing struggle of the Kashmiri people.

Naseem-ur-Rehman

Khan Malakhel

emphasized that the Kashmir issue is not merely a dispute between Pakistan and India, but a serious global human rights issue. Despite numerous United Nations resolutions, the people of Kashmir have still been denied their right to self-determination.

He further said that India has intensified its military presence in occupied Kashmir, subjecting the local population to renewed oppression and violence.

## DHO Dr. Naseem Lango Reviews Ongoing Anti-Polio Campaign in Union Council Baleena Khattan

KHUZDAR : District Health Officer (DHO) Khuzdar Dr. Naseem Lango visited various polio vaccination units established in Union Councils in Union Councils with the ongoing national anti-polio campaign aimed at eradicating polio from the field.

During the visit, the DHO conducted a detailed assessment of the performance of polio teams working in the field. He reviewed children's first markings, team registers, and activities carried out in accordance with the micro plan to ensure transparency and effectiveness.



ness of the campaign. While interacting with the polo teams, Dr. Naseem Lango listened to the challenges and issues faced during the field operations and issued on-the-spot instructions to the staff to carry out the campaign in a more effective, organized, and

responsible manner, ensuring that no child is left without polio drops. On the occasion, the District Health Officer appreciated and thanked the efforts of the polo teams, stressing that the complete eradication of polio is a shared national responsibility.

He also appealed to parents to ensure that their children receive polio drops during every vaccination campaign to build and full cooperation to polo teams, emphasizing that parental support is vital for a polio-free Pakistan.

## ADC Muhammad Anwar Kakar Chairs Review Meeting on Day Two Performance of Ongoing Anti-Polio Campaign

QUETTA : A review meeting regarding the second day performance of the ongoing anti-polio campaign was held under the chairmanship of Additional Deputy Commissioner (General) Quetta, Muhammad Anwar Kakar.

The meeting was attended by the District Health Officer (DHO) Quetta, representatives of the National Emergency Operations Center (EOC), members of the Provincial EOC, monitors, the District

cases, Still NA, Non-Accessible refusals, Still refusals, refusal coverage, and other challenges faced during field operations.

Addressing the participants, ADC Muhammad Anwar Kakar directed officials to take immediate and effective mea-

sures to ensure vaccination coverage of missed children, with special focus on refusal cases. He emphasized the need to

strengthen monitoring mechanisms and further improve the performance of field teams to achieve optimal results during the campaign.

During the meeting, international organizations informed that international organizations including the World Bank, United Nations, European Union, and various NGOs will provide support for the successful implementation of the plan, aimed at protecting Quetta from a severe future water crisis.

Participants also discussed the Water Security Committee comprising representatives from WASA, Irrigation, Agriculture, Forests, and the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA).

The meeting was informed that international organizations including the World Bank, United Nations, European Union, and various NGOs will provide support for the successful implementation of the plan, aimed at protecting Quetta from a severe future water crisis.

Participants also

discussed

the

Coordinator, and other relevant officials.

During the meeting, detailed Union Council-wise and Sub-Division-wise data related to polio

five years of age receive polio drops, so that future generations can be protected from the crippling disease of polio.

During the visit, the ADC carried out a detailed review of the overall performance of polo teams, including door-to-door vaccination activities, door chalking, finger marking, and entries made in tally sheets to ensure proper implementation of campaign protocols.

Addressing the participants, ADC Muhammad Ismail Mengal directed them to perform their duties with honesty, dedication, and commitment to make the campaign more effective and successful, ensuring that no child is left without polo drops.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

In addition, he directed polo teams to focus on the implementation of the proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

In addition, he directed polo teams to focus on the implementation of the proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

In addition, he directed polo teams to focus on the implementation of the proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

In addition, he directed polo teams to focus on the implementation of the proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

In addition, he directed polo teams to focus on the implementation of the proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

In addition, he directed polo teams to focus on the implementation of the proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

In addition, he directed polo teams to focus on the implementation of the proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

In addition, he directed polo teams to focus on the implementation of the proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

In addition, he directed polo teams to focus on the implementation of the proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

In addition, he directed polo teams to focus on the implementation of the proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

He emphasized that all development schemes should be designed in accordance with the needs of the people of Gwadar.

During the meeting, the DHO GDA Moin-ur-Rehman Khan directed the concerned engineers to complete

PC-I documents and initial planning stages of all proposed projects at the earliest, so that timely recommendations can be submitted for their inclusion in the PSDP 2026-27.

He emphasized that all



## Spin-heavy Pakistan hit form, but India boycott risks early T20 exit

**NEWS DESK:** Pakistan's spin-heavy squad are in winning form ahead of the T20 World Cup, but a controversial decision to forfeit the semi-final clash against India could still trigger another early exit.

Pakistan came closer to withdrawing from the tournament in solidarity with Bangladesh, who pulled out after refusing to play in India, citing security concerns.

The Pakistan government eventually cleared the way for participation but it bowed them from facing India in Colombo in a blockbuster clash on February 15.

With two points for a win, a forfeit of the match will leave Pakistan with no margin for error if they are to progress as one of the top two from a five-team Group A.

They must win their opening game against the Netherlands in Colombo on Saturday and beat the United States three days later to stay in contention.

Their final group game will be against Namibia on February 18.

Captain Salman Agha said the move to boycott the India game was out of the team's hands.

"That is not our decision. We have to follow what our government decides," he said.

The Pakistan government has not said what their stance might be if India pull out and end up facing India again in the semi-finals or final.

Agha was not thinking about that.

"Our job is to win, and we are capable of doing that," he said.

Pakistan will be keen to avoid a repeat of the last T20 World Cup in 2024, where a shock defeat to the United States led to them failing to get out of the group.

The side has since faced criticism for failing to adapt to the modern game and the T20 format with the batting, particularly Babar Azam's low strike rate, under scrutiny.

The criticism was fuelled by Pakistan's record of 10 wins, where 21 of their 34 T20 international wins came

against lower-ranked opponents.

Confidence restored by wins

Against elite teams, the results were sobering: three losses to India in the Asia Cup and a 4-1 series defeat to New Zealand.

However, Agha believes recent performances have restored confidence.



and Usman Tariq, the latter known for his unusual, slingy action and exaggerated pause at the crease.

The pace attack is led by the experienced Shabeen Shah Afridi and Naseem Shah.

Faheem Ashraf provides seam-bowling all-round support and newcomer Saeed Ajmal has been impressive.

Batting remains Pakistan's most volatile component.

When openers Sain Ayub and Suhailzada Farhan provide strong starts, the side can post competitive totals, but collapses remain a constant threat.

Head coach Mike Hesson has added another layer of risk by leaving out experienced wicketkeeper Mohammad Rizwan because of poor form, opting instead for make-shift options in Usman Khan, Khawaja Nafay and Farhan.

For Pakistan, the ingredients for a deep run are present, with

the spin department having been strengthened by Abrar Ahmed

"We're ticking most boxes and believe we can win the World Cup," Agha said.

The spin department has been strength-

ened by Abrar Ahmed

left for error.

## India aim for back-to-back T20 triumphs

**NEWS DESK:** Holders India will enter the T20 World Cup as favourites on home soil, but coach Gautam Gambhir faces intense scrutiny under the weight of expectation from a billion-plus fans.

India, led by Suraj Singh, will begin their campaign against the United States at Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium on Saturday.

It is the round of the opening day of the tournament's 10th edition, which has been marred by a chaotic build-up.

Bangladesh last month refused to play in India, citing security concerns, and were kicked out to be replaced by Scotland.

This week the Pakistan government fol-

lowed by barring its team from playing against India on February 15 in Colombo as a protest at Bangladesh's treatment.

The boycott has robbed the group stage of the biggest rivalry and money-spinning spectacle and leaves India in pole position to top the group.

Pakistan should also progress to the Super Eights as second best, barring a win against the Netherlands, Namibia or the USA, who make up the five-team group.

Top-ranked India reinforced their credentials as favourites with a recent 4-1 win over New Zealand – their ninth successive T20 bilateral series triumph.

It will be India's first T20 World Cup since

the retirements of then captain Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli, following their final victory in Barbados in 2024.

India first won the title under Mahendra Singh Dhoni in Johannesburg in 2007 but will have to defy history again if they are to win a second title in a row.

Gambhir, 44, replaced him as captain after the 2020 World Cup triumph in 2024 and has lost 10 out of 19 Tests.

Swashbuckling Shami

Cricket media suggested the former batsman and World Cup winner may lose his job if India fail in the 20-team tournament.

"He should stay away from social media and focus on the team," said India batsman Ajinkya Rahane told website cricketbuzz.

It will be India's first

T20 World Cup since

other formats have put India in the Asia Cup and a 4-1 series defeat to New Zealand.

India were beaten 2-0 by South Africa in a Test series last year and New Zealand won an ODI series 2-1.

Gambhir, 44, replaced him as captain after the 2020 World Cup triumph in 2024 and has lost 10 out of 19 Tests.

Abhishek Sharma has replaced Rohit in the role of captain and coach, with the team's high-scoring batsmen scoring at a punishing strike rate of more than 194.

The 25-year-old left-hander is in form. He smashed 100 runs in his last 10 T20s, including fastest 50, off 14 balls, and has 10 on the team.

India batsman Ajinkya Rahane told website cricketbuzz.

It will be India's first

T20 World Cup since

the retirements of then captain Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli, following their final victory in Barbados in 2024.

India first won the title under Mahendra Singh Dhoni in Johannesburg in 2007 but will have to defy history again if they are to win a second title in a row.

Gambhir, 44, replaced him as captain after the 2020 World Cup triumph in 2024 and has lost 10 out of 19 Tests.

Swashbuckling Shami

Cricket media suggested the former batsman and World Cup winner may lose his job if India fail in the 20-team tournament.

"Even if there is a small stumble, this team know it can recover, regroup, and continue marching towards victory," said the former India captain.

The bowling attack, led by Jasprit Bumrah, has new falset in the shape of medium-pacer Harsik Rana.

Rana and Arshdeep Singh form the seam attack, with Hardik Pandya and Shivam Dube as the all-rounders.

the retirements of then captain Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli, following their final victory in Barbados in 2024.

India first won the title under Mahendra Singh Dhoni in Johannesburg in 2007 but will have to defy history again if they are to win a second title in a row.

Gambhir, 44, replaced him as captain after the 2020 World Cup triumph in 2024 and has lost 10 out of 19 Tests.

Abhishek Sharma has replaced Rohit in the role of captain and coach, with the team's high-scoring batsmen scoring at a punishing strike rate of more than 194.

The 25-year-old left-hander is in form. He smashed 100 runs in his last 10 T20s, including fastest 50, off 14 balls, and has 10 on the team.

India batsman Ajinkya Rahane told website cricketbuzz.

It will be India's first

T20 World Cup since

the retirements of then captain Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli, following their final victory in Barbados in 2024.

India first won the title under Mahendra Singh Dhoni in Johannesburg in 2007 but will have to defy history again if they are to win a second title in a row.

Gambhir, 44, replaced him as captain after the 2020 World Cup triumph in 2024 and has lost 10 out of 19 Tests.

Swashbuckling Shami

Cricket media suggested the former batsman and World Cup winner may lose his job if India fail in the 20-team tournament.

"Even if there is a small stumble, this team know it can recover, regroup, and continue marching towards victory," said the former India captain.

The bowling attack, led by Jasprit Bumrah, has new falset in the shape of medium-pacer Harsik Rana.

Rana and Arshdeep Singh form the seam attack, with Hardik Pandya and Shivam Dube as the all-rounders.

## 'Back-channel talks underway after Pakistan decide to skip India T20 World Cup clash'

**NEWS DESK:** The government of Pakistan's decision on Sunday not to play its T20 World Cup group match against India, scheduled for Feb. 15, has prompted the International Cricket Council (ICC) to initiate back-channel efforts to resolve the issue and avoid significant financial losses, Dawn has learned.

The decision was announced around 15 days ahead of the scheduled clash, prompting the ICC sufficient time to explore possible options, including accommodating Pakistan may have, sources said. The 15 days ahead of the scheduled clash, prompting the ICC sufficient time to explore possible options, including accommodating Pakistan may have, sources said.

The decision was announced around 15 days ahead of the scheduled clash, prompting the ICC sufficient time to explore possible options, including accommodating Pakistan may have, sources said.

The case stemmed from India's failure to honour a memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed between the PCB and the ICC in 2014, under which the two countries were to play six bilateral series between 2015 and 2023.

The PCB has requested withdrawal of the Indian government, the BCCI responded that such decisions were conveyed verbally and not documented, the sources added.

Despite this, sources expressed concern that, as in 2018, the BCCI influence within the ICC could again result in a ruling against Pakistan, and leading to financial penalties or sanctions.

In such an event, the government of Pakistan may consider approaching an international court of arbitration, sources said.

It is believed that Pakistan's decision was influenced by a recent

## National ranking table tennis tournament begins in Islamabad



**NEWS DESK:** The Pakistan National Ranking Table Tennis Tournament will be held from 5th to 8th February 2026 at the NUMI University Gymnasium (Gate 3).

The event is being organized by the Islamabad Table Tennis Association, in collaboration with Tibhar Table Tennis Academy.

Top-ranked men's and women's players from across Pakistan will participate in this prestigious tourna-

ment, making it a highly competitive national event.

Rafique Sarhadi, Secretary of the Islamabad Table Tennis Association, appreciated the Pakistan Table Tennis Federation for taking such a progressive step towards the development of the game.

He further stated that the introduction of a structured national ranking system will elevate the game to world-class standards by ensuring fair, transparent, and unbiased results, paving the way for the development of international-level table tennis in Pakistan.

## Sunderland make home a fortress as possible place in Europe beckons

**NEWS DESK:** Sunderland find themselves in exalted company this season, on a list with some of Europe's top teams, as they chase down a Premier League record and a potential berth in continental football next season.

Their 3-0 home win over Burnley on Monday kept up their status as the only side left in the Premier League with an unbeaten record this season – a feat that puts them in the same category with European champions Paris Saint-Germain and a cohort of giants like Atletico Madrid, Barcelona, Borussia Dortmund, and Juventus, who have also not lost at home this season.

The victory also moved them up to 10th in the league standings, allowing them to eye a place in Europe next season.

But manager Regis Le Bris insisted he was

keeping focus on the first priority of garnering enough points to avoid relegation. "The target remains the same," he said.

"The first target is around 40 points, maybe more."

Le Bris said: "We want to reach the top," said midfielders Nsakala Sankharé. "If we can get top six or top five."

There are a lot of matches coming so we have to focus on the next game."

Usually, promoted sides struggle for survival in the Premier League, but Sunderland have bucked that trend by turning the Stadium of Light into a fortress.

They now have the longest home unbeaten start to a top-flight campaign by a promoted side since Nottingham Forest went the entire 1977-78 campaign without defeat on home soil and won the old First Division title.

Sunderland have had 12 home games so far this campaign, and Le Bris said maintaining the unbeaten run at home was important. "We know that the connection with our fans is key."

We are a newly promoted side, and we feel that we can change the momentum."

ment has received an overwhelming response, with remarkable entries and encouragement from players nationwide.

He further stated that the introduction of a structured national ranking system will elevate the game to world-class standards by ensuring fair,

transparent, and unbiased results, paving the way for the development of international-level table tennis in Pakistan.

Le Bris said: "We want to reach the top," said midfielders Nsakala Sankharé. "If we can get top six or top five."

There are a lot of matches coming so we have to focus on the next game."



## No Jobs Will Be Sold in Balochistan, Merit Will Prevail: CM Sarfraz Bugti

Qasim Shah:

Balochistan Chief Minister CM Sarfraz Bugti has reaffirmed his government's commitment to transparent and merit-based recruitment, declaring that no job belonging to the people of Balochistan will be sold under any circumstances.

The chief minister said the provincial government is taking concrete steps to provide dignified employment opportunities to the youth. As part of these efforts, advertisements for more than 25,000 government vacancies from Grade 1 to Grade 15 have already been issued across various departments.

In a message shared on social media platform X, Bugti disclosed that a formal summary for around 4,000 vacant

posts in Grades 16 and 17 has been sent to the Balochistan Public Service Commission (BPSC).

He said this step aims to ensure that recruitment is carried out through a transparent, constitutional, and fair process.

Merit-based recruitment is the foundation of good governance," the chief minister said, adding that the provincial government would not compromise on the principle under any pressure.

He reiterated his firm stance, stating that eligible applicants should not be made to suffer due to administrative backlogs.

To further strengthen merit and transparency, Bugti announced that an online application system, similar

to the one used by the Finance Department, will be introduced in other departments as well.

Under this system, recruitment will be conducted strictly on merit, eliminating any possibility of favoritism or manipulation.

Merit-based recruitment is the foundation of good governance," the chief minister said, adding that the provincial government would not compromise on the principle under any pressure.

He reiterated his firm stance, stating that eligible applicants should not be made to suffer due to administrative backlogs.

To further strengthen merit and transparency, Bugti announced that an online application system, similar

## In meeting with Nawaz and Maryam, Iranian envoy appreciates Pakistan's 'continued support' toward Iran

NEWS DESK: In a meeting with Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif and Iranian Ambassador Maryam Nawaz on Wednesday, Iran's Ambassador to Pakistan Reza Amir Moghadam appreciated Islamabad's "principled position" and "continued support" toward his country in various areas.

"Highly honored to call on Muhammad Nawaz Sharif, President of the PML-N, and Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif," Moghadam said in a post on X about the meeting.

He added: "Reiterating the firm commitment of the Islamic Republic of Iran to further enhance Iran-Pakistan relations, I expressed my sincere appreciation for the principles of justice and continued support of the government of Pakistan toward Iran in various arenas."

The envoy said he had a productive meeting with his daughter due to exchange views on the latest regional developments, particularly in light of recent interventions by the United States and the former regime, including their interventionist positions, threats, and escalatory rhetoric.

"We also discussed the initiatives at further strengthening the bilateral relations between the two brotherly countries of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan," he said. Maryam also acknowledged during the meeting the "tireless endeavors" of Pakistan's government, particularly Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Interior Minister and Foreign Minister Muhammad Ishaq Dar, in their efforts to further promote comprehensive and all-round cooperation between the two countries.

"While stressing Iran's full readiness to defend itself against any imminent adventurism, I underlined the steadfast determination of the Islamic Republic of Iran to pursue fair, equitable, and constructive negotiations aimed at resolving outstanding issues through dialogue, mu-

tuul respect, and adherence to international law," the envoy further stated.

Moghadam added he emphasized that Iran and Pakistan were "like two bodies and one soul, and that both nations have demonstrated their love, commitment, and brotherhood throughout the history and the test of time."

According to the Iranian envoy, Nawaz ex-

plained current negoti-

ations, including the developments and imminent threats while referring to the close monitoring and continuous follow-up of developments in Iran and the region.

He emphasized the importance of constructive negotiations based on mutual respect and equality, within the framework of international law and good faith, in accordance with the United Nations charter," he said.

"He noted that dialogue and diplomacy, respect for the principles of national sovereignty and the rejection of any threat or use of force, constitute the path to ward ensuring peace, stability, and prosperity in the already volatile region," Moghadam said about Nawaz.

Separately, the PML-N also spoke about the visitation X, saying bilateral ties, trade, energy and the regional situation were discussed during the meeting, and the leaders of both sides "reaffirmed their commitment to strengthen Pak-Iran relations". The party's statement said that Maryam invited Iranian investment in the areas of education and tourism during the exchange and reaffirmed her commitment to advancing economic and social ties between the

## Pakistan, Kazakhstan sign 30-plus MoUs as Shehbaz seeks \$1bn trade target

NEWS DESK: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday called for raising trade between Pakistan and Kazakhstan to \$1 billion within a year as the two countries signed more than 30 memoranda of understandings (MoU) and agreements across multiple sectors.

Addressing a joint press conference after the signing ceremony, Shehbaz said the current level of trade did not reflect the strength of bilateral economic potential of the two countries.

"Unfortunately, our trade volume is a meagre \$250 million, which does not reflect the strength of our bilateral trade potential of both countries. Let us commit to raising our trade volume to \$1 billion within the next one year," he said.

Earlier, President Tokayev said that Pakistan is a "reliable and important partner in South Asia and beyond".

Under the principle of "our people are united by centuries-old ties rooted in the great Silk Road, as well as by deep cultural and spiritual affinity," Tokayev said.

"Our nations share common values, tradi-



tions and joint aspirations for the future," he added. Tokayev said the two countries signed a historical document - a joint declaration - on establishing a strategic partnership between Pakistan and Kazakhstan.

"By elevating our relationship, we can open up immense opportunities to engage across the full spectrum of bilateral and multilateral agendas," he said.

Earlier, President Tokayev was given a warm reception and a guard of honour on his arrival at the PM House, where he held a one-on-one meeting with Prime Minister Shehbaz followed by delegation-level talks.

Following the talks,

The Kazakh president, accompanied by a high-level delegation of senior officials and officials, is on his first two-day state visit to Pakistan at the invitation of the prime minister.

The national anthems of Pakistan and Kazakhstan were played as the two leaders stood on the saluting dais.

A contingent of the Pakistan Army, Navy and Air Force presented the guard of honour to Tokayev. The two leaders later introduced members of their respective delegations.

Following the talks,

documents aimed at expanding cooperation.

Documents were exchanged covering areas including UN peacekeeping cooperation, mining and petroleum, maritime affairs, prisoner exchange, transit trade, customs cooperation and railway.

The two sides also agreed to cooperate in climate change, virtual assets, protection and veterinary services, as well as scientific, cultural and educational development.

Defence Minister Khawaja Asif, Deputy

Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, and Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal attended the ceremony.

Tokayev arrived in Pakistan on Tuesday and was received at Nur Khan Airbase by PM Shehbaz and President Asif Ali Zardari. A six-member team of Pakistan Air Force fighter jets paid an aerial salute as his aircraft entered Pakistani airspace.

Later, Tokayev planted a commemorative tree at the PM House. Roads along his motorcade route in Islamabad were decorated with Pakistani and Kazakh flags and large portraits of the visiting heads of state.

During the visit, Tokayev is also expected to meet President Zardari. The talks are expected to cover trade, logistics, regional connectivity, people-to-people contacts and cooperation at regional and international forums. Separately, FM Dar called on President Tokayev. According to a press office statement, Dar conveyed greetings from Pakistan's leadership and reaffirmed the shared commitment to expand cooperation across political.

## Chaudhry Sugar Mills case: LHC directs NAB to approach trial court for closing inquiry against Maryam

NEWS DESK: The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Wednesday directed the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) to move the trial court within one month after the anti-graft body decided to close the Chaudhry Sugar Mills inquiry against Panjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz.

The case pertains to alleged money laundering and income beyond means via "dubious" business transactions of the Chaudhry Sugar Mills, of which Maryam was a major shareholder.

Quoted Nawaz as saying, "If the door to talks is kept open, even the biggest of issues can be resolved through negotiations. Iran has faced the situation with immense courage."

Quoted Nawaz as saying, "If the door to talks is kept open, even the biggest of issues can be resolved through negotiations. Iran has faced the situation with immense courage."

During the proceedings, the NAB



prosecutor informed the bench that following the new appointments, the bureau's chairman had approved the closure of the probe.

Justice Neelum, however, observed that the NAB should have approached the accountability court concerned for closure of the inquiry.

Questioning the investigation process,

the chief justice asked the bureau's counsel to explain the procedure adopted in the case.

In response, the prosecutor stated that the NAB board had decided in a meeting to close the inquiry.

The prosecutor

answered the bench in the affirmative when asked whether a new NAB board could re-open the case in the

future.

At this, the bench remarked that such a situation would render the NAB board's decision to close a case meaningless.

Justice Neelum

observed, "If the court

orders the release of

the bail surety amount

today and the case is

reopened tomorrow, all

blame would fall on

the court."

Subsequently, the

bench directed the NAB to approach the relevant accountability court within one month for the formal closure of the Chaudhry Sugar Mills inquiry.

A NAB team had arrested Maryam with

connection with the case on Aug 8, 2019

when she was present

at the Kot Lakhpat jail

on her weekly visit to her incarcerated father Nawaz.

On Nov 4, 2019,

the LHC released

Maryam in the sugar

mills case bail, sub-

ject to surrendering

her passport to the

court. Maryam was also

ordered to deposit a

surety amount of

Rs70m with the regis-

trar judicial of the

court.

In October 2022,

the LHC directed of-

ficials to return the

passport to Maryam

after the NAB said it

did not require the

travel document any-

more.

**#79YearsOfIllegalOccupation**

**Our Promise, Our Faith**  
**Kashmir Will Become Pakistan**

**RAISING THE EMBLEM OF FREEDOM**  
**A SALUTE TO THE KASHMIRIS**

#045-02-7/25

5

February 5<sup>th</sup> is not just a date, but a vow of loyalty to those mothers, sisters, and warriors who have been holding the Emblem of Freedom for decades.

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN

URRAAN PAKISTAN

www.mib.gov.pk