



FRONT PAGE
FM Dar follows up on Makkah Defence commitments...
Page No 1



OPINION
Mothers: The Real Strength Behind Every Nation
Page No 2



BALUCHISTAN
Defence Day Activities Promote Patriotism...
Page No 3



NATIONAL
Security forces kill over 20 terrorists during multiple engagements in KP'...
Page No 4

First Digital, Print Daily of Balochistan

Editor: Asim Khan.

Rs.10.00 Vol.VII:No:303

Email address: dquettavoice@gmail.com
Website: www.quettavoice.com

Monday 07, September, 2026

QUETTA VOICE

CM Balochistan and National Coordinator NACTA Discuss Security and Counterterrorism Measures

NEWS DESK:

Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti and NACTA National Coordinator Major General Faisal Naseer on Sunday reviewed the province's security situation and discussed a coordinated strategy to counter terrorism and ensure lasting peace in Balochistan.

Major General Faisal Naseer called on Chief Minister Sarfraz Bugti in Quetta, where the two sides held detailed discussions on law and order, counterterrorism operations, intelligence coordination and measures to strengthen security across the province.

The meeting also focused on enhancing cooperation between the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) and the Balochistan government. The participants discussed improving coordination among law enforcement agencies and strengthening their capacity to effectively respond to terrorism and other security challenges.

The importance of better intelligence sharing and institutional coordination was also highlighted as part of efforts to develop an effective and integrated counterterrorism strategy for Balochistan.

Chief Minister Sarfraz Bugti appreciated Major General Faisal Naseer's services and contributions to the counterterrorism sector and



Photo of Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti and NACTA National Coordinator Major General Faisal Naseer

paid tribute to his efforts to strengthen security and stability.

The meeting reaffirmed the commitment of the Balochistan government and

NACTA to closer coordination, improved intelligence sharing and a unified approach to combating terrorism and promoting sustainable peace in the province.

FM Dar follows up on Makkah Defence commitments with Saudi, Turkish FMs

NEWS DESK:

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Sunday held separate telephone conversations with his Saudi and Turkish counterparts, Prince Faisal bin Farhan and Hakan Fidan, to follow up on commitments reached under the Makkah Joint Defence Agreement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) said.

According to a post on X, Dar held a telephone conversation with the Saudi foreign minister, during which the two "exchanged views on regional and international developments, including matters of mutual interest at multilateral fora".

They also discussed "follow-up on the understandings reached" at the inaugural meeting of the committee and agreed to "remain in close contact", MoFA said.

Later, FM Dar also spoke with his Turkish counterpart Hakan Fidan and discussed "follow-up on the understandings reached" at the inaugural meeting of the Strategic Political and Defence Committee under the Makkah Joint Defence Agreement in Istanbul, while exploring ways to "further advance cooperation of the Makkah Defence Alliance".

According to MoFA, FM Dar thanked Fidan for hosting the inaugural meeting, and the two foreign ministers discussed ways to "further advance cooperation" under the Makkah Defence Alliance.

The statement said that "the two Foreign Ministers also exchanged views on regional and international developments. They also discussed matters of mutual interest and opportunities to further strengthen cooperation at multilateral fora".

The two ministers agreed to "remain in close contact", the Foreign Office said.

On August 7, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Türkiye formalised their longstanding strategic relationship through the newly



signed "Makkah Joint Defence Agreement", a trilateral security framework that its proponents describe as a defensive arrangement aimed at strengthening collective deterrence, enhancing military cooperation and promoting regional stability.

At the inaugural meeting of the Strategic Political and Defence Committee under the Makkah Agreement in Istanbul on August 31, Pakistan, Türkiye and Saudi Arabia agreed to further institutionalise their cooperation, including through a Secretariat in Saudi Arabia.

They also committed to strengthening defence capabilities and cooperation, including joint technology development and production, while supporting regional peace, stability and de-escalation. Dar extends condolences to Norwegian FM

Earlier, Dar conveyed Pakistan's condolences to Norway following the death of King Harald V, during a telephone conversation with Norwegian Foreign Minister Espen Barth Eide.

According to MoFA, FM Dar, "conveyed heartfelt condolences, on behalf of the President, Prime Minister, Field Marshal, himself, and the people of Pakistan, on the passing of HM King Harald V, and conveyed Pakistan's sympathies to the Royal Family and the people of Norway".

He told his Norwegian counterpart that Prime Minister

Shehbaz Sharif had nominated Minister for Communications Abdul Aleem Khan to represent Pakistan at the funeral procession in Oslo on September 9.

"The two Foreign Ministers also agreed to remain in close contact and look forward to meeting on the sidelines of UNGA," the statement concluded. Dar speaks to Egyptian counterpart

Later, FM Dar spoke with his Egyptian counterpart Badr Abdelaty, with the two foreign ministers discussing Pakistan-Egypt bilateral relations and exchanging views on regional and international developments.

The Egyptian foreign minister also invited Dar to undertake a bilateral visit to Egypt at his earliest convenience.

"The two Foreign Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthening bilateral ties," the Foreign Office said, adding that they had agreed to "remain engaged and involved on regional security matters".

The two ministers also agreed to meet on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA).

Norway's King Harald dies, a reformer who emerged from the shadow of his well-loved, extroverted father over more than three decades on the throne, died on August 28 at the age of 89, the royal palace said, at a time of multiple crises for the Norwegian royal family.

PPP's Akhtar Abbas Nashad wins by-election in Skardu's GBA-09

NEWS DESK:

PPP candidate Akhtar Abbas Nashad won the by-election in GBA-09 (Skardu-III) by a margin of 305 votes after a closely contested race, according to official results issued on Sunday.

The constituency recorded an overall voter turnout of 51.79 per cent in the election

turned candidate in the June general elections.

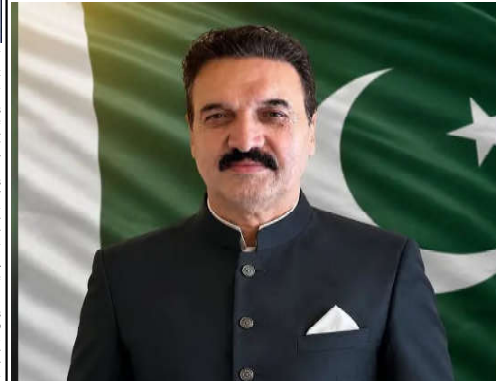
In the by-election, Fida's son entered the electoral fray and reclaimed the seat that had been lost by his father.

The by-election concluded after a highly thrilling contest, marked by a fierce battle between the two candidates that persisted right up to the final stage.

More than 800 police per-

They said Abbas could retain his father's vote bank and may benefit from public sympathy following Nashad's disqualification by the GB Supreme Appellate Court.

District Returning Officer (DRO) Hamza Murad told Dawn on Friday that GBA-09 had 61 polling stations, of which 25 had been declared sensitive under Category A, 11 had been placed in Category B as me-



held a day ago.

According to the Form 47 issued on Sunday, Nashad received 8,399 votes while his opponent, independent candidate Wazir Saleem, received 8,094 votes.

The by-election was held after the GB Supreme Appellate Court disqualified PPP candidate Fida Muhammad Nashad — Abbas's father — who had been declared a re-

sonnel, in addition to GB Scouts, were deployed under special security arrangements for the polling.

The electoral process remained largely smooth and peaceful, while a local holiday was also declared to facilitate voters.

Analysts had said a close contest was expected between PPP's Abbas and independent candidate Saleem.

dium-sensitive, and 25 had been classified as normal under Category C.

With this seat, the PPP will hold 15 seats in the 33-seat Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly. Currently, the PPP has 14 seats, the PML-N has nine, the Istehkam-i-Pakistan Party has six, and the Majlis Wahadat-i-Muslimeen and a PTI-backed independent occupy one seat each.

Defence Day 2026: Governor Balochistan Pays Tribute to Armed Forces, Martyrs and National Unity

QUETTA:

Governor Balochistan Jaffer Khan Mandokhail has said that September 6 is a memorable day in Pakistan's national history, reminding the nation of its unwavering commitment, unity and sacrifices for the defence of the country.

In his message on the occasion of Defence Day of Pakistan, the Governor said September 6 stands as a shining example of courage and national resolve.

1965 War: A Proud Chapter in National History Governor Jaffer Khan Mandokhail said



Pakistan's brave armed forces confronted enemy aggression in 1965 with exceptional courage, determination and an unshakable resolve.

He said the historic defence of the country demonstrated that national unity, faith, determination and patriotism are among the greatest strengths in confronting any challenge.

According to the Governor, the courage displayed by the armed forces during the 1965 war remains a proud chapter in Pakistan's history and continues to inspire the nation.

Defence Day Renews Commitment to National Security The Governor said Defence Day.

QUETTA VOICE

Editor: Asim Khan

Mothers: The Real Strength Behind Every Nation

By Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi:
Motherhood remains one of the most powerful and transformative forces in human civilization. Across cultures, religions, and nations, mothers symbolize love, sacrifice, resilience, and unconditional support. On International Mother's Day, the world reflects on the extraordinary role mothers play in shaping families, strengthening societies, and building nations.

A mother is a child's first teacher and lifelong guide. Before formal education begins, it is the mother who introduces values such as kindness, discipline, compassion, honesty, and respect. The moral foundation of every society is first built within homes, where mothers nurture the character and emotional well-being of future generations. Their influence extends far beyond family life and directly impacts the social, cultural, and national fabric of a country.

In today's fast-changing world, where societies face growing social divisions, emotional stress, and moral uncertainty, the importance of mothers has become even more significant. Mothers are not merely caregivers; they are the guardians of social values and the backbone of stable communities.

No nation can achieve sustainable peace, development,



or prosperity without strong families, and strong families are built by empowered and respected mothers.

In Pakistan, motherhood holds deep cultural, religious, and emotional significance. From an early age, children are taught the timeless principle that paradise lies beneath the feet of mothers. This teaching reflects the immense respect Islam and Pakistani traditions place on maternal sacrifice and care.

Across the country, countless mothers dedicate their lives to securing a better fu-

ture for their children, often placing the needs, education, and comfort of their families above their own dreams and ambitions.

The mothers of Pakistan have consistently demonstrated courage and resilience during some of the nation's most difficult moments.

Whether during natural disasters, economic hardships, or times of conflict, mothers remained the emotional strength of their families and communities. The mothers of soldiers and martyrs deserve particular recognition for their extraordinary sacrifices. Their patience, dignity,

and unwavering courage remind us that patriotism is first nurtured within homes before it is witnessed on battlefields.

In Balochistan, motherhood reflects a unique story of endurance and resilience. Women in many remote and underserved areas continue to face serious challenges, including limited access to healthcare, education, and basic facilities.

Despite these hardships, mothers across the province continue to raise their children with dignity, strength, and hope. Their determination and sacrifices deserve

acknowledgment not only on Mother's Day but throughout the entire year.

The way a society treats its mothers often reflects its moral and social condition. Respecting mothers should not be limited to symbolic celebrations, flowers, or speeches once a year. Genuine respect requires practical action.

It means ensuring quality healthcare for women, better educational opportunities for girls, maternity protections in workplaces, financial security for families, and safe environments where women can thrive with dignity.

There is also an urgent need to recognize the emotional and invisible labor carried by mothers. In countless households, mothers work tirelessly from morning until night without recognition or appreciation. Their sacrifices are often overlooked simply because they are made quietly and consistently. Yet behind nearly every successful individual stands a mother who sacrificed her comfort, sleep, ambitions, and personal well-being for the future of her children.

Modern research increasingly highlights that emotional and

mental well-being begins within the home. Children raised in stable and loving environments are more likely to become responsible, confident, and compassionate citizens. Mothers play a central role in creating that environment. Their guidance during uncertainty, patience during hardship, and prayers during difficult times leave lifelong impacts on their children's character and future.

At the same time, motherhood should never become synonymous with exhaustion or isolation. Families and communities must actively support mothers and share responsibilities within households. Raising children and managing family life should not remain the burden of women alone. A truly progressive society is one where mothers receive emotional, social, and institutional support alongside respect and appreciation.

International Mother's Day also serves as a reminder to remember mothers who are no longer with us. Their teachings, sacrifices, and prayers continue to guide our lives long after their departure. Many people realize the true value of a mother only after losing her presence. This occasion encourages individuals to express gratitude, love, and care while they still have the opportunity.

In an age dominated by technology and digital communication, family structures and human relationships are rapidly changing. Despite these transformations, the warmth, sincerity, and emotional security provided by a mother remain irreplaceable. No institution, technology, or social system can substitute the comfort and strength that a mother gives to her children.

As the world celebrates International Mother's Day, societies must move beyond ceremonial messages and seriously reflect on their responsibilities toward mothers. Respect for mothers should be visible in public policies, social attitudes, and everyday behavior.

Children must be taught from an early age to honor their mothers not only through words but through actions, by listening to them, supporting them in old age, and standing beside them during difficult moments.

The true strength of nations does not emerge solely from economic growth, military power, or political systems. It begins with homes, where mothers nurture honesty, resilience, compassion, faith, and humanity in future generations. Every successful civilization has been built upon the sacrifices of mothers whose names may never appear in history books, yet whose influence shapes the destiny of nations.

Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan Recognised for Driving Governance Reforms in Balochistan

By Sheikh Abdul Razaq:
QUETTA: The role of an efficient bureaucracy remains central to effective governance, particularly in provinces facing complex administrative and developmental challenges. In Balochistan, the recent recognition of Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan, by the provincial cabinet and Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti during the provincial budget session has highlighted the significance of strong institutional leadership in advancing governance reforms.

Governance experts argue that while elected governments provide policy direction, successful implementation depends largely on a capable and professional civil service.

In Balochistan, where issues such as vast geography, infrastructure gaps, developmental disparities, and security concerns continue to pose challenges, an effective administrative framework is essential for sustainable progress.

Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan, widely regarded as an experienced and competent civil servant, has played a pivotal role in enhancing interdepartmental coordination, strengthening administrative efficiency, and supporting the provin-



cial government's reform agenda.

His tenure has coincided with renewed efforts by the Balochistan government to promote

institutional reforms, fiscal discipline, transparency, and performance-based governance. Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti has consistently emphasized the importance of governance reforms, institutional strengthening, and improved public service delivery.

Analysts believe that translating these policy objectives into tangible outcomes requires a bureaucracy capable of aligning admin-

istrative priorities with the government's development vision.

The formulation of the provincial budget served as a key example

of development projects, monitoring mechanisms, departmental coordination, and accountability systems.

Effective oversight of development projects, monitoring mechanisms, departmental coordination, and accountability systems remains vital for achieving sustainable development goals across the province.

Modern budget-making extends beyond financial accounting and reflects a government's development priorities, fiscal management strategy, and long-term planning objectives.

Effective budget preparation requires strong interdepartmental coordination, data-driven decision-making, and prudent allocation of resources.

The acknowledgment extended to Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan by both the provincial cabinet and the Chief Minister on the floor of the Balochistan Assembly reflects a broader recognition of the critical role played by the civil service in ensuring policy implementation and institutional continuity.

Observers note that such recognition promotes a culture of merit, professionalism, and accountability within the public sector, encouraging civil servants to maintain high standards of public service. Balochistan's unique governance landscape demands administrative foresight, continuity, and strategic leadership.

The province's long-term progress will depend not only on visionary policies but also on the institutional capacity required to implement them successfully.

professionalism, and efficient governance practices. Public officials who uphold these principles contribute significantly to strengthening government institutions and enhancing administrative performance.

The recognition accorded to Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan underscores the growing importance of a professional and responsive civil service in supporting Balochistan's development agenda.

It also sends a positive message throughout the bureaucracy that dedication, competence, and commitment to public service continue to be valued.

As Balochistan advances towards improved governance and sustainable development, the partnership between political leadership and an effective administrative structure will remain essential.

The province's long-term progress will depend not only on visionary policies but also on the institutional capacity required to implement them successfully.

CM Bugti Vows Action Against Ministers Selling Government Jobs in Balochistan

WEB DESK: Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti has vowed to dismiss any provincial minister found involved in selling government jobs, saying those responsible will also face legal action.

Rejecting reports that government jobs are being sold in Balochistan, CM Bugti said such claims were incorrect. However, he made it clear that anyone providing credible evidence of a minister's involvement would see immediate action. "If anyone brings evidence that a minister is selling jobs, the minister will be removed from office and legal proceedings will be initiated," the chief minister said.

CM Bugti's re-



marks underline his government's stated position on merit, transparency and ac-

countability in government recruitment in Balochistan. He said allega-

tions of corruption in the recruitment process should be supported by evidence,

assuring that those found responsible would be dealt with under the law.

Usta Muhammad Agriculture Department Inspects Fertilizer and Pesticide Dealers

USTAMUHAMMAD: On the special directives of Deputy Commissioner Usta Muhammad Muhammad Ramzan Palal, Deputy Director Agriculture Extension Usta Muhammad Inran Ahmed Lashari conducted surprise and detailed inspections of fertilizer and pesticide dealers operating in the city and surrounding areas.

During the inspections, the Agriculture Extension official visited the business premises of various dealers selling agricultural medicines and fertilizers and thoroughly examined their available stock, legal documents, licences, registrations and other relevant records.

Dealers Directed to Follow Government Regulations All registered dealers were directed to strictly comply with government rules and regulations governing the purchase and sale of agricultural medi-



cines and fertilizers. Inran Ahmed Lashari instructed dealers to purchase and sell only agricultural medicines and fertilizers manufactured by companies registered and approved by the Government of Balochistan.

They were strictly warned against purchasing or selling products manufactured by any unregistered, illegal

or suspicious company. The official cautioned that the use of substandard or counterfeit agricultural medicines and fertilizers could cause significant financial losses to farmers and adversely affect both crop yields and quality.

Licences, Invoices and Stock Records Checked During the inspections, the Deputy

Director Agriculture Extension also examined dealers' ledgers, purchase and sales records, invoices, stock registers and other relevant documentation.

He directed dealers to regularly update complete details of all agricultural medicines and fertilizer stocks, including purchase invoices and ledger records, and maintain the documents

in properly signed and updated form.

He said dealers must ensure that all necessary documentary evidence remains readily available whenever the Agriculture Department conducts inspections.

Strict Action Against Violations Inran Ahmed Lashari made it clear that the Agriculture Department would not tolerate any irregularities in the sale of agricultural medicines and fertilizers.

He said illegal business practices, the sale or purchase of products from unregistered companies, discrepancies in records and other violations would result in action against the responsible dealers under the applicable laws.

He warned dealers to ensure complete transparency and compliance with all legal requirements while conducting their businesses.

Defence Day Ceremony Held at Girls High School Ormara to Honour Pakistan's Martyrs

ORMARA: A dignified ceremony was held at Government Girls High School Ormara on Sunday to commemorate Defence Day of Pakistan, with Assistant Commissioner Ormara

Dr. Mah Noor Barkat attending the event as the chief guest. Special Prayer for Pakistan The Defence Day ceremony concluded with a special prayer for the security, development and prosperity of Pakistan.



Dr. Mah Noor Barkat attending the event as the chief guest. Special Prayer for Pakistan The Defence Day ceremony concluded with a special prayer for the security, development and prosperity of Pakistan.

Teachers and female students participated actively in the ceremony, where rich tribute was paid to the martyrs and Ghazis (war heroes) who sacrificed their lives for the defence of the country.

Assistant Commissioner Highlights Spirit of Patriotism Addressing the ceremony, Assistant Commissioner Dr. Mah Noor Barkat said September 6 holds great significance in



people. She said the younger generation, particularly female students, must promote not only education but also discipline, patriotism and a sense of responsibility to contribute to the country's progress, peace and prosperity.

Students Urged to National Development Dr. Mah Noor Barkat urged students to focus wholeheartedly on their education and prepare themselves to play an effective

role in the development and progress of Pakistan. She emphasized that educated, disciplined and responsible young people are essential for building a peaceful, prosperous and progressive society.

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Defence Day Ceremony Held in Sherani to Honour Pakistan's Martyrs

SHERANI: A dignified ceremony was held in Khan Alam Kapeep, Sherani district, to commemorate Defence Day of Pakistan, with local notables, tribal elders, teachers, students and people from different sections of society participating in large numbers.

Speakers Highlighted the sacrifices of Pakistan's martyrs and Ghazis (war heroes) with honour and respect. Participants also paid glowing tribute to those who laid down their lives in defence of the homeland and renewed their resolve to

their guiding principles and play an active role in the construction, development and progress of the country. They emphasized that educated, disciplined and responsible youth are essential for building a stronger and more prosperous Pakistan.

They said the entire nation would always remember the sacrifices of Pakistan's martyrs and Ghazis (war heroes) with honour and respect. Participants also paid glowing tribute to those who laid down their lives in defence of the homeland and renewed their resolve to

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Defence Day Rally Held in Nasirabad to Honour Pakistan's Martyrs

NASIRABAD: The District Administration Nasirabad organized a grand and dignified rally to commemorate Defence Day of Pakistan, with the event supervised by Additional Deputy Commissioner Nasirabad Khalil Ahmed and the Assistant Commissioner Chhatar.

A large number of people from different walks of life participated in the rally, including district administration officers, district police officials, heads and representatives of government departments, political and social figures, students, teachers, members of civil society and government employees. Participants Express Solidarity with Pakistan The rally participants carried national flags and expressed their firm commitment to the security, stability and prosperity of Pakistan.



They paid rich tribute to the martyrs and Ghazis (war heroes) of the Pakistan Army and other security institutions, praising the sacrifices of the brave sons of the nation who laid down their lives in defence of the homeland.

The participants raised enthusiastic slogans of "Pakistan Zindabad," "Pakistan Army Zindabad" and "Salute to the Martyrs," reflecting their patriotism and solidarity with the country's armed and security forces.

September 6: A Proud Chapter in Pakistan's History Addressing the rally, speakers said that September 6 is an important and proud day in Pakistan's history, when the nation and its armed forces demonstrated unity, national spirit and exceptional courage in defending the country.

They said a strong and prosperous Pakistan requires the collective efforts of citizens from every segment of society. The rally concluded with a special prayer for the security, stability, progress and prosperity of Pakistan and for the elevation of the ranks of the martyrs.

The Defence Day event in Nasirabad reflected a strong spirit of patriotism, national unity and respect for those who sacrificed their lives for the defence and security of the country.

They said a strong and prosperous Pakistan requires the collective efforts of citizens from every segment of society. The rally concluded with a special prayer for the security, stability, progress and prosperity of Pakistan and for the elevation of the ranks of the martyrs.

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Defence Day 2026: Meena Majeed Baloch Pays Tribute to Pakistan's Martyrs and Armed Forces

QUETTA: Provincial Advisor for Sports and Youth Affairs Meena Majeed Baloch has said that September 6, 1965, remains an unforgettable day in Pakistan's defence history, when the nation and its armed forces demonstrated their determination and courage in defending the motherland.

In her special message on Defence Day, Meena Majeed Baloch said the Pakistan Army not only defended the country against aggression but also conveyed a clear message to the world that Pakistan possessed the capability and resolve to thwart every form of aggression.

Tribute to the Courage of Pakistan's Armed Forces She recalled that the enemy launched an attack under the cover of darkness with the objective of advancing towards Lahore, but the brave soldiers of the Pakistan Armed Forces demonstrated exceptional courage, determination and sacrifice in defending the country.

She said the sacrifices of Pakistan's soldiers proved that nations do not win wars through

weapons alone, but through faith, courage, determination and resilience. According to the provincial advisor, the sacrifices and bravery displayed by Pakistan's armed forces during the 1965 war remain an enduring chapter in the country's defence history.

Nation Pays Homage to Martyrs Meena Majeed Baloch paid rich tribute to the martyrs of Pakistan who sacrificed their lives for the defence of the country. She said the brave sons of the nation who laid down their lives for the defence of the homeland would always remain a source of pride and honour for Pakistan.

The entire nation pays tribute to the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the defence of the country," she said, adding that the nation also stands in complete solidarity with the families of the martyrs. She emphasized that the sacrifices of the martyrs represent Pakistan's honour, dignity and pride, and their legacy would continue to inspire future generations.

Renewed Commitment to Defence of Pakistan's Armed Forces

She said the provincial advisor should reaffirm their resolve that they would not hesitate to make every sacrifice necessary for the defence of their homeland.

On Defence Day, the entire nation pays heartfelt tribute to the "Pakistan Armed Forces," she said, adding that the success achieved during the 1965 war strengthened the nation's morale and demonstrated the courage and determination of Pakistan's armed forces.

Defence Day Reminds Nation of Sacrifice Meena Majeed Baloch said September 6 continues to remind the nation of the spirit of sacrifice displayed by Pakistan's martyrs and war heroes. She said the day renews the national commitment to the defence of Pakistan and provides an opportunity to honour those who made the ultimate sacrifice for the country.

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Defence Day Activities Promote Patriotism and National Unity Among Kalat Students

KALAT: Deputy Commissioner Kalat Engineer Ayesha Zahri has said that Defence Day activities are being used to promote patriotism, national unity and the spirit of defending the homeland among high school and higher secondary students across the district.

She said students are participating in competitions featuring national songs, tableaux, Urdu and English speeches, Hamd and Naat, providing them with opportunities to express their love for Pakistan and learn about the importance of national unity and responsibility. Special Security Plan for Defence Day Events Deputy Commis-



sioner Ayesha Zahri said that, in accordance with the directives of the Commissioner Kalat Division, a special security plan had also been prepared to ensure the peaceful and orderly conduct of Defence Day celebrations across the district.

She said the administration was taking all necessary measures to ensure that the national programmes are conducted in a safe and organized environment.

1965 War Remains a Symbol of Courage and Sacrifice Engineer Ayesha Zahri said September 6 reminds the nation of the historic moments of 1965, when Pakistan's Armed Forces demonstrated exceptional courage, determination and sacrifice in defending the homeland.

The Deputy Commissioner said national security was not solely the responsibility of soldiers defending the country's borders.

Every citizen can contribute to strengthening Pakistan by fulfilling their responsibilities honestly and playing a positive role in society. Citizens Participate in Defence Day Rally A large number of citizens participated in the Defence Day rally, along with SP Kalat, Assistant Commissioner Kalat and officers of various administrative departments. The participation of students, government officials and citizens reflected a strong spirit of patriotism and national unity in Kalat.

She emphasized that the nation should not merely remember its martyrs but should also learn from their sacrifices and carry forward their spirit of service and commitment to Pakistan.

Security forces kill over 20 terrorists during multiple engagements in KP: ISPR

NEWS DESK: Security forces killed over 20 terrorists during multiple engagements in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa between September 3 and 5, the military's media affairs wing said on Sunday.

According to Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the slain terrorists were sponsored by India and belonged to Fitr-al-Khawarij — a term the state uses for the banned Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP).

The ISPR statement mentioned an engagement in KP's North Waziristan on the night between August 31 and September 1. Security forces had initially killed 15 terrorists who were trying to infiltrate into Pakistan through its border with Afghanistan at the time.

Following that, 10 more terrorists holed up in the area were killed, the statement said, adding that a total of 25 terrorists trying to enter Pakistan had been killed in that event.

In another encounter in North Waziristan, movement of another group of terrorists along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border was picked up by the security forces. "Own troops effectively engaged the group of khawarij. As a result of precise and skillful engagement, seven khawarij were neutralised," the ISPR statement said.

Separately, four

more terrorists were killed in two different encounters in Kohat and Dera Ismail Khel during joint operations, according to ISPR.

It said, "These repeated incidents along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border have once again vindicated

the nation's frontiers."

"Sanitisation operations are being conducted to eliminate any other India-sponsored khawarij found in the area as relentless counter-terrorism campaign under the vision 'Azmi-Istehkam' (as approved by Federal Apex Commis-

sioners officers and 569 other ranks.

PM Shehbaz paid tribute to the martyrs and veterans of the armed forces and their families on behalf of the entire nation in a Defence Day message issued by his office.

September 6 is a glorious chapter in our national history, reminding us of the unparalleled resolve, unity and sacrifices demonstrated by our armed forces and the nation in defence of our beloved homeland.

"This day provides us with an opportunity to pay tribute to the martyrs and veterans who made immense sacrifices to safeguard Pakistan's security, sovereignty and independence. Despite the enemy's undeclared aggression and numerical superiority on September 6, 1965, the professionalism and operational preparedness of Pakistan's armed forces inflicted a humiliating and resounding defeat upon it on all

fronts," he recalled.

The prime minister added, "History bears witness that during the 1965 war, our armed forces displayed exceptional professionalism and courage, while the Pakistani nation demonstrated remarkable unity, resilience and steadfastness."

Together they created a proud and enduring legacy in our national history."

The prime minister also commended the armed forces' response to India during last year's four-day military conflict, Marka-e-Haq.

"In line with the glorious tradition of valiance, our armed forces, under the excellent professional strategy of Chief of Defence Forces and Chief of Army Staff Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, Air Chief Marshal Zaeher Ahmad Bahar Sidhu and Naval Chief Admiral Naveed Ashraf, delivered a resounding and resounding victory to our age-old adversary that will be remembered for generations."

The entire nation is proud of our brave Pakistan Army, Pakistan Air Force and Pakistan Navy," he said.

Referring to Bunyayum Marsoos — Pakistan's military operation in response to India's attack in the episode — the premier said its success added another "glorious chapter to our military history".

"Our armed forces have once again demonstrated that the spirit and fervour of September 6 remain as strong as ever."

He added that the challenges confronting Pakistan today demanded greater national unity and solidarity.

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PM, president highlight Pakistan's growing role in regional security as nation observes Defence Day

NEWS DESK: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and President Asif Zardari highlighted Pakistan's growing role in regional security on Sunday as the nation observed its 61st Defence Day.

The day began with a 31-gun salute in Islamabad and a 21-gun salute in the provincial capitals, state broadcaster Radio Pakistan reported.

A change of guards was also held at the Quaid's mausoleum in Karachi. A contingent of 64 male and eight female cadets from the Pakistan Air Force Academy participated in the guard-changing ceremony with Asghar Khan assuming guard duties.

Defence Day is observed every year on September 6 to commemorate the legacy of the 1965 war, which began after India launched an attack across the international border.

The war ended with a ceasefire on September 22, and peace between the two countries was negotiated under Soviet auspices in Tashkent on January 10, 1966.

During this war, 1617 square miles of territory was occupied by Pakistan as compared to 446 square miles of Pakistan's open and defended territory occupied by India. The Pakistan Army had captured 20 Indian officers, 19 junior Indian commis-

sioners officers and 569 other ranks.

PM Shehbaz paid tribute to the martyrs and veterans of the armed forces and their families on behalf of the entire nation in a Defence Day message issued by his office.

September 6 is a glorious chapter in our national history, reminding us of the unparalleled resolve, unity and sacrifices demonstrated by our armed forces and the nation in defence of our beloved homeland.

"This day provides us with an opportunity to pay tribute to the martyrs and veterans who made immense sacrifices to safeguard Pakistan's security, sovereignty and independence. Despite the enemy's undeclared aggression and numerical superiority on September 6, 1965, the professionalism and operational preparedness of Pakistan's armed forces inflicted a humiliating and resounding defeat upon it on all

fronts," he recalled.

The prime minister added, "History bears witness that during the 1965 war, our armed forces displayed exceptional professionalism and courage, while the Pakistani nation demonstrated remarkable unity, resilience and steadfastness."

Together they created a proud and enduring legacy in our national history."

The prime minister also commended the armed forces' response to India during last year's four-day military conflict, Marka-e-Haq.

"In line with the glorious tradition of valiance, our armed forces, under the excellent professional strategy of Chief of Defence Forces and Chief of Army Staff Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, Air Chief Marshal Zaeher Ahmad Bahar Sidhu and Naval Chief Admiral Naveed Ashraf, delivered a resounding and resounding victory to our age-old adversary that will be remembered for generations."

The entire nation is proud of our brave Pakistan Army, Pakistan Air Force and Pakistan Navy," he said.

Referring to Bunyayum Marsoos — Pakistan's military operation in response to India's attack in the episode — the premier said its success added another "glorious chapter to our military history".

"Our armed forces have once again demonstrated that the spirit and fervour of September 6 remain as strong as ever."

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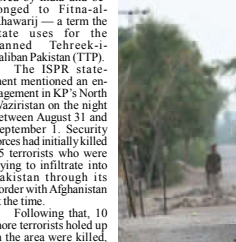
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Pakistan's persistent stance regarding the alleged failure of the Afghan Taliban regime to deny the use of Afghan soil to the terrorist organisation, under their patronage, for cross-border terrorism.

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Taliban regime has consistently failed to ensure effective border management and honour its international counter-terrorism obligations."

The statement added that security forces "remain resolute and unwavering in their commitment to defend

the National Action Plan) by security forces and law enforcement agencies of Pakistan will continue at full pace to wipe out the menace of foreign-sponsored and supported terrorism from the country," the statement read.

President Asif Ali Zardari paid tribute to the security forces for the successful engagements, a statement issued by his office said.

The president commended the professional capabilities of security forces for successful operations

President Zardari urged the Afghan Taliban rulers to prevent the use of Afghan soil by terrorists.

KP has been facing security challenges, and according to monthly data compiled by the Pakistan Institute for Conflict and Security Studies (PICSS), mainland KP recorded 54 terrorist attacks last month, marking a 50 per cent increase compared to July.

Meanwhile, the merged districts recorded 54 terrorist attacks in August, marking a 126pc increase.

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Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister (CM) Afridi thanks Bilawal for well wishes during Sindh tour

NEWS DESK: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Sohail Afridi thanked PPP Chairperson Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari on Saturday after the latter wished him the best for the rest of his visit to Sindh.

The KP CM reached Sindh on a five-day visit earlier this week and has been leading a public mobilisation campaign in the province for his party's Sept 27 nationwide protest for the release of PTI founder Imran Khan and his immediate medical treatment at the Shifa International Hospital in Islamabad.

After he visited Larkana, Bilawal welcomed him to the "city of martyrs" in an X post on Saturday night.

"Best wishes for the remainder of your tour across Sindh. We must ultimately return to a politics of tolerance, respect and coexistence, the foundation of any democracy," he added.

In response, Afridi thanked him and noted that the "beauty of democracy is in freedom of politics and expression, independence of judi-

ciary, acceptance of public mandate, an independent parliament and press being free."

He also expressed hope that a large crowd would come out on the PTI's call in Karachi and Hyderabad, where he is due today.

The exchange takes place amid signs of a truce between the PPP and the PTI in the Centre while the PTI is in the opposition.

Last time Afridi was in Sindh to mobilise people for a street movement, he had initially praised the PPP-led Sindh government's re-

ception, saying the democratic legacy of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Benazir Bhutto still thrived in the province. However, he had later accused the the Sindh government had not upholding the honour of the aijrak and topi and criticised its treatment of its

Ahead of Afridi's rally in Karachi on January 11, the party had alleged that Afridi had face obstacles on his way to the metropolis. The party also accused the authorities of violence against its workers and supporters.

Aggrieved by alleged irregularities and rigging in the recently held elections in Azad Jammu and Kashmir and with differences emerging over the creation of new provinces, Bilawal said last

month that a genuine alliance with the PML-N was not possible until their grievances regarding the polls were addressed.

Meanwhile, the PPP also established formal contact with the PTI, offering to cooperate with the party in parliament.

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Work on Peshawar Road underpasses in Rawalpindi to begin tomorrow

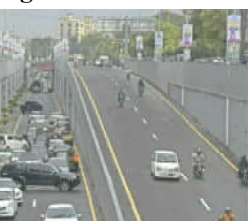
NEWS DESK: The Punjab Communication and Works Department will start work on two underpasses worth Rs8 billion at Race Course Park and Charing Cross on Peshawar Road from Monday.

The Frontier Works Organisation (FWO) was awarded the contract and has completed the alternate road along Peshawar Road so that traffic will not be stopped on the main artery of the garrison city.

All traffic will be diverted to the service roads of Peshawar Road.

On the other hand, Punjab Minister for Communication and Works Malik Sohail Ahmed Bhatti directed the department to start work on September 7 and complete it in the minimum possible time, as per the instructions of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, so that people would not suffer.

Traffic to be diverted to service roads as Race Course Park and Charing Cross projects get under way



A senior official of the district administration told Dawn that earlier it was planned to construct three underpasses, including at Race Course Park, Army Graveyard and Charing Cross. However, he said the plan was changed and now two underpasses, at Race Course Park and Charing Cross, would be constructed on Peshawar Road, while Army Graveyard would be given an at-grade road. He said shifting of utility services, including electricity pylons,

water supply lines, telephone and cable network, had been completed.

He said service roads had been constructed from Qasim Market to Radio Pakistan and from Maryam Hospital to Rafay Mall so that traffic could continue to ply on Peshawar Road.

"It is not possible to close the road for traffic for two months like the department did in Katchery Chowk. And when there is talk of multiple provinces or

will ply on it from Monday," he said.

These underpasses are part of the plan for a signal-free corridor from Islamabad Expressway to Motorway Chowk on Peshawar Road. The construction work on the underpasses has to be completed by the end of this year.

The total length of the "signal-free corridor" is 25 kilometres and it aims to reduce travel time from Islamabad Expressway to Motorway Chowk on Peshawar Road to 15 to 20 minutes.

Pakistan, seven Muslim nations condemn 'inflammatory' Israeli remarks calling to displace Palestinians from Gaza

NEWS DESK: The foreign ministers of Pakistan, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Arabi, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates on Sunday warned that any move to forcibly displace Palestinians from the Gaza Strip would undermine regional stability and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people," the joint statement said.

The ministers reaffirmed their "unequivocal rejection and condemnation" of attempts

remarks by Katz and Ben-Gurion.

"Such inflammatory statements and proposals flagrantly violate principles of international law, including international humanitarian law, and pose a direct threat to the legitimate and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people," the joint statement said.

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