

Security Forces Kill Wanted Terrorist Commander...



Pakistan's Climate Vulnerability: A Governance Dilemma

Pakistan-Iran Border Trade: Partial Movement Granted for Backlogged Cargo, Commercial Uncertainty Persists

SYED ALI SHAH, OUR
CORRESPONDENT,
NEWS DESK:

QUETTA — Questions surrounding the operational status of key trade routes along the Pakistan-Iran border remain a point of discussion for commercial operators, as local dealers navigate restricted cross-border traffic following disruptions earlier this month.

Uncertainty over the status of trade flows began following a formal pause in routine border crossings on October 16. While limited vehicular traffic has recently been observed at major border stations, local Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) dealers clarify that a full reopening of commercial trade has not taken place.

According to trade representatives, entry permissions have been granted on a restricted basis to clear pre-processed freight. Importers noted that only trucks, containers, and tankers that had completed their customs documentation prior to the October 16 shutdown were permitted by border officials to cross into Pakistan.

Balanced Perspective:



File photo: Vehicles stuck in a traffic jam at the Pak-Iran border

Trade Reality vs. Operational Status

Trade Community View: Local LPG liquid petroleum gas dealers maintain that the border has not been formally reopened for fresh trade orders, raising concerns over domestic fuel inventory and supply chain continuity.

Administrative Context: Cross-border clearances often

involve complex security protocols, customs verification, and bilateral coordination between Islamabad and Tehran.

Repeated attempts to speak to officials in the Balochistan government for formal clarification were made; however, none responded or commented on the reported reopening of the border or the prospective timeline for resuming routine

commercial activities.

Both neighboring nations share significant economic and diplomatic ties,

and border trade plays a vital role in sustaining regional economies on both sides of the frontier. Stakeholders on both sides remain hopeful for official clarity to ensure smooth, secure, and regulated bilateral commerce.

Gilani assures KP governor of federal support

NEWS DESK:

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi on Saturday briefed Acting President Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani on the province's security situation, public issues and recent admin-

istrative developments, with the latter assuring federal support for the province's development and stressing that public welfare should remain a priority.

During the meeting, the governor presented an overview of the regional security situation and measures taken to maintain law and order and

socio-economic challenges in the province's border areas. Emphasising the importance of domestic stability for national progress, Mr Gilani assured the governor of federal support for the province's development and stressed that administrative measures should prioritise public welfare.



During the meeting, the governor presented an overview of the regional security situation and measures taken to maintain law and order and

socio-economic challenges in the province's border areas.

Emphasising the importance of domestic stability for national progress, Mr Gilani assured the governor of federal support for the province's development and stressed that administrative measures should prioritise public welfare.

During the meeting, the governor presented an overview of the regional security situation and measures taken to maintain law and order and

socio-economic challenges in the province's border areas.

Emphasising the importance of domestic stability for national progress, Mr Gilani assured the governor of federal support for the province's development and stressed that administrative measures should prioritise public welfare.

During the meeting, the governor presented an overview of the regional security situation and measures taken to maintain law and order and

socio-economic challenges in the province's border areas.

Emphasising the importance of domestic stability for national progress, Mr Gilani assured the governor of federal support for the province's development and stressed that administrative measures should prioritise public welfare.

During the meeting, the governor presented an overview of the regional security situation and measures taken to maintain law and order and

socio-economic challenges in the province's border areas.

Emphasising the importance of domestic stability for national progress, Mr Gilani assured the governor of federal support for the province's development and stressed that administrative measures should prioritise public welfare.

During the meeting, the governor presented an overview of the regional security situation and measures taken to maintain law and order and

socio-economic challenges in the province's border areas.

Emphasising the importance of domestic stability for national progress, Mr Gilani assured the governor of federal support for the province's development and stressed that administrative measures should prioritise public welfare.

During the meeting, the governor presented an overview of the regional security situation and measures taken to maintain law and order and

socio-economic challenges in the province's border areas.

Emphasising the importance of domestic stability for national progress, Mr Gilani assured the governor of federal support for the province's development and stressed that administrative measures should prioritise public welfare.

During the meeting, the governor presented an overview of the regional security situation and measures taken to maintain law and order and

socio-economic challenges in the province's border areas.

Emphasising the importance of domestic stability for national progress, Mr Gilani assured the governor of federal support for the province's development and stressed that administrative measures should prioritise public welfare.

During the meeting, the governor presented an overview of the regional security situation and measures taken to maintain law and order and

socio-economic challenges in the province's border areas.

331 Acres of Illegal Cannabis Crops Destroyed in Killa Abdullah in One Day

Faizan aslam khan:

QUETTA: Law enforcement agencies have destroyed 331 acres of illegal cannabis crops in Killa Abdullah district as part of Balochistan's ongoing anti-narcotics campaign, bringing the total area cleared across the district to 992 acres.

The operation was carried out on October 23 under the provincial Anti-Cannabis Campaign 2026, targeting illegal cannabis cultivation in the Gulistan and Dobandi subdivisions. According to officials from the Balochistan Excise and Taxation Department, enforcement teams destroyed 285 acres of cannabis crops in Abdul Rehman Zai and Qandeel Saigai areas of Gulistan, while another 46 acres were cleared in Dobandi. The latest action has taken the total area of illegal cannabis cultivation eliminated during the campaign to 992 acres.

The operation was led by the Killa Abdullah district administration in coordination with the Assistant Commissioner of Gulistan.

Teams from the Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF), Frontier

Corps (FC), Balochistan Excise and Taxation Department in the crackdown. Representatives of intelligence agencies were also present to assist with coordination and logistical arrangements.

Officials said the teams



331 Acres of Illegal Cannabis Crops Destroyed in Killa Abdullah in One Day

used both mechanised equipment and manual methods to eliminate the illegal crops.

Reaffirming their commitment to combating drug cultivation, officials said a zero-tolerance policy would be maintained and operations would

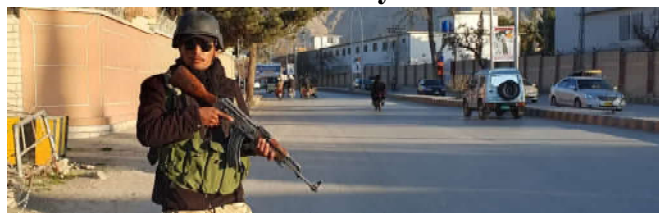
continue until illegal cannabis crops across Killa Abdullah district had been completely eradicated. The campaign aims to curb the production of illegal narcotics at their source and strengthen enforcement against drug cultivation in Balochistan.

Security Forces Kill Wanted Terrorist Commander in Qilla Saifullah Operation: Security Sources

NEWS DESK:

Quetta: Security forces have killed a wanted terrorist commander, Adil Shah alias Darwaish, during an intelligence-based operation in Qilla Saifullah district of Balochistan under the ongoing Operation Radd-ul-Fitna 3, according to security sources.

Security sources said the slain commander was affiliated with Fitna al-Khawarij since December 2020 and had been overseeing the terrorist group's



financial affairs since 2024. According to the sources,

Adil Shah had also been facilitating the provision of perma-

nent accommodation to non-

local terrorists in Zhob, Sherani and Shaban. The sources further al-

leged that the commander had been involved in attacks on security forces since 2022 and 2023,

as well as extortion linked to kidnapping for ransom.

Nineteen first information reports (FIRs) had been registered against him in anti-terrorism courts,

while a bounty of Rs2.5 million had been announced for his arrest, security sources said.

Security sources stated that operations against terrorists in Balochistan would continue until the elimination of the last terrorist.

QUETTA VOICE

Editor: Asim Khan

The Pressing Problems of Urdu and the New Generation

BY ZEESHAN KHAN
Urdu is more than a language. It is a symbol of Pakistan's cultural identity, literary heritage and national unity. Yet, in a society where English increasingly dominates education, official affairs and professional life, an important question arises: are we preparing our younger generation for global competition at the cost of their connection with their own national language?

The growing preference for English in Pakistan has created a linguistic divide that extends beyond communication. For many people, English proficiency has become a symbol of social status, educational achievement and professional success. Meanwhile, Urdu, despite its national status, often receives less attention in classrooms, workplaces and government institutions.

This situation demands serious reflection. A nation can embrace modern education and international opportunities without neglecting the language that represents its identity.

Urdu and Pakistan's National Identity
The progress of a nation depends not only on economic development and scientific advancement but also on its cultural foundations. Language plays a central role in shaping collective identity, preserving traditions and connecting generations.

Urdu has historically served as a common medium of communication among diverse communities in Pakistan. Its literature, poetry, journalism and intellectual traditions have contributed significantly to the country's cultural landscape.

However, the position of Urdu in practical affairs does not always reflect its constitutional status. Article 251 of the Constitution of Pakistan declares Urdu the national language and provides for arrangements for its use for official purposes. Nevertheless, English continues to dominate many administrative, educational and professional settings.

This gap between constitutional recognition and everyday practice raises an important question: why has Urdu struggled to secure a stronger position in the institutions of its own country?

The answer involves historical practices, educational policies, administrative traditions and the widespread perception that English offers better opportunities for social mobility.

English: A Gateway to Opportunity or a Barrier to Equality?

There is no denying the importance of English in the modern world. It facilitates access to international research, scientific literature, technological developments and employment opportunities.

Pakistan's students need English-language skills to compete effectively in many academic and professional fields. The problem begins when English proficiency becomes a substitute for measuring knowledge, intelligence and competence.

In Pakistan, students who speak English fluently may receive greater social recognition, while those who communicate primarily in Urdu or regional languages can face unfair judgments about their educational abilities. This perception can disadvantage talented students who lack access to expensive English-medium schools or additional language-learning resources.

Consequently, language can become a marker of privilege rather than simply a tool for communication.

A student's ability to understand science, solve mathematical problems, analyse social issues or demonstrate professional competence should not be judged solely by fluency in English. Educational institutions must recognise the difference between subject knowledge and language proficiency. Pakistan needs an



education system in which English opens doors to international opportunities without becoming a barrier that excludes capable students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

The Growing Dislike Between Young People and Urdu
One of the major concerns is the declining engagement of some younger people with Urdu reading, writing and literature. In certain educational environments, students may become comfortable communicating in English while struggling to express complex ideas in Urdu.

This does not mean that the younger generation is responsible for the problem. Their linguistic habits are shaped by the education system, family environments, digital platforms and social expectations.

When schools give greater prestige to English, parents naturally encourage their children to master it. When employers prioritise English communication, students respond accordingly. When academic resources and professional opportunities are concentrated in English, the preference becomes even stronger.

The result is a cycle in which Urdu is treated as less useful despite its importance in public communication and cultural life.

The solution is not to discourage English-speaking students or restrict their educational choices. Instead, schools and families should create opportunities for young people to read Urdu books, explore literary traditions, write creatively and use the language confidently in academic and professional discussions.

Urdu must become a language of knowledge, innovation and contemporary expression—not merely a subject students study to pass an examination. Urdu Education Deserves Serious Attention

Language education should develop

practical skills rather than focus exclusively on memorisation. Students need opportunities to improve their reading comprehension, vocabulary, writing, critical thinking and ability to communicate ideas clearly.

The same principle applies to Urdu and English.

Educational institutions should invest in modern Urdu textbooks, high-quality digital learning materials, literary activities and translation projects. Scientific and academic concepts should also be made accessible through reliable Urdu resources, helping students understand complex subjects while strengthening their command of the language.

At the same time, English should remain an essential component of education. Students need both languages to participate effectively in national life and the international academic community.

A balanced approach would enable young people to understand global developments, communicate their ideas, experiences and knowledge confidently in Urdu.

Urdu in Government and Public Institutions
The use of Urdu in official affairs is another important dimension of the debate. Article 251 of Pakistan's Constitution provides the constitutional basis for promoting Urdu as the national language and arranging its use for official purposes.

However, translating this principle into effective administrative practice requires planning, institutional commitment and consistent implementation.

Government departments could expand access to Urdu-language forms, public information, educational materials and citizen services.

Legal and administrative documents should be made understandable to ordinary citizens, with accurate translations and appropriate safeguards where authoritative legal texts are required.

Such measures would improve accessibility and help citizens engage more effectively with public institutions.

Promoting Urdu in official affairs should not mean abandoning English where it is practically necessary. Rather, it should ensure that citizens are not disadvantaged simply because they cannot understand complex English-language documents or administrative procedures. A national language gains strength when people can use it meaningfully in everyday life.

Literature, Writers and the Responsibility of Society
Writers, poets, journalists, teachers and intellectuals have an important role in keeping Urdu relevant to contemporary society. Literature preserves collective memory, challenges established ideas and provides a space for discussing social and political realities.

International literary gatherings and conferences have historically offered opportunities for scholars and writers to examine the challenges facing Urdu, including the influence of other languages and the changing relationship between literature and society.

Global cooperation remains the third pillar of climate response. Climate change transcends borders and requires collective responsibility. Developed nations must honor climate finance commitments and support vulnerable countries in adaptation efforts.

For Pakistan, effective climate governance is central to resilience. Addressing financing constraints, strengthening legislation, improving federal-provincial coordination, and prioritizing adaptation over rhetoric are critical steps.

Climate change presents urgent challenges that demand immediate action. Without decisive reforms in climate governance and a strategic shift toward adaptation, Pakistan will continue to pay an unjust price for a crisis it did little to create.

The author can be reached at: dzinzaudi19@gmail.com.

Pakistan's Climate Vulnerability: A Governance Dilemma

Zia Ud Din:

Pakistan contributes less than one percent to global carbon emissions, yet it consistently ranks among the countries most exposed to climate-induced disasters. This imbalance is not merely an environmental concern; it reflects governance dilemmas rooted in a weak institutional coordination and limited adaptation planning.

Climate change is one of the most pressing challenges of the modern era, adversely affecting societies at multiple levels.

Rising temperatures, droughts, irregular weather patterns, sea-level rise, melting glaciers, floods, and water insecurity demonstrate its far-reaching global consequences.

Since these impacts transcend national borders, climate change is inherently a global challenge. Along with other developing nations, Pakistan remains highly vulnerable.

In 2024, Pakistan recorded its ninth warmest year in the last 64 years, with an average temperature of 23.52°C and rainfall levels 31 percent above the historical average. This highlights the urgency of collective international action.

For Pakistan, however, climate vulnerability is compounded

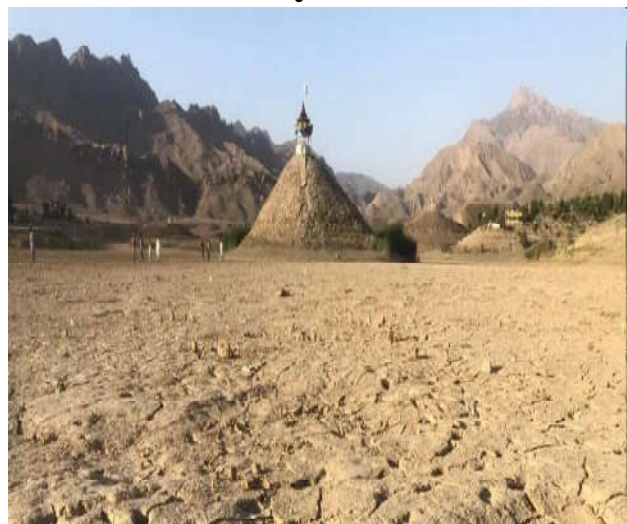
by governance constraints. Fragmented institutional coordination, weak policy implementation, and limited emphasis on adaptation have reduced the state's capacity to respond effectively. Consequently, the climate crisis in Pakistan reflects not only environmental stress but also persistent governance failures.

Climate change refers to long-term shifts in global weather patterns and temperatures, primarily driven by human activities. According to United Nations findings, excessive greenhouse gas emissions have intensified heat retention in the atmosphere.

Gases such as carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide have thickened the atmospheric blanket, largely due to deforestation, fossil fuel consumption, and rapid industrialization.

One of the most visible consequences of climate change is rising global temperatures.

The Copernicus Climate Change Service reported that average global temperatures in 2024 exceeded pre-industrial levels by 1.52°C. This warming has intensified heatwaves, prolonged droughts, and increased wildfire risks. Rising temperatures have also disrupted



weather systems, leading to irregular rainfall, intense storms, and stronger hurricanes.

Another major consequence is sea-level rise. Oceans absorb nearly 90 percent of excess heat caused by greenhouse gas emissions, leading to thermal expansion. Simultaneously, melting glaciers and ice sheets contribute to rising sea

levels. According to Encyclopedia Britannica, global sea levels have risen by approximately 21 to 25 centimeters since 1880, threatening coastal livelihoods and infrastructure.

Climate change has also intensified water scarcity, a growing global concern. Pakistan is already a water-stressed country, and

climate variability has further exacerbated this challenge.

A report by the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics places Pakistan among the most water-risk-prone nations.

Water scarcity places immense pressure on agriculture, industry, and households, undermining economic stability and

food security. Despite contributing minimally to global emissions, Pakistan bears a disproportionate share of climate-related losses. The Global Climate Risk Index ranks Pakistan among the most vulnerable countries to climate change.

The 2022 floods alone caused an estimated economic loss of \$40 billion and

from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and hydropower is critical.

Equally important is adaptation. Since climate impacts are already unavoidable, societies must strengthen resilience. Investment in climate-resilient infrastructure, improved urban planning, and effective water management is vital.

Global cooperation remains the third pillar of climate response. Climate change transcends borders and requires collective responsibility. Developed nations must honor climate finance commitments and support vulnerable countries in adaptation efforts.

For Pakistan, effective climate governance is central to resilience. Addressing financing constraints, strengthening legislation, improving federal-provincial coordination, and prioritizing adaptation over rhetoric are critical steps.

Climate change presents urgent challenges that demand immediate action. Without decisive reforms in climate governance and a strategic shift toward adaptation, Pakistan will continue to pay an unjust price for a crisis it did little to create.

The author can be reached at: dzinzaudi19@gmail.com.

Balochistan Seeks Chinese Investment in Minerals and CPEC Projects, Says Bilal Khan Kakar

NEWS DESK: Vice Chairman of the Balochistan Board of Investment, Bilal Khan Kakar, has said that Pakistan's longstanding friendship and economic cooperation with China can create new opportunities for development in Balochistan.

He stated that Chinese partnership in the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and mineral development projects could play a significant role in transforming the province's natural resources into economic growth, expanding industrial activities, and creating employment opportunities for young people.

Kakar expressed these views during a meeting with Chinese business representatives Mr. Du Junjie in



Islamabad. Abdul Mannan, Chief Executive Officer of the Balochistan Board of Investment, was also present at the meeting.

The discussions focused on investment opportunities in Balochistan's mineral sector, exploration and development of natural resources, and

prospects for collaboration between Chinese investors and the Government of Balochistan.

Bilal Khan Kakar said China had played an important role in various areas of economic cooperation with Pakistan, while CPEC had further highlighted Balochistan's geographical significance

and economic potential. He emphasized the need to strengthen this cooperation by promoting mineral resource development, and supporting the growth of the local economy.

The Vice Chairman of the Balochistan Board of Investment appreciated China's cooperation with Pakistan, noting that bilateral relations extended beyond diplomatic ties and offered extensive opportunities for economic partnership and shared development.

Mir Younus Aziz Zehri Chairs Monthly Review Meeting of Government Departments in Khuzdar

KHUZDAR: A monthly performance review meeting of all government departments in Khuzdar district was held at the conference hall of the Deputy Commissioner's Office under the chairmanship of Balochistan Assembly Opposition Leader Mir Younus Aziz Zehri. Deputy Commissioner Khuzdar Abdul Razzaz Sasoli attended the meeting as a special participant.

The meeting formally began with the recitation of the Holy Quran, after which representatives of various departments presented their monthly performance reports.

The Health Department briefed the meeting on the availability of medicines in



hospitals, while the Education Department presented updates on teachers' attendance in schools. Officials from the Buildings and Roads (B&R) Department, Public Health Engineering Department, and Urban Planning Department provided detailed briefings on ongoing development projects, road construction, and water supply schemes.

The Health Department briefed the meeting on the availability of medicines in

spective activities and performance. While reviewing the performance of the departments, Mir Younus Aziz Zehri emphasized that development projects aimed at public welfare were not a favour to the people but their fundamental right. He said Khuzdar was an underdeveloped district and that no compromise would be made on providing residents with basic facilities, including education, healthcare, clean drinking water, and roads.

The opposition

form their duties with honesty, responsibility, and dedication.

He also directed all departments to keep their monthly performance reports ready and announced that he would personally visit their offices to assess their performance and identify departments failing to meet expectations.

Deputy Commissioner Abdul Razzaz Sasoli assured the meeting that the district administration would ensure full implementation of the directions issued by Mir Younus Aziz Zehri. He added that all possible measures would be taken to provide relief to the public and improve the delivery of government services across Khuzdar district.

Mir Younus Aziz Zehri further instructed government officials to facilitate citizens visiting their offices, address public grievances without negligence, and per-

Balochistan Transport Authority Cracks Down on Overloading in Dhadar, Issues 14 Challans

QUETTA: On the special directives of Balochistan Provincial Secretary of Transport Muhammad Hayat Kakar and Secretary of the Provincial Transport Authority (PTA) Balochistan Abdul Majed Junjo, a crackdown was launched against overloading, vehicles operating without route permits, and passengers travelling on the roofs of vans along the Quetta-Jacobabad National Highway in Dhadar district. Khuzdar Muraza Bhutto, and DSP Circle Sher Muhammad.

Crackdown Aims to Improve Road Safety. Officials said the operation aims to protect passengers' lives



traffic laws. The joint operation was conducted by the Provincial Transport Authority Balochistan and Kachhi Traffic Police under the supervision of DIG Sibi Muhammad Pervez Umrani, DPO Kachhi Ghulam Muraza Bhutto, and DSP Circle Sher Muhammad.

Crackdown Aims to Improve Road Safety. Officials said the operation aims to protect passengers' lives

and property, prevent road accidents, and ensure compliance with safety standards in public transport on national highways. They emphasized that overloading, operating vehicles illegally, carrying passengers beyond the permitted capacity, and allowing passengers to travel on vehicle roofs are serious violations of traffic laws that pose significant risks to human life.

Officials warned

that travelling on the roofs of vans increases the risk of passengers falling and suffering serious injuries, particularly during sudden braking. It also increases the likelihood of vehicles losing balance and overturning.

Transports Directed to Follow Traffic Laws. To ensure passenger safety on the Quetta-Jacobabad National Highway, transport operators have been urged to avoid carrying more passen-

gers than the permitted capacity, prohibit passengers from travelling on vehicle roofs, maintain valid route permits and other legal documents, and ensure that vehicles meet the required fitness standards.

The Provincial Transport Authority Balochistan and Kachhi Traffic Police reaffirmed that enforcement operations against traffic violations on national highways will continue.

Authorities stressed that strict adherence to traffic regulations is essential to reducing road accidents and ensuring safer journeys for passengers travelling across Balochistan.

Duki Deputy Commissioner Reviews PPHI Performance, Directs Improved Healthcare Services

DUKI: A monthly review meeting (MRM) of the Pakistan Public Health Initiative (PPHI) Duki was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Duki Fazal Rehman Kabbani to assess the performance of healthcare facilities, availability of medical services, and implementation of various health programmes across the district.

The meeting was attended by PPHI District Manager Qahir Khan Durrani, Additional District Manager (ADM) Raz Muhammad Nasir, N-STOP Officer Dr. Aziz Kakar, Dr. Abdullah Jan, Chief Clinical Officer (CCO) Saeed Ahmed, and other relevant officials.

During the meeting, participants conducted a detailed review of the overall performance of PPHI-managed healthcare facilities across Duki district. The review covered staff attendance, availability of medicines and medical equipment, healthcare services provided to patients, cleanliness, and implementation of ongoing health programmes.

Deputy Commissioner Abdul Razzaz Sasoli assured the meeting that the district administration would ensure full implementation of the directions issued by Mir Younus Aziz Zehri. He added that all possible measures would be taken to provide relief to the public and improve the delivery of government services across Khuzdar district.

briefed the Deputy Commissioner on the performance of healthcare centres, targets achieved, challenges faced, and the future course of action. He also provided updates on available facilities and medical services being delivered to

the public at various health centres. Addressing the meeting, Deputy Commissioner Fazal Rehman Kabbani directed the relevant authorities to ensure the availability of medicines, essential medical equipment, doctors, paramedical staff, and other basic facilities at all basic health units across the district.

He stressed that residents of remote areas must have access to quality healthcare services close to their homes. The Deputy Commissioner stated that negligence and delays in public healthcare services would not be tolerated, adding that the timely provision of quality and effective medical care remained a key priority of the district administration. He made it clear that absenteeism among staff at government healthcare facilities, shortages of medicines, and any negligence in providing ser-

vices to patients would not be acceptable. Kabbani further instructed the concerned officials to regularly monitor the performance of healthcare facilities and submit monthly performance reports. He also emphasized the

need to achieve the targets of ongoing health programmes, improve patient convenience, and maintain proper cleanliness at all healthcare centres.

Highlighting the importance of coordination, the Deputy Commissioner said that effective communication and a coordinated strategy among relevant institutions were essential to improving the healthcare sector.

He directed PPHI officials to continue working together and take practical measures to improve the quality and accessibility of medical services for the people of Duki.

At the conclusion of the meeting, several necessary directives were issued to further improve the performance of healthcare facilities and ensure the provision of quality medical services throughout the district.

Balochistan Transport Authorities Crack Down on Illegal Transport Services in Dhadar, 26 Cars Impounded

QUETTA: The Provincial Transport Authority (PTA) and Kachhi Traffic Police have launched operations against illegal transport services, vehicles operating without route permits, unauthorized route permits, illegal searchlights, and overloading

ing illegal two-D (2D) transport services. In addition, 27 goods transport vehicles were issued traffic challans for operating without valid route permits or using routes without the required authorization.

Officials also removed illegal searchlights from several vehicles and issued strict warnings to transporters found violating overloading regulations.

The relevant authorities stated that enforcement operations would continue to ensure strict implementation of transport laws, curb unauthorized transport services, and maintain safe and orderly traffic flow on national highways.

They warned that vehicles operating without route permits, providing illegal transport services, or violating other transport regulations would face legal action without discrimination.

Transporters were

directed to comply fully with applicable laws, obtain valid route permits, follow authorized routes, avoid overloading, and ensure compliance with legal searchlights on their vehicles. Officials warned that strict action would be taken against violators.

The authorities fur-

ther highlighted that illegal two-D car services posed a significant challenge to the transport sector and government revenue.

They stated that the vehicles involved were operating without commercial registration and warned that action would also be taken against those carrying passengers through unauthorized services.

The enforcement drive is part of broader efforts by transport authorities to regulate public and goods transportation, improve road safety, ensure compliance with licensing requirements, and protect government revenue.

Haji Ali Madad Jattak Praises Security Forces for Foiling Terrorist Attack in Gwadar

QUETTA: Balochistan Peoples Party (PPP) central leader and Member of the Balochistan Provincial Assembly, Haji Ali Madad Jattak, has strongly condemned an attempted terrorist attack in Gwadar and praised the security forces for their timely and effective action to thwart the incident.

In a statement, Haji Ali Madad Jattak commended the courage, professionalism, and selflessness demonstrated by security personnel in foiling the terrorist attempt. He said the swift response reflected the vigilance of the security forces and their unwavering commitment to safeguarding national security.

Jattak emphasized that terrorists could never undermine Balochistan's commitment to peace, development, and prosperity. He said the people of Balochistan stood firmly alongside the security forces in their efforts to maintain peace and promote sustainable development across the province.

He added that attempts to spread fear and disrupt Balochistan's development would not succeed. The people of the province and the security forces remain united in their ongoing struggle against terrorism, he said.

The PPP leader stressed that maintain-

Gwadar and other parts of Balochistan was essential to protecting the lives and property of the public. He expressed confidence that terrorist elements would never succeed in undermining the province's development, economic stability, or the bright future of its people.

Jattak also called for continued national unity, public solidarity, and coordinated efforts by security institutions to combat terrorism. He said ensuring peace and prosperity in Balochistan was a shared responsibility and urged all patriotic forces to continue playing their role in making the province peaceful, stable, and prosperous.

Terrorist commander killed during IBO in Balochistan's Qila Saifullah: state media

NEWS DESK: Security forces killed a terrorist commander during an intelligence-based operation (IBO) in Balochistan's Qila Saifullah, state-run Radio Pakistan reported on Sunday, citing security sources.

The slain terrorist was identified as Adil Shah alias Darvesh in the state broadcaster's report, which said he belonged to Fitna-al-Khawarij — a term the state uses for terrorists belonging to the banned Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan.

"Security forces are actively carrying out operations against terrorists in Balochistan under 'Operation Radd-ul-Fitna-3'. According to security sources, the terrorist commander had been associated with Fitna-al-Khawarij since Dec 2020 and had been managing the financial affairs of the group since 2024," the report said.

The commander was also involved in facilitating permanent residences for "foreign terrorists" in Balochistan's Zhob, Sherani, and Shaban, the report quoted the sources as saying. It added that the slain terrorist had been involved in attacks on the security forces and kidnapping for ransom since 2022.

Nineteen first infor-

mation reports were registered against him and a bounty of Rs2.5 million was placed on his head, the report further stated.

Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfaraz Bugti said in a post on X that his killing showed the

corred nationwide, compared with 199 in August, representing a 13.1 per cent increase and the highest monthly total recorded in 12 years.

As per the report, terrorism related fatalities rose by 64 per cent



security forces' "professional expertise and readiness".

The province has witnessed terrorist attacks and security challenges for a long time.

On October 19, an army major was martyred, and four terrorists were killed during IBOs in Balochistan.

A day before that, security forces killed eight "India-sponsored" terrorists during IBOs in Balochistan.

On Oct 14, five ter-

district on Oct 10.

On Sept 17, three terrorists were eliminated in an IBO in Balochistan's Awaran district's Badrang area. Another three were killed in Mastung on Sept 14. Earlier in September, 21 terrorists were killed in separate engagements in Nokcha, Chagai, Ziarat Cross, and Pishin.

According to Pakistan Institute for Conflict and Security Studies (PICSS), terrorist violence increased substantially last month, with 225 attacks re-

FM Dar, Chinese envoy discuss CPEC, trade and regional stability

NEWS DESK: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar met Chinese Ambassador Jiang Zaidong in Islamabad on Sunday, discussing bilateral cooperation, including the China-Pakistan Eco-

strategic cooperative partnership", which encompasses cooperation under CPEC, connectivity, trade and investment, agricultural modernisation and people-to-people exchanges.

"exchange views on regional developments", the ministry said, adding that they had reaffirmed "the importance of dialogue and diplomacy for sustainable peace and stability in the region".

Read: Pakistan,



conomic Corridor (CPEC), trade and investment, and regional development changes," the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) said.

According to the statement released by MoFA on X, FM Dar "appreciated the continued progress" in the Pakistan-China "all-weather

FM Dar "underscored the importance of sustained high-level exchanges" to further advance the "Pakistan-China Community of Shared Future in the New Era", according to the statement.

The meeting also provided an opportunity for the two sides to

China agree to align development plans, launch CPEC 2.0.

Pakistan and China marked the 75th anniversary of their diplomatic relations this year, with both sides seeking to expand cooperation beyond traditional infrastructure projects. The next phase of the China-

China Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue in Beijing in January, the two countries agreed to align their development priorities and deepen cooperation in trade, investment, science and technology, cybersecurity and people-to-people exchanges.

Hina Javed murder case: In open letter to Punjab CM, victim's family again expresses mistrust in police probe

NEWS DESK: The victim's family in the Hina Javed murder case has written an open letter to Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, again expressing their mistrust in the police investigation and calling for the formation of a judicial commission to probe the matter, it emerged on Sunday.

Hina, a 45-year-old digital media executive, was found dead at her residence in Rawalpindi in August, with police noting signs of torture. Her husband and their domestic worker were arrested as Hina's family accused them of murdering her while her father-in-law was questioned as part of the investigation.

Earlier, her family had written to the National Commission on Human Rights, requesting intervention in the investigation of the murder case and alleging that the probe was compromised.

On Saturday, when the Punjab CM was asked on X to look into the case, she responded, "I am keeping a close watch. The DNA test results and polygraph test suggest that the murder and rape were committed by the ser-

vant, however the investigation is ongoing."

In their letter, Hina's family referred to Maryam's post, claiming that the investigation "continues to shift blame away from" the victim's husband.

"We, the family of the late Hina Javed, write to you publicly because every effort to

and objections regarding the police investigation committee probe the case and "we also tried repeatedly to meet or speak with you, but we were never able to reach you."

Referring to CM Maryam's latest post on X, it claimed the DNA of Hina's husband and father-in-law was found on



reach you directly has

It added: "The extent and brutality of torture [...] tells you everything you need to know about this murder. It tells you about the rage and hate that went into it."

In its letter, the family said it had shared its concerns, reservations

her body. And the forensic reports of her husband's laptop, as well as those of his and the domestic worker's mobile phones, were pending; pertinent messages were deleted from Hina's mobile; and the investigation "continues to shift blame away from" Hina's husband

tally tortured. The post-mortem report noted blue marks on her hands and arms and a wound on her neck. Forensic evidence collected from the crime scene also matched the DNA samples of her husband and domestic servant, according to the DNA analysis report.

"The petitioners shall furnish an undertaking that they shall neither engage in any anti-state activity nor act in any manner prejudicial to public safety or the maintenance of public order," it declared.

The bench observed that the petitioners had made out a prima facie case for the grant of interim relief, particularly as they had fundamental rights to life and liberty, guaranteed under Articles 4, 9, 10 and 15 of the Constitution, 1973, were involved.

High court asks them to promise in writing not to indulge in 'anti-state' activities.

It fixed Oct 27 for

the next hearing of the petition jointly filed by the 28 detainees, who have challenged their detention orders issued by the home department on Oct 12, 2026.

Assistant Advocate General Waqar Khalil, who was present in the court, sought time on behalf of the respondents, including the home department and the deputy commissioner of Mardan.

He promised to submit comprehensive para-wise comments on the petition, along with

Yasir Khattak, appeared

for the petitioners and contended that the impugned executive detention orders issued by the home department under Section 3 of the West

Pakistan Maintenance of Public Order Ordinance, 1960, against their clients were identical in nature.

They argued that the orders neither disclosed specific grounds nor referred to any particular incident, occurrence or overt act to substantiate the sweeping

allegations and apprehensions expressed

KPK, Peshawar and others".

They maintained that the impugned orders failed to meet the mandatory legal requirements under Section 3 of the MPO Ordinance, 1960, as well as the settled principles laid down by the Supreme Court regarding preventive detention.

The counsel also drew the court's attention to interim orders issued by the high court benches in Swat,

and Abbottabad on Oct 20 and 21, respect-



the relevant records and supporting documents, before the next hearing. A panel of lawyers, including Ahsan Rahim, Sajjad Ahmad, Saeed Usman and Mohammad

therein. The lawyers cited an earlier high court judgment titled "Attab Alam and another vs Secretary Home and Tribal Affairs, Government of

tively, similarly placed individuals facing identical detention orders under Section 3 of the MPO Ordinance had been granted interim relief.

PM's aide vows full polio eradication as this year's tally stands at seven

NEWS DESK: Prime Minister's Focal Person for Polio Eradication, Ms Ayesha Raza Farooq, on the occasion of World Polio Day on Saturday, said that significant progress has been achieved in the national mission to eradicate the virus of this crippling disease.

She said that while the country has recorded a 99.9pc reduction in polio cases over the past three decades, the positivity rate of environmental samples for poliovirus has declined to below 10pc.

"We must sustain the progress achieved so far. I want to thank all partners for supporting us towards polio eradication. Similarly, the efforts of polio workers have been instrumental in this paralyzing disease," said Rotary International President Olayinka Hakeem Babalola.



of two worldwide where the virus remains endemic, along with Afghanistan.

PMA seeks security teams in high-risk areas to continue to address more than US\$3 billion, including US\$1.3 million from Rotary members in Pakistan and invested more than half a billion of these funds and countless volunteer hours to protect over 45 million children in Pakistan from this paralyzing disease," said Rotary International President Olayinka Hakeem Babalola.

"Pakistan is demonstrating strong progress with only a handful of reported cases this year, and in order to safeguard our credibility and maintain trust, we are continuing to address community needs," said Aziz

Memorandum, chair of Rotary's Pakistan National PolioPlus Committee. PMA recommendation Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) has stated that the country stands at a decisive juncture in public health history.

Secretary General

PMA Dr Abdul Ghafoor Shoro has stated that as of Oct 2026, Pakistan has officially recorded seven wild poliovirus cases nationwide.

"The breakdown reflects ongoing localised viral transmission, including five reported cases in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and two cases in Sindh," he stated. "The PMA strongly condemns violent attacks on door-to-door vaccination workers and their security detail, including a tragic attack in September in Balochistan where two police constables deployed to protect a polio team lost their lives.

Dar orders urgent action to rein in rising wheat prices

NEWS DESK: Expressing concern over rising wheat prices, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Saturday directed federal and provincial governments to take all necessary measures, including increasing market supply, to bring prices under control.

Chairing a cabinet committee meeting to review the stocks, prices and supply of essential commodities, Mr Dar emphasised that safeguarding national food security and ensuring the availability of essential items at reasonable prices were government priorities. The participants reviewed national reserves, procurement frameworks, domestic consumption and price trends. They were informed that stocks of essential commodities remained adequate, ensuring stability in local supplies. The committee was briefed that domestic and imported wheat



stocks were sufficient to meet requirements until the next harvest.

Regarding sugar, the committee was informed that its price in

Food Security and Research Minister Rana Tanveer Hussain, Climate Change Minister Musad Malik, Special Assistant to the Prime

Minister Tariq Bajwa, the secretaries of the national food security and research and commerce ministries, the chief secretaries of all provinces, and provincial officials from relevant departments. Implementation

In a related development, the PTI Kisan Wing has welcomed the announcement of a wheat support price of Rs4,500 per maund (40kg), while

expressing reservations about its implementation and demanding concrete measures to ensure farmers receive the announced rate for their produce. A day earlier, Prime Minister Shehbaz

Shah had set the new indicative wheat support price for 2027, increasing it by Rs1,000 from the rate fixed last year.

According to a statement issued on Saturday, PTI Kisan Wing Central Secretary Information Khalid Nawaz Sadraich said the announcement had come after a prolonged wait and persistent demands by farmers' organisations, which had repeatedly urged the government to protect growers from rising production costs and financial losses.

He welcomed the announcement but said its significance would depend on whether the government ensured its implementation in letter and spirit.