

CM inaugurates Sark Dam:

Bugti vows continued dev. & prosperity in Balochistan

A milestone in regional water security, the Sark Dam near Phelawagh promises enhanced irrigation and agricultural growth in Balochistan

QUETTA (6 AM Report): Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti, officially inaugurated the Sark Dam (also known as Sark Dam Phelawagh), one of the province's critical hydraulic development projects. Accompanied by provincial ministers, members of the Balochistan Assembly, and local dignitaries, the launch marks a significant step forward in addressing water scarcity and boosting agricultural productivity.

Constructed under the 2024-25 Annual Development Programme, the Sark Dam was completed at a cost of PKR 27.56 crore. The project commenced on

March 23, 2025, and reached completion by September 5, 2025.

At the inauguration ceremony, CM Bugti emphasized that the dam will serve as a cornerstone for continuous water supply, improved groundwater levels, and enhanced agricultural prosperity in the region. He noted:

"Considering the needs and hardships of the people of Balochistan, our government is launching projects that not only strengthen the agricultural sector but also generate new livelihood opportunities."

CM Bugti reaffirmed the provincial government's unwavering

commitment to sustained development and prosperity, stating that future projects will follow suit to ensure the people of Balochistan receive their due. He added:

"We will continue this journey of progress so that the province's long-standing deprivations can be overcome and the rightful entitlements of our people ensured."

The successful completion of the Sark Dam stands as a testament to the government's resolve to reduce water insecurity, expand agricultural potential, and spur socioeconomic uplift in underserved areas of Balochistan.



PHELAWAG: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti, Provincial Ministers, MPAs and tribal elites offering Dua after inaugurating Sark Dam.

Supreme Court sets up facilitation cell for overseas Pakistanis

OLFC to help overseas litigants with supreme court matters via whatsapp and digital portal

ISLAMABAD (Online): The Supreme Court of Pakistan has set up an Overseas Litigants Facilitation Cell (OLFC) to assist overseas Pakistanis facing difficulties in accessing justice.

Taking notice of the challenges expatriates encounter in pursuing legal matters, the Chief Justice of Pakistan ordered the establishment of the OLFC at the Supreme Court's Principal Seat. The Cell will function under the supervision of the Principal Staff Officer (PSO) to the Chief Justice.

The OLFC will serve as a dedicated contact point to provide necessary facilitation within its jurisdiction. Overseas litigants can reach the Cell through a special WhatsApp number (+92 326 4442444, messages only) or via the Supreme Court's official website portal. This facility is strictly limited to matters related to the Supreme Court of Pakistan and does not extend to other courts.

For OLFC purposes, "overseas litigants" refers to any party residing

abroad, regardless of nationality, provided they have the legal right to approach the Supreme Court of Pakistan.

Under relevant laws and rules, the OLFC will: Facilitate the digital submission of petitions, applications, and complaints.

Assist in the processing of applications for early hearing before the Supreme Court. Provide case updates and certified copies of court orders electronically.

Maintain digital records of ongoing matters and submit detailed reports to the Chief Justice of Pakistan.

The Cell will specifically handle appeals and pending cases under the Supreme Court's appellate jurisdiction involving overseas litigants. It will not deal with cases under the jurisdiction of other courts.

This initiative reflects the judiciary's commitment to ensuring that access to justice is not hindered by geographical distance, enabling overseas Pakistanis to effectively defend their rights before the Supreme Court of Pakistan.

PM calls for ensuring uninterrupted supply of POL products amid floods

LAHORE (Online): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has instructed special vigilance to ensure the transportation of petroleum products without any interruption in view of the flood situation in different parts of the country.

He was talking to Minister for Petroleum Ali Pervaiz Malik, who called on him in Lahore today.

The Prime Minister was briefed about the ongoing projects and reforms in the energy sector.

Meanwhile, a detailed discussion was held related to the country's energy situation and matters pertaining to the political situation of the country also came under discussion.

Besides, consultation was made regarding the party's matters and future course of action in the meeting.

Muhammad Tahir named new IGP of Balochistan



QUETTA (6 AM Report): The federal government has appointed Muhammad Tahir as the new Inspector General (IGP) Police Balochistan.

According to a notification issued by the Establishment Division, Muhammad Tahir, a grade-21 officer of the Police Service of Pakistan, was previously serving in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province before being assigned to his new role in Balochistan.

The sources claimed that the appointment came as part of routine administrative changes and was seen as an important development for the province, where the police force continued to face significant challenges in maintaining law and order.

Kazakh DPM/FM to arrive today

ISLAMABAD (APP): Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of the Republic of Kazakhstan Murat Nurtleu will undertake an official visit to Pakistan from 8 - 9 September.

"This important visit serves as a precursor to the forthcoming visit of the President of Kazakhstan to Pakistan, scheduled in November," Foreign Office Spokesperson said in a press statement.

The Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Kazakhstan will be accompanied by a high-level 13-member delegation, including the minister of transport.

The joint working groups meetings on agriculture and IT will also be held on the sidelines of the visit.

During his stay, the Kazakh DPM/FM will hold a tete-a-tete with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar followed by delegation-level talks. Nurtleu is also expected to call on the President and the Prime Minister.

President urges high alert as heavy rains threaten Sindh

NDMA warns of urban flooding and flash floods amid extreme weather forecast from Sept 7-10

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari on Sunday called on all concerned institutions to remain fully prepared in view of the heavy rains expected in Sindh from Sunday night through Tuesday.

The President directed provincial, district and municipal authorities to stay on high alert and ensure advance arrangements, particularly in low-lying and coastal areas, which are most vulnerable to flooding.

He also emphasized the need for close monitoring of water levels in Hub Dam and other reservoirs to safeguard communities.

President Zardari appealed to the residents of these areas to take precautionary measures and strictly follow government advisories for their safety.

He stressed that timely relocation to safe areas, where necessary, must be facilitated and that

relief machinery and staff at the district and tehsil levels remain fully mobilized.

The President further urged the media and local administrations to play an active role in raising awareness among the public, so that risks are minimized and lives are protected.

Meanwhile, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) on Sunday has issued a warning for extremely heavy rainfall across southeastern Sindh from September 7 to 10, cautioning that the downpours may lead to urban flooding in low-lying coastal districts.

According to NDMA, the rains are being driven by a weather system currently positioned over the Gujarat-Rajasthan border, which is moving westward and expected to bring intermittent rainfall across Sindh, southern Punjab, and parts of Balochistan until September 10.



LAHORE: Minister for Petroleum Ali Pervaiz Malik called on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

Literacy redefined in the digital age: Governor

AI, poverty, and out-of-school children pose urgent challenges to Balochistan's educational future

QUETTA (6 AM Report): Governor of Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandokhail emphasized the evolving nature of literacy in the modern era, stating that with the rise of artificial intelligence and robotic technology, digital literacy has become the new benchmark for being educated and relevant in today's world.

In his message on World Literacy Day, the Governor said the day serves as a reminder and a call to action—encouraging society to break the chains of ignorance and embrace the power of knowledge to build a brighter future.

"This day lights the path toward a future where every mind is empowered, and no child is left behind," he added.

Governor Mandokhail called for a comprehensive national education policy rooted in critical thinking,

scientific reasoning, and intellectual empowerment, to uplift the country in a meaningful and sustainable way.

Addressing the challenges in Balochistan, he pointed out that poverty and inflation are major barriers to education, forcing countless children into labor rather than learning.

"Their dreams of education are often crushed by harsh realities, but we must not lose hope," he said, adding that the dream of a developed and literate Balochistan can only be realized through collective effort. He noted that millions of children aged 5 to 15 in Balochistan are out of school, highlighting the urgent need for international support.

"The dream of an educated Balochistan cannot be achieved without the unwavering backing of international organizations," he stressed.



QUETTA: Senator Danesh Kumar and Parliamentary Secretary for Minority Affairs Sanjay Kumar chant slogans during Defence Day rally.

Syedaal Khan appeals to business community for flood relief support

ISLAMABAD (APP): Deputy Chairman Senate Syedaal Khan, in a series of meetings with prominent traders, investors, and business leaders in Karachi, appealed to the business community to play an active role in supporting flood victims. Meeting separately with Atiq Mir, Chairman of the All-Karachi Traders Alliance and Patron-in-Chief of the Atiq Mir Foundation, as well as with Mian Tariq and other representatives from the electronics, garments, and industrial sectors, he said recent torrential rains and devastating floods in

Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa had severely affected thousands of families. Syedaal Khan said that the victims were facing extreme hardships, with financial losses crippling their lives. In such circumstances, he emphasized that the role of philanthropists and the business community was crucial in helping families return to normal and prosperous lives. The Deputy Chairman underlined that the true strength of nations lies in unity and cooperation, adding that this spirit would enable Pakistan to overcome the crisis.

SC to hold crucial full court meeting today amid Justice Mansoor Ali Shah's letter

ISLAMABAD (Online): The Supreme Court of Pakistan will hold a high-stakes Full Court meeting on the administrative side today (Monday) under the chairmanship of Chief Justice Yahya Afridi.

The session has gained added significance following a letter by Justice Mansoor Ali Shah, who raised serious questions regarding judicial procedures and decision-making.

The meeting, scheduled for 1 PM, will review amendments to the Supreme Court Rules 2025, which were earlier passed through circulation and approved by majority vote.

Some judges had objected, insisting the rules should have been ratified in a full court session. The Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) has also

submitted detailed written proposals, including the demand to roll back recent hikes in court fees, arguing they undermine citizens' constitutional right to inexpensive and speedy justice.

Among the SCBA's 12-page recommendations are calls for:

Timely case disposal (civil appeals within 6 months, other appeals within 1 year).

Automatic re-fixing of delisted cases the next working day.

Issuance of short orders the same day and detailed judgments within one month.

Evening benches to speed up hearings.

Open proceedings of the Supreme Judicial Council and six-month deadlines for rulings on complaints against judges.



ISLAMABAD: Chief of Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu laid a floral wreath at the Martyrs' Monument to pay homage to the martyrs and offered Fateha for departed souls.

PAF's victory in Bunyanum Marsoos demonstrates will, capability: Air Chief

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan Air Force solemnly observed Martyrs' Day on 7th September across all PAF Bases nationwide.

The day commenced with special prayers and Quran Khawani, dedicated to the martyrs of the 1965 and 1971 wars, as well as to all those who have rendered the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty since the creation of Pakistan.

At Air Headquarters Islamabad, a central Martyrs' Day Ceremony was held, where Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu, Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, said a press release issued by Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR).

In his address, the Air Chief underscored the proud legacy of sacrifice, courage and professionalism that defines the PAF.

He emphasized that Martyrs' Day symbolizes the extraordinary bravery, impeccable professionalism and unparalleled spirit of sacrifice demonstrated by the Armed Forces of Pakistan. He further added that well-cognizant of the fast-changing security dynamics, Pakistan Air Force stands committed to its mission with singularity of purpose. The latest link in chain of victories secured by PAF in Marka-e-Haq / Bunyan-um-Marsoos has once more proved our will and capability to guard the aerial frontiers of our motherland.

US delivers first consignment of flood aid to Pak

RAWALPINDI (INP): In response to the ongoing flood situation, the US through Army Central Command (US ARCENT) has extended humanitarian assistance for the flood-affected population of Pakistan.

A total of six flights carrying relief consignments are scheduled to arrive in Pakistan, comprising essential items including tents, dewatering pumps and generators, said Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) in a statement.

The first flight arrived on Saturday with US Charge d'Affairs and Commander US ARCENT attending the reception of the initial consignment and formally handing over the relief goods to the Pakistan Army.

The consignments will be moved to Army Flood Relief Camps for onward distribution among the flood-affected people. "The Government and people of Pakistan are thankful to the US Government and Military for standing by the affected population of Pakistan in these testing times," said ISPR.

PM Shehbaz grieved at Jalalpur boat tragedy

LAHORE (APP): Highlighting the broader challenge, the Prime Minister said Pakistan continues to suffer from the harmful effects of climate change despite contributing negligibly to global greenhouse gas emissions.

He noted that Pakistan remained among the most affected countries in the world due to climate change.

PM Shehbaz said the federal and provincial governments were jointly developing an effective strategy and comprehensive planning in vulnerable areas to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Measures were being taken to strengthen early warning systems, build resilient infrastructure, and further improve rescue and relief mechanisms, he added.

No one allowed to disrupt public life in the name of protest: Home Department

Quetta (6 AM Report): The Home Department of Balochistan has issued a firm statement asserting that while peaceful protest is a fundamental democratic right, no one will be allowed to forcefully block roads or disrupt daily life. The department made it clear that strict and immediate action will be taken against anyone attempting to obstruct public movement or challenge the authority of the state.

The official press note emphasized that taking the law into one's own hands will not be tolerated, and those who resort to violence or coercion will face serious legal consequences. The statement warned that anyone challenging state writ or disturbing public order will face unbiased and tough action, and disrupting public facilities is a punishable offense under the law.

The department further stated that federal installations such as airports, railway stations,

highways, and all federal and provincial development projects will be provided with foolproof security to prevent any untoward incidents.

It was also clarified that essential services—including hospitals, public transport, fuel stations, and markets—must remain fully operational under all circumstances. Any attempts to shut down educational institutions or healthcare facilities will not be tolerated. Instructions have been issued to ensure full attendance of medical staff, keep ambulances on alert, and ensure the availability of essential medicines.

The Home Department warned that those who attempt to harm public peace will be treated as acting against national interests and dealt with an iron hand.

Citizens have been urged to remain peaceful and stay away from elements trying to create chaos or disturb law and order in the province.



MULTAN: Chairman Senate Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani and Governor KPK Faisal Karim Kundi leading the 100th annual procession of Eid Milad-un-Nabi organized by Anjuman Islamia on 12th Rabi-ul-Awwal.

KP Governor urges construction of small dams to mitigate flood damage

DERA ISMAIL KHAN (APP): Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi Sunday emphasized the urgent need for the construction of small dams in the province to mitigate the recurring devastation caused by heavy rains and floods.

While talking to media, he said that natural disasters should not be politicized, but tackled collectively through effective rehabilitation measures.

The governor noted that while Swat, Buner, and Bajaur had suffered severe destruction, Dera Ismail Khan faced relatively less damage.

"More than 400 people have lost their lives in Buner alone, and many are still missing. Unlike in the past, when flooding was confined to certain regions, this year almost every part of the province has been affected," Kundi said, adding that livelihoods, homes, and businesses had been swept away.

He praised the efforts of NDMA and PDMA, and urged the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government, NGOs, and other institutions to accelerate rehabilitation efforts, assuring that the federal government was fully cooperating.

Responding to a question about construction of Kalabagh dam, the governor stressed that instead of debating the controversial Kalabagh Dam, focus should be placed on smaller dams within the province.

He suggested that reservoirs at Daraban Zam, Sheikh Haider Zam, Tank Zam, and Chodwan Zam in Dera Ismail Khan division would provide effective protection and sustainable water management.

Meanwhile, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi on Sunday called for urgent measures to ensure the provision of healthcare facilities and long-term rehabilitation for flood affectees. The governor expressed these views during his visit to a free medical camp established by the Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) here in Kokar area.

Chairman PRCS Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Farzand Ali Wazir was also present on the occasion.

At the camp, flood-affected people are being provided with free treatment and medicines. Governor Kundi inspected the arrangements and interacted with patients, acknowledging the challenges faced by the local population in accessing healthcare after the disaster.

He praised the humanitarian role of PRCS, noting that the organization extended vital support not only in Swat, Buner, Swabi, and Shangla but also in Dera Ismail Khan during the natural calamities. Highlighting the health risks that emerged after the floods, Governor Kundi said dengue and other epidemic diseases had multiplied the hardships of victims.

Two drown in floodwater

MUZAFFARGARH (APP): Two people lost their lives in separate flood-related drowning incidents in Khan Garh and Alipur tehsils, while rescue teams saved three others. In Khan Garh, 23-year-old Shoaib from Lashari village near Damarwala drowned while attempting to reach the riverbank. Rescue teams, assisted by locals, recovered the body and handed it over to his family. The deceased left behind two young children.

In another incident at village Kachi Laal in Alipur, four people were swept away by floodwater. Rescue 1122 teams managed to save three of them, while 18-year-old Shehzad drowned. His body was recovered and handed over to his relatives.

Police rescue 7 of family trapped in floodwater

MUZAFFARGARH (APP): Police, with the help of Safe City Authority drones, rescued seven members of a family trapped in floodwaters in Rangpur tehsil. According to police, the family was stranded on the roof of their house, surrounded by several feet of water. The Safe City drones, using thermal imaging, identified the victims and alerted police about their location. SHO Rangpur, along with a police team, reached the site and safely shifted all the seven family members to a safer location.

CM Maryam praises swift floodwater drainage efforts in Gujrat

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has expressed satisfaction over the rapid drainage of floodwater in Gujrat, stating that the water level had decreased by two feet in a single day and 'Fawara Chowk' had been cleared. She said the situation in the city was improving quickly and citizens would soon be fully relieved of the problem. She appreciated the efforts of provincial secretaries, relevant officers, and field staff, calling the operation a success. The CM said adequate manpower and equipment were in place to protect the city from further rainfall or an increase in water pressure. WASA teams, Irrigation Department officials, C&W engineers, and other officers, including eight WASA Executive Engineers, were supervising the ongoing relief operation.

CM Maryam Nawaz further noted that areas obstructing water flow had

been identified with the help of drone cameras. She directed the Irrigation Department to conduct a research study for effective long-term planning.

She added that the establishment of WASA in Gujrat would resolve issues of sanitation, drainage, and sewage on a permanent basis, significantly improving service delivery in the city.

Meanwhile, Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has paid glowing tribute to the officers and soldiers of the Pakistan Air Force (PAF) on Air Force Day, saluting their courage, professionalism, and eternal sacrifices.

In her message, the CM said, "Salute to the Shaheens of Pakistan Air Force", adding that the entire nation stands proud of the PAF's unmatched bravery and dedication. She noted that September 7, 1965, remains a shining chapter in the history of the Air Force.

Governor Tessori honors PAF's courage & sacrifices on Air Force day

KARACHI (APP): Sindh Governor Kamran Khan Tessori has said in his special message on the occasion of Pakistan Air Force Day that September 7 reminds us of unparalleled determination, courage and sacrifices of the Pakistan Air Force to protect the air borders of the motherland.

He said that in the 1965 war, the brave falcons of the Pakistan Air Force made history by crushing the enemy's ambitions.

Tessori said that PAF destroyed several enemy aircraft, not only the enemy's back was broken but also the message was

given to the world that an invincible force is born from the combination of faith, sacrifice and professionalism.

The Governor Sindh said that even today, the Pakistan Air Force was in line with modern requirements, has the full capacity to deal with every challenge and the nation was proud of them.

While paying tribute to the defenders of the air borders of the dear homeland, he said that the Pakistan Air Force was a strong wall of our national security, on which the entire nation is proud of.

Over 1.6 mln people at risk due to potential flooding in Sindh

KARACHI (APP): Over 1.6 million people could be affected by possible flooding across Sindh, Provincial Rain and Flood Emergency Monitoring Cell report said.

According to the report, as many as 1,651 villages in 167 union councils across 44 talukas of various divisions and districts face the risk of inundation, putting a population of 1,638,491 at risk.

During the past 24 hours, 6,288 people have been shifted to safer locations, while the total number of affected individuals has reached 128,057. To support displaced families, 528 relief camps have been set up across the province.

The Sindh Health Department has established 154 medical camps, both mobile and fixed, where 5,772 patients were treated in the last 24 hours alone, bringing the total number of beneficiaries to 39,576.

The Sindh Information Department emphasized that all government departments remain fully mobilized to mitigate the impact of the potential floods and to provide timely relief to the people.

On directives of the Sindh government, district administrations are operating relief and medical camps across the province.

Citizens were advised to immediately contact their nearest relief camp or the control rooms in case of any emergency at the following numbers: 021-99222967, 99222902, 99222758, 99222759.



RAWALPINDI: Commuters ride through flooded Jamia Masjid road after the heavy rain in morning hours, in the city.

Sindh gears up for 800,000 cusecs flood threat: CM Murad

KARACHI (INP): Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah has said that the provincial government is preparing for potential floods with contingency planning based on water flows of up to 800,000 cusecs.

Addressing a press conference at the Flood Monitoring Cell in Karachi on Sunday, Shah said that the ongoing monsoon rains have triggered flood-like conditions in several areas.

"A flood surge of up to 700,000 cusecs is expected at Panjnad, while 217,000 cusecs of water is anticipated to enter the Indus River from Taunsa," he said.

He added that the peak water level at Guddu Barrage is expected on September 9, and the province is preparing accordingly.

"Many residents of the affected districts have already evacuated, and we are ensuring full relief efforts for flood victims," he said.

The chief minister said that relief camps, medicines, and food supplies are being provided in the affected areas.

Water situation keeps fluctuating at Sindh barrages.

He added that Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and President Asif Ali Zardari are constantly monitoring the flood situation.

Talking about the monsoon, the CM said that heavy rains are forecasted for Karachi and other parts of Sindh.

"Karachi has already received more rainfall than expected this year. We are fully prepared for more rain, and all departments and ministers are active," Shah assured.

A Rain and Flood Emergency Centre has been established at the Chief Secretary's office.

He said that over 324,000 people have been relocated to safer areas.

He was flanked by Minister for Information Sharjeel Memon, Minister Rehabilitation Makhdoom Mahboob, Chief Secretary Asif Hyder Shah and others.

Mr Shah revealed that approximately 324,000 people are likely to be displaced, of whom 128,000

have already left their homes. However, most evacuees have chosen not to stay at relief camps, with some relocating to embankments. So far, over 40,000 patients have been provided medical aid, while nine lakh livestock have been vaccinated.

Measures taken to drain water from the Left Bank Outfall Drain (LBOD) are expected to be beneficial, he said. The province is also constructing bridges on the Indus Highway to facilitate movement, and Shah recalled that Sindh had successfully managed the flood-waters in 2015 as well.

Addressing the comparative flood situation in Punjab, Murad Shah remarked that conditions there are far more severe. He clarified that reports of 40 villages inundated in Sehwan refer to katcha settlements that are always at risk during floods.

Mr Shah emphasised unity during national crises, recalling that the nation stood together during the May border confrontation with India.



SAHIWAL: Federal Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Syed Imran Ahmed Shah visited relief camps in Sahiwal established by Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund in collaboration with CHEF International.

Robbers loot Rs20m from bank cash van

KARACHI (INP): Police in Karachi on Sunday registered an FIR against armed persons for robbing over Rs20 million from a bank cash van at Kalima Chowk in the jurisdiction of Manghopir police station two days ago.

Before fleeing, the suspects had also snatched a weapon from a security guard escorting the van.

In the FIR, registered on the complaint of Security Supervisor Ghazi Khan, the supervisor said that he reached the New Nazimabad Gate for a security check. "As soon as I reached the gate, I saw the van passing through it.

Two security guards were mounted on a motorbike, while others were sitting inside the van," he said in the FIR, adding, "Suddenly, five armed persons appeared, stopped the van and snatched a rifle from one of the guards, named Aftab.

Thundershower forecast for cities including Karachi

KARACHI (APP): Pakistan Meteorological Department on Sunday predicted partly cloudy weather in most districts of the Sindh province with rain-windstorm or thundershower (with isolated heavyfall) during the next 24 hours.

The thundershower is forecast in Tharparkar (Mithi, Islamkot, Nagarparkar, Chachro, Dhali, Diplo, Kaloi), Umerkot, Mirpur Khas, Sanghar, Khairpur, Shaheed Benazirabad, Matiari, Tando Allahyar, Tando Muhammad Khan, Thatta, Badin, Sukkur, Khairpur.

Over 1.3m people affected by floods in South Punjab

MULTAN (APP): More than 1.3 million people have been affected by the devastating floods in South Punjab, with vast stretches of farmland submerged and widespread destruction to crops. According to data released by the South Punjab Secretariat on Sunday, nearly 640,000 acres of agricultural land are under water, while crops over 753,000 acres have been completely destroyed. Officials describe this as one of the most severe agricultural disasters in recent years, raising serious concerns about food security and the livelihoods of thousands of farming families.

The disaster has claimed eight lives so far. In massive evacuation operations, approximately 1.43 million people and more than 1.44 million livestock have been relocated to safer areas. To support the displaced population, the South Punjab administration has established 465 relief camps and 450 medical camps across the affected areas.

So far, 121,000 patients have received treatment for flood-related illnesses and injuries.

Authorities say rescue and relief efforts are being ramped up to meet urgent humanitarian needs. Immediate priorities include the provision of food, shelter, and medical care, while planning is also underway to tackle the long-term consequences of the disaster.

Punjab govt preparing special package for flood victims

MULTAN (APP): Punjab Social Welfare and Baitul Maal Minister Sohail Shaukat Butt on Sunday visited Multan to review flood relief operations, and announced that a special package for flood-affected families was being prepared on the direction of Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif.

The minister reached Basti Langrial Flood Relief Camp where he distributed ration bags, food packs and gifts among flood victims. He also entered tents

to meet affected families, listened to their grievances and assured immediate redressal.

Accompanied by Secretary Social Welfare Punjab Javed Akhtar Mahmood and Assistant Commissioner City Abdul Sami Sheikh, the minister inspected relief counters established by district departments at the camp.

He directed the officials to ensure timely provision of meals, medical facilities and essential supplies.

Minister inaugurates Govt College in Orakzai

PESHAWAR (APP): Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Minister for Higher Education Meena Khan Afridi Sunday formally inaugurated newly constructed building of Government Degree College Naaka Mela, Orakzai district built at a cost of Rs.178.5 million.

The inauguration ceremony was also attended by the Chairman DDAC and MPA Aurangzeb Orakzai, district administration officials, local elders, students and the general public in large numbers.

Addressing the gathering, the minister said that completion of the college would provide students with access to higher education at their doorstep. He

announced that all vacant posts at the college would be filled soon. Modern learning facilities will also be provided to ensure a conducive learning environment.

Meena Khan Afridi said that in the past decade, the provincial government had established 15 new universities and 119 colleges, while work on another 50 colleges was under way. He added that these institutions were empowering youth and contributing towards the province's economic and social development.

Criticizing his opponents, the Minister remarked: "Our performance is crystal clear before the public.

Daily 6AM, Quetta

Monday September 08, 2025

Hybrid failures

It is difficult to disagree with the remarks of the Supreme Court's Justice Athar Minallah, who on Thursday indicated that the hybrid system in Pakistan — where unelected powers are actively involved in civilian affairs — is a euphemism for dictatorship.

The veteran judge, while speaking in Karachi, also dwelt on the role the senior judiciary has played in the country's history by endorsing the unconstitutional moves of strongmen.

Putting it bluntly, he said that the “77-year judicial history is not a matter of pride for me”, while giving examples of the Maulvi Tamizuddin case, as well as of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's trial and Gen Musharraf's assaults on the constitutional order, to prove how at crucial times their lordships have sided with authoritarian rulers to subvert the rule of law. Mr Minallah also praised the bravery of judges who refused to bow before dictators.

Pakistan's damaging experiments with different forms of hybridity, from earlier decades to the present day, have only weakened institutions, particularly parliament and the judiciary. And rarely have proponents of the hybrid system been held to account for their failures; the actual powers wash their hands of mistakes, while their civilian partners face the music. In contrast, in fully functioning democratic systems, elected leaders are held accountable before the voter.

Considering the judiciary's role, as highlighted by Justice Minallah, in supporting unconstitutional moves — and these grim episodes are well-documented in our history — ‘willing’ collaborators on the bench have worked with usurpers to subvert the constitutional system, often guided by the ‘doctrine of necessity’. Sadly, in the current scenario too, many of their lordships have been perceived as coming to the aid of the real powers to give their legal blessings to doubtful laws and amendments.

The solution, as Justice Minallah suggested, is deceptively simple on paper, but difficult to put into practice: abiding by the Constitution, with all institutions staying within the bounds prescribed for them by the basic law. In this regard, when the country faces rampant insecurity, it is essential that the military sticks to its core duty of defending Pakistan. We face two major militant insurgencies — in KP and Balochistan — while a hostile neighbour to the east, and an unreliable regime in Kabul, mean we must constantly remain vigilant.

In such a situation, if the security apparatus indulges in political management, the focus on defence can become diluted. Whether it is direct military rule or a ‘hybrid’ system, both have left lasting scars on the constitutional system. Hence, there is a need to move away from the hybrid model in the interest of democracy, and in the interests of both the civilian and military leaderships.

Unpacking campus scandals

Pervez Hoodbhoy

No one denies that outrageous incidents occur within our universities, sometimes making national news.

Examples include professors demanding sexual favours for better grades, male students creating fake, explicit AI images of female students, and administrators or low-level employees using hidden cameras for blackmail. Social media magnifies all this by a thousand, maybe a million. My internet search shows that some salacious on-sale videos can be viewed for only Rs100. Each scandal inevitably triggers public outrage that peaks and then fades.

Rightly speaking, university administrators should swiftly investigate and appropriately punish teachers or students. Unfortunately, this is rare. However, officials cannot always be held responsible because female students are usually too afraid to testify, fearing damage to their reputations even if they had been trapped and were guiltless. In a heavily patriarchal society with skewed power relationships, what can they do?

Media lynching — such as the recent sting operation at Bahawalpur University — is therefore seen as an alternative. Carried out by a popular TV channel, its viewership must have skyrocketed. The university's authorities had, as expected, waffled. But is justice truly served by cameras chasing some bad-guy professor? One can be doubtful.

True injustice occurs, however, when these instances are weaponised by reactionary voices. They rush to seize a megaphone, multiply fears, ignite lurid sexual fantasies and declare the coed university as a den of sin and temptation disallowed by religious and cultural mores. See, they say, let the sexes intermingle and bay-hayae (immorality) is what you get.

Reports of sexual misconduct are weaponised to enforce segregation and oppose coeducation.

The impact of such propaganda in a conserva-

tive society can only be imagined. In the aftermath of even a single incident, we cannot ever know how many hundreds of daughters were disallowed by their fathers or brothers from enrolling at some coed campus or being withdrawn from one.

A frequently proposed solution is to have more women-only universities. This is a dead end. I've guest lectured at several and to call them universities is a travesty. Perhaps they could be better described as female safe houses or custodial centres where minds must be sheltered and dulled, not challenged and sharpened.

What about going the Taliban way, and banning female education altogether? Even with the explosive growth of Pakistani conservatism, the near parity of male-female enrolment (100-96) in tertiary education suggests that urbanites do not want this extreme. Universities — whose revenues depend on enrolment — tread cautiously.

As a way out, worried officials aim to reassure fathers and brothers (mothers rarely matter) by increasing segregation through strict moral pol-icing. Official circulars are periodically issued that threaten violators with fines, denial of entry on campus, withholding of semester results, or expulsion. But how do they define morality?

Official websites do not list as ‘immoral’ crimes like theft, academic cheating, plagiarism or vandalism. Similarly, harassment and violence against different ethnic and religious groups, or disrupting cultural and music festivals, are not classified as immoral. Depending on who's in charge, some officials disallow such actions while others secretly or openly endorse them.

Immorality, however, revolves around female attire. While none can deny that clothing should be ‘modest’, its meaning varies from city to city and campus to campus. Back in the early 1970s, when I started my university

teaching career, the number of female students at Quaid-e-Azam University in burqa were fewer than the fingers on one hand. Today they are the majority, followed by the less restrictive hijab, while those without head cover are outliers. Morality also comes under threat when a female walks by herself (hence becomes vulnerable), engages in casual conversations with male students, or makes friends across the divide. This is less emphasised at institutions like Lums whose official policy merely forbids PDA (public display of affection) such as the holding of hands. But within that same city is Punjab University (PU), a once-decent relic from British times.

Now better known for hyperactive moral squads than for scholarly accomplishments, PU is the headquarters of the Islami Jamiat-i-Talaba. IJT denounces coeducation and has physically attacked couples found sitting together on the university's lawn or benches. Some teachers and officials make no secret of their support for such actions.

Modernity is impacting every country's values and eliciting different responses. Turkiye, Morocco and Bangladesh have liberal campuses, much more so than ours. Saudi Arabia and the UAE are now outpacing even them. Whether or not de-segregation has full popular support, this is what their autocratic rulers have decided. On the other hand, even under Iran's strict clerical rule, the cruel death in custody of 22-year-old anti-hijab activist Mahsa Amini led to countrywide protests, suggesting that change is inevitable.

Modernity is also changing Pakistan but far slower than elsewhere. Our conservatives still don't want wives and daughters to work, but their opposition has diminished now that females in one out of five families have outside jobs. Despite all efforts to minimise contact between genders, full segregation is proving impossible.

The Pakistani diaspora in Britain, now

into its third generation, remains backward and stuck in a quandary. Many parents, fearing corruption, resist sending their children to British coed schools. This makes for awkwardness in a society that treasures equality of men and women. Even more seriously, this puts many Pak-Brits at the bottom of the social heap for lack of skills and knowledge. Attitudes towards females, derived from enforcing school segregation, can show up late in life.

Islamophobic forces in Britain have long derived strength from grooming gang sex scandals that, much more than other immigrants, implicate British-Pakistani men. While the far right's claims are exaggerated to suit its political agenda, Pakistanis familiar with male attitudes towards females in general, and white girls in particular, say: where there's smoke there's fire.

Gender-related crimes on campus — or elsewhere for that matter — have no easy solution. Would restricting women to female-only workplaces restore purity and virtuousness? Would banning all contact between males and females eliminate sexual misconduct on our coed campuses?

Very likely, this would — just as banning all cars and motorbikes would eliminate traffic accidents. However, travelling on horses and camels is not a price that many, including conservatives, are willing to pay.

As a way out, worried officials aim to reassure fathers and brothers (mothers rarely matter) by increasing segregation through strict moral pol-icing.

Official circulars are periodically issued that threaten violators with fines, denial of entry on campus, withholding of semester results, or expulsion. But how do they define morality?

Turkiye, Morocco and Bangladesh have liberal campuses, much more so than ours.

Saudi Arabia and the UAE are now outpacing even them.

AI crossroads

Asad Baig

It's earnings season. Once again, the markets are moving to the rhythm set by the ‘Magnificent Seven’ dominating the Nasdaq. Their numbers are in, and the mood on Wall Street is electric. Much of that excitement, let's be honest, is about just one thing: AI.

What started as a buzzword a few years ago has turned into a full-blown economic engine. Investors are no longer just buying into hype, but the results. Nvidia has posted a staggering year-over-year revenue increase of nearly 70 per cent, underscoring the explosive demand for its AI chips. Meta is investing heavily in AI for its core ad functionality, boosting engagement, margins and investor confidence through more efficient monetisation. Microsoft, Amazon, Google, they are all re-architecting their business models around AI, and the market is rewarding them with soaring valuations.

The logic is simple: the future has arrived early, and investors have already priced in the gains, undermining the ‘bubble theory’, which suggests that the AI-based company valuations are inflated without real substance and could burst like a figurative bubble. Much like the Dot Com crash of the early 2000s.

But the earnings of the ‘Mag 7’ tell another story. They signal that AI has moved beyond being the next big thing, to the thing. And we are only beginning to tap its full potential.

Critical gaps risk undermining the AI policy's promise.

With the US gradually easing chip export restrictions to China, a new phase of AI acceleration is taking shape. Automation is giving way to autonomy, and cars, drones and infrastructure systems are beginning to operate as intelligent agents, capable of learning, adapting and coordinating with other machines in real time.

The next AI wave will reinvent entire sectors. Generative design in manufacturing. AI-discovered drugs. Language models

embedded in judicial, health and financial systems. Smart cities built not around traffic lights but predictive analytics. If this feels like science fiction, you haven't been paying attention. We are moving fast, past the age of data, deep into the age of autonomous decisions.

Now here is the uncomfortable part: are we as a country ready for any of this? The answer is complicated.

On one hand, the newly released National AI Policy signals intent: it outlines large-scale commitments, from training a million professionals in AI and related technologies to integrating AI into key areas of governance, healthcare, education and agriculture. The policy envisions the use of AI to streamline civic services, enhance public sector efficiency and enable data-driven decision-making at scale. It also proposes the establishment of oversight bodies to ensure ethical deployment, data privacy and algorithmic accountability, an attempt to build a governance framework around a rapidly evolving technology.

In essence, the document offers a blueprint for a future where AI moves beyond being an abstract innovation reserved for elites or those who can afford it, and becomes a foundational part of national infrastructure and a key driver of state capacity.

On the other hand, several critical gaps risk undermining the policy's promise. First, while the vision is bold, the execution framework is vague. Ambitious targets, like training a million people or deploying national-scale civic AI projects, lack operational detail, funding clarity and realistic timelines. Without institutional capacity-building, these goals may remain rhetorical.

Second, the policy assumes that ministries, boards and provincial departments will be able to digitise, standardise and share data rapidly. However, it does not fully address existing challenges related to fragmented systems, limited interoperability.

Deadly arrogance

Qasim A. Moini

Religions, particularly Islam, are supposed to address the ethical ills that afflict mankind. In fact, in Islamic tradition, akhlaq (morals, ethics) is a well-developed science, deriving lessons from the Quran and ahadith on how to deal with ethical situations across the spectrum of life.

Moreover, the Holy Prophet (PBUH), whose noble birth we celebrate today, is considered the perfect ethical exemplar, who taught us how to behave in family settings and in the workplace, during war and during peace, individually and socially, etc.

Amongst the biggest ethical evils, as per the Quran and the teachings of the Blessed Prophet, are arrogance and pride, which, unfortunately, are found in abundance in all settings. This can range from states practising arrogance, for example, when the powerful and unaccountable unleash death and destruction upon innocents, as Israel and the US are currently doing in Gaza. It can also include how we treat those with less power and money than us, for example domestic staff, street vendors etc.

The Quran is very clear on how arrogance is a reviled trait in the eyes of the Almighty. One of the archetypes of arrogance repeatedly mentioned in the Holy Book is pharaoh, whose haughty utterances and actions are thoroughly condemned. For example, in Surah Nazyat pharaoh, a mere mortal, boasts that “I am your lord, most high.” Elsewhere, in Surah Zukhruf, pharaoh wrongly claims that Egypt's mighty Nile flows under his feet. Compare this to the clear warning in Surah Isra, where man is commanded not to walk on the earth arrogantly.

Authentic ahadith are equally critical of the arrogant. As per one hadith, it is stated that

“there is a special section for the arrogant people in hell”. At another point it is stated that “the one who is arrogant will be degraded by Allah”, while yet another tradition warns that “the worst kind of pride is considering the creatures lowly”.

The Holy Prophet (PBUH) treated the weakest with dignity. Throughout his blessed life, the Holy Prophet displayed disdain for arrogance, and preferred humility and simplicity to vanity and ostentation. In fact, apart from his insistence on taubheed (monotheism), the tribal aristocrats of Makkah took exception to the fact that he treated the weakest individuals in that society — slaves, women, children, orphans, those without strong tribal affiliation — with dignity and respect.

How could a ‘low-born’ slave be considered equal in the eyes of the Almighty to a ‘high-born’ merchant of Makkah belonging to a powerful tribe, they wondered. For them, this amounted to ‘blasphemy’. Sadly, these pre-Islamic prejudices, with roots in jahiliya, have survived, as even in our society caste, tribe and financial position can define an individual's status in society, rather than the strength of their character.

In fact, these prejudices are not limited to tribal or rural parts of the country; such attitudes thrive even in the cities where wealth — gained by means fair or foul — is the marker of success and status. The poor are an afterthought, not worthy of human dignity. Islam strongly condemns such vile attitudes.

In the view of the Most High, the best among humanity are the “most righteous”, while in a hadith, those with the best character are equated with those with the best faith. In the divine hierarchy, money, fam-

ily connections and other ephemeral affiliations have no value; only a person's character counts. And nothing destroys character like arrogance.

The most knowledgeable individual to ever walk the earth — the Holy Prophet, described as the ‘City of knowledge’ in a hadith — was a picture of humility. Throughout history, even apart from prophets, the people of knowledge have always been humble. When they reflect on the realities of the universe — the vastness of the cosmos, the ancientness of time, the deeper mysteries of creation — they realise they know nothing, and prostrate before Allah Almighty, who “taught man which he knew not”. When the people of knowledge express their total helplessness and humility before the Most High, on what basis do the arrogant walk haughtily on the land?

And when arrogance mixes with ignorance, the results are lethal. After all, as per a saying of Hazrat Ali, “ignorance is death for the living”. Unfortunately, in our society the arrogant and the ignorant — the ‘living dead’ in the light of this saying — appear to dominate, while the people of knowledge are brushed aside as weak and unworthy, or harassed for speaking the truth.

But we must remember that arrogance is a death sentence in this world and the next, as the fate of pharaoh and those of his ilk demonstrates. The only solution, as per the Quran and the Holy Prophet's example, lies in humility and character-building, while giving dignity and respect to all, regardless of social and monetary status.

In fact, these prejudices are not limited to tribal or rural parts of the country; such attitudes thrive even in the cities where wealth — gained by means fair or foul — is the marker of success and status.

Abbas Nasir

The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Tianjing, followed by the grand military parade in Beijing's Tiananmen Square, was all about optics and signalling.

Looking at the reaction from the US and EU it would be safe to say that the messages hit bull's eye. But let's first look closer to home. Before the summit, India's Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said India would be looking for a categorical condemnation of cross-border terrorism, which in common language means that India's allegations against Pakistan are upheld.

You may recall in this column last week, there was a mention of the SCO principle of collective or indivisible security and once again that was upheld as both the Pahalgam terror incident and the Jaffar Express and the Khuzdar school bus terror attacks, in which many innocent lives were lost — with India blaming Pakistan for the first and Pakistan saying India was responsible for the second and third incidents — were condemned but neither country was named.

Despite lack of success on this issue, as in the SCO foreign ministers meeting in June, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi was triumphantly holding hands with Russian President Vladimir Putin and laughing in videos captured of their stand-up chats with China's strongman Xi Jinping.

China may still not be militarily as strong as the US but it seems to be catching up fast.

Knowledgeable sources suggested Mr Modi was keen to thumb his nose at the US and its ‘unreliable’ leader and his erstwhile friend President Donald J. Trump whom he has courted in the past, even raising the slogan, ahead of the US elections: Abki baar, Trump Sarkar (The next administration will be Trump's).

India is smarting at the ‘unfair’ 25+25 per cent tariffs with the latter being punitive for continued purchases of Russian oil when China and many other countries have not been penalised for their bulk oil/

energy procurement from Russia. But the size of the rapidly growing Indian economy, its human capital and enormous market means that despite its current tribulations, India won't be ignored by either the US and its allies or the Global South for long. That is a certainty.

Moving out of the region into the global arena, it was clear that the summit and the parade signalled what China sees as a return to a multipolar world and not the bipolar arrangement that evolved after the collapse of the Soviet Union and facilitated the massive eastward expansion of the Nato military alliance.

The Russian military assault and the war it triggered in Ukraine are attributed to that bipolar world, which meant initially that Moscow lacked the ability to stop the Western military alliance's eastwards march. Later, however, after internal consolidation Russia started to flex its muscles first in Crimea and then in the Donbas region and made rapid advances in eastern Ukraine to preempt Nato's further expansion. President Joe Biden pumped billions of dollars into the ideological military campaign directly and via the Nato members and slowed the pace of the Russian advance. With Trump's assumption of office, all that changed as the new US president announced he wanted to end the war and that his friend Vladimir Putin was on board. So far it appears he got played by the Russian leader.

It was not surprising then that looking at the SCO summit and the grand spectacle put on display by the People's Liberation Army in Beijing to mark the 80th anniversary of the Chinese victory over the Japanese military, Trump wrote a congratulatory message on his Truth Social platform and then said words that could be likened to a child throwing his toys out of the pram: “Give my warmest regards to Vladimir Putin, and Kim Jong Un, as you conspire against The United States of America.”

China's response was measured as its spokesperson underlined the fact that the commemoration was to mark the end to World War II and that foreign guests

had been invited for it. China said its development of diplomatic relations with any country is never directed against a third party.

Trump's political appointee as ambassador to Nato Matthew Whitaker seemed to have lost it in an interview with Fox News when, in a fit of rage, he accused China of putting on display lethal weaponry “in all likelihood stolen from us”.

EU foreign policy chief, the former right-wing Estonian politician, Kaja Kallas also criticised the parade and said that Xi, Putin and Kim appearing together was part of efforts to build an anti-Western “new world order” and was a direct challenge to the international rules-based system.

China described the remarks by a “certain EU official” as being full of ideological bias, lacking basic historical knowledge and a blatant attempt to stir up confrontation. Beijing found the remarks misguided, utterly irresponsible and arrogant.

It was laughable that the hawkish EU foreign policy chief referred to the rules-based international system when she and her grouping has supported the Gaza genocide and the shredding of any so-called rules-based order by the apartheid state on a daily basis by the mass murder of civilians by bombs, missiles, drones and starvation.

One hopes this doesn't unhinge Trump completely. He should realise that his desire of winning the Nobel Peace Prize was nearly non-existent, because he greenlit and enabled the Gaza genocide, a grave crime against humanity. Equally, no end to the Ukraine war on terms unfavourable to Russia is now likely.

Pak, China expand maritime cooperation to boost Gwadar, shipbuilding, and trade

ISLAMABAD (INP): Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry, during a series of high-level meetings in Beijing underscored Pakistan's commitment to expanding maritime cooperation with China through strategic investments in ports, shipbuilding, and the blue economy.

In a meeting with executives of Shandong Xinxu Group Corporation, the minister welcomed a proposal to establish an Integrated Maritime Industrial Complex in Pakistan, assuring full government support in terms of land, utilities, and regulatory approvals, says a report carried by Gwadar Pro.

He emphasized that any ship recycling facility developed under the project must comply with Hong Kong Convention (HKC) and European Union safety standards. Highlighting Pakistan

National Shipping Corporation's (PNSC) expansion drive, Chaudhry invited the Chinese side to explore joint ventures in new builds, leasing, and feeder services linked to Gwadar Port.

He also proposed collaboration in dry dock facilities at Gwadar and Port Qasim, along with investments in EU-certified fish processing and aquaculture research centers to boost seafood exports.

In discussions with officials of the Tianjin Dongjiang Comprehensive Free Trade Zone (TDFTPZ), the minister explored ship financing and leasing opportunities, particularly for Aframax tankers, container vessels, and bulk carriers, without burdening Pakistan with heavy upfront costs. He proposed a China-Gwadar-Africa logistics corridor, coupled with investments in bonded warehouses, cold chain fa-

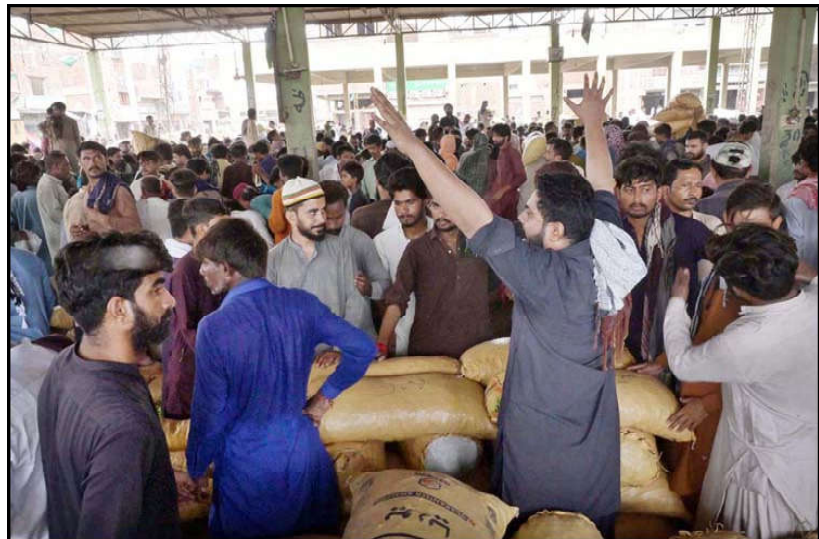
cilities, and bulk cargo terminals in Gwadar.

He further suggested specialized training programs for Pakistani free zone managers and customs officials, while inviting a Dongjiang investment delegation to Gwadar in 2025.

Meeting with FANJIEYUN International, a frozen food and meat importer, Chaudhry discussed the potential of Gwadar to emerge as a regional logistics hub, with bonded warehousing and feeder vessel services.

He called for a feasibility study on turning Gwadar into a major freight hub for transshipment corridors.

The minister is visiting China as part of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's delegation, with a clear focus on transforming Gwadar into a regional trade and logistics powerhouse under the evolving framework of CPEC.



HYDERABAD: Wholesaler vendor are displaying and selling vegetables to customers at Vegetable Market.

New Pak-China accords to boost exports, investment & regional links: Iftikhar Malik

LAHORE (APP): SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry former President Iftikhar Ali Malik on Sunday expressed hope that the \$8.5 billion worth of accords signed in China during the Prime Minister's recent visit will further strengthen bilateral trade and strategic relations between the two countries.

In a statement, he said the new MoUs will pave the way for a fresh era of cooperation under the second phase of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which he described as a cornerstone of Pakistan's economic future. He emphasized that Pakistan's private sector, particularly in trade and industry, must play a proactive role in reaping the benefits of these agreements by enhancing exports, adopting modern technology, and improving competitiveness. Pakistan, he added, can significantly expand its export base by diversifying products and integrating into Chinese value chains. Iftikhar Ali Malik urged policymakers to ensure transparency, efficiency, and continuity in implementing the accords, noting that successful execution would restore investor con-

fidence and accelerate economic development. He pointed out that improved infrastructure and connectivity under CPEC will also open new avenues of regional cooperation by facilitating trade with Central Asia, Afghanistan, and beyond.

Highlighting China's consistent support to Pakistan in challenging times, he said the new commitments will greatly enhance connectivity, infrastructure, energy, and industrial cooperation. He added that the accords reflect the confidence of Chinese leadership and investors in Pakistan's economic potential and resilience despite global challenges. He underscored that the second phase of CPEC will focus on special economic zones, agricultural modernization, industrial relocation, and skill development, all of which will create employment opportunities and contribute to sustainable economic growth. Iftikhar Ali Malik maintained that these MoUs mark a major step forward in consolidating Pakistan-China relations, laying the foundation for shared prosperity and regional stability.

Floods fueled by climate change threaten Pakistan's food security: FPCCI

LAHORE (APP): Convenor of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) Regional Committee on Food Shahid Imran has said that climate change-induced flash floods have posed serious threats to food security in Pakistan.

Speaking to a delegation of agriculturists, here on Sunday, he said the devastating floods, recurring with increasing frequency, have damaged fertile agricultural land, disrupted food supply chains, and inflicted colossal losses worth trillions of rupees on the national economy. These damages, he added, not only affect farmers directly but also trigger ripple effects, causing shortages, inflation, and declining food accessibility for millions.

Highlighting Pakistan's vulnerability, Shahid Imran noted that despite contributing less than one percent to global carbon emissions, the country remains among the most affected by climate change. He regretted that developing nations like Pakistan are paying the heaviest price for a crisis largely created

by industrialized economies. In this regard, he urged developed countries to fulfill their international commitments under climate finance agreements by providing compensation, technical assistance, and technology transfer to help Pakistan cope with the crisis.

He stressed that food insecurity has now become a major challenge, requiring urgent national and international attention. The agricultural sector, employing nearly 40 percent of Pakistan's workforce and contributing significantly to GDP, is under severe threat from unpredictable weather patterns, water scarcity, and soil degradation caused by recurrent flooding.

Shahid Imran emphasized the need to build climate-resilient infrastructure, construct modern water reservoirs, and invest in research for flood-resistant crop varieties. He also called for enhanced global cooperation in disaster management and food security. He said that ensuring climate justice and timely international support is vital for safeguarding Pakistan's food security and sustaining economic growth.

1st transport expo ends, Chinese Metro attracts huge audience

LAHORE (INP): On the conclusion of Punjab's 1st Transport Expo, Chinese super autonomous rapid transit (SRT) metro attracted the attention of government dignitaries, foreigners and people belonging to different spheres of life.

Punjab's First Transport Expo 2025 came to an end at Expo Centre Lahore, Gwadar Pro reported on Sunday.

The tram was exhibited at Hall No. 2, Expo Centre Lahore, where a massive number of audiences witnessed Chinese tram imported into Pakistan by the Chinese company NORINCO International on.

The Transport Expo 2025 was organized under the vision of the Punjab Government and Transport & Mass Transit Department. It brought together leading local and international companies to highlight the future of sustainable and smart mobility in Pakistan.

Senior Provincial Minister Maryyam Aurangzaib paid a visit to Expo and praised the SRT metro known as environmentally friendly and high-quality epitome of new-era technology.

She also visited all stalls installed by many foreign companies. She also reviewed in detail the models put on display in relations with modern mass transit projects. NORINCO International has already been operating a modern transport system in Pakistan in the wake of launch, operation and maintenance Orange Line Metro Rail Transit System (OLMT) in Lahore, the first electric railway transportation project completed on October 25, 2020 under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).



LAHORE: Street vendors displaying bags to attract the customers while shuttling on the road in Provincial Capital.



RAWALPINDI: President of the Central Organization of Traders Rawalpindi Cantt (Registered), Zahid Bakhtawari, Patron-in-Chief Sheikh Inayat, Chairman Rafiq Battia, Rao Irfan, Malik Ahmed and others are cutting a cake on the occasion of Defence Day.

Business community must embrace eco-friendly practices

ISLAMABAD (APP): President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), Nasir Mansoor Qureshi has emphasized that Pakistan must urgently transition towards a green economy to ensure sustainable growth, attract green investments, and protect future generations from the adverse impacts of climate change.

In a statement issued here Sunday, he said that Pakistan is among the top climate-vulnerable countries in the world, facing frequent floods, heatwaves, and water shortages, which pose a serious threat to its economy and communities.

In this context, he urged the government to formulate a comprehensive green industrial policy, incentive businesses to adopt renewable energy, and support industries shifting to environment-friendly production methods.

Qureshi stressed that industries should be encour-

aged to embrace solar, wind, and bio-energy solutions, along with introducing waste management and recycling practices to reduce their carbon footprint.

He further highlighted that green transformation is not only an environmental need but also a huge economic opportunity, as international buyers are increasingly prioritizing eco-friendly supply chains.

He said ICCI is ready to work with the government, development partners, and the private sector to promote green financing, green entrepreneurship, and awareness campaigns that would help businesses adapt to modern sustainability standards.

He urged the State Bank of Pakistan to introduce special green financing products for SMEs and industries. The ICCI President called upon all stakeholders to act collectively, stating that adopting a green economy is no longer optional.

Huawei leads new wave of Pak-China IT cooperation with key MoUs

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan and China have signed nine Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) to deepen cooperation in the field of information technology during the second Pakistan-China B2B Conference held in China.

Three standout agreements were signed in G2B and B2B with Huawei Technologies, said a news release.

The first MoU between Huawei Technologies and NTC Pakistan aims to accelerate fiberization and enhance secure government connectivity infrastructure.

This partnership will play a critical role in modernising Pakistan's digital landscape and ensuring robust, high-speed communication across public sector institutions.

This program will be rolled out across 15 universities in collaboration with the Higher Education Com-

mission (HEC), reinforcing Huawei's role in building Pakistan's digital future.

Huawei signed another MoU with NAVTTC to launch a specialised AI and cybersecurity training program for youth.

This initiative will equip 1,500 participants with globally recognised certifications in Cloud Computing, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and 5G Technologies, supporting the Prime Minister's "Skills for Productive Employment" vision.

Huawei also partnered with Sky4.7, Pakistan's first purpose-built, AI-ready sovereign cloud data centre, designed to anchor the country's digital infrastructure. This collaboration will enable secure cloud services, scalable AI deployments, and compliance with Pakistan's Cloud First Policy, ensuring data residency and digital sovereignty.

Power supply for 113,000 consumers suspended due to flood

MULTAN (APP): The Multan Electric Power Company (MEPCO) has suspended electricity supply to more than 113,000 consumers across 13 districts of south Punjab as a precautionary measure following a rise in floodwater levels.

According to MEPCO officials, electricity on 151 feeders has been disconnected at the transformer level under safety standard operating procedures (SOPs) to prevent accidents and safeguard lives.

In Sahiwal district, power supply to 15,610 consumers on nine feeders was cut off due to flooding,

while electricity has already been restored to 7,685 consumers as water receded.

Meanwhile, 16 feeders serving 16,337 consumers have been shut down, while in Bahawalpur, 10,987 consumers on 22 feeders were also affected. Similarly, 13 feeders in Lodhran with 924 consumers, 13 feeders in Pakpattan with 6,167 consumers and five feeders in Rahim Yar Khan with 1,509 consumers have been switched off.

The situation was also critical in Vehari, where 23,395 consumers on 15 feeders have been disconnected.

Chinese, German, Canadian firms form joint ventures in Pakistan's SEZs

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan's special economic zones (SEZs) are beginning to attract diversified foreign participation, with firms from China, Germany and Canada entering into joint ventures with local industries.

Jamshed Ahmed, Investment and Industrial Specialist at Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives told Wealth Pakistan on Sunday that international companies are partnering with Pakistani firms in Faisalabad and Sheikhpura SEZs.

He highlighted the case of Allama Iqbal Industrial City, which has successfully attracted both Chinese and Western investors in textiles, home appliances and mobile manufacturing. He said the industrial estate's easy access to raw materials and skilled labour has made it a preferred destination for industrial cooperation.

"This reflects the growing confidence of foreign businesses in Pakistan's industrial environment," he noted. "The government has created a

facilitative framework, and we are now witnessing concrete results in the form of joint ventures," he added.

He said that the government's strategy is shifting towards greater private sector involvement and business-to-business cooperation in SEZs, moving beyond the earlier state-led model. "Foreign investors are looking for credible local partners, and we are facilitating this process," he added.

The ministry official pointed out that while priority sectors have been identified – including agriculture, mines and minerals, IT, chemicals and petrochemicals – investors are welcome to explore opportunities in any viable area. "What matters most is that foreign companies are willing to bring in technology, capital and expertise, while local industries provide market access and on-ground capacity," he explained.

Ahmed added that the government had also addressed long-standing issues of logistics and power supply through new policy measures.

Strategic partnerships key to unlocking Pakistan's blue economy: FTO coordinator

LAHORE (APP): Federal Tax Ombudsman (FTO) Coordinator Saif Ur Rehman has said that harnessing the vast potential of Pakistan's blue economy requires extensive consultation, long-term planning, and close cooperation with strategic partners at national, regional, and global levels.

Talking at a seminar on "Blue Economy Future in Pakistan," here on Sunday, he said the blue economy, encompassing the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods, and environmental health, offers Pakistan immense opportunities in fisheries, aquaculture, maritime transport, tourism, and renewable energy. He underscored the need for forging partnerships with international organizations, coastal countries, research institutions, and private investors to benefit from global expertise and advanced technology. "No country can fully explore its maritime potential in isolation.

It is only through collaboration that we can ensure innovation, knowledge-sharing, and sustainable growth," he remarked.

Saif Ur Rehman added that coordinated efforts, supported by foreign investment and technology transfer, would enable Pakistan to emerge as a strong player in the global blue economy, ultimately ensuring sustainable prosperity. He stressed that strengthening regulatory frameworks, improving governance, and fostering collaboration between provincial and federal institutions were key to enhancing the effectiveness of blue economy initiatives. Highlighting Pakistan's natural advantage, he noted that the country is blessed with a 1,000 kilometer long coastline and a strategic location along major international sea routes. However, he regretted that these maritime resources remain underutilized due to lack of awareness, policy gaps, and inadequate infrastructure.



LAHORE: Women are busy in buying secondhand cloths at a Landa Bazaar in Provincial Capital.

Punjab floods trigger soaring flour prices

LAHORE (INP): Flour prices in Sindh have surged sharply as the impact of floods in Punjab disrupts wheat supply chains.

According to the report, the city of Obayro is among the worst-hit, with the cost of a 40-kilogram bag of flour now reaching as high as Rs4,400. Only ten days ago, residents of Obayro were purchasing flour at Rs. 80 per kilogram. Today, that price has skyrocketed to Rs110 per kilogram, causing concern among local citizens already grappling with inflation.

Locals recall that a 40-kg sack of flour was available for Rs. 2,800 just days ago. The jump to Rs4,400 marks a steep and sudden increase, creating panic in local markets. Citizens warn that if wheat prices are not brought under control soon, an artificial flour crisis could emerge, worsening the situation further and potentially leading to hoarding or black-market practices. The continued disruption in the wheat supply chain due to flooding in Punjab is feared to have a ripple effect across other parts of Sindh if timely measures are not taken by the government and food supply authorities.

Mechanics on bike, huge relief for capital's stranded bikers

ISLAMABAD (APP): As the morning rush intensifies on the capital's bustling main roads and busy link routes, a unique solution is quietly revolutionizing the daily commute for hundreds of motorcycleists.

With traffic congestion peaking during office and school hours, many two-wheelers often find themselves stranded due to unexpected mechanical problems – punctured tyres, air pressure issues, or minor breakdowns. But now, mechanics to fix these problems available on bikes wandering around.

A growing fleet of mobile mechanics who have turned their own motorcycles into mini repair shops. These roving roadside saviors, mostly young men without access to formal shop spaces, now cruise the city's main avenues, offering swift and affordable solutions to stranded riders during peak hours.

One such mechanic, Gul Zaman, has become a familiar sight along Faisal Avenue, particularly between the I-8 underpass and Zero Point. Equipped with a full set of tools strapped securely to his

bike, Zaman offers everything from tyre puncture repairs to air-filling and even more technical fixes.

"I usually start my day around 8 in morning and stay on the road until 10 at night," Zaman said, adding, "This work allows me to earn a decent living while also helping people who are really in a rush."

Zaman, a father of three, says the mobile mechanic model has been far more lucrative than working at a fixed-location shop. "Instead of being stuck with a fixed wage, I now earn between Rs. 1,200 to 2,000 per day or more, depending on the workload," he said with a smile. "Plus, I feel more independent and free in how I serve my customers."

These services are proving to be a game-changer for daily commuters.

With fewer options for immediate roadside help during rush hour, many bikers often waste valuable time pushing their bikes long distances to find a shop – if one is even open. Now, spotting a mechanic on a bike means save time and reached destination on time.

Defence day celebrated with national zeal in Quetta and across Balochistan

Floral tributes, prayers, ceremonies held to honor martyrs; CM Bugti says sacrifices will be remembered forever

QUETTA (ANN) – Defence Day of Pakistan was observed in the provincial capital Quetta and across Balochistan with great national spirit and enthusiasm. Various government and private institutions organized ceremonies, while floral wreaths were laid and fateha offered at the graves of martyrs.

The central ceremony in Quetta was attended by military and civil officials, families of martyrs, and a large number of citizens. The event began with the recitation of the Holy Quran and naats, followed by the national anthem and flag

hoisting. Participants paid rich tributes to the martyrs for their sacrifices in defence of the homeland.

Chief Minister of Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti, said on the occasion that Defence Day reminds the nation of the unity and sacrifices displayed on September 6, 1965 — a legacy that will be remembered forever.

“The sacrifices of martyrs are our guiding light; Pakistan’s survival and security are owed to their blood. Today we must pledge to dedicate our energies for the defense, progress, and prosperity of

the country,” he said.

Students also marked the day with speeches and patriotic songs, vowing to contribute to Pakistan’s future through education and hard work.

Across Quetta and other cities of Balochistan, citizens visited cemeteries, offered prayers, placed flowers, and lit candles to honor the martyrs, with the air resounding with chants of “Pakistan Zindabad.”

Security was tight during the events, while national flags, banners, and bunting adorned various parts of the cities.



QUETTA: Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandokhel, Provincial Ministers and Senators offering Fateha on the sad demise of father of MPA Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani.

BINUQ refutes rumors, assures full medical services

QUETTA (6 AM Report): The spokesperson for the Balochistan Institute of Nephro-Urology Quetta (BINUQ) has strongly refuted recent social media propaganda, clarifying that the hospital staff is regularly present on duty and all medical services — including emergency and inpatient wards — are fully functional.

In an official statement, the spokesperson emphasized that patients are being provided with all possible medical facilities, and no individual is being neglected in terms of treatment. They described the circulating posts as a deliberate attempt by certain elements to mislead the public by distorting facts and creating a negative impression of the hospital.

“The reality is that BINUQ is the only specialized institution in the province offering advanced treatment for kidney and urological diseases,” the spokesperson said, adding that the hospital’s emergency and outpatient departments.

The spokesperson reaffirmed the administration’s commitment to patient care, stating that any complaints received are dealt with promptly and seriously.

They urged the public not to fall prey to baseless social media propaganda and instead to report any grievances directly to hospital management so that they can be addressed in a timely and appropriate manner.

Billions invested in Balochistan’s backward areas: Barkat Rind

TURBAT (6 AM Report): Member of Provincial Assembly and Parliamentary Secretary for Fisheries, Haji Barkat Rind, stated that the current government is implementing a well-coordinated strategy to address public grievances and eradicate underdevelopment in Balochistan. Speaking at his residence to a gathering of local citizens, he emphasized that billions of rupees are being invested in various uplift schemes across the province’s most neglected regions. He said these initiatives are already delivering tangible benefits to the local population.

He noted that special attention is being given to long-ignored areas such as Mand and Dasht, where hundreds of development projects are progressing swiftly. Key projects include major infrastructure works like the construction of the Mandig Bridge, Markora Basar Dam, Malachait Dalsar Shah Baik Qalat Road, Gobard Zubaida Jalal Road, Gok to Hoze Giab Road, and Nokeen Kahan Talaban Road. Additionally, basic

amenities are being improved through the installation of street lights from Hoze to Giab and Balo to Talamb.

To protect vulnerable areas, several protective structures are also being constructed. These include the Redig Protection Wall for safeguarding border markets, Mitap Mandig Core Bund, Gok Bund, and four additional protective embankments in Dasht.

In the education sector, dozens of schools are being upgraded with the construction of extra classrooms to create a more conducive learning environment for students. Meanwhile, to address energy shortages, hundreds of deserving families are receiving home solar systems distributed through the Department of Energy and the Department of Urban Planning and Development.

Haji Barkat Rind affirmed that the completion of these development schemes will resolve longstanding issues faced by the public and usher in a new era of prosperity and progress in the region.

Tribal elder and renowned transporter Mir Feroz Lehri passes away



QUETTA (6 AM Report): Prominent tribal elder and well-known transporter Alhaj Mir Feroz Khan Lehri, a respected figure of the Lehri tribe, has passed away in Karachi. His funeral prayer will be held on Monday, September 8, 2025, at 2:00 PM at Jamia Islamia Miftah-ul-Uloom, Madrassa Road, Quetta.

Fateha Khwani will be held at the Lehri House, Link Saryab Road, Quetta.

The deceased was the father of Haji Mir Dawlat Ali Lehri, Haji Mir Qurban

Lehri, Haji Mir Madad Lehri, Haji Mir Mumtaz Lehri, PPP leader Haji Mir Zulfiqar Lehri, and Haji Mir Muzaffar Lehri, and the father of Member Provincial Assembly and Parliamentary Secretary for Transport Mir Liaquat Ali Lehri.

He was also the uncle of transporter Haji Mir Hikmat Lehri, JU1 leader Mir Hashmat Lehri, Haji Mir Shaukat Lehri, the late Haji Mir Ehsan Lehri, Mir Qalam Lehri, and Mullah Manawar Lehri. Additionally, he was the maternal uncle of Mir Ali Raza Lehri, and grandfather of Haji Mir Imtiaz Lehri, Haji Mir Shoaib Lehri, Mir Imdad Lehri, Mir Gazeen Lehri, and Haji Mir Khaleej Lehri and Haji Mir Nauman Lehri.

Chief Minister Eyes Progress



Bugti pledges swift dev., youth empowerment during Baikar visit

BAIKAR (6 AM Report): Chief Minister of Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti, has reaffirmed his commitment to public welfare and regional development, declaring the resolution of public grievances and the prosperity of his constituency among his

top priorities.

During a visit to his hometown Baikar, the Chief Minister met with local elders, notables, and residents. He sought prayers and guidance from senior community members and held detailed discussions on local challenges,

development needs, and ongoing initiatives.

Speaking at a public gathering, CM Bugti assured the people that concrete steps are being taken to uplift Baikar and surrounding areas, adding that the government is fully committed to ensuring sus-

tainable development across the constituency.

In an interaction with the youth, he described them as the “future of Balochistan,” and emphasized that the provincial government is focusing on creating meaningful opportunities for education, em-

ployment, and constructive engagement. The Chief Minister further pledged to utilize all available resources to meet public expectations and vowed to accelerate the pace of development, ensuring that progress reaches every corner of the region.

Bakht Kakar says

Nation must dedicate all efforts to Pakistan’s security and progress

Pays tribute to martyrs and salutes doctors, nurses, and paramedics as frontline contributors

QUETTA (ANN): Balochistan Health Minister Bakht Muhammad Kakar, in his message on Defence Day, said September 6 is a landmark in the nation’s history when the people of Pakistan demonstrated unity, courage, and sacrifice to defeat the enemy’s designs. “This day gives us the opportunity to renew our pledge that we will dedicate all our abilities to the security, stability, and progress of Pakistan,” he said.

Kakar paid glowing tributes to the martyrs, stat-

ing that they offered their lives to safeguard the homeland, and the nation will never forget their sacrifices. He emphasized that, alongside the armed forces, doctors, nurses, and paramedical staff have always been on the frontline, serving the country in every era. He urged that every citizen must recognize their responsibility in building a strong and peaceful Pakistan. “Together, we must put the country on the path of development and prosperity in line with the sacrifices of our martyrs,” he added.

Severe shortage of clean drinking water grips Quetta and other districts

Urban residents forced to wait for hours, rural women and children walk miles to fetch water

QUETTA (ANN) – A severe shortage of clean drinking water has emerged as a pressing crisis in Quetta and several other districts of Balochistan, leaving both urban and rural communities in distress. Citizens report spending hours each day waiting for water, while in rural areas women and children are forced to walk miles in search of it.

Residents say the shortage has not only disrupted daily life but also triggered a surge in health problems. Consumption of contaminated and substandard water has led to outbreaks of cholera, hepatitis, and other diseases. “We spend thousands of rupees daily on water tankers. How can poor families afford this?” complained a resident of Quetta. In rural

areas, the struggle is even more intense. A local woman shared, “We set out early in the morning and walk several kilometers just to fetch a small amount of water.” Officials from WASA and the Public Health Engineering Department acknowledged the crisis, admitting that underground water levels are depleting rapidly. They said new dams and improved water supply schemes are urgently needed, while assuring that ongoing projects aim to provide relief soon.

Social leaders have termed the water crisis a grave public issue that cannot be ignored. They urged the government to take emergency measures, including the construction of new dams and expansion of the water supply network.

51 miners killed in Balochistan coal mine accidents in 8 months

Gas leaks, explosions, cave-ins, and trolley mishaps continue to claim lives; labor leaders demand stricter safety measures

QUETTA (ANN) – The deadly cycle of accidents in Balochistan’s coal mines shows no sign of stopping, as official data reveals that 51 miners have lost their lives and more than 30 sustained injuries in various incidents during the first eight months of 2025.

According to the provincial Mines and Minerals Department, fatal accidents between January and August were caused by toxic gas accumulation, explosions, mine collapses, and trolley mishaps. The report highlights that the

highest number of incidents occurred in coalfields of Quetta, Duki, and Harmat districts. One of the deadliest accidents took place in Sanjidi, Quetta, on January 9, when a gas explosion claimed the lives of 12 miners. An inquiry later held the mine owner and contractor responsible for negligence.

The Pakistan Coal Mines Labour Federation leaders have once again demanded strict enforcement of safety protocols and daily inspections of coal mines to protect workers’ lives.

Akhtar Mengal visits blast victims at Qta civil hospital

QUETTA (Staff Report): Balochistan National Party-Mengal (BNP-M) President, Sardar Akhtar Jan Mengal, visited the Trauma Center of Civil Hospital Quetta to inquire about the health of party leaders and workers injured in the recent suicide attack.

During the visit, he met with senior BNP leader and Human Rights Secretary Haji Ahmad Nawaz Baloch, senior leader Haji Muhammad Sadiq Mengal, and several other injured party workers.

Mengal was accompanied by Mir Nazir Baloch, Mir Akhtar Hussain Langov, Senator Sana Baloch, and Nawab Niaz Jan Zehri.

“Fighting drugs is fighting for our nation’s future”

LORALAI (6 AM Report): Deputy Inspector General of Police, Loralai Range, Junaid Ahmed Sheikh has declared drug abuse a national crisis that threatens the very fabric of society. During a visit to the Drug Rehabilitation Center in Loralai, he stressed the urgent need for united action against this growing menace, urging citizens, institutions, and government bodies to fulfill their responsibilities in creating a healthier, drug-free Pakistan.

“Drug abuse is not just one person’s struggle—it’s a threat to the future of our youth and our nation. We must stand together to fight it,” he said while reaffirming the police department’s firm commitment to eliminating narcotics from society.

DIG Sheikh was accompanied by senior police officials, including SSP Loralai Ahmed Sultan, SDPO Kareem Mandokhail, CIA Incharge Inspector Humayun Nasir, and SHO Muhammad Khan. The delegation was welcomed by Hanan Mardanzai and Lung Khan

Mardanzai, who gave a detailed tour of the rehabilitation facility.

Describing drug addiction as a “deadly social cancer,” the DIG praised the ongoing efforts of the rehabilitation center, calling its establishment a vital and praiseworthy initiative. He also took time to speak directly with patients undergoing treatment, assuring them of full support from the police and expressing his hope for their successful reintegration into society.

In a promising development, DIG Sheikh announced that vocational training programs will be introduced at the center to equip recovering addicts with practical skills—empowering them to return as dignified, self-sufficient, and productive members of society.

He concluded the visit with a heartfelt appeal to the public, urging citizens to join the police in their national campaign against drugs, so that future generations can grow up in a safe, healthy, and respectful environment.

Sept 6, 1965, is a golden chapter of our history: Zarak

QUETTA (ANN): Member of Balochistan provincial Assembly Zarak Khan Mandokhail, in his message on Defence Day, said September 6, 1965, stands as a golden chapter in Pakistan’s national history. He stated that on this day, the people of Pakistan and the Armed Forces together set an everlasting example of unity, bravery, and sacrifice. “Even today, we must keep that spirit alive to face the challenges confronting our beloved country,” he stressed. Mandokhail added that the sacrifices of the martyrs are a national legacy, and it is everyone’s responsibility to remember them and carry forward their mission.

Highlighting the role of youth, he said they are the future of Pakistan and must contribute to strengthening and prospering the country through education, hard work, and honesty. “Defence Day is not just a commemoration, but a lesson that with unity, sacrifice, and patriotism, every challenge can be overcome,” he concluded.

UoT students gain insight into Agri. innovation

TURBAT (PR): Students and faculty of the Department of Natural and Basic Sciences, University of Turbat, led by HoD Dr. Jahangir Khan visited the Federal Seed Certification & Registration Department (FSC & RD), Turbat, on September 4, 2025. Faculty members Talal Qadir, Ghulab Khan, and Shahjan accompanied the students.

The visit bridged classroom learning with practical applications in agriculture, providing insights into seed certification, quality control, and the importance of high-quality seeds for sustainable farming in Turbat and Balochistan. FSC & RD officials briefed participants on the department’s mandate and functions, while experts from the Directorate of Agriculture Research Dates, Kech, engaged students in interactive discussions on plant breeding, pest management, soil chemistry, and seed inspection. Prominent officials, including Director Naeem, Deputy Director Zahid Hussain, Agronomist Jameel Ahmed, Plant Breeding & Genetics expert Dr. Tariq, Entomologist Dr. Mukhtar, Agronomist Dr. Rafique Ahmed, Soil Chemist Siraj, Research Officer Gulab Jan, and Seed Inspector Israr Majeed, shared their expertise. Through interactive discussions, students gained exposure to various specializations such as plant breeding, pest management, soil chemistry, and seed inspection.



TURBAT: Students and faculty of the Department of Natural and Basic Sciences being briefed by Head of Federal Seed Certification & Registration Department Dr. Jahangir Khan during his visit to University of Turbat.

CM Bugti says
Peaceful Rabi-ul-Awal celebrations highlight Balochistan's stability

Chief Minister commends religious leaders, public, and security agencies for upholding harmony and safety

QUETTA (6 AM Report): Chief Minister of Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti, has said that the "sun of peace is rising over Balochistan," crediting the province's people for their commendable cooperation in ensuring peaceful Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAWW) celebrations.

In a statement issued on Saturday, the Chief Minister said that the peaceful religious gatherings across the province have sent a strong positive message to the world that Balochistan is firmly on the path of peace and progress. He added that all programs related to Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAWW) concluded peacefully and safely, reflecting a high level of public responsibility and unity.

CM Bugti also praised religious scholars, the general public, and law enforcement agencies for their collective efforts. He commended the Home Department, Police, Levies, Fron-

tier Corps (FC), and other security institutions for their exemplary performance, noting that not a single untoward incident occurred during the celebrations.

Addressing recent administrative decisions, the Chief Minister defended the temporary internet suspension and restrictions on public rallies, calling them timely and wise. "Internet is not more important than human lives. The safety of citizens remains our top priority," he stressed.

Recalling a tragic incident from two years ago, where over 60 people lost their lives in a bombing at a public gathering, Bugti said that the government learned from past experiences and adopted strict and effective measures this year to ensure peace.

He also appreciated the active participation of youth and citizens, saying their involvement showcased the spirit of unity

and solidarity that is vital for a peaceful and thriving Balochistan.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti has defended the temporary suspension of internet services and restrictions on public rallies, calling it a timely and wise decision that prioritized human lives over digital access.

In a post on social media platform X, the CM referenced the tragic Mastung blast that occurred two years ago during a Rabi-ul-Awal procession, claiming over 60 lives. He said the painful memories of that incident prompted the government to implement tighter security measures this year.

"Thanks to effective planning and strict action, not a single untoward incident was reported across the province during this year's Eid Milad-un-Nabi (PBUH) processions," he stated.



ISLAMABAD: Advisor to President of Palestine and Supreme Judge of Palestine Dr Mahmoud Al-Habbash addressing a press conference at embassy of Palestine in Federal Capital.

Dr. Rubaba says
Women's education key to Balochistan's progress

QUETTA (6 AM Report): Provincial Advisor for Women Development Department, Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi, has said that education, particularly women's education, is the guarantor of social progress and stability. Illiteracy, she emphasized, is the greatest obstacle in the path of national development. She expressed these views in her message issued on the occasion of International Literacy Day.

Dr. Buledi said that under the leadership of Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti, the provincial government has launched comprehensive initiatives to enhance literacy rates and promote women's education. Last year, nearly 8,000 teachers were recruited and 3,200 closed schools were made functional.

In the new academic year, 1,200 new commu-

nity schools are being established, including special schools for girls.

She further stated that the provincial government has opened global educational doors for the youth of Balochistan, providing opportunities in more than 200 international universities.

Alongside this, through the Benazir Bhutto Scholarship Program, scholarships are being awarded from primary education up to Ph.D. level, ensuring that no child is deprived of education due to lack of resources.

Dr. Rubaba Khan Buledi added that to facilitate safe and convenient access for girls to educational institutions, the Pink Bus and Pink Scooters Program will soon be launched. This initiative will make the pursuit of education easier and safer for female students.

Qaiser Sheikh says
Govt committed to full rehabilitation of flood victims

FAISALABAD/CHINIOT (APP): Federal Minister for Investment Board Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh said that the government and public representatives stand united on one platform to ensure complete rehabilitation of flood victims and despite difficulties, the flood-affected people would not be left alone. Talking to the media at Adda Pathankot in Chiniot, he said a comprehensive plan is being implemented for reconstruction and rehabilitation of affected areas so that relief can be provided to flood-hit families without delay. He said that the government has released a special grant of Rs.250 million which is being utilized on priority basis in flood-hit areas while more funds are also under consideration to complete rehabilitation process. The minister appreciated the contribution of philanthropists and local organizations.



LAHORE: Jamaat-e-Islami Emir Hafiz Naem ur Rehman addressing the condolence reference held in memory of Late Professor Khurshid Ahmed at Mansoorah.

Five drown as rescue boat capsizes in Chenab River

ISLAMABAD (APP): A tragic incident occurred on Monday when a Rescue 1122 boat capsized in the flooded Chenab River near Wacha Sandela area of Jalalpur Pirwala, leaving five people dead, including a woman and four children.

According to a private news channel and rescue officials, the boat was carrying more than 20 people, mostly women and children, when it overturned during a rescue operation.

Rescue teams managed to save several passengers, while a search operation is underway to recover the remaining missing persons.

Those who lost their lives include 80-year-old Bakht Bibi, six-year-old Fatima Bibi, seven-year-old Amir, three-year-old Mahnoor, and two infants aged six months and three months.

Authorities said the rescue efforts are continuing in the area as flood wa-

ters have displaced several families.

Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday expressed deep sorrow over the loss of lives in a rescue boat tragedy in Jalalpur Pirwala. The Prime Minister extended heartfelt condolences to the families of five people who lost their lives in the accident and prayed for the elevation of the ranks of deceased, and patience for the bereaved families.

Directing authorities to expedite relief efforts, the Prime Minister said that rescue and relief operations in the flood affected areas must be further accelerated and made more effective. He emphasized that timely and comprehensive assistance should be ensured for all displaced persons. He also instructed that coordination and cooperation with provincial governments be further strengthened to enhance rescue and relief operations.

Raheela honor sacrifices armed forces and martyrs on defence day

QUETTA (APP): In a heartfelt tribute marking Pakistan's Defence Day, Balochistan's Minister for Education, Raheela Hameed Khan Durrani, accompanied by Education Secretary Asfandiyar Kakar and District Education Officer Dr. Naseer Ali Shah, honored the sacrifices of the nation's armed forces and martyrs.

The commemorative event, held at Government High School Jinnah Town in Quetta, featured patriotic speeches, national songs, and student-led tableaux. Minister Raheela Durrani underscored the historical significance of September 6, 1965, calling it a defining moment in Pakistan's military history. "On this day, our armed forces stood as an unbreakable iron wall against India," she said, adding that their valor "shattered the arrogance of the enemy."



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Inter faith Harmony, Sardar Muhammad Yousaf addressing the 50th International Seerat-un-Nabi (PBUH) Conference.

President approves Anti-Dumping Duties Amendment Bill 2025

Zardari also accords approval to National Institute of Health (Reorganization) Amendment Bill

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari has approved the Anti-Dumping Duties Amendment Bill 2025. "Following his approval, the duties will be effective from July 1, 2020. The bill was sent to the President after it was adopted by the National Assembly and Senate," President Secretariat Press Wing, on Sunday, said in a press release.

It further said that the bill was approved to provide legal clarity regarding the imposition of anti-dumping duties on projects funded by the Chinese grants. The decision for this amendment was made during the progress review meeting of Gwadar projects in October 2022.

Meanwhile, President Asif Ali Zardari has given

his approval to the National Institute of Health (Reorganization) Amendment Bill 2025.

The National Assembly has passed the bill on August 12, 2025, along with five private members' bills.

"Through this bill, the structure and governance of the National Institute of Health will be made more effective. The purpose of the amendment is to ensure the reorganization of the institution and enhance its performance," President Secretariat Press Wing, on Sunday, said in a press release.

Approval of the bill marks a significant step toward reforms in the health sector and institutional improvement; it was further added.

Education is the key to a brighter future: CM Bugti

QUETTA (6 AM Report): Chief Minister of Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti, has said that education is a fundamental right and the key to a brighter and prosperous future, as it empowers nations towards development and stability. He expressed these views in his special message on the occasion of World Literacy Day.

CM Bugti emphasized that education is not limited to textbooks and curricula, but is a powerful tool for economic independence, social harmony, and sustainable progress. Despite the vast geography and challenges in Balochistan, he said the current government has made education its top priority.

Highlighting achievements from the past year, the Chief Minister revealed that 8,500 teachers were recruited transparently and on 99.99% merit, leading to the reopening of over 1,200 previously closed schools and providing education to more than 90,000 children.

He also introduced the Benazir Bhutto Scholarship Program, a landmark initiative now extending educational opportunities to families of civilian martyrs, minorities, and transgender individuals—a first for the province. Under the program, the government cov-

ers 16 years of educational expenses for 10 boys and 10 girls from each district, while scholarships for PhD aspirants in top 200 universities worldwide, including Oxford and Harvard, are being offered to promote science and research.

Looking ahead, CM Bugti announced the establishment of 1,200 new community schools in the upcoming fiscal year, aiming to provide access to education for an additional 150,000+ children across Balochistan.

Under the government's declared "Education Emergency," the Chief Minister reiterated his vision: to ensure quality education for every child in the province and significantly boost literacy rates. "Our goal is to build a Balochistan where every child can write their own destiny through a pen and a book," he said.

On World Literacy Day, CM Bugti urged the public to treat education as a national responsibility and to stand shoulder to shoulder with the government in its mission so that no child is left behind. "Education is the real wealth that can lead us toward a stronger, prosperous, and enlightened future," he concluded.

Armed forces thwarted enemy designs; youth empowerment Govt top priority: Muqam

NOWSHERA (APP): Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs, Gilgit-Baltistan & SAFRON, and President of Pakistan Muslim League (N) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Engineer Amir Muqam, said here Saturday that the development of youth was cornerstone of the government policies and youth of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa have once again shown their confidence in the leadership of Mian Nawaz Sharif and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

He was addressing a convention organized by the PML-N Youth Wing Khyber Pakhtunkhwa here on the occasion of Defence Day and Air Force Day, where thousands of young people were in attendance and raised full throated slogans of Pakistan Zindabad.

Engr Amir Muqam said that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, the Pakistan Armed Forces foiled the enemy's conspiracies during successful operation Iron Wall in May this year.

The federal minister highly praised the recent military operation Iron Wall carried out by the Pakistan armed forces in response to the enemy aggression.

He said on May 10 and 11, 2025, the Pakistan Army and PAF has once again inflicted a humiliating

defeat on the enemy, which was acknowledged internationally.

He added, "Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, the Armed Forces of Pakistan have successfully thwarted enemy conspiracies, and once again, the nation stood united with its defenders."

Paying tribute to the martyrs and veterans in the context of Defence Day and Air Force Day, he said, these days are not just chapters of history, but a reminder of the spirit of sacrifice, patriotism, and national unity.

In his speech, Engineer Amir Muqam said that "Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is personally overseeing relief activities in the affected areas, while Pakistan Army soldiers are tirelessly engaged in relief operations day and night."

He further informed that the Chief of Army Staff, Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, during his recent visit to Buner, offered condolences to the victims' families that was a clear demonstration of the Pakistan Army's deep connection with the people.

Engineer Amir Muqam said that PML-N is the only party that can provide real solutions to the problems faced by the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Zardari expresses condolence with Junaid Anwar on his mother's death

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari on Sunday expressed his condolence over the death of mother of Federal Minister Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry.

The president prayed for the high ranks of the departed soul and for the bereaved family to bear the loss with fortitude, President Secretariat Press Wing said in a press release.

He observed that demise of a mother was an irreparable loss for everyone.

Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Sunday telephoned Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry and expressed condolence with him on the demise of his mother.

The PM Shehbaz said the death of a mother was an irreparable loss. He prayed that may Allah Almighty rest the departed soul in eternal peace and grant courage to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss with equanimity.

Bilawal arrives in Multan to meet flood victims

MULTAN (APP): Chairman Pakistan People's Party Bilawal Bhutto Zardari arrived in Multan on Sunday evening to meet flood victims. He was scheduled to arrive in the afternoon, but his arrival was delayed due to bad weather. Punjab Governor Sardar Saleem Haider accompanied him.

On Monday, September 8, Bilawal Bhutto will visit Gilani Damrah Tent City in Multan to meet flood-affected families. On Tuesday, he will tour Muzaffargarh.

Chairman Senate Syed Yusuf Raza Gilani, MNA Syed Qasim Gillani, and other party leaders welcomed him at Multan Airport.

New national song 'Shaheen' released by PAF

LAHORE (APP): On the occasion of Defence Day, the Pakistan Air Force has released a new national song, "Shaheen"

The song began with the heart-warming words of "Yeh Ghazi, Yeh Tere Pur Asrar Bande". The song pays tribute to the Pakistan Air Force, the protector of the air borders. The song, sung by renowned singer Shuja Haider, is a great story of the solidarity of the Pakistan Air Force and unparalleled loyalty to the homeland.

The song beautifully depicts the professional capabilities of the Pakistan Air Force, while the song vows to make sacrifices for the homeland and keep moving forward.

The song contains a charming combination of bravery, sacrifice and the dignity of the homeland, highlighting the courageous role of the Pakistan Air Force, the guardian of the skies.

Five killed, 20 injured as passenger coach overturns in Nawabshah

ISLAMABAD (APP): At least five people were killed and more than 20 others injured when a speeding passenger coach overturned on the National Highway near Daulatpur Bypass in Nawabshah on Sunday.

According to a private news channel and Motorway Police, the coach was traveling from Multan to Karachi when it overturned due to over speeding. After the incident was reported, the motorway police reached the spot and shifted the injured to Qazi Ahmed and Shahpur Jahanian hospitals for treatment.

Federal, provincial govts united to promote education: PM Sharif

ISLAMABAD (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif said the federal and provincial governments were united to promote education and increase the literacy rate.

In a message on International Literacy Day observed on September 8, he said, "The main objective of the national literacy campaign is that every child should not only receive basic education but also be familiar with higher education, skills and technical knowledge as this is the only way to prepare generations of the nation for the requirements of the modern era."

He said, "Today, on International Literacy Day, Pakistan considers it its duty to stand in solidarity with the world and highlight the importance of knowledge and education in the economic and social life of nations and its fundamental role in development and prosperity."

"Education is not just the ability to read and write or familiarity with the alphabet, but it is a journey towards a bright future by strengthening the foundations of any nation at the individual and collective levels," he continued.

He said, "This journey of education, training, literacy and knowledge is a continuous effort to improve the generations of

any nation. Therefore, it should be the main priority of the government for the overall and meaningful development of any country."

The prime minister said, "The literacy rate in Pakistan is 60 percent, which is not only lower than the modern requirements of the world but also lower than other countries in South Asia."

"This worrying situation reminds us that we as a nation need to take all possible steps to make education a priority. So that we can pave the way for the collective development of our children, youth and society," he stressed.

He said, "The importance of education is one of the basic teachings of Islam and its significance was also highlighted by the founder of Pakistan, Muhammad Ali Jinnah."

He said, "No government can achieve this national goal without the support of the people, for which teachers, parents, and every citizen at the social level will have to play their duty and key role."

"Let us together today reaffirm our resolve that as a nation, we will illuminate the darkness of illiteracy with the light of knowledge and lay the foundation for a strong, talented, and developed Pakistan," he concluded.



ISLAMABAD: Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) Admiral Naveed Ashraf laid floral wreath at Shuhada Monument on Defence Day.

Admiral Naveed Ashraf says:
Navy committed to advancing nation's maritime sector

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chief of Naval Staff (CNS) Admiral Naveed Ashraf has said that while discharging the cardinal responsibility of ensuring robust defence of maritime frontiers, Pakistan Navy remains committed to advancing nation's maritime sector.

In his message on eve of Navy Day (Sept 8), the CNS said that as a key stakeholder, PN is leveraging vast potential of our Blue Economy to foster sustainable economic growth and deliver huge economic dividends to the country.

In this pursuit, the second Pakistan International Maritime Exhibition and Conference (PIMEC-25) is scheduled to be held from 3-6 Nov this year at Karachi Expo Centre. This is where global stakeholders are being invited to connect, invest and elevate Pakistan's maritime economic contributions and transform the region's maritime landscape, said a statement issued by Directorate General Public Relations (Pak Navy).

He said that anchored in the honour and sacrifice of glorious past, Pakistan Navy, during "Marka-e-Haq", demonstrated resilience and combat readiness that radiated deterrence and a firm resolve to ensure impregnable defence of our sea frontiers. Our operational preparedness and poise kept the adversary at bay, protected our vital maritime interests and helped preserve uninterrupted flow of seaborne trade.

Nations that commemorate their historic milestones and draw an enduring legacy from them remain ever poised and resolute in safeguarding the sovereignty and integrity of

their homeland. Regarded amongst our most significant commemorations, 8th September stands as a testament to the courage of naval warriors, whose steadfast resolve at sea shines like a beacon, guiding future generations," it said.

"This historic day exalts the valour of our gallant heroes, who embody the essence of inspiration and kindle a lasting spirit of patriotism. Operation 'SOMNATH' epitomizes the true spirit of naval bravery, wherein a Pakistan Navy Flotilla comprising seven major warships displayed exceptional professionalism by launching a surprise attack on the Indian coastal town, Dwarka.

This daring operation inflicted irreparable damage on vital shore installations, including a key radar station, which seriously impaired the enemy's visibility and severely dented its operational capability. Equally, during the 1965 war, Pakistan Navy Submarine GHAZI emerged as a formidable deterrent, striking fear in the heart of the enemy and raising stakes for the adversary with a domineering and delusory ambition against our motherland," the statement said.

Today, as we celebrate Navy Day, let us renew our pledge and pay profound homage to the martyrs and veterans whose sacrifices have secured our freedom and dignity. May Allah SWT grant us the strength to uphold this sacred trust, enrich the glorious legacy of our predecessors and enable us to protect our beloved homeland with honour and pride.

May Allah be our Guide and Protector, Aameen!

All private schools in Balochistan to remain closed on Sept 8: APPSF

QUETTA (6 AM Report): The All Pakistan Private Schools Federation (APPSF) has announced that all private educational institutions across Balochistan will remain closed on September 8, in light of the province-wide wheel-jam and shutter-down strike called by various political parties.

In a joint statement issued by APPSF Balochistan President Nazir Baloch, General

Secretary Hazrat Ali Kausar, along with Malik Rasheed Kakar, Haji Saleem Nasir, Jafar Khan Kakar, Jelani Al-Badri, and Qari Zaib-ur-Rehman, the federation said the decision was taken to ensure the safety of students and teachers amid potential unrest.

They urged all heads of private institutions in the province to strictly implement the closure and cooperate in maintaining peace and security.