ABC Certified

DAILY 6 AM Quetta

Founded by: Syed Nadir Shah

daily6AMquetta@gmail.com

Chief Editor: Tariq Khan

Ph: 2824096 Vol : XIX No. 218 Jamadi-us-Sani 10, 1448 AH, Saturday November 21, 2026, Pages 6, Price Rs. 5 Fax: 2826036

K-P police foil major terror plot in Lakki Marwat, kill suicide bomber

PESHAWAR (APP): Lakki Marwat police foiled a major terrorist attack by killing a suicide bomber during an operation in the limits of Bargi Police Station on Friday.

Police had received intelligence reports that terrorists had prepared a vehicle carrying a large quantity of explosives to cause massive destruction.

Following the reports, Lakki Marwat police intensified search operations, increased patrolling and strengthened security at checkpoints to prevent the planned attack.

Police spotted the suspected Mazda vehicle in the Bargi police station limits and immediately launched an operation, killing one suicide bomber during the encounter.

Following reports of the incident, personnel from the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD), local police and Quick Response Force (QRF) rushed to the scene and launched an extensive search operation.

Bomb Disposal Squad teams also reached the site and began examining the vehicle. Initial inspection revealed a large quantity of explosives stored in drums inside the vehicle.

Police said the deceased suicide bomber was suspected to be an Afghan national, while the process of identification was underway.

Inspector General of Police Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Zulfiqar Hameed praised Lakki Marwat police for their timely action and foiling a major terrorist attack.

He said the police personnel had saved dozens of precious lives by thwarting the nefarious designs of Fitna al-Khawarij.

The Inspector General of Police said KP Police personnel remained committed to protecting the lives and property of the people and would continue operations against militants.

Zardari, Bilawal agree not to withdraw stance on new provinces

ISLAMABAD (INP): President Asif Ali Zardari and Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari have agreed not to back down from their position on new administrative units or a referendum, sources said.

According to sources, Zardari and Bilawal held an important meeting at Aiwan-e-Sadr to discuss the prevailing political situation and the stance taken by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

Sources said President Zardari had specially called the PPP chairman to Islamabad for the meeting.

During the meeting, both leaders agreed to stand firm on their position regarding new administrative units or a referendum. They also discussed convening a meeting of the PPP's Central Executive Committee (CEC).

President Zardari told Bilawal, a former foreign minister, that the federal government had requested steps to reduce political tensions and confrontation, sources added.

Earlier, President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif held an important meeting at Aiwan-e-Sadr, where they reviewed the prevailing political situation in detail.

Both leaders agreed to resolve all matters through consultation. The meeting also noted that previous constitutional amendments had been introduced with the mutual consultation of all coalition parties.

However, the statement issued by the President's House spokesperson did not mention any discussion about provinces.



A delegation led by Minister of Energy and Natural Resources of Turkiye H.E Alparslan Bayraktat called on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif in Islamabad.

New employment opportunities await Balochistan youth: CM

QUETTA (ANN): Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti has announced that the federal government will provide 25,000 jobs for the province, with employment opportunities being made available to young people in phases. He thanked the Prime Minister and Field Marshal for their support, saying greater employment opportunities would be provided to youth in areas where communities have traditionally depended on the oil trade for their livelihoods.

Speaking during a session of the Balochistan Assembly, the chief minister described the federal employment initiative as an important step toward addressing unemployment in the province.

His remarks came after MPA Engineer Zmarak Khan Achakzai raised concerns that the federal vacancies were designated for 12 districts, arguing that young people from across Balochistan should benefit from the opportunities.

Responding, CM Bugti said the 25,000 federal jobs would become available gradually, reiterating the government's commitment to expanding employment opportunities for the province's youth.

The chief minister also expressed sorrow over the loss of lives in a traffic accident on the Coastal Highway and assured the House that necessary medical facilities would be provided to the injured. The Assembly offered prayers for those who lost their lives.

Dr. Abdul Malik Baloch Raises Concerns Over Journalists' Rights, State Policies

Former Balochistan Chief Minister Dr. Abdul Malik Baloch expressed serious concern over the financial and professional difficulties facing journalists, criticizing the closure of media offices and the treatment of media workers in the province.

Speaking during a debate on a resolution concerning journalists' rights, he said media professionals were protesting for their legitimate demands and that their economic difficulties required urgent attention.

Dr. Abdul Malik Baloch also questioned the direction of state policies, arguing that Pakistan had moved away from the welfare-state vision associated with Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah toward what he described as a security-oriented state.

Referring to Pakistan's political history, he noted that the country had experienced four periods of martial law and adopted three constitutions, raising concerns about democratic and constitutional continuity.

He emphasized that public welfare, democratic values and citizens' rights should remain central to state policies.

Expressing solidarity with protesting journalists, Dr. Abdul Malik Baloch said their struggle for economic security and professional rights deserved support, adding that the weakening of journalism affected society as a whole.



KARACHI: Deputy Prime Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar, Federal Minister for Petroleum Ali Pervaiz Malik and Minister of Energy of Turkiye Alparslan Bayraktar cutting the ribbon at the welcome ceremony of ORUC REIS.

PMYP raises youth loan target to Rs292.5b for 2026-27

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Prime Minister's Youth Programme (PMYP) has increased its youth loan target to Rs292.5 billion for the fiscal year 2026-27 and raised the maximum loan limit for business expansion to Rs25 million, as Chairman PMYP Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan and former Punjab chief minister and MNA Hamza Shehbaz Sharif discussed measures to expand youth employment, education, skills development and economic self-reliance during a meeting in Islamabad on Friday.

During the meeting, Hamza Shehbaz described young people as a valuable national asset, stressing that quality education, modern technical training and equal employment opportunities were essential for Pakistan's progress and economic prosperity.

He appreciated the nationwide initiatives under the PMYP, saying the programme was helping equip young people with contemporary skills and opportunities to earn sustainable livelihoods.

Briefing Hamza Shehbaz on the programme's progress and targets, Rana Mashhood said the increased loan allocation was aimed at supporting young entrepreneurs and facilitating business expansion.

The maximum financing limit for business expansion has been raised to Rs25 million (2.5 crore), he added.

Self-accountability and transparency hallmarks of Shehbaz's governance: Atta

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar said on Friday that self-accountability and transparency have been the hallmarks of the governance led by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

The National Risk Assessment of Corruption Vulnerabilities report, prepared on the prime minister's special instructions, is part of that process, said the minister while addressing a news conference alongside Federal Law Minister Azam Nazeer Tarar and Minister of State for Finance Bilal Azhar Kayani.

Atta Tarar said the report is aimed to identify flaws in the system, introduce reforms and set better, achievable targets. It will serve as a guiding document for all relevant institutions and the provinces.

Tarar said that, looking back to 1997, teachers in Punjab were recruited on merit for the first time and cheating culture was eliminated. Merit-based systems were launched across the province, and transparency was ensured in every system introduced in Punjab, from Safe City cameras to the forensic laboratory.

He said the Federal Government had also shut down institutions that faced complaints of large-scale corruption and waste of public resources. PWD, where public funds were embezzled on a large scale, was closed. Utility Stores were shut down and digital vaults were introduced during Ramadan to provide relief to deserving people. Wheat procurement and crop management, which were handled by PASSCO, had also posed challenges.

The prime minister, he said, took revolutionary steps despite resistance from within, closing unnecessary institutions such as Pak PWD, PASSCO and Utility Stores solely to ensure transparency. He added that the reforms at the FBR, including the faceless appraisal system, and other measures over the past two and a half years have no precedent. He said such steps to promote accountability and curb corruption are unmatched by any previous government.

The minister said the provinces are also taking a number of steps. Once uploaded to the website, the report will be available to all relevant institutions and provinces so that they can introduce reforms in the light of its findings. It also sets out a way forward, which will help improve public service delivery and enhance citizens' experience.

Responding to a question, Tarar said that despite extremely difficult global conditions, Pakistan did not face any disruption in the supply of petroleum products, and timely management kept the situation normal.

Pak categorically rejects India's undiplomatic, baseless remarks at UN

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistan on Friday categorically rejected the undiplomatic and irresponsible remarks made by India at the United Nations (UN).

"Such baseless accusations merit no attention and were instantly and effectively rebutted by the representative of Pakistan during the same meeting. Such diatribe, so typical of India, can only be rubbished," the Foreign Office Spokesperson in a news release said.

It added that these remarks constituted an unacceptable interference in Pakistan's internal affairs and were anti-thetical to the Charter of the United Nations. Instead of addressing Pakistan's legitimate concerns with respect to India's hydro-terrorism, India has resorted to unsubstantiated insinuations about Pakistan's institutions and leadership, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs .

India's hostility towards Pakistan's development of its mineral resources is equally evident in its persistent efforts to undermine Pakistan's stability. Pakistan has repeatedly raised concerns, supported by evidence, regarding India's sponsorship and support of terrorist activities in Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, aimed at disrupting development and depriving local populations of the benefits of their natural resources. India's continuing descent into a Hindutva-inspired extremism-fascist polity, led by a religious fundamentalist regime is well known.

Pakistan's natural resources could be worth up to $10 trillion: DPM

KARACHI (APP): Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Friday termed the arrival of Turkish seismic research vessel Oruc Reis a new chapter in scientific research and strategic cooperation between Pakistan and Turkiye, saying the two countries were keen to establish a long-term partnership in the energy sector.

Addressing a welcome ceremony for the vessel here, he said Pakistan's extensive coastline offered significant economic and strategic opportunities in energy, shipping and fisheries, while reliable scientific data, skilled human resources and environmental protection were essential for developing a vibrant blue economy.

Sindh Governor Nihal Hashmi, Federal Minister for Petroleum Ali Pervaiz Malik, Turkish Minister for Energy and Natural Resources Alparslan Bayraktar and other dignitaries attended the ceremony.

Ishaq Dar said the arrival of Oruc Reis marked the beginning of a new chapter in scientific research and strategic cooperation between the two brotherly countries. On behalf of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and the people of Pakistan, he thanked Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan for their commitment to strengthening bilateral relations.

He said Pakistan and Turkiye enjoyed longstanding ties that predated the establishment of Pakistan, rooted in the solidarity shown by Muslims of the subcontinent towards the Turkish people during significant periods of their history. The two nations had since stood by each other through challenges and achievements.

He said the Oruc Reis was combining Turkiye's scientific expertise with the experience and capabilities of Pakistan's national energy companies to advance offshore exploration.



Chief of Defence Forces, Chief of Army Staff Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir receives a comprehensive briefing on the prevailing security situation in KP during the Miran Shah visit.

CDF vows to eliminate menace of terrorism in KP

Visits Miran Shah, reviews prevailing security situation

RAWALPINDI (APP): Chief of Army Staff (COAS) and Chief of Defence Forces (CDF) Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, NI (M), HJ, visited Miran Shah, in North Waziristan.

Upon arrival the COAS laid a floral wreath at Yadgar-e-Shuhada to pay homage to the supreme sacrifices of the Shuhada of the Pakistan Army, said a news release issued by Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR).

During the visit, the COAS was given a comprehensive briefing on the prevailing security situation, ongoing intelligence-based operations and measures being undertaken to consolidate the gains achieved through sustained counter terrorism efforts and ensure lasting peace and stability in the area. The COAS also interacted with officers and troops and appreciated their high level of preparedness, professionalism and unwavering commitment to the defence and security of the motherland. While appreciating the brave police forces in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the COAS described the KP Police as a brave frontline force and expressed pride in their resilience and sacrifices against terrorism and Fitna al Khwarij. He reaffirmed the unwavering resolve of the Security Forces, in close coordination with Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs), to decisively eliminate the menace of terrorism and preserve the hard-earned peace and stability of KP.

Earlier, upon arrival, the COAS was received by Commander Peshawar Corps.

Civilisational ties transcend political borders: Musadik

NEW DELHI (APP): Federal Minister for Climate Change Dr Musadik Masood Malik has stressed the importance of civilisational dialogue among regional countries, including Pakistan and India, saying that cultures and historical connections transcend geographical and political boundaries.

Speaking informally to the media on the sidelines of the first Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Civilisational Dialogue Forum in New Delhi, the minister described the multilateral engagement on culture and civilisation as an extraordinary opportunity for participating countries.

He said it was encouraging that regional countries were discussing their shared history, geography, cultures and civilisational heritage, adding that such engagement was particularly important in a region with deep-rooted historical connections. Dr Musadik Malik observed that cultures and civilisations were not confined by geographical boundaries but extended beyond them.

Referring to the historical links among Pakistan, India, China, Russia and Central Asian states, he said the region shared longstanding civilisational connections, which were also reflected in archaeological discoveries.

PTI backs referendum to determine public opinion on creation of new provinces

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) senior leader and Opposition Chief Whip in the National Assembly Aamir Dogar on Friday backed a referendum to determine public opinion on the creation of new provinces, saying any decision on the matter should reflect the people's will and be made in accordance with the law.

Speaking to reporters outside Parliament House, Dogar described a referendum as an effective way to establish public opinion on the issue. "Whether it comes through a referendum or another means, the people's opinion is a great solution. The will and opinion of the people should prevail," he said.

Dogar said PTI founder Imran Khan had consistently advocated the creation of smaller provinces, adding that a separate South Punjab province had been included in the party's 2018 election manifesto.

"I am from Multan, South Punjab. In 2018, we made the creation of a South Punjab province part of our agenda. Not only did we include it in our agenda, but when our government came to power, we also worked towards it," he said.

He added that the proposal for a separate province had given an identity to the Saraiki-speaking population of South Punjab.

Dogar said any move to create new provinces should have public approval and follow constitutional and legal procedures, adding that PTI's final position would be determined by Imran Khan.



QUETTA: Provincial Minister Mir Zahoor Ahmed Buledi, Parliamentary Secretaries Abdul Majeed Badini, Sanjay Kumar Panjwani, MPAs Engineer Zamrak Khan Achakzai and Mir Asadullah Baloch expressing their views during Balochistan Assembly session.

Ahsan calls for integrating religious, modern education to promote research

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal has stressed the need to bridge the gap between religious and modern education through an inclusive education system to promote scientific research, innovation and national development.

Addressing a national conference titled "The Role of Islamic Madaris in a Changing World: Demands, Challenges, Opportunities and Reforms, " organised by Jamiat Talaba Arabia Pakistan, he said Islam made no distinction between religious and worldly knowledge.

Recalling the golden age of Muslim civilisation in Spain, the minister highlighted the contributions of Muslim scholars to science, astronomy and mathematics, saying that historical divisions and colonial-era educational policies had created a gap between religious and modern education.

He emphasised the need for an education system that combined Islamic values with modern sciences, research and innovation, while highlighting the importance of mother-tongue education in promoting creativity and critical thinking.

Acknowledging the role of Madaris in preserving Islamic scholarship, Ahsan Iqbal said education should promote knowledge, ethical conduct, social responsibility and scientific inquiry. The Holy Quran encouraged reflection, observation and research, which were essential for intellectual and national progress, he added.

During the conference, representatives of Jamiat Talaba Arabia highlighted challenges faced by Madrasa graduates, particularly regarding access to higher education, recognition of academic qualifications and professional opportunities.

The minister assured the participants that their concerns regarding English-language examination requirements would be taken up with the relevant authorities.

He also highlighted the establishment of nine Seerat Chairs to address contemporary challenges, including women's empowerment, water conservation and interfaith harmony. Stressing the importance of national unity, he cautioned against the threats posed by misinformation, extremism and terrorism. The minister called for constructive dialogue and educational reforms that could preserve the religious identity of Madaris while equipping their students with the knowledge and skills to contribute effectively to Pakistan's social and economic development.



Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif talking to Members of the Provincial Assembly, Pir Muhammad Ashraf Rasool and Khurram Khan Virk, in Lahore.

Governor KP stresses Pak-Italy cooperation in skills development

ISLAMABAD (APP): Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim Kundi on Friday underscored the importance of strengthening Pakistan-Italy cooperation in technical and vocational education, exchange of experts, and promotion of internationally recognised skills training to create sustainable employment opportunities for youth. He expressed these views during a meeting with a delegation of the Italian development organisation ISCOS at the Governor House.

During the meeting, the delegation briefed the Governor on ISCOS's ongoing development initiatives in Pakistan, collaboration with Italian institutions and experts, and projects aimed at promoting technical and vocational training, employment opportunities and sustainable development, particularly in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The delegation informed the Governor that ISCOS is implementing projects including Khyber Path, Just in Transition, RISE and other development initiatives. These projects focus on vocational training, international mobility of skilled workers, preservation and promotion of archaeological heritage, nutrition, sanitation, and economic empowerment of home-based workers, particularly women.

The meeting also discussed cooperation with Italian experts to develop a modern technical training curriculum in the field of green construction as part of the green transition agenda.

Speaking on the occasion, Governor Faisal Karim Kundi said Khyber Pakhtunkhwa possesses immense potential for preserving its historical and cultural heritage while equipping young people with modern technical skills and creating new employment opportunities for local communities. He said the province held exceptional historical and cultural significance, adding that linking the preservation of archaeological heritage with youth skills development and employment would be a major step forward.

NCCIA launches Cyber Info App

LAHORE (APP): The National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency (NCCIA) on Friday launched a Cyber Information App to facilitate citizens in reporting cybercrimes and sharing relevant information directly with the agency.

According to an NCCIA spokesperson, the application has been introduced to make access to the agency's services easier and provide citizens with a convenient platform to report cybercrime-related incidents.

Through the app,users can submit information about cybercrimes and share supporting material,including images, videos,audio recordings and documents.

The application also features a facility for reporting urgent cyber threats and enables users to communicate directly with the NCCIA.

In a statement, NCCIA Director General (DG) Ali Nasir Rizvi said that modern digital tools were being introduced to make communication between citizens and the agency more accessible and effective.

He said timely reporting of cybercrime incidents and the provision of relevant information could help strengthen efforts to prevent and combat cyber offenses.

Terrorism incidents in KP declined by 80pc over past five weeks: Samar

PESHAWAR (INP): Adviser to the Governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on information and public relations, relief, rehabilitation and settlement, Samar Haroon Bilour, said that terrorism incidents in the province had declined by 80 percent over the past five weeks as a result of the provincial government's effective strategy.

She said the government aimed to make the provincial police autonomous and self-reliant so that they could independently and effectively discharge their responsibilities in maintaining law and order.

Samar Bilour expressed these views while talking to media persons during her visit to Mardan press club. On her arrival, press club president Lutfullah Lutf and general secretary Hidayat-ur-Rehman Hoti warmly welcomed her and presented her with a bouquet. At the conclusion of the event, the press club president also presented her with a traditional shawl and a commemorative shield.

Central social media president of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Khadim Ali Khan Yousafzai, Nasir Khan, Nadia Shah Bibi, Fakhar Zaman Tahirkhel and others were also present on the occasion.

Speaking to journalists, the adviser said an emergency had been imposed in view of the extraordinary security situation in the province. However, she maintained that alongside efforts to eliminate terrorism, the government would continue to perform other public and administrative functions effectively.

Commenting on Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's statement, she said the team's leader and Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa would issue a clarification.

Rs2.72 bln approved to clear Nishtar University, Hospital liabilities

LAHORE (APP): Punjab Health Minister Khawaja Salman Rafique on Friday said that transparency in the financial affairs of medical institutions and hospitals was being ensured through the e-tendering system.

He was chairing the 21st Syndicate meeting of Nishtar Medical University at the Specialized Healthcare and Medical Education Department.

During the meeting, funds amounting to Rs.2.72 billion were approved for the settlement of outstanding liabilities of Nishtar Medical University and Nishtar Hospital, Multan.

The estimated budget for 2026-27 and revised budget for 2025-26 were also approved.

The Syndicate approved Rs655.1 million for the procurement of medicines through a centralized purchasing mechanism for the financial year 2026-27.

It also granted administrative approval for Rs.33.7 million for earthing works at Nishtar Hospital, Multan, while Rs.33.4 million was approved for the installation of turbines and tube wells under a deposit work project.

Furthermore,Rs.19.3 million was approved for a one-year repair and maintenance contract for the emergency CT scan machine, while Rs.28.7 million was sanctioned for a three-year maintenance contract for the digital mammography machine at the hospital's Cancer Center.

The meeting also approved Rs.61.6 million for the procurement of laboratory kits for an integrated laboratory system featuring hematology analyzers on a rental basis.



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah talking to a South Korean delegation led by Ambassador Han Sungho during a meeting.

Bilawal says state must ensure every child has access to education and healthcare

KARACHI (INP) Chairman of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, in his message on World Children's Day, said that it is the fundamental responsibility of the state to ensure that every child has access to education, healthcare, protection, equal opportunities and a future filled with hope.

He expressed concern, saying children were bearing the brunt of the country's unprecedented inflation, unemployment, poverty, climate change and growing social inequalities.

The PPP Chairman said that, in line with the vision of Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto, the party had consistently taken practical steps to secure a better future for children, promote free education, improve healthcare facilities and provide a safe environment for their growth.

He reaffirmed the PPP's commitment to continuing its struggle for effective legislation to safeguard children's rights and ensure improved educational and healthcare facilities.

Japanese ambassador visits historic shrine in Multan

MULTAN (APP): Japanese Ambassador Akamatsu Shuichi visited the historic Shrine of Hazrat Musa Pak Shaheed on Friday, where discussions focused on expanding Pakistan-Japan cooperation in development, culture, tourism and parliamentary engagement.

The ambassador was received by shrine custodian Syed Abu-ul-Hasan Gilani and MNA Syed Ali Qasim Gilani, who presented him with traditional Multani shawls, an Ajrak chadar and a souvenir featuring the city's renowned Blue Pottery.

Syed Ali Qasim Gilani briefed the ambassador on the shrine's historical and spiritual significance, prominent personalities buried there and Multan's rich cultural heritage. The ambassador also visited the historic streets of the old city along with his delegation.

Speaking on the occasion, Syed Ali Qasim Gilani said Pakistan and Japan enjoyed longstanding relations based on mutual trust, respect and friendship, with significant potential for expanding economic, developmental and cultural cooperation.

He highlighted Japan's contribution to Multan's civic infrastructure, particularly the provision of modern machinery.

PHC moved for enrollment of 4.9 million out of schools children

PESHAWAR (APP): A writ petition has been filed in Peshawar High Court(PHC) seeking enrollment of over 4.9 million out of schools children under education net.

The issue of more than 4.9 million out-of-school children in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has reached the Peshawar High Court, where a writ petition has been filed seeking effective government measures to ensure children's fundamental right to education and reduce the number of children deprived of schooling.

The petition was filed by Provincial Nazim of Islami Jamiat-e-Talaba, Muhammad Asfandyar Sheikh, through Advocate Faqirullah Awan, making the federal and provincial governments and relevant education departments respondents.

According to the petition, the 2023 census figures show that 37.49 percent of children in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are out of school, including 2.924 million girls and 1.999 million boys.

It claimed that more than 4.259 million children in the province had never enrolled in any school, while 664, 831 children had dropped out despite having been enrolled.

The situation is particularly alarming in Kohistan, Torghar and the former tribal districts, where the proportion of out-of-school children is exceptionally high.

Citing Article 25-A of the Constitution, the petitioner maintained that the state is constitutionally bound to provide free and compulsory education to children aged between five and 16 years. However, millions of children in the province continue to be deprived of this fundamental right. The petitioner urged the Peshawar High Court to direct the provincial government to implement a time-bound action plan for enrolling out-of-school children and bringing dropouts back into the education system.

Dr Azra Pechuho opens NICU, paediatrics ward, modern lab at SIMS hospital

HYDERABAD (APP): Sindh health minister Dr Azra Fazal Pechuho visited Shahdadpur Institute of Medical Sciences (SIMS) Hospital and inaugurated several modern healthcare facilities including a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), General Paediatrics Ward and a state-of-the-art laboratory established under the Sindh Institute of Child Health and Neonatology (SICHN) unit.

According to a handout issued here on Friday, the establishment of these modern medical facilities would provide improved healthcare services for newborns and children to residents of Shahdadpur and other areas of Sanghar district.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony, Dr Azra Fazal Pechuho said that the Chest Pain Clinic established at SIMS hospital was a positive initiative. However, she said it would be linked with the National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD) to further improve its services.

She explained that establishing a full-fledged NICVD centre required a substantial budget, therefore, the project could not be initiated at present.

The provincial health minister added that plans were also underway to upgrade the Chest Pain Clinic in Shahdadpur into a fully equipped ward.

Responding to a question, she expressed satisfaction over the modern laboratory at SIMS hospital, saying it would provide additional diagnostic facilities to the public. She also assured that the non-functional CT scan machine at the hospital would be made operational soon.

The visit was attended by MPA Shahid Abdul Salam Thaheem, Commissioner Shaheed Benazirabad Division Ghulam Qadir Khan Talpur, Deputy Commissioner Sanghar Dr Imran-ul-Hassan Khowaja.

IHC seeks NAB's arguments on maintainability of petition regarding jurisdiction

ISLAMABAD (APP): National Accountability Bureau (NAB) has raised an objection to the maintainability of a petition challenging the transfer of jurisdiction over second appeals in NAB cases from the Supreme Court to the Federal Constitutional Court.

The Islamabad High Court (IHC) sought arguments from NAB on the maintainability of the petition at the next hearing and adjourned the proceedings.

Justice Umer Majid Malik heard the constitutional petition filed by Judicial Activism Panel through its chairman, Advocate Muhammad Azhar Siddique.

Replies on behalf of the National Assembly, Senate and NAB have been submitted before the court.

During the hearing, Shahid Khokhar, counsel for the petitioner, appeared before the court and requested a short adjournment, informing the judge that senior counsel Azhar Siddique was in Lahore.

Justice Umer Majid Malik observed that anyone challenging a law carries a heavy responsibility.



ISLAMABAD: A delegation of Italian Development Organization ISCOS meeting with Khyber Pakhtunkhawa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi.

Three killed in firing incident in Karachi

KARACHI (APP): Three persons were killed in a firing incident took place in Landhi area of Karachi, according to police sources quoted by tv channels.

Initial reports said that unidentified assailants opened fire on a house, killing the victims on the spot. Following the incident, police team reached the site and shifted the bodies to hospital.

Police team have started search operation to trace and apprehend the suspects involved in the firing. Further investigation into the incident is underway.

Three killed, two injured in Upper Dir jeep accident

PESHAWAR (APP): At least three people, including two women were killed and two others injured when a jeep plunged off the road in the Narhand Khwar area of Upper Dir on Friday.

According to initial police report, the driver, Abdul Rashid, son of Shamshi Khan, a resident of Babiwar Mian Banda, lost control of the vehicle near Narhand Khwar, causing it to fall off the road.

The deceased were identified as Khadija Bibi, wife of Wahid Khan, Bala Sahar, wife of Ehsan, and Abdul Rashid.

Rescue teams shifted the injured, including the driver to Wari Hospital for medical treatment.

According to reports, all the victims belonged to the same family.

KP launches UNICEF supported Muhafiz app for child protection reports

PESHAWAR (INP): The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government on Friday launched a child protection mobile application, "I AM FOR EVERY CHILD / MUHAFIZ," to facilitate reporting of child protection concerns and improve access to protection services, particularly in the merged districts.

The application, developed with technical support from UNICEF, aims to strengthen coordination among relevant departments, improve monitoring and follow-up mechanisms and make child protection services more accessible to children and communities.

The launch took place during a ceremony organised by the Project Management Unit (PMU) Child Protection of the Directorate of Social Welfare, Zakat, Ushr, Special Education and Women Empowerment in collaboration with UNICEF to mark World Children's Day 2026 in Peshawar.

The event focused on promoting children's rights, strengthening protection systems and highlighting technological initiatives to improve children's safety and well-being.

Speaking on the occasion, UNICEF Peshawar Chief of Field Office Radoslaw Rzehak highlighted the global importance of World Children's Day and stressed the joint responsibility of government institutions, development partners, civil society and communities to protect children from violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect.

He called for collective efforts and sustained investment in child protection systems.

UNICEF Child Protection Officer Bushra Ajmal highlighted progress in child protection initiatives across KP and stressed the need for stronger institutional coordination, community engagement and sustainable prevention and response mechanisms.

During the event, Child Protection Programme Manager Amjid Mehmood and Project Coordinator Kainat Farooqi presented the PMU Child Protection Annual Newsletter under the title "Journey of the Year".

The presentation highlighted achievements, success stories, community-based initiatives, case management interventions and improvements in child protection services during 2026.

Children also participated in a special performance, highlighting the importance of their voices, participation and empowerment.

Deputy Director Social Welfare Obaid Ur Rahman, UNICEF Programme Manager Muhammad Usman, UNICEF Child Protection Officer Sumbal Gillani and representatives of UNHCR, civil society organisations, academia and various government departments also attended the event.



LAHORE: Punjab Governor Sardar Saleem Haider Khan in a group photo with newly elected members of Courts Journalists Association during a meeting.

TENDER NOTICE

The Executive Engineer (Roads) CW,PP&H Department District Sevi invites bids from Eligible Bidders for Execution of following works for the year 2026-27 based on Composite Schedule Rates (CSR) 2026 on Percentage Rates. **Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, it is mandatory for All Bidders to Get Registered at Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB.** Earnest Money 2%, The tender fee Rs.1000/- will be deposited through green Challan in National Bank of Pakistan Sibi Branch under the head of account **C-02716 (Communication Receipt) at the rate shown against** work as mentioned below: -

S.No.	NAMEOF WORK.	E/COST
1.	REHABILITATION OF BT ROAD MAIN LEHRI ROAD TO LAL SHAH TEHSIL LEHRI DISTRICT SIBI. **TSE-2627111226343**	6,46,76,616/-

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules–2014. **Eligibility of bidders**: - Criteria for Bidders may be seen in the Bidding Documents on BPPRA website. **Procedure of Procurement:** Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure **Bid Security:** The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of **Bank Guarantee, Deposit at Call**of 2%specified above in then am of the under-signed from A scheduled bank. **Issuance of tender Documents:** From the date of publication of NIT to **07 December, 2026** during office hours on working days. **Last Date of bid submission:** The Tenders must be submitted latest by **07 December, 2026 at 11:00 AM. Tender opening:** All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the under- signed at 12**:00 PM. Address: Office of the Executive Engineer(Roads) CWPP&H Department District Sevi.**

Executive Engineer (Road)
C W, PP&H Department
District Sevi

DPRQ/PRQ No.2554/20-11-2026

www.dpr.gob.pk @dpr_gob dpr.gob @dgpr.balochistan

Daily 6AM, Quetta
Saturday November 21, 2026

Childhoods forsaken

World Children's Day, observed today, should be a celebration of childhood. In Pakistan, it is a reminder of how often children are denied even basic safety. At least 28 schoolchildren died when a roof collapsed in Peshawar last month; in August, a fire at Islamabad's Pims hospital killed 14 newborns.

Both tragedies raise serious questions about safety standards in schools and hospitals. Reports of children raped and murdered, sometimes by people they knew, point to dangers closer to home. Sahil documented 1,914 child abuse cases in the first half of 2026, including 1,015 cases of sexual abuse and 558 abductions.

These were only cases reported in newspapers; the true scale of abuse is likely far greater. Children also face exploitation online. A Unicef-backed study estimated that 1.5m internet-using children aged 12 to 17 experienced technology-facilitated sexual exploitation or abuse in a year. Yet despite the scale of these dangers, effective protection remains out of reach.

Violence and abuse are only part of the hardship confronting Pakistan's children. Unicef estimates that 25.1m children aged five to 16 are out of school. Malnutrition and preventable disease remain widespread, while nine polio cases had been reported by early November. Child marriage continues to interrupt girls' education and expose them to early motherhood. There has been some progress.

Punjab joined Sindh, Balochistan and Islamabad this year in setting 18 as the minimum marriage age, though KP has yet to follow suit. The Benazir Nashonuma Programme has also been extended to support more vulnerable women and children. But laws need enforcement, and schemes need sustained funding and oversight, particularly in areas where public services are weakest.

School and hospital safety inspections, effective investigations of abuse, support for survivors and stronger safeguards online are essential. Birth registration, vaccination, nutrition and access to schooling also demand attention. Officials must be held accountable for disasters, and investigations must lead to action. Pakistan cannot keep failing its children and then celebrating them once a year. The real disgrace is not that these failures are unknown, but that they are allowed to continue.

The mystery of silence

Naween A. Mangi

I have often wondered what makes it so difficult for a government officer to say no. A straightforward refusal, accompanied by a reason, would command far more respect than the elaborate exercise in silence, evasion and false assurances that passes for official communication in much of our bureaucracy.

My recent encounters with the Sindh Culture Department have offered a revealing lesson in this peculiar art of non-communication.

For several weeks, I have been attempting to organise free dance-theatre performances across Sindh, taking high-quality productions to towns where opportunities to experience storytelling on stage are scarce. We would bring the artists, bear production and technical costs and arrange the performances. All we sought was access to public cultural venues.

One might imagine that a department entrus-ted with promoting culture would welcome such an initiative. Instead, I encountered unanswered messages, unreturned calls and unfulfilled promises.

What public purpose is served by pricing artists out of cultural spaces supposedly created for them?

First, I struggled with departmental officers and came back with nothing. Then I tried securing a meeting with the culture minister through conventional channels. His secretary and various officials passed me endlessly from one number to another. Eventually, his secretary blocked my persistent coordinator's number. This young man has perfected a particularly ingenious form of communication. While a WhatsApp call to him is ringing, he simply sends a message: "G." Every question that follows remains unanswered.

Eventually, I surrendered to our entrenched culture of string-pulling. One well-placed request secured an almost immediate meeting.

The minister's warmth and enthusiasm were inspiring. He promised financial support in the fiscal year beginning July 2026, performances at relevant Karachi Arts Council events, and free venues with full technical support for our provincial tour. He even invited our artistic director and choreographer Mohsin Babar and I to walk into his office whenever we wished, without an appointment.

Encouraged, I developed proposals for three major productions and submitted them electronically and by hand. Repeated follow-ups produced nothing but deafening silence. I managed to get his WhatsApp number and sent him messages. Again, nothing.

Still giving the minister the benefit of the doubt, I approached the secretary of culture and the director general of culture, assuming instructions had been passed down. Imagine my astonishment when my representative was told by both officers that the minister opposes dance performances and had forbidden the department from facilitating them because they were culturally inappropriate.

Which version were we to believe? The minister's enthusiastic assurances or the instructions attributed to him by his senior officials?

More troubling was the apparent inability of those entrusted with promoting culture to distinguish serious artistic expression from vulgar entertainment. Dance is an ancient, sophisticated art form, deeply embedded in this region's traditions. That a culture department should apparently regard it as inappropriate is an irony almost too painful to contemplate.

My bubble finally burst when I heard the minister declaring at press conferences his desire to promote Sindh's "soft image".

Why this obsession with manufacturing a soft image when the real image is waiting to be celebrated? Extraordinary artists across Sindh are creating, rehearsing and preserving centuries-old traditions. They need no manufactured image, merely recognition, respect and opportunities to perform. What better advertisement for Sindh's culture than its own artists? And what greater irony than a department seeking to project cultural richness while obstructing those who embody it?

Elsewhere, culture departments and arts councils exist to serve artists, nurture and showcase their work. Here, the relationship seems reversed. Artists must cultivate connections, flatter officials and endure the indignity of waiting endlessly for meetings that may never materialise. Public servants become gatekeepers dispensing favours rather than facilitators fulfilling responsibilities.

Publicly supported arts council and culture department venues, especially those outside Karachi that frequently stand empty, demand exorbitant rentals from artists wishing to perform. What public purpose is served by pricing artists out of cultural spaces supposedly created for them?

And then there are the less-explicit obstacles. At one government auditorium in a small Sindh town, we were informed that there were no sweepers on the payroll and that arrangements would have to be made. One is left to decipher precisely what such statements imply, and what additional obligations might be expected before a public facility can actually be used.

The common thread running through these experiences is a bureaucracy that refuses to communicate clearly, apply transparent rules or take responsibility for its decisions. Silence is merely its most convenient instrument. An official who says no must explain why. An official who says nothing can avoid accountability indefinitely.

Why must citizens become supplicants simply to receive a response? Isn't the Culture Department supposed to encourage artistic expression, support performers and make culture accessible? Shouldn't officials welcome independent artists offering free performances to underserved communities?

Nobody is asking for personal favours. We are asking public servants to make public facilities available for a public purpose.

Perhaps there is simply no accountability for failing to respond. Whatever the explanation, opportunities disappear, artists lose heart and public infrastructure remains underutilised.

None of this demands sweeping reforms or enormous budgets. It requires officials to answer telephones, respond to correspondence, communicate decisions and remember whom their offices exist to serve.

And perhaps the greatest mystery is this: in a department dedicated to culture, why has silence become its most accomplished art form?

Islamic education

Ghulam Shabbir

Where the Judeo-Christian tradition — despite its long coexistence with and exposure to Hellenism — failed at the fusion of religious and pure intellectual streams of thought, Islam sutured the fabric of transcendental and empirical reality so seamlessly that it gushed forth to spread like a prairie fire from Baghdad to India, Transoxiana and further still. The Quran so vigorously fired the imagination of Muslims and implanted philosophic spirit in them that within a short time they mastered the sciences and were at the helm of world affairs.

However, orthodox elements blew this fusion of metaphysical and social reality into shreds and after a few centuries, the real 'dark ages' of Muslims set in. The clergy was left with little more than a threadbare formal structure of ideas. How did things come to such a pass?

It was a protracted war between orthodox elements and philosophers, fought from rigid positions which shaped the content of Islamic education and Muslim attitude towards philosophy and positive sciences, of which both Muslim thought and philosophy paid the price. The capture of Bait al-Hikma at Baghdad by the Mu'tazila, with an Abbasid inquisition board, was a shot across the bow to the ulema to make them realise how vital an education system is to state and society. So they set about to organise and control education. Thus, Nizamiyya Baghdad was the first orthodox college of higher learning where Ghazali served as professor. At almost the same time occurred the philosophical movement, which was critical of religion.

Ghazali saved religious thought from the critique of philosophers, but his wholesale rejection of philosophy and positive sciences proved a watershed event for later developments, as his community took his statements as 'eternal truth' rather than an overreaction to an extreme historical challenge.

Both philosophers and orthodoxy failed to mediate their rigidity.

However, he failed to appreciate that no structure of ideas can survive without constant interaction with a living and growing stream of positive and scientific thought, and banishment of positive sciences can deal a deadly blow to knowledge as an organic whole.

Ibn Khaldun warned philosophers that the balance (intellect), meant to weigh gold, cannot weigh down mountains and told orthodoxy that ulema severed from Sitz im leben and social realities cannot be the real successors of the Prophet (PBUH). In a nutshell, both philosophers and orthodoxy failed to mediate their rigidity and went off a cliff. So, where philosophers outraged theology by interpreting the Quran through the lens of Hellenistic thought, orthodoxy proscribed philosophy, positive sciences and their instrument, human reason. Free thought, by its very nature, is bound to exceed on certain points, but its remedy is not to stifle it but to keep on criticising it to reach a balanced conclusion.

However, rise of philosophy in Islam was sporadic and individual. It never took the form of a movement or a tradition of enduring roots, as was the case in ancient Greece and the modern West. Confined to theological problems, the Mu'tazila's rationalism was not purely philosophical as the fulcrum of their thought was to know whether free will was compatible with the idea of a Just God. Muslim philosophers were too enamoured of metaphysical heights to climb down to ethics. Had they made Sharia an object of study, the subsequent history of philosophy and Islamic thought could have been different.

Thus, since orthodoxy's triumph against philosophy, Ghazali has been leading the fleets of Islamic thought to harbour on theological rather than Archimedean principles.

Helping create paths

Faisal Bari

One child, born in an affluent household, goes to one of the best private, high-fee schools, gets a lot of support from home, appears for international school leaving assessments and then makes her way to the best colleges and universities of the country or of the world. When she enters the job market, she not only has her education to bank on, and the confidence that comes with it and the upbringing she got, she has parental and university networks to support her as well.

Another child — and there are millions of children in Pakistan who face these odds — might have struggled to even be in a public or low-fee private school, is likely to drop out well before reaching college, but even if she reaches college, it is likely she will struggle to find a job afterwards. The quality of her education is compromised, she did not have much support from home for her learning, her confidence has not been built up, and she does not have a parental/family network or a university network to support her.

The state is supposed to level the playing field amongst children. Education has shown to be an amazing equaliser and the state, in theory at least, can use educational opportunities to level some of the inequalities coming from homes and families.

It is a legal and constitutional requirement in the case of basic education (Article 25A of the Constitution as well as many international commitments of our state), but it makes functional sense to do that as well: a merit-based society is likely to bring the best talent forward and that, more than anything else, becomes the engine for economic growth, social well-being and societal harmony.

The state of Pakistan has completely failed to deliver the promise of 'the right to education'. But it has also failed, and quite miserably, to deliver on social outcomes.

Twenty-six million-odd children out of school, poor quality of education for most children enrolled in low-fee private and public schools, high dropout rate, small percentage of enrolled children reaching university level (roughly only 10 per cent), poor quality of university education in most private and public universities and very poor opportunities for employment even if you survive in the system and graduate from it with a degree.

State policies have, in many instances, helped develop & entrench inequalities.

Instead of equalising opportunities and levelling the playing field, state policies have, in many instances, helped develop and entrench inequalities even more. Funding cuts and restrictions for public education, both at school and university level, are a telling example as is the inability and unwillingness of the state to regulate provision of education by private, for-profit providers. Some effort has been made to provide scholarships, on merit, at high school and university level to help students who do well in public examinations, but, compared to the scale of poverty and the escalation in costs of education, all scholarship schemes, together, do not amount to more than a few drops in the ocean.

Private not-for-profit initiatives have also been working in the area, but the scale is a big issue here. They have been and can help hundreds of thousands, but they have not been able to reach millions. If experience from other countries is to be of value, the state has to step in and play its role.

The Citizen's Foundation (TCF) is probably the largest non-profit provider of schooling in the country. It has been around for more than three decades and has served hundreds of thousands of students and employed thousands of teachers. But even today, TCF has less than 3,000 odd schools and school units that it runs. Pakistan has some 200,000 schools in operation in the country, and we still have 26m children out of school. How many TCFs do we need? It cannot be done without the state!

Equally important is the form of support that is provided. Even when the state has come in it has stepped in to either reduce tuition fees (public schools are free for students and public universities are still subsidised) or provide individual scholarships based on need and/or merit. But a lot more is needed. Again, if you look at examples from other countries young people need support for health and nutrition, academic support (where such support from home is missing), counselling support to ensure better career and occupation choices, scholarships, mentoring support, support for developing non-academic but needed skills in communication, self-presentation, confidence building, and support in making transition to the workplace.

These programmes, sadly, are almost completely missing in Pakistan. Even technical education, skills and training providers focus a lot more on specific skills than on issues of confidence, interpersonal skills, self-presentation and so on.

But we do need these programmes as well. Here are a couple of examples from small/local initiatives. Amal Academy does fellowships with university students to develop their skills in self-presentation, to improve confidence, to ensure better self-organisation and management. This is done over a few months through mentorship programmes that are quite structured and very interactive.

Institute of Lifelong Learning and Development, a new initiative, has a three-pronged strategy. They provide scholarships to ease access, development and mentorship programmes to focus on needed skills and confidence building and a service orientation, right from the start, to ensure benefiting students are ready to pay it forward right from the word go.

The point of these examples is to just emphasise that equalising opportunities or levelling the playing field does not get addressed through access issues (tuition fees and subsidies) only; the state needs to do a lot more. We have plenty of examples we could learn from and bodies like TEVTA and PSDF could benefit from scaling some of these programmes.

Islamabad province?

Aasim Sajjad Akhtar

Opposition to it has been largely suppressed, but all is not well within the ruling regime. One way or the other, the proposal to break up existing federating units will ultimately shape the regime's endgame.

Stage one has been completed without major resistance, the PTI disarmed through the imposition of emergency in KP, and a neo-administrative experiment comprising 12 districts in the southern and ex-Fata regions operationalised.

The ultimate prize for the establishment is the long-desired separation of Karachi from the rest of Sindh. And this is where the Bhutto-Zardari clan, facing an existential threat, will be forced to play its hand.

But before this, there are likely to be other moves expected to trigger less resistance, both within the ruling coalition and outside it. One of these is the plan to make Islamabad into a province.

The bureaucracy rules Islamabad without impediment.

The only proposal on record, finalised by a committee headed by Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal, has advised a 27-member assembly, headed by an elected chief minister/mayor. The elephant in the room is the viceregal institution which dictates the fates of Islamabad's three million people — the Capital Development Authority (CDA).

Pakistani democracy is, at best, an aspiration rather than a functioning reality connected to the will of the people. Elected institutions operate under pressure, while most who claim to be representatives of the people wage class war daily. Nevertheless, the pretence of democracy remains.

The federal capital is a glaring exception. The bureaucracy rules here without impediment, the popular will be damned. There has been one citywide experiment with local government since the capital was created in 1960. The 2016 elections brought the Municipal Corporation of Islamabad (MCI) into existence, under the nominal authority of an elected mayor. The mayor and elected representatives down to the level of union councillor had virtually zero legislative and financial power. Elections never took place again, and the MCI was transformed into yet another bureaucratic feeder to the CDA.

So if Islamabad is given a legislative assembly, will the CDA be cut down to size? I choose my words carefully — because those who are poised to 'give' Islamabad an assembly have, over the past year or so, made their plans for the city and its environs sufficiently clear.

A short list of 'achievements' reads as follows: thousands of homes in katchi abadis and historical villages bulldozed; suburban sprawl in the form of land-grabbing real-estate schemes extended; thousands of trees razed and the city's air poisoned by relentless construction.

With the CDA's Master Plan flagrantly violated by its own commercial projects and big proprietors, another post-facto amendment in zoning regulations was recently approved by the government. As for what is to come, entire chunks of Rawal Lake and many villages around Bhara Kahu will be sacrificed for a 350-acre safari park, while the area adjacent to the Bari Imam shrine — where forced evictions took place earlier this year — is being given over to hotel developers.

Will Islamabad's much-celebrated green spaces, already limited public services, and working-class settlements be left by the time the purported legislative assembly comes into place? Will the dominant imaginary of 'development' fronted by the state apparatus — of which the CDA is a poster-child — suddenly give way to a political-economic-environmental arrangement that serves the mass of Islamabad's people?

Only the awfully naïve believe that the plans for an Isla-mabad province — which may ex--tend into adjacent districts like Mu--rree and Haripur currently part of Punjab and KP respectively — are driven by democ-r-atic impulses. Seen thus, the Islam-abad case provides the most obvious indication of what the new provinces hullabaloo is all about; an attempt to subjugate the political and economic interests of the mass of the population, and future generations to boot, all in the name of efficient administration.

Over the course of the past year, mainstream parties like the PPP and PML-N have made no effort to stand with katchi abadi dwellers and villagers whose homes have been bulldozed in Islamabad. They have not resisted the barrage of 'development' projects that have forever destroyed local ecologies.

Islamabad was always the preserve of the elite, but working people fought for their rights with some success, mainstream politicians paying heed in exchange for votes. Like in the rest of the country, Islamabad's working masses now have to exclusively wage their own political fight. They are up against both powerful elements and political entrepreneurs who hunt with the hare and run with the hound.

ECC approves SME export financing reforms, key TSGs

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the Cabinet on Friday approved facilitative measures to promote SME exports, alongside Technical Supplementary Grants (TSGs) for various ministries and divisions.

The ECC meeting chaired by Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb at the Finance Division, approved amendments to the Long Term Export Growth Financing Facility, administered through EXIM Bank of Pakistan, to facilitate small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and support emerging exporters. The amendments have lowered the minimum threshold of 80 percent exports to 50 percent within four years. The Committee also directed a review of progress after six months. The ECC also approved a summary submitted by the Finance Division for the provision of TSG for execution of National Economic Initiatives (NEI) projects, underscoring the importance of NEI projects in advancing key national development priorities.

On a summary submitted by the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, the ECC approved a TSG of Rs. 100 million for Minorities Welfare Fund (MWF). These funds will support financial assistance, scholarships, marriage grants for orphan minority girls, emergency relief and repair of minority places of worship.

The ECC also approved three separate summaries requiring approval of various TSGs submitted by the Ministry of Interior and Narcotics Control. These included a TSG of Rs. 26.500 million for the purchase of helicopter spare parts for Pakistan Rangers (Punjab) to meet its maintenance requirements; a TSG of Rs. 100 million to meet the salary requirements of the Social Media Protection and Regulatory Authority (SMPRA) and the Social Media Complaint Council (SMCC) for FY 2026-27; and a further TSG of Rs. 67 million for the annual repair and maintenance of helicopters under use by the Frontier Corps Balochistan (North).

On a summary submitted by the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training, the Committee approved modification of its earlier decision regarding the release of Rs. 2 billion for the Daanish Schools Authority. The modification allows utilisation of Rs. 500 million from the released amount to meet the operational expenses of Daanish Schools during FY 2026-27, including salaries, boarding, utilities, transport, security and maintenance.

The ECC also considered a summary summitted by Petroleum Division and approved a TSG of Rs. 1 billion for settlement of the outstanding guaranteed throughput claim of Pak-Arab Pipeline Company Limited (PAPCO). On a summary submitted by the Ministry of National Food Security and Research, the ECC considered the recommendations of Cabinet Committee headed by Deputy Prime Minister regarding exports of Sugar to safeguard farmers' interests in the form of adequate price support for their produce.



Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, chairing a meeting of the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) at the Finance Division, Islamabad.



KARACHI: Agreement signing between Pakistan and Turkey to strengthen mineral cooperation.

Railways, Mirpur business community discuss enhanced freight transport facilities

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Railways Muhammad Hanif Abbasi Friday met with a delegation led by Mirpur Chamber of Commerce and Industries President Chaudhry Kashif Nazir Bajjar to discuss industrial development, investment promotion and improved freight transportation facilities through Pakistan Railways.

The meeting, held at the Ministry of Railways, focused on industrial and commercial activities in Mirpur, the transportation needs of businesses and opportunities for strengthening freight services through the railway network.

Kashif Nazir briefed the minister on the chamber's history, industrial activities and the growth of the business sector, informing him that the Mirpur Chamber of Commerce and Industries was established in 1980.

He said around 115 industrial units associated with pharmaceutical, steel and other sectors were operating in Mirpur and playing an important role in the economic and industrial development of the region.

The delegation discussed transportation challenges faced by the industrial sector and explored possibilities of transporting goods through Pakistan Railways.

It also expressed interest in connecting industrial centres with the railway network and benefiting from rail-based freight facilities.

The participants also discussed strengthening cooperation between Pakistan Railways and the industrial and business community of Mirpur, providing efficient and cost-effective transportation facilities to industries, and expanding the railway's role in freight transportation.

Hanif Abbasi said Pakistan Railways could play an important role in promoting industrial and commercial activities, strengthening the national economy and providing better transportation facilities to the business community.

He said steps were being taken to make the freight transportation system more efficient in line with the requirements of the industrial sector and to strengthen engagement with the business community.

The minister reaffirmed his commitment to promoting cooperation with the industrial and business sectors and encouraging maximum utilisation of Pakistan Railways' freight facilities to support industrial growth, trade and economic stability.

Sri Lanka invites Pakistani exporters to tap into $19b import market

KARACHI (APP): Sri Lankan Consul General in Karachi Sanjeewa Pattiwilla on Friday urged Pakistani exporters to expand their presence in Sri Lanka's nearly $19 billion import market by capitalizing on opportunities available under the existing Free Trade Agreement (FTA), particularly in textiles, rice, cement and other sectors.

He was speaking during his visit to the SITE Association of Industry (SAI), where he held a meeting with business representatives and discussed ways to enhance bilateral trade and investment between the two countries.

The Consul General said Pakistan and Sri Lanka had long benefited from GSP and GSP+ market access and possessed complementary export strengths, particularly in textiles and garments, construction materials and pharmaceuticals.

He noted that Pakistani woven fabrics had become an important raw material for Sri Lankan apparel manufacturers exporting garments to the European Union, while several Pakistani companies had already established manufacturing facilities in Sri Lanka. Highlighting opportunities in the agriculture sector, Pattiwilla said Sri Lanka had permitted rice imports of up to 6,000 metric tonnes from Pakistan.

Commerce Minister calls for stronger trade, investment ties with South Africa

ISLAMABAD (APP): A high-level South African business delegation led by Dr. Gwen Malegwala Ramokgopa, Treasure General of the African National Congress and Group Chair of the Progressive Business Forum (PBF) called on the Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan in Ministry of Commerce, Islamabad.

During the meeting ways and means were discussed to enhance bilateral trade, investment and business-to-business cooperation between Pakistan and South Africa, said a release issued here on Friday.

The Federal Minister for Commerce highlighted the untapped potential of bilateral trade and emphasized the need for closer engagement between the business communities and chambers of commerce of Pakistan and South Africa to identify trade barriers explore investment opportunities and promote joint ventures.

He further explained that there exists vast potential of mutual cooperation in various promising sectors like agriculture, IT, mining and minerals, dairy, livestock and halal products.

He also invited South African investors to explore opportunities in Pakistan's mining and critical minerals sectors, along with mineral processing, gemstone cutting, polishing and jewellery manufacturing.

The Minister for Commerce highlighted Pakistan's growing information technology sector and skilled young workforce as potential avenues for collaboration.

The Minister further briefed the delegation on investment facilitation measures of the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) and the role of EXIM Bank of Pakistan in supporting export-oriented businesses particularly the SMEs.

Dr. Ramokgopa acknowledged Pakistan's historic relations with South Africa and emphasized translating this longstanding relation into practical economic partnerships between the two countries.

Pakistan, Maldives discuss maritime connectivity to unlock untapped trade potential: Junaid

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry has called for unlocking untapped trade potential with the Maldives through improved maritime connectivity.

The minister made the remarks during a meeting with Maldivian High Commissioner to Pakistan H.E. Mohamed Thoha, who called on him, here.

The meeting followed a virtual discussion between Junaid Anwar Chaudhry and Maldives Minister for Economic Development, Transport and Trade Mohamed Saeed, during which the two sides agreed to establish a joint working group comprising government officials, technical experts and private-sector representatives.

The proposed group will identify trade opportunities, address logistical and shipping constraints, and develop recommendations to facilitate bilateral commerce and investment, the minister said.

Junaid Chaudhry said Pakistan was willing to explore a direct Karachi–Malé shipping service, subject to sufficient cargo volumes, adding that improved maritime connectivity would facilitate the movement of goods and strengthen commercial ties.

He identified port development, fisheries, maritime training and the blue economy as other promising areas for cooperation.

Pakistan, Türkiye sign mineral, energy coop. agreements

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan and Türkiye have strengthened their energy and minerals partnership with the signing of several agreements covering mineral exploration, offshore oil and gas research, technical cooperation and investment, as Turkish seismic research vessel Oruç Reis arrives in Pakistan.

The ceremony in Islamabad was attended by Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar, Türkiye's Energy and Natural Resources Minister Alparslan Bayraktar, Federal Minister for Petroleum Ali Pervaiz Malik and the Sindh governor, marking a fresh push to expand bilateral cooperation in strategic sectors.

Several agreements were signed during the ceremony to strengthen cooperation between Pakistan and Türkiye in mineral exploration and development.

A shareholders' agreement was signed between the Pakistan Mineral Development Corporation (PMDC) and Türkiye's MTA International for the development of antimony, a key mineral, in Pishin, Balochistan.

A joint venture agreement was also signed between Mari Minerals and Türkiye's MTA IC to explore and develop copper, gold and other mineral deposits in Chagai, Balochistan.

In addition, a tripartite memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between the Geological Survey of Pakistan, Türkiye's MTA and MTA IC. The agreement focuses on technical exchange and capacity building to support the development of mineral resources.

The agreements are expected to further strengthen cooperation between Pakistan and Türkiye in the minerals sector.

Pakistan seeks long-term energy partnership with Türkiye

Pakistan is seeking a long-term partnership with Türkiye in the energy sector, encompassing offshore oil and gas exploration, mineral development and renewable energy.

The two countries are working to build their relationship on stronger strategic foundations, with bilateral cooperation already extending to diplomacy, defence and trade.

The Pakistani government has also directed federal ministries and relevant institutions to improve coordination and ensure that key national projects do not face unnecessary delays.

PSX stays bullish, gains over 600 points

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) witnessed a bullish trend on Friday, with the benchmark KSE-100 Index gaining 610.38 points, a positive change of 0.35 percent, to close at 177,382.57 points against 176,772.19 points recorded in the previous trading session. [1] The ready market witnessed a trading volume of 620.697 million shares, compared to 724.776 million shares traded in the previous session. The traded value of the ready market stood at Rs22.598 billion, up from Rs21.153 billion a day earlier. Meanwhile, total market capitalisation increased to Rs19.260 trillion from Rs19.233 trillion recorded in the previous session.

Out of 494 companies that traded in the ready market, 211 posted gains, 259 suffered losses, while 24 remained unchanged.

WorldCall Telecom led the volume chart with 95.156 million shares, followed by Pervez Ahmed Co with 90.168 million shares and LSE Financial Services with 40.379 million shares.

Among the top gainers in the ready market, Khyber Textile Mills Limited surged by Rs172.22 to close at Rs2,131.22, while Unilever Pakistan Foods Limited advanced by Rs86.00 to settle at Rs26,355.00. On the losing side, PIA Holding Company LimitedB declined by Rs698.00 to close at Rs14,001.00, while Pakistan Services Limited fell by Rs64.29 to Rs1,249.78. In the futures (DFC) market, turnover stood at 106.995 million shares with a traded value of Rs4.799 billion, compared with 118.983 million shares worth Rs4.291 billion in the previous session. Of the 306 companies traded in the DFC market, 117 advanced, 183 declined, and six remained unchanged.

Community interests must remain central to Pakistan's energy transition: Shezra

ANTALYA (APP): Minister of State for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr Shezra Mansab Ali Khan Kharal has emphasised the need to place communities at the centre of Pakistan's energy transition, saying emerging models of community-based electricity sharing could help make renewable energy more accessible, affordable and equitable.

Addressing an event titled "Advancing Swarm Electrification for Energy Equity, Climate Justice and a Just Energy Transition" at the Pakistan Pavilion during COP31, she said the energy transition should not be viewed in isolation from people's everyday needs.

Organised by the Policy Research Institute for Equitable Development (PRIED), the event examined the potential of Swarm Electrification, a decentralised model that connects existing rooftop solar installations, batteries and inverters to enable households and businesses to share surplus electricity.

Dr Shezra said community-level energy models deserved consideration for their potential to connect local energy needs with broader national and environmental priorities.

"Communities must be protected, their interests recognised, and their participation ensured. The benefits of new energy models should extend beyond infrastructure and investment to the people they are intended to serve," she said.

The minister stressed the need to examine appropriate policy frameworks, regulatory arrangements, institutional coordination and financial mechanisms to support such initiatives and ensure equitable outcomes.

"Our approach to the energy transition must be practical and balanced. We need solutions that work for people, strengthen national energy systems, support economic development and are environmentally sustainable," she added.

She said countries navigating the challenges of energy security, economic development and climate change needed to explore solutions that could address these priorities simultaneously.

Earlier, PRIED researcher Amina Shahab, presenting a study titled "Swarm Electrification in Pakistan: Unlocking Community-Led Energy Sharing", said the future of the energy transition should focus not only on cleaner electricity production but also on making energy systems more accessible and equitable.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan meets a high-level South African business delegation led by Dr. Gwen Malegwala Ramokgopa at the Ministry of Commerce to discuss enhanced bilateral trade, investment and economic cooperation.

SBP injects over Rs 13.5trln to maintain liquidity in the market

KARACHI (APP): The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP), Friday, injected Rs 13, 544.5 billion through Reverse Repo Purchase and Shariah Compliant Mudarabah based Open Market Operations (OMO) for maintaining liquidity in the market.

The central bank conducted the Open Market Operation, Reverse Repo Purchase (Injection) for 7 and 14-day tenors on November 20, 2026, and injected Rs 13, 156.4 billion against 44 quotes while other Rs 388.1 billion were injected through Shariah Compliant Mudarabah based OMO.

The central bank, for the Reverse Repo Purchase of 14-day tenor, received 37 bids cumulatively offering Rs 12, 834 billion at the rate of return ranging between 12.00% to 12.09%. The SBP accepted Rs 12, 400 billion against 36 quotes at 12.01% rate of return. The total amount offered at 12.01% was Rs 5, 711.3 billion, out of which SBP accepted Rs 5, 278.3 billion on a pro rata basis.

Moreover, the SBP also received 8 bids for the 7-day tenor, cumulatively offering Rs 756.4 billion at the rate of return ranging between 12.01% to 12.06 %. The SBP accepted all the 8 quotes with the entire amount at 12.01% rate of return.

Meanwhile, SBP also conducted Shariah Compliant Mudarabah-based Open Market Operation for the 7 and 14-day tenors. The central bank received one bid for the 7-day tenor, offering Rs 50 billion at 12.06% rate of return which was accepted with the entire amount at the offered rate.

The central bank, for the 14-day tenor, received 6 quotes offering Rs 488.1 billion at rate of return ranging between 12.01% to 12.06%. SBP accepted an amount of Rs 338.1 billion against the 5 quotes at 12.04% rate of return.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research, Rana Tanveer Hussain, chairs a high-level meeting to review olive sector development, focusing on commercial cultivation, modern processing facilities, quality certification, private-sector investment and strengthening Pakistan's olive industry for domestic and international markets.

Weekly inflation decreases 0.65pc

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Sensitive Price Indicator (SPI)-based weekly inflation decreased by 0.65 percent during the week ended on November 19, 2026, for the combined consumption group, the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported here on Friday.

According to PBS data, the SPI for the week under review decreased to 370.47 points from 372.90 points recorded in the previous week. On a year-on-year basis, the SPI increased by 10.41 percent.

The weekly SPI, with base year 2015-16=100, covers 17 urban centres and 51 essential items for all expenditure groups.

The SPI for the lowest consumption group (up to Rs17, 732) decreased by 0.46 percent to 359.45 points from 361.12 points recorded in the previous week.

Likewise, the SPI for consumption groups of Rs17, 733–22, 888, Rs22, 889–29, 517, Rs29, 518–44, 175 and above Rs44, 175 decreased by 0.46 percent, 0.44 percent, 0.50 percent and 0.81 percent, respectively.

During the week, out of 51 items, prices of 23 items (45.10 percent) increased, eight items (15.68 percent) decreased, while 20 items (39.22 percent) remained unchanged.

On a week-on-week basis, the items that witnessed a decrease in prices included tomatoes (30.55%), onions (9.17%).

Ufone, Telenor Pak partners with Xiaomi Pakistan to accelerate 5G device adoption

ISLAMABAD (APP): Pakistani telecom operators Ufone & Telenor Pakistan has entered into a strategic partnership with global technology company Xiaomi Pakistan to accelerate 5G smartphone adoption across the country.

Anchored by the introduction of Xiaomi's newly launched handset, Redmi 17 5G, the collaboration aims to make next-generation connectivity more accessible through affordable devices and exclusive bundled data offers.

The partnership furthers Ufone & Telenor Pakistan's ambition to tackle key barriers to 5G adoption in Pakistan, including the affordability of compatible smartphones. It aims to bridge the gap between network availability and affordable 5G-enabled devices by combining Ufone & Telenor Pakistan's dual-network capabilities with Xiaomi's smartphone portfolio. Under the partnership, exclusive bundled 5G data plans will be available to Ufone 5G & Telenor Pakistan subscribers purchasing the Redmi 17 5G through the company's retail outlets. Distribution will take place through Ufone & Telenor Pakistan Joint Shops nationwide, as well as digital channels.

Powered by a Snapdragon 4 Gen 5 chipset, the Redmi 17 5G features a 7500mAh battery, 45W turbo charging, a 50MP AI camera, IP64 protection, NFC and Xiaomi HyperOS 3. The device will be supported by Ufone & Telenor Pakistan's sub-6GHz 5G network, with coverage across Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Lahore and Karachi. Commenting on the partnership, Syed Atif Raza, Chief Commercial Officer, PTML, said, "This partnership with Xiaomi is a defining moment for Pakistan's 5G journey. At PTML, we believe that connectivity should be a right, not a privilege.

By pairing our world-class 5G network — across both Ufone and Telenor Pakistan — with Xiaomi's exceptional and affordable device portfolio, we are enhancing 5G access for millions of Pakistanis. Together, we are not just connecting people to a network; we are connecting them to opportunity, to education, to healthcare, and to economic empowerment. We are proud to stand with Xiaomi as a partner in building the digital Pakistan of tomorrow.

Brian Shawn, Country Manager, Xiaomi Pakistan, said, "Pakistan has always been a priority market for Xiaomi, and this strategic partnership with PTML — the force behind Ufone 5G and Telenor Pakistan 5G — is a testament to our long-term commitment to this great nation.

Meena Majeed, Babar Yousafzai

Balochistan's youth have potential to shape Pakistan's future

Provincial officials urge law graduates to uphold justice, reject misinformation and contribute to national development

QUETTA (6 AM Report): Balochistan Adviser on Sports and Youth Affairs Meena Majeed Baloch and Aide on Home Affairs Babar Yousafzai have said that the province's talented youth can play a significant role in Pakistan's development if provided with quality education, professional opportunities and proper guidance.

Addressing a ceremony honoring graduates of the University Law College's 2022–2026 session, both officials congratulated the students and encouraged them to pursue their careers with integrity, determination and a sense of responsibility.

Babar Yousafzai urged young people to remain optimistic, develop critical thinking and rely on verified information rather than misleading narratives and negative propaganda. He said educated youth had a responsibility to promote peace, awareness and national progress.

Meena Majeed Baloch said young people accounted for approximately 70 percent of Balochistan's population, emphasizing the need to expand opportunities in education, employment, research, sports and other professional fields.

She said the provincial government was committed to supporting youth development and encouraging talented individuals to contribute to the province's social and economic progress.

Addressing the law graduates, she stressed that legal professionals had a particular responsibility to uphold the rule of law, promote justice and serve society through ethical professional conduct.

Both officials urged the graduates to translate their education into meaningful public service, emphasizing that professional integrity, merit and responsible leadership would be essential to Balochistan's future development.



QUETTA: MNA Pullain Baloch meeting with Chief Executive Officer QESCO Mujeeb-ur-Rehman Marri at QESCO HQs.



QUETTA: MPA Malik Naeem Khan Bazai meeting with Provincial Minister Finance Mir Shoaib Nosherwani.

Joint efforts essential to protect journalists' rights: BUJ

QUETTA (ANN): The Balochistan Union of Journalists (BUJ) has welcomed the unanimous resolution passed by the Balochistan Assembly addressing the financial and professional difficulties faced by journalists and media workers, including forced layoffs and the closure of television channel bureau offices in Quetta.

In a statement, BUJ President Manzoor Ahmed Rind, General Secretary Shah Hussain Tareen and members of the union's cabinet and executive committee thanked Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti and all parliamentary parties for supporting the resolution in response to the union's demands.

The BUJ leadership described the unanimous position adopted by government and opposition lawmakers as an encouraging development, emphasizing that coordinated efforts were necessary to protect journalists' economic rights and address employment-related concerns.

The union expressed concern over job losses and the closure of media bureaus, saying these developments had created serious financial and professional difficulties for journalists and media workers across Balochistan.

"Weakening journalism harms not only journalists but society as a whole," the BUJ leadership said, stressing the importance of independent and responsible journalism in highlighting public concerns and promoting awareness.

The union expressed hope that the Assembly resolution would encourage practical measures toward reopening closed television bureaus, reinstating dismissed media workers and safeguarding their employment rights.

BUJ reiterated that cooperation among the provincial government, parliamentary parties, media organizations and journalists' representatives was essential to finding sustainable solutions and strengthening journalism in Balochistan.

Practical learning essential alongside classroom education: GPA

GWADAR (6 AM Report): Gwadar Port Authority (GPA) representative Abdul Malik Baloch has emphasized the importance of combining classroom education with practical learning experiences to enhance students' knowledge and understanding of emerging economic and industrial opportunities.

He made these remarks during an educational visit by students and teachers of Government Boys High School Gwadar Jadeed to Gwadar Port and the China Business Center.

During the visit, Abdul Malik Baloch briefed the students on the port's regional and international significance, the role of the China Business Center, investment opportunities in Gwadar's free zones and the city's potential contribution to Pakistan's trade and economic development.

Students were introduced to port operations, commercial activities and prospective employment opportunities associated with maritime trade and industrial development.

The visit aimed to provide students with first-hand exposure to Gwadar's geographical, economic and commercial importance while encouraging observation, research and practical understanding beyond textbooks.

GPA representatives emphasized that educational visits could help students develop broader perspectives.

Chaos at QESCO recruitment test, candidates demand inquiry

QUETTA (ANN): Serious mismanagement and alleged administrative irregularities during the Quetta Electric Supply Company (QESCO) recruitment test at the Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering and Management Sciences (BUITEMS) reportedly prevented several candidates from taking the examination, triggering protests and demands for an impartial inquiry.

Thousands of job seekers from different districts of Balochistan had traveled to Quetta to participate in the recruitment test, spending considerable amounts on transportation and accommodation.

According to affected candidates, inadequate seating capacity and poor arrangements at the examination center created confusion, leaving several applicants unable to appear for the test.

Protesting candidates raised slogans against the government and concerned authorities, questioning why adequate arrangements had not been made despite the organizers being aware of the expected number of applicants.

They said unemployed youth from remote districts were already facing financial hardships, and being denied the opportunity to take the examination after spending thousands of rupees amounted to serious injustice.

The protesters urged Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti, the Balochistan Chief Secretary and QESCO authorities to take immediate notice, conduct an impartial investigation into the alleged mismanagement and identify those responsible.

They demanded a fresh examination for all eligible candidates who were unable to participate, along with adequate facilities, transparent procedures, merit-based recruitment and equal opportunities for applicants.

The candidates also called for improved planning and coordination in future recruitment examinations to prevent similar incidents.

Negligence, absenteeism and delays in public services will not be tolerated: Bareech

LORALAI (6 AM Report): Commissioner Loralai Division Wali Muhammad Bareech has warned that negligence in official duties, unauthorized absenteeism and unnecessary delays in addressing public complaints will not be tolerated, directing departmental heads to ensure accountability and improve public service delivery.

Chairing a meeting of divisional department heads, the commissioner instructed officers and employees not to leave their duty stations without prior authorization, warning that violations would invite disciplinary action under applicable rules.

He directed officials to conduct regular field visits, monitor ongoing development projects and submit progress reports supported by photographs to ensure effective oversight of construction quality, timelines and departmental performance.

The commissioner also sought detailed reports on ongoing and completed development schemes, including their progress, quality and utilization of funds, emphasizing transparency and timely completion.

He instructed department heads to ensure staff attendance, take action against unauthorized absences and address public grievances promptly. Officials were also directed to treat visitors to government offices with courtesy and respect.

DC Loralai

Action against those responsible if financial irregularities are proven

LORALAI (6 AM Report): Deputy Commissioner Loralai Captain (Retd.) Muhammad Haseeb Shuja has directed an impartial investigation into alleged financial irregularities in a livestock distribution project in Union Council Shah Karez, warning that legal action would follow if wrongdoing is established.

Chairing a meeting with the management of the Balochistan Rural Support Program (BRSP) and audit teams, the deputy commissioner reviewed the investigation into the livestock distribution initiative being implemented in collaboration with the Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF).

The meeting examined livestock procurement and distribution procedures, beneficiary selection, financial transactions and the utilization of project funds. Audit teams briefed the deputy commissioner on their findings and the examination of available records.

DC Shuja instructed the teams to accelerate the investigation, thoroughly verify financial documents and submit a comprehensive report within the prescribed deadline.

He emphasized that funds allocated for poverty alleviation and public welfare must reach deserving beneficiaries through transparent procedures.

The deputy commissioner clarified that no individual could be held responsible before the investigation was completed.

Ensure timely, quality healthcare for patients: AC

SURAB (6 AM Report): Assistant Commissioner Gidar Abdul Jabbar Baloch has directed the administration of District Headquarters (DHQ) Hospital Surab to ensure timely and quality healthcare services, improve cleanliness and maintain an adequate supply of essential medicines.

Acting on the instructions of Deputy Commissioner Surab Sahibzada Najeebullah, the assistant commissioner, accompanied by Naib Tehsildar Ayub Hassan, conducted a surprise inspection of the hospital.

During the visit, he inspected the emergency ward, outpatient department (OPD), medicine stocks, sanitation arrangements and attendance of medical and administrative staff.

He also interacted with patients and their attendants to obtain feedback on healthcare facilities and identify difficulties faced during treatment.

Quality medical education essential for better healthcare: DG Health

GWADAR (6 AM Report): Director General Health Balochistan Dr. Amin Khan Mandokhail has emphasized the need for quality medical education and professionally trained healthcare workers to improve public health services, particularly maternal and child healthcare in remote areas.

During a visit to the Community Midwifery School in Gwadar, he inspected classrooms, training facilities and ongoing academic activities, stressing the importance of practical training in safe childbirth, maternal health and primary healthcare.

The institution's Principal Suman briefed him on its educational activities, while District Health Officer Gwadar Dr. Yasir Tahir accompanied him during the inspection.

Dr. Mandokhail reviewed progress following the institution's upgrade to a nursing college and urged the authorities to complete the necessary arrangements for early admissions and the commencement of regular classes.

He said strengthening nursing and midwifery education was essential to addressing the shortage of skilled healthcare professionals and improving medical services across Balochistan.

The DG Health directed officials to enhance training facilities, utilize available resources efficiently and ensure that the upgraded institution becomes fully operational at the earliest.

He expressed hope that expanded nursing education opportunities in Gwadar would benefit local students, develop a skilled healthcare workforce and contribute to improved maternal and child health services throughout the province.



QUETTA: Director General Public Relations Balochistan Askar Khan inspecting the various sections of Quetta Press Club during his visit.

Ensure timely completion of development projects, address public issues: DC

KALAT (6 AM Report): Deputy Commissioner Kalat Engineer Ayesha Zehri has directed officials to ensure timely completion of development projects, maintain construction quality and transparency, and address public grievances on a priority basis.

During an inspection of the Mughalzai–Koing blacktop road being constructed under the Balochistan Special Development Initiative (BSDI), the deputy commissioner reviewed the pace and quality of work.

SDO Roads Engineer Naveed Musiani briefed her on construction progress and technical aspects of the project.

DC Zehri instructed the concerned officials to complete the road within the stipulated timeframe while maintaining prescribed quality standards. She said the project was expected to improve transportation facilities and reduce travel difficulties for local residents.

Meanwhile, a delegation of Garani elders led by Prince Akram Jan Ahmedzai met the deputy commissioner and highlighted various civic and development issues affecting the area.

Ensure prompt resolution of public complaints, end delays in revenue matters: Zopash

QUETTA (6 AM Report): Assistant Commissioner Brewery Zopash Agha has directed revenue officials to ensure prompt resolution of public complaints, eliminate unnecessary delays in revenue matters and provide timely relief to citizens.

Chairing a meeting on the instructions of Deputy Commissioner Quetta West Muneer Ahmed Durrani, the assistant commissioner reviewed administrative affairs, revenue-related issues and public grievances in Brewery Tehsil. The meeting was attended by the tehsildar, qanungos and patwaris, who discussed administrative challenges and measures to improve public service delivery.

Zopash Agha instructed revenue staff to prioritize citizens' concerns, expedite pending matters and perform their duties with integrity, professionalism and accountability.

The assistant commissioner warned that negligence or unnecessary delays in official responsibilities would not be tolerated.

Poor recruitment planning hurting Balochistan youth: NP

QUETTA (ANN): The National Party has expressed serious concern over alleged administrative irregularities and poor planning in recruitment interviews conducted by federal departments, saying overlapping schedules are creating financial and psychological difficulties for unemployed youth across Balochistan.

In a statement, the party's central spokesperson criticized the scheduling of interviews for thousands of candidates across different federal departments on the same day, describing it as evidence of inadequate coordination and ineffective administrative planning.

The spokesperson said candidates appearing for positions at the Quetta Electric Supply Company (QESCO) were simultaneously being called for interviews by other federal departments, making it difficult for applicants to attend multiple interviews at different locations.

The party noted that candidates from remote districts of Balochistan already face considerable travel expenses and financial constraints while seeking employment. Overlapping interview schedules, it said, further increase their difficulties and could deprive deserving applicants of legitimate job opportunities.

The National Party demanded separate and properly coordinated interview schedules for QESCO and other federal departments, along with timely notification to candidates.

The spokesperson emphasized that transparency, merit and equal opportunities must be ensured throughout the recruitment process.

CMIT announces written test results for TPV engineers

QUETTA (6 AM Report): The Chief Minister's Inspection Team (CMIT) Balochistan has announced the results of written examinations conducted for TPV Engineers' positions in various disciplines, according to an official notification.

The examinations were held on October 24 and 25, 2026, under the supervision of the Education Testing Council (ETC), Higher Education Commission (HEC), Islamabad.

Successful candidates can obtain information about their results from the CMIT office at Block No. 4, Civil Secretariat, Quetta, during official working hours.

Take firm action against kidnapping and theft: DC Loralai

LORALAI (6 AM Report): Deputy Commissioner Loralai Captain (Retd.) Muhammad Haseeb Shuja has directed law enforcement agencies to take indiscriminate legal action against those involved in kidnapping for ransom, child abduction, theft and other criminal activities, emphasizing that public safety remains the district administration's foremost priority. Chairing a meeting of the District Intelligence Coordination Committee, the deputy commissioner reviewed the overall law and order situation, security arrangements and measures to prevent criminal activities across the district.

The meeting focused particularly on preventing kidnapping, child abduction and theft, with officials discussing improved intelligence gathering, timely information sharing and coordinated operations against suspected criminals.

DC Shuja instructed law enforcement agencies to strengthen intelligence networks, closely monitor suspicious activities and take prompt action based on verified information and in accordance with the law.

He stressed that effective coordination among security and law enforcement institutions was essential to preventing crime and protecting citizens.

Align technical education with maritime industry needs: GPA Chairman

GWADAR (6 AM Report): The Chairman of Gwadar Port Authority (GPA) has emphasized the need to align technical education with the requirements of port operations and maritime industries, saying modern vocational training could create new employment opportunities for Balochistan's youth. He was addressing a ceremony marking the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between Gwadar Port Authority, Pak-China Technical and Vocational Institute (PCTVI), University of Gwadar and China's Qingdao Harbor Vocational and Technical College to establish the Pakistan Overseas Engineering and Technology Institute.

First successful delivery at Benazir women hospital Loralai

LORALAI (6 AM Report): Benazir Women Hospital Loralai has recorded its first successful normal delivery, marking the commencement of maternity and maternal and newborn healthcare services at the facility.

According to hospital management, both the mother and newborn are in satisfactory health following the delivery. The development is expected to improve access to essential maternity care for women in Loralai and surrounding areas.

Ensure timely completion of projects, miners' safety: DC

DUKKI (6 AM Report): Deputy Commissioner Dukki Fazal-ur-Rehman Kabdani has directed officials to ensure timely completion of development projects, strengthen safety measures for coal miners and take effective action against illegal activities across the district.

Chairing a District Coordination Committee (DCC) meeting, the deputy commissioner reviewed progress on schemes under the Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) and Balochistan Special Development Initiative (BSDI), emphasizing construction quality and timely implementation.

The meeting, attended by SP Dukki Muhammad Younus Raza and representatives of district departments and law enforcement agencies, also discussed safety arrangements at coal mines, particularly the availability of protective equipment to minimize workplace accidents.



QUETTA: Special Secretary Finance Arif Achakzai presides over the meeting regarding Peoples Train Service.

CDWP clears seven projects worth Rs19.3bn, refers four worth Rs172.4bn to ECNEC

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives/Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Friday chaired a meeting of the Central Development Working Party (CDWP) that approved seven development projects worth Rs19.3 billion and recommended four projects costing Rs172.4 billion to the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC).

The meeting considered 11 projects with a combined estimated cost of Rs191.8 billion, covering agriculture, infrastructure, governance, health, information technology, manpower and employment, power, transport and communications, and environment. In the agriculture sector, the forum recommended Punjab's Resilient and Inclusive Agriculture Transformation (PRIAT) project, costing Rs104.4 billion, to ECNEC.

Financed through the World Bank and the Punjab government, the project aims to improve farmers' incomes, ensure equitable access to agricultural water and enhance water-use efficiency through improved irrigation infrastructure, solar-powered irrigation systems, water storage ponds, certified seeds and plants, crop diversification and better market linkages. The CDWP approved the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission's Exploration of Radioactive Minerals in Marwat Range project at a cost of Rs1.4 billion, aimed at reducing reliance on imported fuel for nuclear power generation.

It also approved the revised Strengthening Institutions for Refugees' Administration (SIRA) project worth Rs255.8 million, sponsored by the Ministry of Kashmir Affairs, Gilgit-Baltistan and States and Frontier Regions. In the health sector, the forum approved the modified and revised project for establishment of Mirwaiz Molvi Muhammad Farooq Shaheed Medical College, Muzaffarabad, at a cost of Rs3.415 billion. It also cleared the Expansion of Cellular Services in Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan project worth Rs4.4 billion. The CDWP gave in-principle approval to the third revised Prime Minister's Youth Skill Development Programme (2023-28), costing Rs47.6 billion, and referred it to ECNEC. Ahsan Iqbal directed that the project cost be rationalised and duplication of work avoided.

The forum also approved the Youth Education, Employment and Empowerment Project Sindh (YEEEP-Sindh), worth Rs600 million, to be implemented in 16 districts of the province.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Professor Ahsan Iqbal chairs CDWP meeting, approving seven development projects worth Rs 19.3 billion and recommending four projects worth Rs 172.4 billion to ECNEC.



BANGKOK: Federal Minister for Communications Abdul Aleem Khan addressing the United Nations ESCAP Ministerial Conference on Transport in Bangkok, via a recorded video message.

Gilani invites Thai Senate president to visit Pakistan, seeks stronger bilateral ties

ISLAMABAD (APP): Chairman of the Senate, Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani, on Friday invited the President of the Senate of Thailand, Mongkol Surasajja, to visit Pakistan, expressing the hope that parliamentary exchanges, trade and economic cooperation between the two countries would be further strengthened.

During a meeting with his Thai counterpart in Bangkok, Gilani said Pakistan and Thailand enjoyed longstanding, close and friendly relations, as well as strong cooperation in regional and multilateral forums.

At the outset, he thanked the Thai Senate president for meeting him at short notice, saying that although his visit to Thailand was brief and arranged at short notice, he was keen to exchange views with his counterpart.

He expressed Pakistan's keen interest in further strengthening and diversifying relations with Thailand, both bilaterally and in the context of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

He said Pakistan and Thailand were celebrating the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations this year, reflecting the depth and warmth of friendship between the two peoples.

Recalling the historic bonds between the two countries, Gilani said the people of Pakistan vividly remembered and cherished the landmark visit of the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej and Queen Mother Sirikit to Pakistan in 1962.

He also recalled that King Vajiralongkorn had visited Pakistan on three occasions—in 1991, 1998 and 2006—in his capacity as Crown Prince.

The chairman said that following the memorable visit of Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn to Pakistan in 2012, the President of Pakistan had again extended an invitation to Her Royal Highness in 2025.

Pakistan pushes UN to modernize anti-terror framework amid Afghan militancy, emerging technologies

UNITED NATIONS (APP): Pakistan has called on the UN Security Council to modernize its counter-terrorism sanctions architecture on Thursday, arguing that mechanisms like the 1267 committee are ill-equipped for today's cross-border threats, emerging technologies and militancy emanating from Afghanistan.

"The counter-terrorism architecture in the Council must reflect ground realities, and its scope broadened to list individuals and entities, without any association with religion, nationality or ethnicity, " Ambassador Syed Haider Shah, permanent representative of Pakistan to the UN, told the 15-member Council during a briefing on the activities of its three subsidiary bodies tackling Da'esh, Al-Qaeda and terrorism threats. Highlighting Islamabad's key contribution towards global counter-terrorism efforts, he said, "Al Qaeda was decimated largely due to Pakistan's efforts, "

Pakistan, he said, had rendered huge sacrifices, with over 90, 000 casualties and billions of dollars in economic losses.

In the past three years alone, more than 4, 700 Pakistanis have been killed in terrorist attacks originating from Afghanistan, the ambassador said.

"Our brave security forces and law enforcement agencies are combating terrorism emanating from Afghanistan where entities like ISIL-K, TTP and its affiliates, BLA and the Majeed Brigade and ETIM are thriving under the patronage of their hosts (Afghanistan) and backed by our principle adversary (India) and net destabilizer in the region, " he added.

Warning that terrorists' growing use of emerging technologies poses new security challenges, he called for stronger international cooperation under resolution 1540 (2004).

Ambassador Haider Shah emphasized that terrorism has grown increasingly diffuse and borderless, driven by rapid technological advancements and unresolved geopolitical tensions. Marking 25 years of Resolution 1373, he highlighted risks from digital wallet and cryptocurrency financing, dark web recruitment, and rising Islamophobic and xenophobic extremist movements.

While emphasizing that all States retain their inalienable right to utilize nuclear and other dual-use technologies for peaceful purposes, the Pakistani envoy also warned about the changing nature of non-State actors in terrorism and their growing nexus with emerging technologies.

"We need regulation of social media platforms, Artificial Intelligence, and digital payment methods, primarily driven by commercial considerations, to prevent their misuse and proliferation of hate, online radicalization and exploitation of vulnerable youth, propaganda and disinformation, " Ambassador Haider Shah said.

Pakistan, he said, supports all efforts to advance cooperation and coordination between the Council's subsidiary bodies and their respective groups of experts on regular basis.

Briefing the delegates, Ambassador Sanita Pavluta-Deslandes of Latvia, Council President for November and acting as Chair of three subsidiary bodies, which relate to Da'esh, Al-Qaeda and UN counter-terrorism efforts, said, "As ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaeda and their affiliates continue to demonstrate resilience and adaptability, the 1267 sanctions regime remains an important instrument for international efforts to prevent and counter terrorism".

"The Team's assessment underscores the dynamic nature of the threat posed by ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaeda and their affiliates", she went on, pointing to the presence of a range of actors.

Atta Tarar says public opinion should determine creation of new provinces

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar on Friday said the creation of new provinces should be determined by public opinion, adding that a referendum could be held to ascertain people's views on the issue.

Speaking to reporters outside the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP), he said new provinces should be established if people supported the idea and the proposal should not be pursued if they opposed it.

"There is no harm in holding a referendum, " he said, adding that the Constitution had a clear provision for referendums on matters of national importance or public interest.

Atta Tarar said people should be given an opportunity to express their views before any decision was taken, adding that the situation could be assessed once public opinion had emerged.

Responding to questions about an ECP hearing concerning his visit to Gujranwala, the minister said he had travelled to his hometown at the invitation of the general secretary of the District Bar Association.

He said no election candidate had attended the event and the invitation had been received before the announcement of the election schedule. He added that the association's general secretary was also his colleague.



QUETTA: Provincial Minister for Planning and Development Mir Zahoor Ahmed Buledi meeting with Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti.

Pak condemns Houthi attack on Riyadh financial district tower

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan on Friday unequivocally condemned the attack by the Houthi militia on a tower at the King Abdullah Financial District (KAFD) in Riyadh.

"This act of aggression constitutes a grave violation of the sovereignty of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia," Foreign Office spokesperson Sajjad Haider Khan said in a statement.

He said that the continued targeting of civilian infrastructure and economic facilities endangered innocent lives and posed a serious threat to regional peace and security. Such reprehensible attacks must cease forthwith, he added.

"Pakistan stands firmly with the Government and people of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. It supports the Kingdom's legitimate right to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity and to safeguard its citizens and residents," he remarked.

The spokesperson reiterated that Pakistan had been and would continue to make all efforts to achieve lasting peace and stability in the region.

Acting Governor Balochistan

Ensure effective referrals, timely treatment under Sehat Dehleez

QUETTA (6 AM Report): Acting Governor Balochistan and Provincial Assembly Speaker Captain (Retd.) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai has directed health authorities to ensure effective hospital referrals, timely treatment and medicine availability under the Sehat Dehleez digital healthcare initiative, emphasizing that medical consultations alone cannot meet patients' healthcare needs. Chairing a meeting at the Balochistan Assembly Secretariat, he reviewed the initiative introduced by the People's Primary Healthcare Initiative (PPHI) Balochistan.

Provincial Health Minister Bakht Muhammad Kakar, lawmakers and senior officials attended the meeting. PPHI Balochistan Chief Executive Officer Dr. M.B. Raja Darejo briefed participants on the project, which aims to provide free, round-the-clock telemedicine consultations with qualified doctors and specialists, particularly for residents of rural and underserved areas.

Officials said the system would cover four key components: access to doctors, medical consultations and digital prescriptions, hospital referrals and medicine provision. Satellite connectivity is also planned to facilitate consultations in areas without internet access. The CEO further informed the meeting that PPHI had introduced the Prometric system to reduce human intervention and improve transparency in recruitment.



QUETTA: Director General Public Relations Balochistan Askar Khan presenting bouquet to Secretary Information Imran Khan during farewell ceremony.

Pakistan's HC to UK Tipu Usman presents his credentials to King Charles

LONDON (INP): Pakistan's High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, Tipu Usman, presented his Letters of Credence to King Charles III at a formal ceremony held at St James's Palace in London.

As per tradition, the High Commissioner and Saima Usman were escorted to St James's Palace in a horse-driven state carriage by the Vice-Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps.

During his audience with The King, High Commissioner Tipu Usman conveyed the warm greetings and best wishes of the president and prime minister of Pakistan to His Majesty. He reaffirmed the deep respect and affection the people of Pakistan hold for His Majesty and recalled the fond memories of his previous visit to Pakistan. The High Commissioner reiterated Pakistan's commitment to further strengthening its longstanding and multifaceted relations with the United Kingdom.

Teamwork, mutual trust key to institutional success: Imran, Askar

QUETTA (6AM Report): Balochistan Information Secretary Imran Khan and Director General Public Relations Askar Khan have emphasized that teamwork, mutual trust and effective coordination are essential for strengthening government institutions, improving departmental performance and ensuring efficient public communication.

They expressed these views at a farewell ceremony organized by the Directorate General Public Relations (DGPR) Balochistan in honor of Information Secretary Imran Khan following his transfer.

The ceremony was attended by DGPR Askar Khan, Director Public Relations Saeed Ahmed Shahwani and departmental officers and staff.

Speaking on the occasion, Askar Khan paid tribute to Imran Khan's professional leadership, administrative guidance and valuable contributions, saying his cooperation and support had helped the department make progress in important areas.

He emphasized that strong institutions depend on teamwork, mutual respect and close coordination among officers and employees.

Information Secretary Imran Khan appreciated the dedication, professionalism and cooperation of DGPR officers and staff, describing collective responsibility and institutional harmony as essential for achieving departmental objectives.

He stressed the importance of maintaining a coordinated and professional working environment to further strengthen the information and public relations sector.

Participants also acknowledged the department's collective efforts and discussed the importance of improving administrative efficiency and public communication.

No textbook shortages at start of new academic year: BTB

QUETTA (6 AM Report): The Balochistan Textbook Board has said that all available resources are being mobilized to ensure the timely supply of 17 million textbooks to government schools across the province for the 2027 academic year.

According to a board spokesperson, advance arrangements for textbook preparation, printing and distribution are underway under the supervision of Chairman Dr. Gulab Khan Khilji to prevent shortages at the beginning of the new academic session.

The spokesperson said textbook demand had increased from 9.6 million copies in 2025 to 12.8 million in 2026, reaching 17 million for 2027. The increase of 7.4 million books represents approximately 77 percent growth compared with 2025.

The board attributed the rising demand to the reopening of hundreds of previously nonfunctional government schools and enrollment campaigns that reportedly brought thousands of additional children into the public education system during 2026.

Azam holds key bilateral meetings on sidelines of global ministerial conference

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Human Rights, Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar held a series of important bilateral meetings with international leaders and representatives of global organisations on the sidelines of the Global Ministerial Conference in Manila, focusing on child protection, children's rights and social welfare.

During his meeting with Türkiye's Minister of Family and Social Services, Mahinur Özdemir Göktas, both sides agreed to enhance cooperation between Pakistan and Türkiye in the areas of child protection and family welfare, said a statement issued by Ministry of Human Rights here on Friday. The federal minister also met former Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, and held discussions focused on children's rights, legislation and exchange of regional experiences related to child protection. In another meeting, Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar held discussions with Minister for Women and Children and Social Affairs Bangladesh, Professor Dr. A.Z.M. Zahid Hussain on measures to eliminate violence against children and strengthen social protection programmes. The federal minister also met Director World Health Organization (WHO), Dr. Etienne Krug to explore ways to strengthen technical cooperation for children's health and protection of children from violence.

During the engagements, Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar briefed international leaders on Pakistan's first National Strategy for the Prevention of Violence Against Children, highlighting the government's commitment to safeguarding children's rights and ensuring their protection and well-being.

Maulana Abdul Wasey

Struggle for Madrasas, Balochistan's rights will continue despite pressure

KILLA SAIFULLAH (ANN): Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) Balochistan President Senator Maulana Abdul Wasey has vowed to continue the party's struggle for the protection of religious seminaries, public rights over Balochistan's natural resources and religious and political freedoms, declaring that threats and political pressure would not deter the party.

Addressing the Tahaffuz-e-Madaris Wa Huqooq-e-Balochistan Conference organized by JUI-F in Killa Saifullah, he alleged that attempts were being made to undermine religious seminaries and the party's leadership through intimidation and negative propaganda.

Maulana Abdul Wasey said JUI-F remained committed to the principles of its founding leaders, who had resisted British colonial rule and made sacrifices for freedom. He cited Maulana Hussain Ahmed Madani, Mufti Mahmood and other religious leaders as sources of inspiration for the party's political and ideological struggle.

He alleged that instead of responding politically to JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman's arguments, opponents were resorting to pressure tactics and misleading narratives. He maintained that such measures would not force the party to abandon its position.

The JUI-F leader reiterated that the party would pursue constitutional, legal and peaceful means to defend the autonomy of religious seminaries and the rights of Balochistan's people over provincial resources.

The conference was also addressed by JUI-F Provincial General Secretary Agha Mahmood Shah, Maulana Salahuddin Ayubi, Balochistan Assembly Opposition Leader Mir Younus Aziz Zehri, Hafiz Hussain Ahmed Sharodi, Hafiz Muhammad Yousuf, Maulana Kamaluddin and other party leaders.

According to JUI-F's provincial information wing, a large number of party workers and supporters attended the gathering.



QUETTA: Advisor to CM for Sports and Youth Affairs Meena Majeed Baloch, Special Assistant Home Department Babar Khan Yousafzai and others addressing during farewell ceremony organized for 10th semester students of University Law College

Editor: Tariq Khan printed at Shah Priniting Press Quetta and Published from Al-Syed Building M.A. Jinnah Road Quetta Ph. 2824096 Fax: 2826036; e-mail: news6amqta@yahoo.com