

**Three polio cases**  
ISLAMABAD (INP): Regional Reference Laboratory for Polio Eradication has confirmed the detection of three wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) cases in Pakistan. With report of fresh cases, the number of total cases in the country this year reached to 55. The lab confirmed the case from D.I.Khan and Zhob districts, where female children are affected, and Jaffarabad district where a male child is affected.

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ISLAMABAD: Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi receiving Belarus Foreign Minister Maxim Ryzhenkov on Sunday.

## PM holds consultation meeting on PTI's protest

LAHORE (INP) Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif chaired a consultative meeting held in Model Town Lahore on Sunday and discussed the current political situation.

According to media reports, National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq and Speaker Punjab Assembly Malik Muhammad Ahmed Khan also participated in the meeting.

The situation after the final call of protest by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) was also discussed in the meeting.

During the meeting, Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif directed to remove the reservations of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP).

## Saif flays 'firing' on PTI Sindh, Balochistan caravans

**F.P. Report**

PESHAWAR: Barrister Dr. Saif, Advisor to the Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Information and Public Relations, has strongly condemned the direct firing on caravans arriving from Sindh and Balochistan, calling it a deplorable act.

He stated that the "fake government" is in a state of panic and has devised plans to shed blood in Punjab as well.

He accused political leaders of seeking to sustain their illegitimate rule through violent means.

## Gunman shot dead near Israeli embassy in Jordan

AMMAN (Reuters): A gunman was dead and three Jordanian policemen injured after a shooting near the heavily fortified Israeli embassy in the capital Amman in Sunday's early hours, a security source and state media said.

Police shot a gunman who had fired at a police patrol in the affluent Rabbia neighborhood of the Jordanian capital, the state news agency Petra reported, citing public security, adding investigations were ongoing.

The gunman, who was carrying an automatic weapon, was chased for at least an hour before he was cornered and killed just before dawn, according to a security source.



GAZA STRIP: Palestinians gather to receive food cooked by a charity kitchen, amid a hunger crisis, as the Israel-Hamas conflict continues, in Khan Younis, southern Gaza Strip on Sunday.

# The Frontier Post

**Zain, Dogar 'arrested'**  
**F.P. Report**

MULTAN: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leaders Zain Qureshi and Aamir Dogar have been taken into custody in Multan. The arrests were made while PTI leaders were leading convoy to Islamabad for a scheduled today. As per details, Zain Qureshi and Aamir Dogar have been arrested near Multan's Qadirpur Ran.

## PTI leaders courting arrests to avoid taking part in protest: Tarar

ISLAMABAD (APP): Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar on Sunday said most of the leaders and workers of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) are courting their arrests to avoid their participation in an "illegal and unnecessary" protest.



"One thing is pretty clear that the PTI's leadership does not want a release of their leader from the jail as we have received information from Punjab and Islamabad that most of their top and low tiers' leaders are voluntarily surrendering to the police for their arrest," said the minister while talking to the media during his visit to different areas in Islamabad.

"This shows their so-called level of commitment with their party and the leader," he said while pointing out the inside rift among the party leadership especially between the wife of the PTI founder Bushra Bibi and Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Ali Amin Gandapur earlier in the day.

Tarar said the PTI had a track record of creating chaos and anarchy, and vandalizing public properties, citing the sit-in of 2014 when their workers torched the Parliament and injured many policemen including SSP Asmat ullah Junejo.

He categorically said that nobody would be allowed to disrupt the economic progress achieved in the last eight months which witnessed a substantial increase in remittances that jumped to \$8.8 billion in the first quarter.

## Naqvi visits D-Chowk to boost morale of security forces

**F.P. Report**

ISLAMABAD: Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi visited D-Chowk to boost the morale of police, FC, and Rangers. He met with the personnel on duty and appreciated their high morale.

Interior Minister commended the personnel on duty for their dedication. He paid tribute to the them for their hard work and dedication to maintaining law and order.

The Interior Minister praised the personnel on duty for protecting the lives and property of citizens day and night.

He directed that all possible facilities be provided to the personnel performing their duties, saying that it is our responsibility to take care of you. Mohsin Naqvi said that the morale of the Islamabad police, FC, and Rangers personnel is very high. He added that the Islamabad police, FC, and

## Israeli army orders Gaza City suburb evacuated

CAIRO (Reuters): The Israeli military issued new evacuation orders to residents in areas of an eastern Gaza City suburb, setting off a new wave of displacement on Sunday, and a Gaza hospital director was injured in an Israeli drone attack, Palestinian medics said.

The new orders for the Shejaia suburb posted by the Israeli army spokesperson on X on Saturday night were blamed on Palestinian militants firing rockets from that heavily built-up district in the north of the Gaza Strip.

"For your safety, you must evacuate immediately to the south," the military's post said. The rocket volley on Saturday was claimed by Hamas' armed wing, which said it had targeted an Israeli army base over the border.

Footage circulated on social and Palestinian media, which Reuters could not immediately verify, showed residents leaving Shejaia on donkey carts and rickshaws, with others, including children carrying backpacks, walking.

Families living in the targeted areas began fleeing their homes after nightfall on Saturday and into Sunday's early hours, residents and Palestinian media

said - the latest in multiple waves of displacement since the war began 13 months ago.

In central Gaza, health officials said at least 10 Palestinians were killed in Israeli airstrikes on the urban camps of Al-Maghazi and Al-Bureij since Saturday night.

Adding to the miseries of Gaza's 2.3 million people, most of whom have been repeatedly displaced, heavy winter rain flooded hundreds of tents across the enclave, spoiling food and sweeping away plastic and cloth sheeting that had protected them against the elements.

"We ran in the middle of the night, the rainwater flooded the tent, the food is gone, the kids screamed and I am afraid they will get sick," Rami, 37, a Gaza City man displaced at a former soccer stadium, told Reuters via a messaging app.

The Palestinian Civil Emergency Service said thousands of displaced people were impacted by the seasonal flooding and demanded new tents and caravans from aid donors to shield them.

HOSPITAL DIRECTOR WOUNDED BY GUNFIRE

Israeli forces said armed militants use civilian buildings including housing blocks, hospitals and schools for operational cover. Hamas denies this, accusing Israeli forces of indiscriminately targeting populated areas.

Kamal Adwan is one of three hospitals in north Gaza that are barely operational as the health ministry said the Israeli forces have detained and expelled medical staff and prevented emergency medical, food and fuel supplies from reaching them.

In the past few weeks,

Israel said it had facilitated the delivery of medical and fuel supplies and the transfer of patients from north Gaza hospitals in collaboration with international agencies such as the World Health Organization.

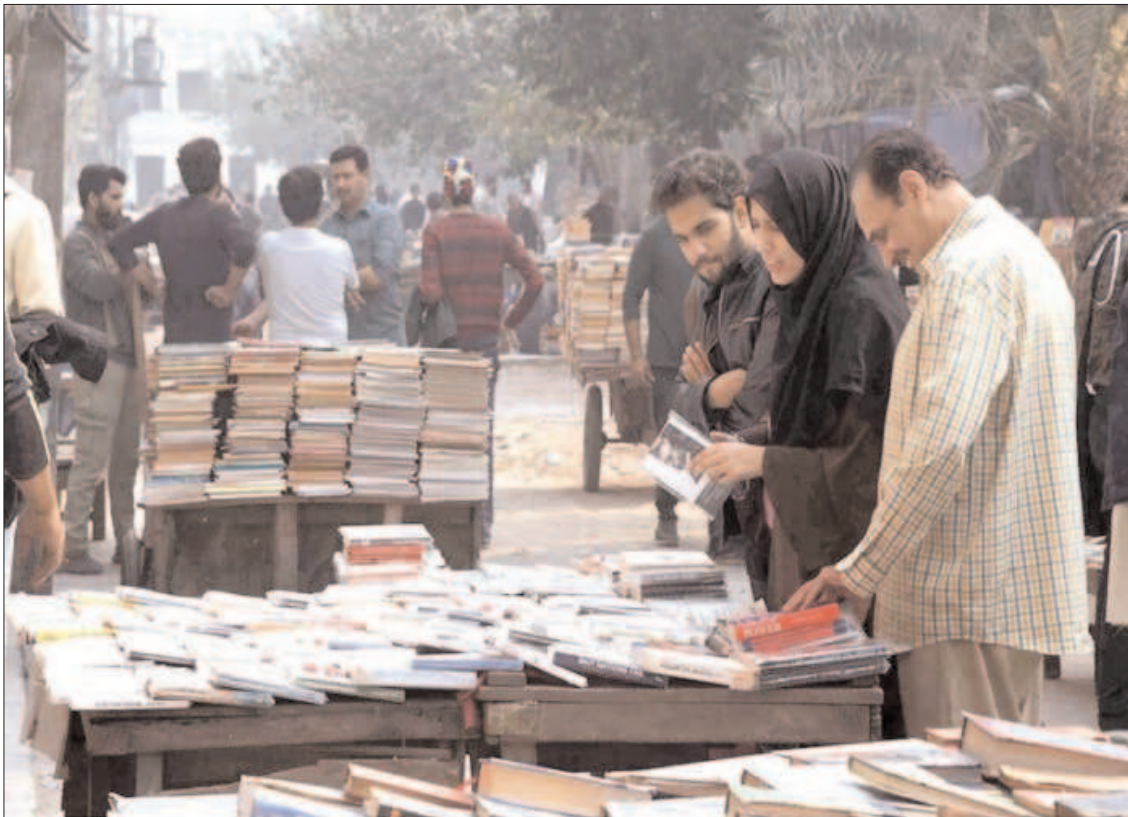
Residents in three embattled north Gaza towns - Jabalia, Beit Lahiya and Beit Hanoun - said Israeli forces had blown up hundreds of houses since renewing operations in an area that Israel said months ago had been cleared of militants.

Palestinians say Israel appears determined to depopulate the area permanently to create a buffer zone along the northern edge of Gaza, an accusation Israel denies.

Israel's campaign in Gaza has killed more than 44,000 people, uprooted nearly the entire population at least once, according to Gaza officials, while reducing wide swathes of the narrow coastal territory to rubble.

The war erupted in response to a cross-border attack by Hamas-led militants on Oct. 7, 2023 in which gunmen killed around 1,200 people and took more than 250 hostages back to Gaza, according to Israeli tallies.





LAHORE: People selecting and purchasing old books from a roadside stall at Mall Road in Provincial Capital.

## Nasir Shah says people of Sindh dismissed PTI protest

KARACHI (PPI): Provincial Minister for Energy, Planning and Development, Sindh, Syed Nasir Hussain Shah has said that the citizens of Sindh, especially Karachi and Hyderabad, have rejected the PTI protest.

According to a statement, he said this while talking to the media at the Sindh Craft Festival under the Sindh Cultural Department. Shah said that

it is the duty of the provincial government to provide security to the people. The situation in the urban areas of KPK is such that the people are insecure, people are being massacred on a daily basis in Kurram Agency, all the attention of the provincial government is focused on attacking the federation.

The people are fed up with the protests of PTI, but they have made it their habit to attack the federation

every month.

He said that the founder of PTI will have to apologize to the people, establishment and government for the events of May 9. PTI is protesting despite the court order, it is beyond understanding to record their protest. Nasir Shah said that the founder of PTI had waved a blank paper to gather the sympathies of the people out of fear of losing his government, which was

called a cipher, where is that cipher today?

At present, the Jewish lobby and American agents are supporting the founder of PTI. Otherwise, the state of his performance is such that in all the by-elections held during his government, including Karachi and Hyderabad, all the seats were lost by PTI, including those constituencies that PTI had won by fielding RTS in 2018.

## Integrated plan afoot to produce skilled manpower

MIRPUR (APP): Chairman of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Technical Vocational Education Training Authority (TEVTA) Chaudhry Muhammad Farid has said that all possible steps were being taken to enable the youth of every school of skilled thought to join the race of global development, strengthening the country's economy through securing technical education in various disciplines of their own choice.

He expressed these views while speaking as a

special guest at an awareness session organized by the Government College of Technology Mirpur on the occasion of development and promotion here Sunday.

Chairman District Council Raja Naveed Akhtar Goga, District Education Officer Muhammad Ishaq Mughal, President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Umar Shehzad Jaral, former President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Faisal Manzoor, Raja Khalid

Mehmood of the Association of Traders and others also spoke on this occasion.

The Chairman TEVTA said that there were 887 vacancies of technical teachers in Azad Jammu Kashmir at present. He underlined that technical education has been arranged in the public sector schools after the routine academic activities from three to five o'clock in the afternoon every day.

"It is aimed at facilitating that the simply jobless graduate students be

skilled to get employment by securing technical education at the technical education centers close to their homes," he underlined.

The TEVTA Chairman further said that courses had been started to teach the Holy Quran online worldwide through computer labs and mobile phones in religious schools so that boys and girls in homes and schools could be able to benefit from the learning and teaching of the Holy Quran through the online classes, he concluded.

## IG Islamabad Rizvi highlights security measures

ISLAMABAD (APP): Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad, Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, addressed a press conference at D-Chowk on Sunday, emphasized Islamabad Police's dedication to ensuring smooth traffic flow, maintaining law and order, upholding public peace, and safeguarding lives and property in the federal capital.

During the press conference, IG said that no citizen is facing any obstruction while traveling, and instead of completely blocking areas where there are restrictions, Islamabad Police ensured that traffic continued to flow so that citizens



did not face difficulties.

Additionally, where there are obstacles in remote areas, the Chief Traffic of Islamabad has arranged complete alternative routes to ensure that traffic continues smoothly in all areas.

IG Rizvi further mentioned that citizens were

kept informed about today's security arrangements through various means, and information was also shared regarding police forces from other districts deployed in Islamabad.

IG emphasized that, they were present to ensure that all duties are carried out professionally,

in line with the law.

IG Rizvi also stressed that all resources are being utilized to implement the orders of the High Court to maintain peace and order in the federal capital and to ensure the protection of citizens' lives and property.

IG Rizvi further said that, one thing I want to clarify is that as police officers, our foremost responsibility is to ensure adherence to the law, and we are fully committed to performing this duty.

Islamabad Police is taking all possible measures to protect citizens' lives and property, and no one will be allowed to disturb public peace, IG added.

## Maryam pays tribute to female martyr flying officer

LAHORE ( APP): Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has paid glowing tribute to Mariam Mukhtiar, Pakistan's first female martyred pilot, on her ninth death anniversary. Pakistan's cuisine

In her message, she praised martyred pilot's exceptional courage, patriotism, and unwavering dedication to her country. "Mariam Mukhtiar proved that the daughters of the

nation are second to none in their efforts for the construction and defence of the country," the CM stated.

Recalling Mariam's heroic actions, she highlighted the pilot's selfless sacrifice in preventing her aircraft from crashing into a populated area, thereby saving countless lives. "She set an eternal example of sacrifice," she remarked, emphasising the

lasting legacy of such courage.

The CM also pointed out that martyrs like Mariam Mukhtiar are a source of pride and inspiration for future generations. "Martyrs remain alive forever in the hearts of their people," she added.

In recognition of the broader role of women in national progress, the CM underscored that women

are contributing equally alongside men to every sector, displaying immense talent and commitment. "Every daughter of Pakistan is a source of pride for the country," she affirmed.

The CM said that Mariam Mukhtiar's unparalleled sacrifice serves as a shining example of patriotism and selflessness that will continue to inspire the nation for years to come.

## Punjab govt ready to deal with any untoward situation: Azma

LAHORE (PPI): Punjab's Information Minister, Azma Bukhari, today assured the public that the provincial government is fully prepared to handle any law and order issues arising from political protests.

During a press conference in Lahore, Bukhari emphasized that the government would not allow any disruption, as the public is weary of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party's politics of unrest.

Bukhari stated that the situation in Lahore remains stable and that the PTI's

call for protests has received little to no response from the public. She reassured the citizens that the Punjab Government is on high alert, committed to safeguarding lives and property at all costs.

She also pointed out that despite PTI's calls for protest, the party's top leadership, including the wife and children of PTI founder Imran Khan, as well as other party members' families, are not participating. Bukhari highlighted that this indicates a

lack of genuine support for the protest.

Additionally, she criticized Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur, who had previously announced plans to lead the protest from Swabi. However, no protests have been reported in the region, further confirming a lack of interest in PTI's political agenda.

Bukhari also noted that government officials in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are reportedly being coerced into participating in the

protest, despite ongoing law and order challenges in their own province. She accused the PTI government of failing to address the deteriorating situation there.

In a related development, Islamabad authorities have imposed Section 144 across the capital in response to directives from the Islamabad High Court. The public has been urged to refrain from engaging in any illegal activities, with a stern warning that violators will face strict legal action to maintain peace and security in the city.

## Nawaz Sharif Cancer Hospital to be expanded in phases

LAHORE ( APP): Nawaz Sharif Institute of Cancer Treatment and Research Centre will be expanded in different phases and modern cancer treatment equipment will be installed.

The mega project will be completed in two phases, while the first phase would

be completed in 12 months. Primary & Secondary Health Care sources told APP Sunday that the

launching of work on the first phase is on the cards. This hospital will be the first complete government cancer hospital in Pakistan where level-three and level-

four cancer patients will also be treated free of charge, they said.

The institute will have pediatric oncology, operation theaters, 10-radiation therapy bunkers, ICU and a 30-bed emergency ward. They said that the cancer hospital will be the first

modern hospital of its kind in the public sector. Patients will be provided with modern and quality medical facilities.

Meanwhile, the Punjab chief minister has given instructions to the Health department for the early completion of this hospital.

## Nisar Khuhro reviews arrangements for PPP's Foundation Day

HYDERABAD ( APP): President Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Sindh Nisar Ahmed

Khuhro along with PPP's Information Secretary Senator Aajiz Dhamrah and General Secretary PPP Hyderabad district Waseem Rajput jointly presided over a meeting to review the arrangements for 'Youm-e-Tasees' (anniversary of the

Founda-tion Day) of Pakistan Peoples Party.

Speaking at the occasion, Nisar Ahmed Khuhro said that PPP would organize multiple programmes and seminars in all districts and district level on its foundation day to be celebrated on 30th November so that workers of Pakistan People's Party and people could meet and educated about the strug-

gle of the Party for the cause of democracy.

Nisar Khuhro urged Nazims of all Union Councils, Town Chairmen, District Council Chairmen, MNAs and MPAs to fully participate in gatherings of Youm-e-Tasees.

The Party leaders also exchanged their views about the programmes chalked out for the

Foundation Day.

On this occasion, fateha was also offered for Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, Shaheed Muhatarma Benazir Bhutto, Mir Murtaza Bhutto and other martyrs of the Party.

Azhar Siyal, Altaf Jatoti, Engineer Sikandar Hayat, Amin Shaikh and other workers were also present on the occasion.

## Smog: 18 cases registered, 12 violators arrested in 24 hours

LAHORE (APP):The Punjab police registered 18 cases and arrested 12 individuals during the crackdown on people and units violating the anti-smog laws across the province including Lahore.

According to a police spokesman, 362 people were fined more than Rs. 5.5 lakh, and 29 people were issued warnings. Also, the police received seven complaints about

crop residue burning, 266 about vehicles emitting excessive smoke and two about brick-kilns using old technology.

This year, a total of 3,644 accused were arrested and 3,014 cases were registered in the anti-smog crackdown. As many as 38,290 people were fined a total of Rs. 96 million, and warnings were issued to 6,916 people. As many as 1,974 complaints were received about crop

residue burning, 30,811 for vehicles emitting heavy smoke, 347 for industrial activity, 1,361 about brick kilns, and 327 about other violations of anti-smog laws.

In the last 24 hours, 4,865 excessive smoke-emitting vehicles were challaned, 445 were impounded while two fitness certificates were suspended.

This year, 835,259 vehicles emitting exces-

sive smoke were issued challans, 168,467 vehicles were impounded, and fitness certificates of 10,064 vehicles were suspended. The provincial metropolis, despite governments intensified efforts, occupies top position among the list of the most polluted cities in the world.

On Sunday evening, the Air Quality Index (AQI) was recorded at 242 that is very unhealthy.

## Encroachment mafia plays havoc with Pindites

RAWALPINDI ( APP): With persistent sluggish response of authorities to strike encroachment mafia, situation in main bazars of Rawalpindi continues to worsen making lives of residents and commuters difficult.

Most of pavements and footpaths as well as main roads are often seen flooded with vendors, stalls and carts, leaving no room for buyers and shoppers to easily approach their desired shops and outlets.

Although encroachments are not new to city but escalated dramatically to every nook and corner of the city with busy marketplaces like Murree Road; Raja Bazaar, Motti Bazaar, Kashmiri Bazaar and surrounding markets like Jamia Masjid Road, Banni Chowk and Circular Road; Saddar and Chotta Bazaar; Commercial Market, Tench Bhatta, Lal

Kurti, Bakra Mandi, Adiala Road and several other markets remaining clogged with vendors crowding sidewalks, forcing pedestrians to walk on roads.

The stalls, kiosks, hand-carts and makeshift setups spring up overnight, swallowing footpaths, sidewalks, streets and roads. In almost all main bazars of the city, the groups of organized individuals and businesses in collusion with the officials of civic bodies have illegally occupied the public spaces which were once used by pedestrians.

"The encroachers have become a mafia. Their mushroom growth is perplexing. Although in many cases, the shopkeepers themselves rent them out footpath spaces and charge from them," said Munir Ahmed, a shopkeeper in commercial market. "In

other cases, they set up their businesses on vacant places, footpaths and corridors, in connivance with civic authorities."

He termed rapid growth of encroachers as worrisome, affecting their business as well as mobility of shoppers and desired a mechanism to streamline vendors abruptly occupying main spaces at markets.

The rise of the encroachment mafia is not simply the work of a few street vendors but a well-organized network involving influential figures who turn a deaf ear to calls of shopkeepers and buyers, apparently for some financial gain.

"The encroachment mafia had created a hidden 'rent system' for receiving illegal money from vendors for occupying public spaces at markets," claimed a school teacher

Muhammad Arif. "This informal system of bribery and collusion brings hardships for city residents, making it difficult for them to traverse through these clogged markets and roads."

For pedestrians, especially for families, elderly and children, he said, it becomes risky to navigate through streets and roads narrowed due to encroachments and subsequent traffic jams.

Efforts by Municipal Corporation Rawalpindi (MCR) and two cantonment boards to remove these encroachments have had limited success. Demolition teams' clear illegal structures but within days the vendors return again.

The local administration removed a significant number of encroachments from Raja Bazaar, Bara Bazaar, Commercial

Market, Murree Road and surrounding areas during first week of current month, but the same cropped up again.

Amidst claims and complaints of shopkeepers and buyers, an MCR spokesman claimed that strict action was taken against encroachers on regular basis with imposition of heavy fines and confiscation of their goods.

He said on directives of Commissioner Rawalpindi Engr Aamir Khattak, a grand anti-encroachment operation was underway targeting high-traffic areas like Murree Road, Raja Bazaar, Fawara Chowk, Commercial Market and other areas. "The teams are conducting operation and the Commissioner was personally reviewing its progress."

The spokesman claimed that sides of Commercial

Market and Murree Road had been cleared of both illegal temporary and permanent encroachments. "Dozens of truckload

goods were confiscated during operation, FIRs were lodged against encroachers and several shops were sealed."

"The anti-encroachment drive is part of a broader initiative of the vision of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif to root out civic problems," he explained.

Side by side the encroachment drive of municipal authorities, the City Traffic Police has also stepped up efforts to clear areas from encroachers. City Traffic Officer (CTO) Rawalpindi Beenish Fatima had instructed traffic wardens for strict action against encroachments to ensure smooth flow of traffic.

Similarly, Rawalpindi

Cantonment Board officials are also on toes to fight out this menace and bring respite to residents and consumers.

Additional Cantonment Executive Officer, Rawalpindi Cantonment Board (RCB), Haider Shujja reiterated not to compromise on illegal encroachments and mentioned to a comprehensive anti-encroachment operation launched in different parts of cantonment.

"All temporary or permanent encroachments outside shops would be removed, taking strict action against those obstructing the flow of traffic and pedestrians' movement," the ACEO said. "We have also confiscated truckloads of goods from encroachments at footpaths and markets."

Amidst all these efforts of civic authorities, the citizens and traders call for

removal of encroachments on a permanent basis instead of cosmetic measures by the administration off and on.

They also demand action against officials who secretly encourage encroachment mafia by taking bribes.

"It feels like a cycle. The authorities' clear encroachments, but they come back within a week," said a shopkeeper," said Ahmed Ali, a shopkeeper in Motti Bazaar. "It seems like a joint venture. Therefore, we want permanent solution to this problem."

The experts suggest that vendors should be integrated into economy by setting up designated vending zones besides strict action against encroachment mafia to clear roads and pavements for hassle-free movement and shopping by the people.





# Romina lauds Baku govt for successful COP29

ISLAMABAD (APP): Addressing the closing plenary of COP29, she said ‘We look forward to joining all colleagues in continuing the spirit of international cooperation on the road from Dubai to Baku and Belem adding the delivery of the UAE consensus and Baku climate unity pact through the next generation of NDCs, NAPs and a decisive shift in the international climate finance architecture requires us to work together to keep 1.5 and global resilience within reach.

PM’s aide said Pakistan extends its heartfelt appreciation to the government and people of Azerbaijan for hosting COP29 with an exceptional dedication and hospitality. The administrative arrangements were impeccable, ensuring a conducive environment for meaningful negotiations and collaboration.

Ms. Romina commend the COP29 Presidency for its leadership and tireless efforts in steering these critical discussions with inclusivity and fairness, reflecting the spirit of multilateralism. “Pakistan stresses that the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities form the very basis of global climate change. We also reaffirm that COP remains the most essential and critical forum for forging global consensus toward the achievement of the goals of UNFCCC and Paris Agreement, especially Paris Agreement’s global temperature target of 1.5 degree Celsius”, she added.

“The Coordinator said “We came to Baku with the spirit that our decisions here on critical issues such as NCQG, GST and the just transition will put us back on track to achieve goals of the UNFCCC and Paris Agreement”.

“However, we are leaving Baku with mixed feelings and a heavy heart. We note critical gaps in the decision we all adopted here, Romina stated.



## PAKISTAN AIR FORCE

### OPEN TENDER NOTICES

SEALED TENDERS ARE INVITED BY THE FOLLOWING BASES / UNITS FOR THE SUPPLY / PURCHASE / REPAIR / OVERHAULING OF MENTIONED ITEMS.

DP AIR C/O PAF BASE NUR KHAN RAWALPINDI									PAF BASE KOHAT (LOG)		0922-9260092/93		NO 101 ALC. PAF BASE FAISAL (LP)		021-99547040				
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03	424559/P-42	Equipment for Avionics and Electrical Labs at School of Avionics and Electrical Engineering, CAE (PAFAA)	08	EA Var	Pak Rs	10-12-24	Within 06-08 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs	Re-Tender for provision of medicines N/A PVMS medicines 2 Qtr 2024-25 is Invited having valid drugs selling license, NTN Professional Tax certificate and GST Registration certificate, For further details, please contact PAF Hospital, Islamabad on Telephone No 051-9503888, Cell No 0343-5687103, List of items may be collected from Medical Store PAF Hospital, Islamabad							PAF HOSPITAL E-9, ISLAMABAD (MED)		021-99547040	
04	424560/P-42	Conveyor Roller Complete Set for PAF Base Bholari	01	EA 01	Pak Rs	10-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs	NO 101 ALC. PAF BASE FAISAL (LP)							021-99547040			
05	436997/P-43	Proc of Spares for ATCR System	02	EA Var	FE	24-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs	Elevater Plate Cleaner, Bag Polythene 23"x36", Binding Cloth Special, Bleach Card 23"x36" (250GSM), Board Straw 26"x34" 24OZ, Carton Box 24"x22"x10", Cotton Wool, Glue White, Glue White (Tip Top), Hanger 20" (2MM), Hanger 20" (3MM), Ink Cyan Colour, Ink Magenta Colour, Ink Yellow, Colour, Ink Black Colour, Paper (W) Offset 23"x36" (80GSM), Paper (W) Offset 25"x35 1/2" (80GSM), Paper (W) Offset 25"x36" (80GSM), Paper (W) Offset 27"x34 (80GSM), Paper (W) Offset 30"x40" (80GSM), Past Rollo, Plate For SORMZ 745x605x0.30MM, Plate For SORD 915x715x 0.30MM, Poly Proplene Sheet 50", Real Art Card 20"x30" (260GSM), Real Art Card 23"x36" (300GSM), Real Art Card 25"x36" (210GSM), Rubber Blanket SORD 36"x30"x1.9MM, Rubber Blanket SORMZ 31"x23", Tape Packing 2 1/2", Viro Spiral 10MM (14,333 inches), Viro Spiral 8MM (20,000 inches), Viro Spiral 12MM (8,000 inches), Real Art Card 23"x36" (210GSM), Real Art Card 20"x30" (300GSM), Real Art Card 25x35 1/2" (210GSM), Real Art Card 20"x30" (210GSM), Real Art Card 23"x36" (260GSM), Alcohol 99.9% Pure, Real Art Card 28"x44" (270GSM), Real Art Card 20"x30" (170GSM), Real Art Card 23"x36" (190GSM), Real Art Card 23"x36" (250GSM), Real Art Card 23"x36" (310GSM), Real Art Card 31"x43" (260GSM), Real Art Card 31"x43" (210GSM), Real Art Card 18"x23" (210GSM), Real Art Card 22"x28" (210GSM), Carton Box 24"x22"x8", Carton Box 24"x22"x10", Carton Box 20"x16"x12" (Qty As required), For further information please contact on Phone Nos. 021-99527669 and 021-99527653.							PAF PRESS MASROOR (LOG)		021-99527669	
06	436998/P-43	Proc of RFFE Tester	01	EA 04	Pak Rs	10-12-24	Within 08 months after signing of contract	1200 Hrs 1230 Hrs	PAF BASE MASROOR (LOG)							021-99522275			
07	436999/P-43	Proc of Advance Baseband Module	01	EA 05	Pak Rs	11-12-24	Within 08 months after signing of contract	1100 Hrs 1130 Hrs	Air Conditioner Reversible (1.5 Ton & 2 Ton), Air Conditioner Non-Reversible (1.5 Ton & 2 Ton), Oil Engine (API:C-4, SAE 20W-50) Oil Engine (API:SG/CD, SAE 20W-50), Oil Engine (API:SG, SAE 20W-50), Oil Engine (API:CD/SE, SAE 15W40), Oil Engine (API:C14, SAE 15W40), Oil Engine (API:SG, SAE 10W40), Oil Engine (API:SG, SAE 10W-30), Diesel Engine Oil (API:CF-4 SAE), Petrol Engine Oil (API:SN, SAE), Oil Engine SAE 40, Oil Gear/DIF/STR SAE 80W90, Oil Steering SAE 10W, Oil Brake Dot-3, Telluex Oil-46, Hydraulic Oil, Splitter Box Oil (L Hyp 85W-140), Oil Eng (API:CD,SAE 40), Eng Oil (Motor Oil), Eng Oil, Eng Oil (CH4 OR CL4), Differential & Planetary Oil, Transmission Oil (CD or ATF), Transmission Oil, Slewing Gear Oil (LGB 90S), Rigid Axle Oil (LGP), Engine Oil OX-1100, Hydraulic Oil (ISO VG 32), Hydraulic Oil (ISO VG 46), Engine Oil (C14 10W-40), Grease GP, Rags Coloured (Fresh, size 1.5' x 1.5' x 1.5'), Rags Coloured, Batteries 12V 35 Amp To 200 Amp (all rating grading with Acid & Charging), Batteries Maint Free 12 V 5 Amp To 200 Amp (all rating and grading), Tyres (all sizes & all brands), DO Paper A-4 (80 GSM) Imported, PPC Paper A-4 (75 GSM) Imported, Wood Partal 5x10x9', Wood Partal 10x5x9', Wood Kail, Wood Kail 1-1/4x7x7', Sheet Lasani Size 8'x4'x1/2", Sheet Lasani Size 8'x4'x3/4", Sheet Lasani Size 8'x4'x1/4", Ply Wood 8'x4'x1/2", Ply Wood 1/4x4'x8", Ply Wood 3/4 4'x8", Rubber Sheet 3/4", All types of Paints, Multimedia with Projector Screen, Paper Shredders (Heavy Duty), Water Cooler (Capacity 25 Gin and 10 Gin), Water Dispenser Capacity 05 Gin (3 Taps), UPS (5000 VA, 6000 VA, 1 KVA, 2 KVA, 3 KVA), Motherboards, Carton Boxes (All Sizes), Hiring of Civil Transport 20/40 feet Flat Bed with/without Container (From PAF Base Masroor, Karachi to all Pakistan), Hiring of Civil Transport 30/40 feet Low Bed (From Base Masroor, PAF Karachi to all Pakistan), Sealant and High resistance sealant PR1422B2 & PR1422A2 (Ea As Req), For further details contact Tele 021-99522287 - 99522275, Mobile No 03219835250							PAF HOSPITAL ISLAMABAD (LOG)		051-9505818	
08	437000/P-43	Proc of PC Core i5 with NVME	01	EA 1840	Pak Rs	11-12-24	Within 03 months after signing of contract	1100 Hrs 113 Hrs	Local Purchase of items: Bowie-Dick Test Pack, Blanket Single Ply, Polythene Bag all sizes (Wastage Bag), DO Paper A-4 80 gsm, Turbine Hand Piece, Scalar Hand Piece, Amalgamator Electric Dental, Local Repair of items: Ultrasound Machine Convew Gyna, Auto Chemistry Analyzer, Only seperately Quotes Technical / Financial acceptable. Detail of Items / Specification / Scope of work may be obtained from Log Fit PAF Hospital Islamabad during working hours. For queries Tel No 051-9505818 may be contacted							PAF HOSPITAL ISLAMABAD (UNIT-II)		808-4433	
09	448411/P-44	Armored Personnel Carrier	01	EA 04	Pak Rs	11-12-24	As soon as possible but not later than 30 June, 25	1200 Hrs 1230 Hrs	PAF BASE NUR KHAN (LOG)							051-952-3867			
10	448412/P-44	Tyres for Coaches	02	EA Var	Pak Rs	12-12-24	As soon as possible but not later than 30 June, 25	1200 Hrs 1230 Hrs	SPADA DC Console LR, SPADA FCC Console LR (Ea As Req), For further information please contact on (051) 952-3867, 0323-9415715							PAF BASE FAISAL (LOG)		835-3870	
11	448413/P-44	Tyres for Cars	05	EA Var	Pak Rs	12-12-24	As soon as possible but not later than 30 June, 25	1200 Hrs 1230 Hrs	Hiring of Mechanical Transport (Toyota Land Cruiser Bullet Proof, V-8 (Black), Revo / Vigo, Corolla GLI, Honda Civic, Micro Hiace, Coaster, Fortuner Sigma Legendre 2.8 Black, flat bed 20 feet with & without container, flat bed 40 feet with & without container)) as required, LP of Promixer CMS-1000, LP of tyre 9.00-20 l4pr cherry picker (solid tyre), LP of Roti Plant (Heavy), LP of Information Display Console IDC-1122, LR of Toyota L/Cruiser Jeep Heavy (Modification / installation of double grooved pulley on Crew System), LP of Rack Steel Shelving / Rack Steel Shelving Spares, Esd Shelves Open, Steelink Adj Shelve Lvi 7 H 16", Label Shelve Carton Rack, Rack Shelve / Oft Add On W/S, Rack Shelve I Oft Starter W/S, Cabinet, Combination Shelves, Bin Shelving Units, Shelves Open, E-Rack Fix-Shelve Eti 35-1 00014, Cabin Shelving Base Pnl, Rack Steel Shelve H/D 10'x8'x3", Steeldex Adj Shelving System, Steel Link Adj Shelving, Steelink Adj Shelve Lvi 7 H 12', 12 Inch Shelving Esd, Note: - Quotation Submitted As Per PPRA Rule (36), For Further Information, Contact on Under mentioned Numbers. Landline No:- 835-3870 / Contact No:- 0323-9435715							PAF BASE MASROOR (LOG)		021-99533889	
12	448414/P-44	Tyres for Jeeps	03	EA Var	Pak Rs	12-12-24	As soon as possible but not later than 30 June, 25	1200 Hrs 1230 Hrs	LP of LCD 42", LP of NVR 16 Chnl, LP of industrial PC (Ea As Req), For detail specifications, please contact Log Sqn on Tel No 021-99533889 & Mobile: 0321-8213869							PAF HOSPITAL LAHORE (LOG)		042-99505281/0320-4499182	
13	467284/P-46 (Re-Tender)	Toshak Cotton	01	EA 3000	Pak Rs	10-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	0900 Hrs 0930 Hrs	Local Repair of MRI System, Local Purchase of Batteries for X-Ray Detector Machine (Ea As Req), Details of Specs may please be obtained from O i/c Log Fit PAF Hospital Lahore										
14	467287/P-46 (Re-Tender)	T-Shirt Sports	4	EA 21,500	Pak Rs	10-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs											
15	467294/P-46	Stitching of Blue Uniform	36	Various	Pak Rs	11-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	0930 Hrs 1000 Hrs											
16	467295/P-46	Coverall Flying	06	PR 1500	Pak Rs	11-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs											
17	467296/P-46	Shoes Black Leather	06	PR 12,700	Pak Rs	11-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs											
18	467297/P-46	Jersey Pullover	05	EA 10,000	Pak Rs	12-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	0930 Hrs 1000 Hrs											
19	467298/P-46	Vest Full Sleeve CD	04	EA 35,000	Pak Rs	12-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs											
20	467299/P-46	Cloth Summer Shirt MVS (2022)	01	MR 110,000	Pak Rs	12-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs											

**Contact Person / Ph No for Detail: For S. No 1** ADP-41 (051-9281361), **For S. No 2 to 4** ADP-42 (051-9281362), **For S. No 5 to 8** ADP-43 (Pre) (051-9527715), **For S. No 9 to 12** ADP-44 (051-9281364), **For S. No 13 to 20** ADP-46 (051-9281366)

**CORRIGENDUM OF ENTRIES PUBLISHED IN NEWSPAPERS / PPRA WEBSITE**

S. NO	IT NO.	Description of Stores	Amendment in Opening Date		PUBLISHED IN NEWSPAPERS	REMARKS
			FOR	READ		
01	424540/P-42 (Extension)	Air Condition Trolley Truck	19-11-24	03-12-24	Daily The Nation & Daily Ausaf Dated: 11-11-24	Opening dates extended
02	424414/ISS/RE-P-42 (Extension)	Tensile Testing Machine	19-11-24	04-12-24	Pakistan Observer & Daily K2 Dated: 04-11-24	
03	436973/P-43 (Extension)	Proc of Spares for Repair of Simulator Projectors	14-11-24	28-11-24	Daily Ausaf & Daily the Nation Dated: 11-11-24	
04	436974/P-43 (Extension)	Proc of Hardware for Replacement of Obsolete Spares of MT Simulators	14-11-24	28-11-24	Daily Ausaf & Daily the Nation Dated: 11-11-24 Daily Jehan Pakistan	
05	436984/P-43 (Extension)	Proc of Link Integration Gateway (CYG-II)	14-11-24	28-11-24	& Daily Frontier Post Dated: 28-10-24 Daily Jehan Pakistan	
06	436979/P-43 (Extension)	Proc of Timing Module / High Dynamic Satellite Receiver	20-11-24	28-11-24	& Daily Express Tribune Dated: 18-11-24 Daily Dunya &	
07	467270/P-46 (Extension)	Turbonyc` Oil 210A	14-11-24	05-12-24	Pakistan Observer Dated: 14-10-24	

1. Instructions / Guidelines for participating in Tenders as per the prescribed SBD and complete specifications can be downloaded from PAF website i.e. [www.paf.gov.pk](http://www.paf.gov.pk) under the heading "Media" "PAF Ads" "General Instructions DP (Air) Suppliers" (for guidelines to participate in tenders) and 'Latest Advertisement' (for tender Invitation documents)

2. If Required ITs not found on PAF Website, concerned ADsP may be approached via request letter through e-mail address to (pa05@paf.gov.pk).

3. Firms, un-registered/un-indexed with DGDP interested to participate in the competition on Earnest Money are required to provide financial capability (minimum 6 months Bank Statements) proof of go down and manufacturer / stockist, 02 photocopies of NIC of the owner in case of FOR tenders and agency agreement with OEM along with the request. Request for issuance of IT will be entertained 07 days before opening date of tender.

4. A treasury Challan of Rs 2,000/- debitable to Main Head XLVII Main Head XII Sub Head A is required to be submitted by the un-registered/un-indexed firms along with the request.

5. Tender Notice is also available on PPRA website i.e. [www.ppra.org.pk](http://www.ppra.org.pk).

PAF BASE ISLAMABAD (LOG)	051-9505556	NO 101 ALC. PAF BASE FAISAL (LSF)	021-99547087
Processing and Analysis System, 2U Rack Workstation, Rack Switch 8 Port (As Req), Note:- Separate Quotation (Technical and Financial) for each line item is required), For details / specifications / scope of work please contact Log Sqn on Ph No: 0323-9408714, 051-9505556, Email: Lsaq05@Paf.gov.Pk		Dispatch of PAF Stores to Foreign Countries from No 101 ALC, PAF Karachi to Beijing (All countries), Detail of PAF Stores destination, weight and dimensions of package will be informed on "as and when required" basis by No 101, ALC, Faisal, Cell: 0333-9228705	
NO 102 AED PAF BASE FAISAL (LOG)	021-99547235/7242	PAF BASE BHOLARI (LOG)	022-9501500
Refined Kerosene for NDT (LR As Req), Corena S2 (LR As Req), Note:- For further Information or any technical assistance, please contact on Phone No 021-99547242, Mobile No 0307- 3267493, (For specifications consultant, Ext 7242, 7286, 7235)		Side View Lens (AT50S/50S), Forward View Lens (AT50D/50D) (As Req), Add: (Officer In charge, Logistics Squadron, PAF Base Bholari Hyderabad (Send Via Leopard Courier Service or Pakistan Post Only Preferably 'Single Stage Two Envelope' procedure vide PPRA Rule 36(b)) For details / specifications please contact on Tel 022-9501500 Ext 2287 and Cell No 03239431714. (All parts Nos as required or equivalent) (As Req)	
PAF BASE RAFIQUI (LOG)	041-9502277		
Oil Eng (AP1:CD, SAE 20W-40) (LR As Req), Cock Pit Cover, Body Camera with Accessories (EA As Req)			

<http://www.paf.gov.pk>

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS:-

- General terms and conditions are mentioned in tender form (F-528A). Forms and tender notices complete details can be downloaded from PAF website "[www.paf.gov.pk](http://www.paf.gov.pk)" or can be obtained from respective Bases/ Log Sqns on working days.
- The firm must be GST and professional Tax registered having NTN.
- Last date of submission of tenders: **10 DECEMBER, 2024 (1000 hrs).**
- Tenders will be opened on the same day at 1100 hours.
- No advance payment will be made and payment will be subject to acceptance of the items by user activity.
- Officers Commanding of the mentioned Bases/ Units reserve the right to reject any part or the entire tender on technical grounds.
- Quotations must be valid for 90 days.
- Sales Tax as applicable must be mentioned separately.
- Guarantee / Warranty term / period should also be mentioned.
- The agreement will be governed by official secret act. 1923.



# 85% of women workers experience harassment in workplaces

KARACHI (PPI): The Home-Based Women Workers Federation (HBWWF) organized a seminar on “Women’s resistance knows no borders at the Karachi Press Club.

The seminar was chaired by Asad Iqbal Butt, Chairperson of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCPP), and attended by a large number of political, social, and human rights activists.

Prominent speakers included Mehnaz Rahman (journalist and activist), Sammi Baloch (Baloch Yakjehti Council), Zahra Khan (General Secretary, HBWWF), Sorath Lohar (Missing Persons Recovery Movement), Dr. Asghar Ali Dasthi (progressive intellectual, teacher, International Relations department, Urdu University), Nasir Mansoor (General Secretary, National Trade Union Federation Pakistan), Saeed Sarbazi (President, Karachi Press Club), and Asad Iqbal Butt (HRCPP Chairperson).

The program’s speakers paid rich tribute to the three revolutionary sisters from the Dominican Republic, known as the “Butterfly Sisters,” whose struggle against dictatorship was commemorated globally on November 25. Zehra Khan of HBWWF highlighted how the sisters—Patria, Minerva, and Maria Teresa Mirabal—became symbols of democratic freedom and women’s empowerment, sacrificing their lives in the fight against a brutal regime.

The United Nations Organization (UNO) officially declared November 25 as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women in their honor in 1999.

She emphasized that the issues of state oppression, authoritarian governance, and misogynistic social attitudes that the Butterfly Sisters fought against persist globally and in Pakistan.

She said the political activists faced persecution, enforced disappearances continued unabated, and democratic freedoms were severely restricted. Women workers, particularly in factories, face harassment, while systemic gender discrimination prevails in political, social, and economic spheres.



# PAKISTAN AIR FORCE

## OPEN TENDER NOTICES

SEALED TENDERS ARE INVITED BY THE FOLLOWING BASES / UNITS FOR THE SUPPLY / PURCHASE / REPAIR / OVERHAULING OF MENTIONED ITEMS.

**DP AIR C/O PAF BASE NUR KHAN RAWALPINDI**

S. NO	IT No.	Description of Stores	No of Line Item	U/I Qty	CAT	Opening Date	Time Period for Performance of Contract	Closing + Opening Time
01	415220/P-41 (Re-Tender)	Proc of F100-PW-229 Hot Distress Section Deficient Items	11	EA Var	FE	24-12-24	Within 18 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs
02	424558/P-42	Case Life Raft for Sea Survival School, PAAK	01	EA 14	Pak Rs	10-12-24	Within 08-10 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs
03	424559/P-42	Equipment for Avionics and Electrical Labs at School of Avionics and Electrical Engineering, CAE (PAFAA)	08	EA Var	Pak Rs	10-12-24	Within 06-08 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs
04	424560/P-42	Conveyor Roller Complete Set for PAF Base Bholari	01	EA 01	Pak Rs	10-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs
05	436997/P-43	Proc of Spares for ATCR System	02	EA Var	FE	24-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs
06	436998/P-43	Proc of RFFE Tester	01	EA 04	Pak Rs	10-12-24	Within 08 months after signing of contract	1200 Hrs 1230 Hrs
07	436999/P-43	Proc of Advance Baseband Module	01	EA 05	Pak Rs	11-12-24	Within 08 months after signing of contract	1100 Hrs 1130 Hrs
08	437000/P-43	Proc of PC Core i5 with NVME	01	EA 1840	Pak Rs	11-12-24	Within 03 months after signing of contract	1100 Hrs 113 Hrs
09	448411/P-44	Armored Personnel Carrier	01	EA 04	Pak Rs	11-12-24	As soon as possible but not later than 30 June, 25	1200 Hrs 1230 Hrs
10	448412/P-44	Tyres for Coaches	02	EA Var	Pak Rs	12-12-24	As soon as possible but not later than 30 June, 25	1200 Hrs 1230 Hrs
11	448413/P-44	Tyres for Cars	05	EA Var	Pak Rs	12-12-24	As soon as possible but not later than 30 June, 25	1200 Hrs 1230 Hrs
12	448414/P-44	Tyres for Jeeps	03	EA Var	Pak Rs	12-12-24	As soon as possible but not later than 30 June, 25	1200 Hrs 1230 Hrs
13	467284/P-46 (Re-Tender)	Toshak Cotton	01	EA 3000	Pak Rs	10-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	0900 Hrs 0930 Hrs
14	467287/P-46 (Re-Tender)	T-Shirt Sports	4	EA 21,500	Pak Rs	10-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs
15	467294/P-46	Stitching of Blue Uniform	36	Various	Pak Rs	11-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	0930 Hrs 1000 Hrs
16	467295/P-46	Coverall Flying	06	PR 1500	Pak Rs	11-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs
17	467296/P-46	Shoes Black Leather	06	PR 12,700	Pak Rs	11-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs
18	467297/P-46	Jersey Pullover	05	EA 10,000	Pak Rs	12-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	0930 Hrs 1000 Hrs
19	467298/P-46	Vest Full Sleeve CD	04	EA 35,000	Pak Rs	12-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs
20	467299/P-46	Cloth Summer Shirt MVS (2022)	01	MR 110,000	Pak Rs	12-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs

**PAF BASE KOHAT (LOG)**

0922-9260092/93

Heavy Duty Impact Wrench , 1/2" Scale Adjustable Wrench, 14 Pcs Cooling System Tester, 3/8" Scale Wrench, Air impact Wrench, Angle Die Grinder, Angle Tip Look Ring Pliers, Auto Scanner, Autopro Up brake Loath, Bearing Puller Set, Bench Vulcanizer, Car Battery Alternator Checker, Diesel compression tester, Digital Timing Tester, Electric Welding, Engine Stand, Fuel Injection Test Adapter, G5 Digital Tyre Inflator, Gas Welding Plant, Gasoline compression tester, Greens Engine Crane, Hi- video, video digital ins, Camera, HPA-Faip Wheel Alignment Machine, Hydraulic press 10T, Large Lock Ring Pliers, Mechanic Stethoscope, Pin Punch Set, Piston Ring Compressor, Pneumatic Grease Gun, Puncture Repair Toolkit, AC Recycling Machine, Electronic Refrigerent Leak Detector, Screw Extractor Set, Semi Automatic Tyre Changer, Socket Set, Spray gun, Spark Plug Cleaner, Transmission Jack, Tube Cutter & Flaring Tool, Wheel Blancer, Tyre 6.50R16 10PR, Tyre 825-15 14 Ply, Body Worn Camera (As Req), Note: - Commercial and Technical quotations must be submitted a per Single stage two envelope procedure, For technical specification / scope of work please contact on 0922-9260092/93 Ext 3860/3887, Mobile No 03348973439

**NO 101 ALC, PAF BASE FAISAL (LP)**

021-99547040

Battery M/FREE 12 VOLT 150 AMP, UPS 650 KVA, UPS 1 KVA, UPS 2 KVA, UPS 3KVA, Anti Corrosion Treatment of TWFC on Hino Chassis FG1JKPB (TENDER WATER) (As Required), Air / Cond Split 2 Ton N/Rev (As Req), Details specifications may be obtained from (LP Section) No 101 ALC

**PAF HOSPITAL E-9, ISLAMABAD (MED)**

021-99547040

Re-Tender for provision of medicines N/A PVMS medicines 2 Qtr 2024-25 is Invited having valid drugs selling license, NTN Professional Tax certificate and GST Registration certificate, For further details, please contact PAF Hospital, Islamabad on Telephone No 051-9503888, Cell No 0343-5687103, List of items may be collected from Medical Store PAF Hospital, Islamabad

**PAF PRESS MASROOR (LOG)**

021-99527669

Elevator Plate Cleaner, Bag Polythene 23"x36", Binding Cloth Special, Bleach Card 23"x36" (250GSM), Board Straw 26"x34" 24OZ, Carton Box 24"x22"x10", Cotton Wool, Glue White, Glue White (Tip Top), Hanger 20" (2MM), Hanger 20" (3MM), Ink Cyan Colour, Ink Magenta Colour, Ink Yellow, Colour, Ink Black Colour, Paper (W) Offset 23"x36" (80GSM), Paper (W) Offset 25"x35 1/2" (80GSM), Paper (W) Offset 25"x36" (80GSM), Paper (W) Offset 27"x34 (80GSM), Paper (W) Offset 30"x40" (80GSM), Past Rollo, Plate For SORMZ 745x605x0.30MM, Plate For SORD 915x715x 0.30MM, Poly Proplene Sheet 50", Real Art Card 20"x30" (260GSM), Real Art Card 23"x36" (300GSM), Real Art Card 25"x36" (210GSM), Rubber Blanket SORD 36"x30"x1.9MM, Rubber Blanket SORMZ 31"x23", Tape Packing 2 1/2", Viro Spiral 10MM (14,333 inches), Viro Spiral 8MM (20,000 inches), Viro Spiral 12MM (8,000 inches), Real Art Card 23"x36" (210GSM), Real Art Card 20"x30" (300GSM), Real Art Card 25"x35 1/2" (210GSM), Real Art Card 20"x30" (210GSM), Real Art Card 23"x36" (260GSM), Alcohol 99.9% Pure, Real Art Card 28"x44" (270GSM), Real Art Card 20"x30" (170GSM), Real Art Card 23"x36" (190GSM), Real Art Card 23"x36" (250GSM), Real Art Card 23"x36" (310GSM), Real Art Card 31"x43" (260GSM), Real Art Card 31"x43" (210GSM), Real Art Card 18"x23" (210GSM), Real Art Card 22"x28" (210GSM), Carton Box 24"x22"x8", Carton Box 24"x22"x10", Carton Box 20"x16"x12" (Qty As required), For further information please contact on Phone Nos. 021-99527669 and 021-99527653.

**PAF HOSPITAL ISLAMABAD (LOG)**

051-9505818

Local Purchase of items: Bowie-Dick Test Pack, Blanket Single Ply, Polythene Bag all sizes (Wastage Bag), DO Paper A-4 80 gsm, Turbine Hand Piece, Scalar Hand Piece, Amalgamator Electric Dental, Local Repair of items: Ultrasound Machine Convew Gyna, Auto Chemistry Analyzer, Only seperately Quotes Technical / Financial acceptable. Detail of Items / Specification / Scope of work may be obtained from Log Flt PAF Hospital Islamabad during working hours. For queries Tel No 051-9505818 may be contacted

**PAF HOSPITAL ISLAMABAD (UNIT-II)**

808-4433

Sealed tenders are invited at Logistics Flight PAF Hospital Islamabad (Sarfazar, Rafiqui Complex) for provisioning of following:- (a) Facility Management for Medical Gases System (b) Uniform cloth for different cadres of hospital (c) Printing of Forms, In case of any query Tel No. 051-956-4164-4163

**PAF BASE NUR KHAN (LOG)**

051-952-3867

SPADA DC Console LR, SPADA FCC Console LR (Ea As Req), For further information please contact on (051) 952-3867, 0323-9415715

**PAF BASE FAISAL (LOG)**

835-3870

Hiring of Mechanical Transport {(Toyota Land Cruiser Bullet Proof, V-8 (Black), Revo / Vigo, Corolla GLI, Honda Civic, Micro Hiace, Coaster, Fortuner Sigma Legendre 2.8 Black, flat bed 20 feet with & without container, flat bed 40 feet with & without container)} as required, LP of Promixer CMS-1000, LP of tyre 9.00-20 I4pr cherry picker (solid tyre), LP of Roti Plant (Heavy), LP of Information Display Console IDC-1122, LR of Toyota L/Cruiser Jeep Heavy (Modification / installation of double grooved pulley on Crew System), LP of Rack Steel Shelving / Rack Steel Shelving Spares, Estd Shelves Open, Steelink Adj Shelve Lvl 7 H 16", Label Shelve Carton Rack, Rack Shelve / Oft Add On W/S, Rack Shelve I Oft Starter W/S, Cabinet, Combination Shelves, Bin Shelving Units, Shelves Open, E-Rack Fix-Shelve Eti 35-1 00014, Cabin Shelving Base Pnl, Rack Steel Shelve H/D 10'x8'x3", Steeldex Adj Shelving System, Steel Link Adj Shelving, Steelink Adj Shelve Lvl 7 H 12', 12 Inch Shelving Estd, Note: - Quotation Submitted As Per PPRA Rule (36), For Further Information, Contact on Under mentioned Numbers. Landline No:- 835-3870 / Contact No:- 0323-9435715

**PAF BASE MALIR (LOG)**

021-99533889

LP of LCD 42", LP of NVR 16 Chnl, LP of industrial PC (Ea As Req), For detail specifications, please contact Log Sqn on Tel No 021-99533889 & Mobile: 0321-8213869

**PAF HOSPITAL LAHORE (LOG)**

042-99505281/0320-4499182

Local Repair of MRI System, Local Purchase of Batteries for X-Ray Detector Machine (Ea As Req), Details of Specs may please be obtained from O i/c Log Flt PAF Hospital Lahore

**PAF BASE ISLAMABAD (LOG)**

051-9505556

Processing and Analysis System, 2U Rack Workstation, Rack Switch 8 Port (As Req), Note:- Separate Quotation (Technical and Financial) for each line item is required), For details / specifications / scope of work please contact Log Sqn on Ph No: 0323-9408714, 051-9505556, Email: Lsaq05@Paf.gov.Pk

**NO 102 AED PAF BASE FAISAL (LOG)**

021-99547235/7242

Refined Kerosene for NDT (LR As Req), Corena S2 (LR As Req), Note:- For further Information or any technical assistance, please contact on Phone No 021-99547242, Mobile No 0307- 3267493, (For specifications consultant, Ext 7242, 7286, 7235)

**PAF BASE RAFIQUI (LOG)**

041-9502277

Oil Eng (API:CD, SAE 20W-40) (LR As Req), Cock Pit Cover, Body Camera with Accessories (EA As Req)

**NO 101 ALC, PAF BASE FAISAL (LSP)**

021-99547087

Dispatch of PAF Stores to Foreign Countries from NO 101 ALC, PAF Karachi to Beijing (All countries), Detail of PAF Stores destination, weight and dimensions of package will be informed on "as and when required" basis by No 101, ALC, Faisal, Cell: 0333-9228705

**PAF BASE BHOLARI (LOG)**

022-9501500

Side View Lens (AT50S/50S), Forward View Lens (AT50D/50D) (As Req), Add: (Officer In charge, Logistics Squadron, PAF Base Bholari Hyderabad (Send Via Leopard Courier Service or Pakistan Post Only Preferably 'Single Stage Two Envelope' procedure vide PPRA Rule 36(b)) For details / specifications please contact on Tel 022-9501500 Ext 2287 and Cell No 03239431714. (All parts Nos as required or equivalent) (As Req)

**Contact Person / Ph No for Detail: For S. No 1** ADP-41 (051-9281361), **For S. No 2 to 4** ADP-42 (051-9281362), **For S. No 5 to 8** ADP-43 (Pre) (051-9527715), **For S. No 9 to 12** ADP-44 (051-9281364), **For S. No 13 to 20** ADP-46 (051-9281366)

**CORRIGENDUM OF ENTRIES PUBLISHED IN NEWSPAPERS / PPRA WEBSITE**

S. NO	IT NO.	Description of Stores	Amendment in Opening Date FOR	READ	PUBLISHED IN NEWSPAPERS	REMARKS
01	<b>424540/P-42 (Extension)</b>	Air Condition Trolley Truck	19-11-24	<b>03-12-24</b>	Daily The Nation & Daily Ausaf Dated: 11-11-24	
02	<b>424414/ISS/RE-P-42 (Extension)</b>	Tensile Testing Machine	19-11-24	<b>04-12-24</b>	Pakistan Observer & Daily K2 Dated: 04-11-24	
03	<b>436973/P-43 (Extension)</b>	Proc of Spares for Repair of Simulator Projectors	14-11-24	<b>28-11-24</b>	Daily Ausaf & Daily the Nation Dated: 11-11-24	
04	<b>436974/P-43 (Extension)</b>	Proc of Hardware for Replacement of Obsolete Spares of MT Simulators	14-11-24	<b>28-11-24</b>	Daily Ausaf & Daily the Nation Dated: 11-11-24	Opening dates extended
05	<b>436984/P-43 (Extension)</b>	Proc of Link Integration Gateway (CYG-II)	14-11-24	<b>28-11-24</b>	& Daily Frontier Post Dated: 28-10-24	
06	<b>436979/P-43 (Extension)</b>	Proc of Timing Module / High Dynamic Satellite Receiver	20-11-24	<b>28-11-24</b>	Daily Jehan Pakistan & Daily Express Tribune Dated: 18-11-24	
07	<b>467270/P-46 (Extension)</b>	Turbonyc` Oil 210A	14-11-24	<b>05-12-24</b>	Daily Dunya & Pakistan Observer Dated: 14-10-24	

1. Instructions / Guidelines for participating in Tenders as per the prescribed SBD and complete specifications can be downloaded from PAF website i.e. [www.paf.gov.pk](http://www.paf.gov.pk) under the heading "Media" "PAF Ads" "General Instructions DP (Air) Suppliers" (for guidelines to participate in tenders) and 'Latest Advertisement' (for tender Invitation documents)

2. If Required ITs not found on PAF Website, concerned ADsP may be approached via request letter through e-mail address to (pa05@paf.gov.pk).

3. Firms, un-registered/un-indexed with DGDP interested to participate in the competition on Earnest Money are required to provide financial capability (minimum 6 months Bank Statements) proof of go down and manufacturer / stockist, 02 photocopies of NIC of the owner in case of FOR tenders and agency agreement with OEM along with the request. Request for issuance of IT will be entertained 07 days before opening date of tender.

4. A treasury Challan of Rs 2,000/- debitable to Main Head XLVII Main Head XII Sub Head A is required to be submitted by the un-registered/un-indexed firms along with the request.

5. Tender Notice is also available on PPRA website i.e. [www.ppra.org.pk](http://www.ppra.org.pk).

**PAF BASE ISLAMABAD (LOG)**

051-9505556

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# Punjab govt ready to deal with any untoward situation

LAHORE (PPI): Punjab's Minister, Azma Bukhari, on Sunday assured the public that the provincial government is fully prepared to handle any law and order issues arising from political protests. During a press conference in Lahore, Bukhari emphasized that the government would not allow any disruption, as the public is weary of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party's politics of unrest. Bukhari stated that the situation in Lahore remains stable and that the PTI's call for protests has received little to no response from the public. She reassured the citizens that the Punjab Government is on high alert, committed to safeguarding lives and property at all costs. She also pointed out that despite PTI's calls for protest, the party's top leadership, including the wife and children of PTI founder Imran Khan, as well as other party members' families, are not participating. Bukhari highlighted that this indicates a lack of genuine support for the protest. Additionally, she criticized Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur, who had previously announced plans to lead the protest from Swabi. However, no protests have been reported in the region, further confirming a lack of interest in PTI's political agenda. Bukhari also noted that government officials in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are reportedly being coerced into participating in the protest, despite ongoing law and order challenges in their own province. She accused the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government of failing to address the deteriorating situation there. In a related development, Islamabad authorities have imposed Section 144 across the capital in response to directives from the Islamabad High Court. The public has been urged to refrain from engaging in any illegal activities, with a stern warning that violators will face strict legal action to maintain peace and security in the city.



## PAKISTAN AIR FORCE

### OPEN TENDER NOTICES

SEALED TENDERS ARE INVITED BY THE FOLLOWING BASES / UNITS FOR THE SUPPLY / PURCHASE / REPAIR / OVERHAULING OF MENTIONED ITEMS.

DP AIR C/O PAF BASE NUR KHAN RAWALPINDI									PAF BASE KOHAT (LOG)		0922-9260092/93		NO 101 ALC, PAF BASE FAISAL (LP)		021-99547040	
S. NO	IT No.	Description of Stores	No of Line Item	U/I Qty	CAT	Opening Date	Time Period for Performance of Contract	Closing + Opening Time								
01	415220/P-41 (Re-Tender)	Proc of F100-PW-229 Hot Distress Section Deficient Items	11	EA Var	FE	24-12-24	Within 18 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs	<p>Heavy Duty Impact Wrench , 1/2" Scale Adjustable Wrench, 14 Pcs Cooling System Tester, 3/8" Scale Wrench, Air impact Wrench, Angle Die Grinder, Angle Tip Look Ring Pliers, Auto Scanner, Autopro Up brake Loath, Bearing Puller Set, Bench Vulcanizer, Car Battery Alternator Checker, Diesel compression tester, Digital Timing Tester, Electric Welding, Engine Stand, Fuel Injection Test Adapter, G5 Digital Tyre Inflator, Gas Welding Plant, Gasoline compression tester, Greens Engine Crane, Hi- video, video digital ins, Camera, HPA-Faip Wheel Alignment Machine, Hydraulic press 10T, Large Lock Ring Pliers, Mechanic Stethoscope, Pin Punch Set, Piston Ring Compressor, Pneumatic Grease Gun, Puncture Repair Toolkit, AC Recycling Machine, Electronic Refrigerent Leak Detector, Screw Extractor Set, Semi Automatic Tyre Changer, Socket Set, Spray gun, Spark Plug Cleaner, Transmission Jack, Tube Cutter &amp; Flaring Tool, Wheel Blancer, Tyre 6.50R16 10PR, Tyre 825-15 14 Ply, Body Worn Camera (As Req), Note: - Commercial and Technical quotations must be submitted a per Single stage two envelope procedure, For technical specification / scope of work please contact on 0922-9260092/93 Ext 3860/3887, Mobile No 03348973439</p> <p><b>NO 130 AED, PAF NUR KHAN (LOG)</b>      <b>051-9527415</b></p> <p>Film X-Ray 14x17 14K/PAF-50 (PK As Req), Sodium Sulphite Thiosulphite (Fixer) 14N/2886 (BG As Req), Develper D-19 14N/9100617 (Can As Req), Inspection Penetrant Kit 685008260981 (KT As Req), UV Light Bulb GHF-125 (PK As Req), Probe Surface Angle 6635NL-VM202RA-1/4, Probe Bolt Hole (.764" Diameter) 6635NL-9230159, Mini-Mite Scanner 6635015005491, Probe ML/100 Khz-500 1620NL-9222164, Probe SL/5 100-205 Khz 1620NL-9222196, Probe ML/1Mhz/A90 5/6 1620NL-9222208, Probe General (Surface) 6635NL-PL/100-500Khz/A, Mini Wheel Encoder 4920NL-SXA-270, Wedge Specification Dimension 4920NL-SA1-L45L, Probe Bolt Hole 3/16 6635NL-9219979, Probe Bolt Hole 5/16 6635NL-9219983, Adhesive MIL-A-9117, Buna N- Nylon Sandwich Material PS 625 or PF 10056, Adhesive Cement 82C32 or 5902C or 5923C, Fabric Sheet Nylon Sandwich PF 10034, Cleaner Pressure Solvent Water (Washing Unit) 4940011856215 (Ea As Req)</p> <p><b>PAF BASE MASROOR (LOG)</b>      <b>021-99522275</b></p> <p>Air Conditioner Reversible (1.5 Ton &amp; 2 Ton), Air Conditioner Non-Reversible (1.5 Ton &amp; 2 Ton), Oil Engine (API:C-4, SAE 20W-50) Oil Engine (API:SG/CD, SAE 20W-50), Oil Engine (API:SG, SAE 20W-50), Oil Engine (API:CD/SE, SAE 15W40), Oil Engine (API:C14, SAE 15W40), Oil Engine (API:SG, SAE 10W-40), Oil Engine (API:SG, SAE 10W-30), Diesel Engine Oil (API:CF-4 SAE), Petrol Engine Oil (API:SN, SAE), Oil Engine SAE 40, Oil Gear/DIF/STR SAE 80W90, Oil Steering SAE 10W, Oil Brake Dot-3, Tellous Oil-46, Hydraulic Oil, Splitter Box Oil (L Hyp 85W-140), Oil Eng (API:CD,SAE 40), Eng Oil (Motor Oil), Eng Oil, Eng Oil (CH4 OR CL4), Differential &amp; Planetary Oil, Transmission Oil (CD or ATF), Transmission Oil, Slewing Gear Oil (LGB 90S), Rigid Axle Oil (LGP), Engine Oil OX-1100, Hydraulic Oil (ISO VG 32), Hydraulic Oil (ISO VG 46), Engine Oil (C14 10W-40), Grease GP, Rags Coloured (Fresh, size 1.5' x 1.5' x 1.5'), Rags Coloured, Batteries 12V 35 Amp To 200 Amp (all rating grading with Acid &amp; Charging), Batteries Maint Free 12 V 5 Amp To 200 Amp (all rating and grading), Tyres (all sizes &amp; all brands), DO Paper A-4 (80 GSM) Imported, PPC Paper A-4 (75 GSM) Imported, Wood Partal 5x10x9', Wood Partal 10x5x9', Wood Kail, Wood Kail 1-1/4x7x7', Sheet Lasani Size 8'x4'x1/2", Sheet Lasani Size 8'x4'x3/4", Sheet Lasani Size 8'x4'x1/4", Ply Wood 8'x4'x1/2", Ply Wood 1/4x4'x8", Ply Wood 3/4 4'x8", Rubber Sheet 3/4", All types of Paints, Multimedia with Projector Screen, Paper Shredders (Heavy Duty), Water Cooler (Capacity 25 Gin and 10 Gin), Water Dispenser Capacity 05 Gin (3 Taps), UPS (5000 VA, 6000 VA, 1 KVA, 2 KVA, 3 KVA), Motherboards, Carton Boxes (All Sizes), Hiring of Civil Transport 20/40 feet Flat Bed with/without Container (From PAF Base Masroor, Karachi to all Pakistan), Hiring of Civil Transport 30/40 feet Low Bed (From Base Masroor, PAF Karachi to all Pakistan), Sealant and High resistance sealant PR1422B2 &amp; PR1422A2 (Ea As Req), For further details contact Tele 021-99522287 - 99522275, Mobile No 03219835250</p> <p><b>NO 107 AED PAF BASE FAISAL (LOG)</b>      <b>021-99547321</b></p> <p>6625PK0217412 Measuring Unit EE Mebtell Radio Comm Service Monitor, 120-08011-0000 LSI DME Range CKT KTU-709 Tacan Transceiver, 5820NL-1146.3100.03 Analogue Audio Board UPV Audio Analyzer, 6110.5440.00 LD Mosfet BLF647, 6110.5640.00 TFT 5.0 Inch Display TFT 5.0 QVGA RGB 5 INCH 320X234, 5961NL-EL415-2044 Latching Relay, KW-ML-4-214S 7 Segment Display (Multi Digit) Fuel Flow Ind, 5962-9308501MXC EE PLD Programmable Logic D, 5962PK0019433 Vapcell 6000Mah, 6625PK0217401 Module (RF/1F) Handheld Spectrum Analyzer, 6350/PK-HP-PLC01 Mini PLC Interface Board, 6350/PK-BH-DIOT3 X-Daq Enel Dioid Interface Board, 5962PK0019308 GPS Compass Module with Padestal, For further technical information, specification and company make, model, please contact Tel phone No 021-99547321, 99547379</p> <p><b>TERMS AND CONDITIONS:-</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>General terms and conditions are mentioned in tender form (F-528A). Forms and tender notices complete details can be downloaded from PAF website "<a href="http://www.paf.gov.pk">www.paf.gov.pk</a>" or can be obtained from respective Bases/ Log Sqns on working days.</li><li>The firm must be GST and professional Tax registered having NTN.</li><li>Last date of submission of tenders: <b>10 DECEMBER, 2024 (1000 hrs).</b></li><li>Tenders will be opened on the same day at 1100 hours.</li><li>No advance payment will be made and payment will be subject to acceptance of the items by user activity.</li><li>Officers Commanding of the mentioned Bases/ Units reserve the right to reject any part or the entire tender on technical grounds.</li><li>Quotations must be valid for 90 days.</li><li>Sales Tax as applicable must be mentioned separately.</li><li>Guarantee / Warranty term / period should also be mentioned.</li><li>The agreement will be governed by official secret act. 1923.</li></ol>							
02	424558/P-42	Case Life Raft for Sea Survival School, PAAK	01	EA 14	Pak Rs	10-12-24	Within 08-10 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs								
03	424559/P-42	Equipment for Avionics and Electrical Labs at School of Avionics and Electrical Engineering, CAE (PAFAA)	08	EA Var	Pak Rs	10-12-24	Within 06-08 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs								
04	424560/P-42	Conveyor Roller Complete Set for PAF Base Bholari	01	EA 01	Pak Rs	10-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs								
05	436997/P-43	Proc of Spares for ATCR System	02	EA Var	FE	24-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs								
06	436998/P-43	Proc of RFFE Tester	01	EA 04	Pak Rs	10-12-24	Within 08 months after signing of contract	1200 Hrs 1230 Hrs								
07	436999/P-43	Proc of Advance Baseband Module	01	EA 05	Pak Rs	11-12-24	Within 08 months after signing of contract	1100 Hrs 1130 Hrs								
08	437000/P-43	Proc of PC Core i5 with NVME	01	EA 1840	Pak Rs	11-12-24	Within 03 months after signing of contract	1100 Hrs 113 Hrs								
09	448411/P-44	Armored Personnel Carrier	01	EA 04	Pak Rs	11-12-24	As soon as possible but not later than 30 June, 25	1200 Hrs 1230 Hrs								
10	448412/P-44	Tyres for Coaches	02	EA Var	Pak Rs	12-12-24	As soon as possible but not later than 30 June, 25	1200 Hrs 1230 Hrs								
11	448413/P-44	Tyres for Cars	05	EA Var	Pak Rs	12-12-24	As soon as possible but not later than 30 June, 25	1200 Hrs 1230 Hrs								
12	448414/P-44	Tyres for Jeeps	03	EA Var	Pak Rs	12-12-24	As soon as possible but not later than 30 June, 25	1200 Hrs 1230 Hrs								
13	467284/P-46 (Re-Tender)	Toshak Cotton	01	EA 3000	Pak Rs	10-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	0900 Hrs 0930 Hrs								
14	467287/P-46 (Re-Tender)	T-Shirt Sports	4	EA 21,500	Pak Rs	10-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs								
15	467294/P-46	Stitching of Blue Uniform	36	Various	Pak Rs	11-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	0930 Hrs 1000 Hrs								
16	467295/P-46	Coverall Flying	06	PR 1500	Pak Rs	11-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs								
17	467296/P-46	Shoes Black Leather	06	PR 12,700	Pak Rs	11-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs								
18	467297/P-46	Jersey Pullover	05	EA 10,000	Pak Rs	12-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	0930 Hrs 1000 Hrs								
19	467298/P-46	Vest Full Sleeve CD	04	EA 35,000	Pak Rs	12-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1000 Hrs 1030 Hrs								
20	467299/P-46	Cloth Summer Shirt MVS (2022)	01	MR 110,000	Pak Rs	12-12-24	Within 06 months after signing of contract	1030 Hrs 1100 Hrs								

**Contact Person / Ph No for Detail: For S. No 1 ADP-41 (051-9281361), For S. No 2 to 4 ADP-42 (051-9281362), For S. No 5 to 8 ADP-43 (Pre) (051-9527715), For S. No 9 to 12 ADP-44 (051-9281364), For S. No 13 to 20 ADP-46 (051-9281366)**

CORRIGENDUM OF ENTRIES PUBLISHED IN NEWSPAPERS / PPRA WEBSITE						
S. NO	IT NO.	Description of Stores	Amendment in Opening Date		PUBLISHED IN NEWSPAPERS	REMARKS
			FOR	READ		
01	<b>424540/P-42 (Extension)</b>	Air Condition Trolley Truck	19-11-24	<b>03-12-24</b>	Daily The Nation & Daily Ausaf Dated: 11-11-24	Opening dates extended
02	<b>424414/ISS/RE-P-42 (Extension)</b>	Tensile Testing Machine	19-11-24	<b>04-12-24</b>	Pakistan Observer & Daily K2 Dated: 04-11-24	
03	<b>436973/P-43 (Extension)</b>	Proc of Spares for Repair of Simulator Projectors	14-11-24	<b>28-11-24</b>	Daily Ausaf & Daily the Nation Dated: 11-11-24	
04	<b>436974/P-43 (Extension)</b>	Proc of Hardware for Replacement of Obsolete Spares of MT Simulators	14-11-24	<b>28-11-24</b>	Daily Ausaf & Daily the Nation Dated: 11-11-24 Daily Jehan Pakistan	
05	<b>436984/P-43 (Extension)</b>	Proc of Link Integration Gateway (CYG-II)	14-11-24	<b>28-11-24</b>	& Daily Frontier Post Dated: 28-10-24 Daily Jehan Pakistan	
06	<b>436979/P-43 (Extension)</b>	Proc of Timing Module / High Dynamic Satellite Receiver	20-11-24	<b>28-11-24</b>	& Daily Express Tribune Dated: 18-11-24 Daily Dunya &	
07	<b>467270/P-46 (Extension)</b>	Turbonyc` Oil 210A	14-11-24	<b>05-12-24</b>	Pakistan Observer Dated: 14-10-24	

1. Instructions / Guidelines for participating in Tenders as per the prescribed SBD and complete specifications can be downloaded from PAF website i.e. [www.paf.gov.pk](http://www.paf.gov.pk) under the heading "Media" "PAF Ads" "General Instructions DP (Air) Suppliers" (for guidelines to participate in tenders) and 'Latest Advertisement' (for tender Invitation documents)

2. If Required ITs not found on PAF Website, concerned ADsP may be approached via request letter through e-mail address to ([pa05@paf.gov.pk](mailto:pa05@paf.gov.pk)).

3. Firms, un-registered/un-indexed with DGDP interested to participate in the competition on Earnest Money are required to provide financial capability (minimum 6 months Bank Statements) proof of go down and manufacturer / stockist, 02 photocopies of NIC of the owner in case of FOR tenders and agency agreement with OEM along with the request. Request for issuance of IT will be entertained 07 days before opening date of tender.

4. A treasury Challan of Rs 2,000/- debitible to Main Head XLVII Main Head XII Sub Head A is required to be submitted by the un-registered/un-indexed firms along with the request.

5. Tender Notice is also available on PPRA website i.e. [www.ppra.org.pk](http://www.ppra.org.pk).

PAF BASE ISLAMABAD (LOG)		051-9505556		NO 101 ALC, PAF BASE FAISAL (LSP)		021-99547087	
Processing and Analysis System, 2U Rack Workstation, Rack Switch 8 Port (As Req), Note:- Separate Quotation (Technical and Financial) for each line item is required), For details / specifications / scope of work please contact Log Sqm on Ph No: 0323-9408714, 051-9505556, Email: <a href="mailto:Lsaq05@Paf.gov.Pk">Lsaq05@Paf.gov.Pk</a>				Dispatch of PAF Stores to Foreign Countries from No 101 ALC, PAF Karachi to Beijing (All countries), Detail of PAF Stores destination, weight and dimensions of package will be informed on "as and when required" basis by No 101, ALC, Faisal, Cell: 0333-9228705			
NO 102 AED PAF BASE FAISAL (LOG)		021-99547235/7242		PAF BASE BHOLARI (LOG)		022-9501500	
Refined Kerosene for NDT (LR As Req), Corena S2 (LR As Req), Note:- For further Information or any technical assistance, please contact on Phone No 021-99547242, Mobile No 0307- 3267493, (For specifications consultant, Ext 7242, 7286, 7235)				Side View Lens (AT50S/50S), Forward View Lens (AT50D/50D) (As Req), Add: (Officer In charge, Logistics Squadron, PAF Base Bholari Hyderabad (Send Via Leopard Courier Service or Pakistan Post Only Preferably 'Single Stage Two Envelope' procedure vide PPRA Rule 36(b)) For details / specifications please contact on Tel 022-9501500 Ext 2287 and Cell No 03239431714. (All parts Nos as required or equivalent) (As Req)			
PAF BASE RAFIQUI (LOG)		041-9502277					
Oil Eng (API:CD, SAE 20W-40) (LR As Req), Cock Pit Cover, Body Camera with Accessories (EA As Req)							

<http://www.paf.gov.pk>



# Kundi pledges ending violence against women

PESHAWAR (APP): Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Faisal Karim Kundi has vowed his commitment to ending violence against women, calling it a matter of not only human rights but of national progress.

He said this in a special message on the International Day for the 'elimination of violence against women' here on Sunday.

He emphasized that societies and nations move forward when women are empowered and allowed to thrive in all areas of life.

Governor Kundi said that the elimination of violence against women is not merely an aspiration but a fundamental necessity for the development of any society.

He acknowledged that true progress is achieved when women are treated as equal participants in economic, political, and social spheres.

In his message, the Governor highlighted the

the silence around violence must be broken and that the systemic norms which perpetuate such abuse need to be challenged.

He stressed that this day serves as a powerful reminder that it is the collective duty of every individual, community, and institution to protect women from violence and discrimination.

Governor Kundi also called for the empowerment of women survivors, ensuring they have access

to justice, resources, and the support necessary to rebuild their lives.

He emphasized that nations thrive when women are given the opportunity to contribute fully to their families, communities, and nations.

The Governor concluded by urging all to take immediate and meaningful action to end violence against women and build a future where every woman can live with safety, dignity, and respect.

## Sarhad Business Alliance meeting held: Ghulam Ali, Syed Zahir Ali Shah inaugurate new office



F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: An important meeting of the Sarhad Business Alliance was held under the chairmanship of Haji Ghulam Ali and patronage of Syed Zahir Ali Shah.

The meeting focused on addressing the challenges faced by the business community in the province and devising solutions to resolve them. A significant decision was made to digitize the membership registration process in the province's chambers to simplify the process and eliminate delays. The aim of this initiative is to make the registration process easier and more transparent for traders. A comprehensive strategy for implementation was developed, emphasizing the activation of relevant committees.

The meeting was attended by prominent members, including Muhammad Ishaq, Ghulam Bilal Javid, Syed Sirajuddin, Adnan Jaleel, Dr. Moheb Afridi, Haji Waheed, Shehzad Siddiqui, Shakeel Saraf, Malik Inamur Rahman, and others.

Speaking at the occasion, Muhammad Ishaq appreciated the Sarhad Business Alliance for its commendable efforts in addressing the issues of the business community. He emphasized that the digitization process will provide traders with modern facilities and further strengthen the business environment.

During the meeting, the current economic situation and the challenges faced by the business community were thoroughly discussed. Participants stressed the need for the government to take effective measures to immediately remove the obstacles faced by the business sector.

A cake-cutting ceremony was also held to inaugurate the new office of the Sarhad Business Alliance, symbolizing unity and solidarity within the organization.

Participants deliberated on the reorganization of the Sarhad

Business Alliance, the inclusion of new members, and the development of strategies to resolve traders' issues. They reaffirmed their commitment to designing new initiatives for the welfare of the business community and taking practical steps for their implementation.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Haji Ghulam Ali and Syed Zahir Ali Shah thanked all attendees and reiterated their commitment to safeguarding the interests of the business community and resolving their problems. The participants unanimously agreed that unity and solidarity are key to overcoming challenges and that protecting traders' rights remains a top priority.

The meeting also called upon the federal and provincial governments to provide relief to the business community in electricity and gas tariffs. Furthermore, a demand was made for the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) to immediately reverse the recent increase in property taxes.

## Nov 24 protest call ‘end of PTI’s political saga’: Muqam

PESHAWAR (APP): Federal Minister and President Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Engineer Ameer Muqam, referring to the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) November 24 'final protest call' at D-Chowk Islamabad, predicted that it would mark the 'end of PTI's political saga,' describing the agitation as purposeless and damaging.

Muqam speaking at a press conference, strongly criticised PTI on Sunday, accusing the party of engaging in politics of chaos to destabilise the country's economy and disrupt public life.

He claimed that PTI's protests have led to significant economic losses, shutting down businesses and leaving millions struggling. "They [PTI leadership] aim



to paralyse the entire country, causing billions in losses to the national exchequer," he remarked, questioning PTI's commitment to patriotism.

He dismissed claims of mass mobilisation, challenging PTI's assertion of leading nine lakh people from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) to Islamabad.

"KP is grappling with worsening law and order, yet the provincial chief minister

provincial government for neglecting the affected communities.

He accused PTI of being divided internally, stating, "This disorganised group thrives on spreading chaos because they can not accept Pakistan's progress."

The PML-N leader also rebuked PTI's protest timing, coinciding with key national and international events, including the recent SCO summit and the upcoming visit of Belarus' president.

Muqam alleged that such actions reflect PTI's unwillingness to see the country succeed on the global stage.

In a pointed remark, he dismissed the notion that PTI's protests would lead to the release of their detained leader. "Court cases must be faced, not evaded by inciting unrest or storming the federal capital," he asserted.

## Siri Paye: A winter delight for food lovers on weekend

PESHAWAR (APP): As the temperature in Peshawar drops, the city's rich culinary tradition heats up, drawing food enthusiasts from far and wide of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The winter season in Peshawar has become synonymous with the mouth-watering delicacy of siri paye, a dish famous for its deep, rich flavors and high nutritional value, making it a perfect choice for the colder months for food lovers.

Peshawar, renowned for its hospitality and warmth, inviting atmosphere, is particularly known for siri paye—a dish prepared from the pure meat of sacrificial animals, especially cows, oxen, and buffaloes.

The dish is a mix of slow-cooked meat and bones, simmered for hours to release the rich flavors and nutritious elements that have become a winter staple in the city.

As winter sets in, the demand for siri paye increases dramatically, especially in popular areas like Qissa Khwani Bazaar, Hashnagri, Namak Mandi in city and Fawara Chowk in the cantonment area.

These spots are bustling with locals and visitors alike, eager to savor the delicacy.

One such visitor, Waris Khan Khattak, a public sector employee from Karak, spoke to APP about his trip to Peshawar for the express purpose of enjoying the dish.

"My family's visit to Peshawar is never complete without tasting the delectable cuisine here," said Khattak, adding that the siri paye in Namak Mandi is particularly famous across the province.



Dr Riaz Khan, Principal Medical Officer at Govt Hospital Pabbi Nowshera said the dish is not only delicious but also highly nutritious, particularly beneficial for people with low protein levels, weak bones, or anemia. He said the dish provides a healthy boost to energy, making it a popular choice during the cold months.

One of the prominent sellers of siri paye in the city is Umar Ali, who runs a family-owned restaurant called "Nika Haji Nazeer Ahmed Paye," commonly known as Nika Siri Paye.

Umar inherited the business from his father 32 years ago, who himself carried on the legacy of his father, Naik Mohammad, known as Nika, who is believed to have introduced siri paye to the city before partition.

"Despite rising meat prices, the demand for siri paye remains high during the winter, and it has always been a profitable business," Umar shared.

The dish is made by slow-cooking the meat and bones in a clay pot over

low heat for up to 20 hours, which helps retain the rich flavors.

It is then served in traditional clay bowls, with larger bowls costing around Rs. 700 and smaller portions available for Rs. 300 to Rs. 350.

According to Umar, while business was once brisk with daily sales of two to three maunds of siri paye, inflation has had an impact, and now he only manages to sell one maund a day. Despite this, the dish remains a strong attraction for both local residents and visitors from other districts and even overseas Pakistanis, who often place orders for frozen siri paye to take home when traveling abroad.

The popularity of siri paye is not limited to Peshawar's residents. International food bloggers, like Thai vlogger Mark Wiens, who visited in 2018, have praised the dish, calling it one of the best things they've tasted in Pakistan. Alongside siri paye, the colder months also bring an increased demand for other winter

delights in Peshawar. The streets are filled with food stalls offering Chapli Kebabs, rice pilaf, Peshawari green tea, and fried fish—each dish contributing to the city's vibrant food culture.

Temporary stalls selling these hot favorites have sprung up across the city, catering to the growing demand for these warming dishes.

The eateries at Fawara Chowk and Namak Mandi are especially crowded, with food lovers gathering late into the evening, enjoying qehwa (traditional tea) and exchanging stories in the winter chill.

In a city where food and tradition are closely intertwined, the winter months bring both a rich culinary experience and a thriving business for local food vendors. Despite the challenges posed by inflation, siri paye remains a symbol of Peshawar's enduring food legacy—its irresistible flavors drawing people from all walks of life to experience the essence of the city's hospitality, one bowl at a time.

## Reclaiming our gignity: The urgent need for character building

Muhammad Mohsin Iqbal

THE recent news that pilgrims going for Umrah and Hajj are now required to submit affidavits declaring they will not engage in begging upon their arrival in Saudi Arabia is both alarming and deeply humbling. This development reflects not only the actions of a minority but the larger perception of us as a nation on the world stage. It raises critical questions; How did we arrive at this point? What does this say about our collective character, and what are the broader implications for a nation that proudly claims to be a nuclear power?

The issue of begging, particularly by those who do so professionally and not out of genuine need, is not new. For decades, organized begging networks have operated openly, exploiting human sympathy and tarnishing the image of societies they represent. When these networks cross international borders, they bring shame not only to themselves but also to their nations. Unfortunately, Pakistan, despite its rich history and resilience, has become associated with such behavior. This has led to restrictions not only in Saudi Arabia but also discussions in other Gulf states and the Middle East regarding curbing the entry of individuals perceived to be beggars.

In the Quran and Sunnah, begging is addressed with clarity and wisdom. Islam encourages the dignity of labor and self-reliance while providing mechanisms like zakat, sadaqaq, and waqf to support those genuinely in need. The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) emphasized the importance of earning one's livelihood, declaring that it is better for a person to gather firewood and sell it than to beg without need. He also warned against making begging a habitual practice, stating that those who do so without necessity would face disgrace in the Hereafter. Thus, the Islamic ethos is clear; while the community has a duty to support the truly needy, professional begging is neither honorable nor acceptable.

The current situation serves as a mirror to our collective shortcomings. Despite being a nuclear power with immense potential, we are plagued by issues of poverty, lack of education, and a weak moral compass that allows such practices to thrive. A nation with one of the world's largest youth populations, abundant natural resources, and a strategic geopolitical position should not be known for its begging syndicates. Yet, this is the reality we face. It is not just about economic poverty but a deeper, more troubling poverty of character.

Character building as a nation is now a matter of survival, not choice. The solution begins at home, with families instilling values of hard work, self-respect, and empathy in children. Schools and religious institutions must play their part in emphasizing moral education alongside academics. Our leaders, too, must lead by example, demonstrating integrity and accountability in governance. A culture of self-reliance and pride in lawful earning must replace the culture of shortcuts and dependency that currently prevails.

Furthermore, structural reforms are essential to address the root causes of professional begging. Poverty alleviation programs must be strengthened, and public welfare systems expanded to ensure that those genuinely in need are supported without resorting to begging. At the same time, strict laws must be enacted and enforced against organized begging networks. This will require political will, societal support, and collaboration between government and non-governmental organizations.

On the international front, the need to rebuild our image is urgent. As a nation, we must strive to project our strengths; our talent, resilience, and contributions to global peace and progress. Pakistan's status as a nuclear power must translate into leadership in science, technology, and humanitarian efforts. This requires investment in education, innovation, and diplomacy to demonstrate that we are a nation of potential and dignity.

The affidavit requirement for pilgrims is a wake-up call. It is a moment of collective reflection on who we are and what we stand for. Let it not be a source of shame alone, but a catalyst for change. As individuals and as a nation, we must align our actions with the values of honesty, self-respect, and compassion that our faith and culture uphold. Only then can we begin to shed the stigma of professional begging and reclaim our rightful place in the world.

Our faith teaches us that Allah helps those who help themselves. The time has come to rise above our circumstances, address our internal weaknesses, and work tirelessly to build a Pakistan that commands respect rather than pity. This journey begins with character building at every level, for without character, even the mightiest powers crumble. Let us heed this lesson and embark on the path of reform, for the sake of our dignity and our future.

## Clean drinking water: A persistent challenge for KP govt

PESHAWAR, Nov 24 (APP): At a time when the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) government was busy in sheer politicking, millions of its residents were clamoring for clean drinking water—a challenge haunting the PTI's provincial government.

Thousands among them were already suffering from water borne diseases and millions others either lacking this facility or have to travel miles for fetching few liters of portable water.

Poor Malyar Khan, a 28-year-old resident of Mohib Banda village in Pabbi tehsil is one among them who are used to bring two gallon of clean drinking water daily from a 10 kilometer away tehsil municipal filtration plant as groundwater in his hometown had become unhealthy for dinking.

"It is tiresome for me to travel that much, after a daylong labor work, to bring water," Malyar said. "Groundwater of my village got contaminated after 2022 flood, leaving me with no other option than to fetch water daily from TMA filtration plant."

"There are thousands others in different localities bearing this pang like me," he said and demanded from the provincial government and elected representatives to resolve this problem urgently.

Like Malyar, majority of residents of Mohib Banda, Amankot, Dheri Mian Ishaq, Bela, Bara Banda, Korvi and adjoining villages were also seen bringing drinking water on bikes, rickshaws, bicycles and vehicles from tehsil Pabbi, Nowshera and Peshawar.

Taxi driver Nasir Khan, a resident of Hayatabad Peshawar also undergoes the same hassle as sometimes he has to purchase water from companies to meet daily needs. "Water table in Hayatabad had gone down over the years due to its imprudent use by domestic and commercial consumers."

He complained that despite Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's third term in power consecutively, the provincial government could not improve the situation. "Rather it was worsening with every passing day especially for in Hayatabad and Khyber."

As thousands of people have to compromise their health by using contaminated water, Dr Tahir Ali Khan, Principal Sardar Begum Dental College, Peshawar says that drinking

contaminated water exposes residents to diseases like intestinal infection, diarrhea, cholera, typhoid, hepatitis and even cancer.

"Around 40 per cent of annual deaths in KP including erstwhile FATA are caused by unhealthy water," he claimed. "Besides other ailment, many patients in Mardan and Khyber also suffer from teeth diseases due to presence of toxin fluorine in water, not knowing about dangerous effects of fluoride contamination."

Besides contamination, another expert Dr Jahangir Shah, Director General, Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (PCSIIR) has also warned of rapidly depleting water resource in many KPK districts.

He mentioned to bacteria contamination in water in

different areas including merged tribal districts and said, leakage from lines due to rusted water pipes especially in interior Peshawar was a major reason of contamination.

"Water distribution system in Peshawar is worn and clean water supplied from tube-wells mixes with sewage due to ruptured pipes in Gunj, Kohati, Kakshal and some other areas of interior Peshawar," he claimed.

He said most of people do not clean storage tanks on time exposing them selves to serious health hazards as he also feared water scarcity due to rapid depletion of water resource. "We need to promote water conservation practices, to avoid impending water shortage, tentatively during next 10 to 12 years."

Although the situation

prevails over decades, the provincial government is yet to adopt a holistic approach to address this issue at grassroots.

Hassan Khan, an official of Water and Sanitation Services Program (WSSP) Peshawar said, his organization and Initiative for Empowerment Axis (IDEA) have recently signed an agreement to provide clean drinking water to Peshawarties.

He said the Federal Government and International Cooperation Agency have upgraded over 45 water testing laboratories in Pakistan including KPK under a US\$ 4.5 million project installing latest equipment at laboratories for swift water quality testing. "These mobile laboratories travel to remote areas of KP for water testing as this project

would benefit over 60 million people across Pakistan."

As challenges of water scarcity and clean drinking water coincide, Provincial Minister for Public Health Engineering, Pakhtoon Yar mentioned to construction of Jabba dam as part of Peshawar Greater Water Supply Scheme to provide clean drinking water to residents of Peshawar, Hayatabad and Khyber districts.

He said feasibility study of Jabba dam, having 38,000 gallons water storage capacity, has been completed and its construction would help provide clean water to over one million people.

Bara dam, another project in pipeline, he said, would also provide sufficient potable water to Bara Bazaar and eight million

cusecs to Hayatabad.

"Bara dam is very important for Peshawar with its estimated life span of 80 to 100 years and its storage capacity of 88,000 acre feet water," Pakhtoon Yar said.

Likewise, he said, under Swat Greater Water Supply Scheme, water from River Swat would be treated and supplied to residents of Mingora City.

"Streams and springs' water would also be channeled to a treatment plant near Choonia in Abbottabad."

Amidst all these efforts, the experts hoped that the provincial government would accelerate efforts to address clean drinking water issue to ensure a healthy society and saving billions of rupees being spent each year to treat water borne diseases.





## In brief

### Protest in Quetta

QUETTA (PPI): The Balochistan Shia Conference staged a protest rally on Sunday to express solidarity with the victims of Parachinar and demand action against the deteriorating law and order situation in the region. The rally, which began at Imam Bargah Turi, included men, women, and children. Participants marched through various roads in Quetta before gathering at Alamar Road for the demonstration. Speakers, including Allama Hashim Musavi of Jamat Ehle Bait and Jawad Rafaye, a former president of the Balochistan Shia Conference, urged authorities to address security concerns and prevent further tragedies. The protest underscored the community's call for urgent measures to protect lives and maintain peace.

### Man killed, wife injured

LARKANA (PPI): A tragic motorcycle accident occurred near Larkana on Mirokhan Road due to thick fog, resulting in the death of 50-year-old Naemullah Brohi and injuring of his wife and four-year-old daughter, Firdous. According to a report, the incident took place when Naemullah, along with his wife and daughter, was on his way to Ali Bakhsh Panhwar's village. The intense fog caused their motorcycle to lose control and crash into a pole. Following the accident, locals immediately moved the victims to the trauma center in Larkana. After necessary formalities, Naemullah's body was handed over to his family. His brother, Najibullah Brohi, explained that Naemullah ran a grocery shop and was on his way to the village with his family when the tragic accident occurred due to the fog.

### Four suspects arrested

SARGODHA (INP): City police claimed on Sunday to have arrested four criminals and recovered stolen goods from their possession. In a crackdown, the police conducted raids and arrested four suspects identified as Arsalan, Bilal, Dawood and Babar and recovered 15 motorcycles, three rickshaws, gas cylinders, gas meters and Rs 1.634 million in cash from them. The accused were wanted by police in 20 cases of theft and motorcycle lifting.

### Three gangsters held

LAYYAH (INP): Police claimed on Sunday to have arrested three rustlers of a gang and recovered cattle worth Rs 1.8 million from their possession. In a crackdown, Pir Jagi police headed by SHO Hassan Sultan raided and arrested Imran Shahzad, Jafar Hussain and Mazhar Hussain and recovered five cattle and cash from them. The police also impounded a mini truck which was used for theft. DPO Muhammad Ali Waseem has announced cash prizes for the raiding police team.

### Hashish recovered

KHUZDAR (PPI): Khuzdar levies claimed to have recovered large quantity of hashish worth millions of rupees from the hidden cavities of a vehicle in an operation conducted at Gasleti check post in Wadh area of district Khuzdar in Balochistan province on Sunday. Following the directions of Deputy Commissioner, Khuzdar, Yasir Iqbal Dashti, levies force, Wadh under the supervision of Incharge, levies check post Ghasleti, Abdul Qadir Bajoe intercepted a vehicle No. BD-6823 at levies check post Ghasleti in Wadh.

# Talented students to be facilitated by welfare body

Haileem Asad

LOWER DIR: The Dir Officers' Welfare Association (DOWA), a Peshawar based informal body representing Dir officers, on Sunday held its general body meeting for the first time in the convocation hall, University of Malakand. Prominent ENT specialist and DOWA pattern-in-chief Dr Muhibullah presided over the event, which was attended by officers from Peshawar, professors, doctors, journalists and civil admin officers from Dir attended the meeting. Prominent Pushto poets, scholar and writer Abasyn Yousafzai presided over a poetry session. Local poets Rizwanullah Shamal, Fazal Hakim Andaleeb, Habib

Abid, Sajid Afghan, Ibrar Ahmad Ibrar and other presented their fresh poetry which enthralled the audience. A documentary about the DOWA achievements was also presented on multi media.

DOWA president Dr Syed Muhammad Ilyas, general secretary Karam Ilahi, Dr Muhibullah, UoM Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Rashid Ahmad and Abasyn Yousafzai spoke on the occasion.

Shields, certificates and cash prizes were distributed among position holder students of SSC and HSSC Annual examinations held by the BISE Malakand this year. Two female students of the Jamia Muhsinat Sangolai Maidan, Ms Kulsoom and Ms Nofa Bibi who got second and third

position in Rabitat ul Madaris board throughout Pakistan, were also awarded with shields and certificates.

The organizers also awarded shields to the DOWA life time donors and the participating poets.

The speakers said that talented students from Dir would be financially supported in getting them standard education. The said the DOWA members fully supported needy and deserving Dir citizens in the provincial capital.

They said the DOWA would continue its efforts to work for uplift of Dir residents and financial support of deserving students. They said that dozens of their colleagues did not reach the venue due to roads blockade.

## Over 1,000 passengers stranded amid protest

QUETTA (INP): Quetta Railway Station turned chaotic as over 1,000 passengers were stranded due to a protest by railway employees.

According to reports, demonstrators blocked tracks, delaying key trains, including the Chaman Passenger, Jafar Express,

and Bolan Mail, for up to four hours.

The protest was sparked by the alleged demolition of employee housing boundaries on Zarghoon Road during a road expansion project.

Passengers, already frustrated by limited transport options, expressed their

struggles, with one traveller lamenting, "Even trains aren't reliable now."

Railway unions accused project officials of unlawful actions and called for judicial intervention. After negotiations, the protest was paused for two days, allowing train services to resume.

## Governor directs to ensure voltage power supply

QUETTA (APP): Governor Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandokhail on Sunday directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Quetta Electric Supply Company (QESCO) to ensure full voltage power supply to all electricity consumers of Zhob division.

He said that immediately stop the unannounced load shedding as even good bill paying consumers are fed up with load shedding.

He asked the WAPDA officials to improve their office procedures and behave appropriately with all consumers.

He was talking to the Chief Executive Officer QESCO.

On this occasion, the QESCO chief assured the Governor that as per his instructions, besides increasing the generation capacity of Zhob Grid Station, another big trans-

fer/trolley would also be installed soon.

The Governor Balochistan said that in order to maintain high standards of customer service, complaints of electricity consumers should be dealt effectively.

Special care should be taken to ensure power supply during working hours in government offices including health and education institutions, he said.



HYDERABAD: Transgender rights activists holding placards inscribe with slogans for the protection of their fundamental rights.

## Bugti meets tribal leader at Pakistan House Sui

QUETTA (PPI): Balochistan Chief Minister, Mir Sarfraz Bugti on Sunday said that all available resources would be utilised for addressing the problems being faced by the people of Balochistan.

These views were expressed by him while talking to tribal elders of

Sui who called on him at Pakistan House Sui during his visit to Sui to offer condolences to the bereaved family of members of Commander Amun Force, Sadruddin and Allah Rakia.

Bugti said that development of Balochistan and prosperity of the people of Balochistan had

been prioritised by the incumbent provincial government.

Later, Bugti arrived at the residences of Commander Sadruddin and Allah Rakia for offering condolences. He said that Commander Sadruddin and Allah Rakia had laid down their lives for restoring peace

in Sui area of Dera Bugti, adding that sacrifices rendered by Commander Sadruddin and Allah Rakia would be remembered forever. He said that heirs of Commander Sadruddin and Allah Rakia would not be left alone. He said that all steps would be taken for the welfare of the heirs.



SIALKOT: Defense Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif is listening the problems of people at his residence.

## 20 power pilferers nabbed red handedly in DI Khan

DERA ISMAIL KHAN (APP): The Peshawar Electric Supply Company (PESCO) team nabbed 20 power pilferers red handedly during combing operations conducted against power theft in different areas.

A PESCO team led by its SDO Cantt Sana Ullah Khan along with

Superintendent Sardar Kashif, under the supervision of PESCO Dera Circle Superintending Engineer (SE) Engr. Fida Muhammad Mehsum conducted operations against power theft in different areas.

During the operation, 20 electricity thieves were nabbed red-handedly while

the PESCO authorities also written to police stations concerned for registration of cases against all the pilferers.

Furthermore, SDO Cantt Sana Ullah Khan also recovered Rs 10 million pending dues from the consumers during last three days. Talking to media, SE

Engr. Fida Muhammad Mehsum said the crackdown against power theft would be continued indiscriminately. The electricity thieves, he said, do not deserve any concession.

He urged the consumers to ensure timely payment of their monthly bills to get a smooth power supply.

## 4200 applications received in DG Khan for livestock cards

DG KHAN (INP): The Punjab government has launched a scheme to provide livestock cards to farmers under which interest-free loan and other privileges would be available to them and for this purpose Rs 11 billion have been allocated.

According to official

sources, 4297 applications for livestock cards have been received from DG Khan division. In this regard, a meeting was held with Commissioner Dera Ghazi Khan division Dr Nasir Mahmood Bashir in the chair. Deputy Commissioners and officers concerned attended

the meeting.

The Commissioner said that DG Khan division, especially Koh-e-Suleman range, had a unique identity regarding the quality of livestock, hence, it was necessary to make the scheme successful for the development of livestock and the prosperity of cattle breeders.

As improving waste management is not a responsibility of the government alone, the state departments must encourage the active participation of individuals, civil society and the business community.

Moreover, by adopting innovative strategies, encouraging responsible practices, investing in advanced technologies and fostering a culture of environmental consciousness can help in improving waste management, reduce pollution and transfer a healthier atmosphere to future generations.

Apart from this, 11000 cows, buffaloes would be given free of cost to widows or divorced women up to 55 years of age in rural areas in South Punjab, for which 23879 applications had been received from across the division.

## Improving waste management for healthy environment

FAISALABAD ( APP): Waste management is a critical issue in the fight against pollution as improper handling of waste contributes to environmental degradation and health hazards incurring loss of billions of rupees every year.

As proper waste collection and disposal is a common issue in urban centres of the developing world, the situation is also not different in mega cities of Pakistan where thousands of tons of solid waste remain uncollected.

Faisalabad, a district of over nine million population daily generate around 4000 tons of solid waste with four million Faisalabad city area dwellers alone producing 1600 tons of waste daily — remaining uncollected or dumped openly at landfill sites.

Since proper treatment mechanisms are lacking, the landfill sites release greenhouse gases like methane with plastic waste polluting water courses and harming aquatic life.

Open dumping and burning of waste exacerbate air and soil pollution, endangering human health and biodiversity and disturbing the ecosystem.

Although Faisalabad Waste Management Company (FWMC) tries its best to properly dispose of solid waste, yet it lacks capacity to collect all generated waste and its multiple usages.

"The FWMC strives hard to properly handle waste in city areas but it could collect and dispose of 85% of total waste," said a spokesman of FWMC.

"FWMC collects 1350 tons of waste daily from city areas with its 200 vehicles and around 3000 workforce," he said. "However, the company is recruiting more workers and purchasing vehicles to handle total generated waste."

Waste management has become a burning issue due to massive population growth especially in urban areas while non-scientific disposal of waste material

pollutes the environment, causes smog during winter and affects human health.

A study conducted in 2023 revealed that total waste comprised 6.6% plastic and rubber material, 1% metals, 7.67% paper and cardboard, 6.53% rags/textile waste, 2.43% glass ceramics, 2.4% bones, 33.81% food waste, 2.34% animal waste, 7.36% leaf, grass and straw, 1.07% wood and 28.7% dust, dirt, ash, bricks and stones waste.

Major portion of solid waste in city areas was organic waste mostly consisting of kitchen waste, food and fruit remains, spoiled and fermented food, leaves and garden waste. The second major part of the waste was paper waste including cardboard, packing material, newspapers, magazines, empty cigarette-cases and match boxes whereas construction and demolition waste was about 28.7%.

"We need to segregate waste items at its source, separating hazardous

waste from organic and recyclable waste that would simplify recycling and reduce the burden on landfill sites," suggested Rana Khushi Muhammad, a retired municipality officer. "The government can incentivize participation by providing color-coded waste bins and community education programs," he added. "Efficient recycling infrastructure could ensure reuse of plastic, glass and metal material and help reduce the need for raw material extraction."

Khushi Muhammad said some countries have successfully demonstrated the deposit-return systems and advanced recycling plants. "The local governments can establish similar systems on public-private partnership basis."

He appreciated the Punjab government for taking the right steps for cleanliness even though at village level. However, some measures were still imperative to reduce the impacts of waste material on the overall environ-

ment. Public Relations Officer (PRO) University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF) Ahmad Sheharyar also urged waste recycling and said, organic waste constitutes a significant portion of municipal waste and its composting would reduce landfill dependency and create nutrient-rich fertiliser for agriculture. "The urban areas can adopt decentralized composting hubs whereas the rural communities can benefit from small-scale composting initiatives for organic waste," he said.

As developed nation employ latest technologies to recycle solid waste, it is urgently required to benefit from these technologies and use solid waste to produce human friendly by-products.

Dr Muzammal Hussain Assistant Professor National University (NTUF) has opined that since technology has revolutionized each sphere of life, innovative technologies should be used to produce energy

from the waste material. "The government should introduce waste-to-energy program through public-private partnership by using innovative technologies for energy recovery and anaerobic digestion and convert waste into usable energy," he suggested.

"These systems are particularly effective for non-recyclable waste and would reduce landfill dependency and provide an alternative energy source," he said.

Dr Muzammal emphasized the leading role of the government in the implementation of waste management regulations and incentivising sustainable practices including bans on single-use plastics. "It can also introduce landfill taxes and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes to minimize waste material generation."

He stressed to engage students, the business community and civil society and hold workshops,





**MANILA:** Black smoke billow into the sky during a fire in the Isla Puting Bato residential area on November 24, 2024 in Manila, Philippines.

## China's local govt's step up public safety measures

BEIJING (Reuters): Local authorities in China are stepping up safety management and police patrols following several high-profile mass killings, as the central government calls for enhanced public security, media reports said on Sunday.

In the eastern city of Wuxi, where a 21-year-old student's stabbing spree left eight people dead and 17 injured on Nov. 16, local officials convened on Friday to discuss measures to maintain social stability, state-run local media reported.

Campus safety was a focus point of the meeting, according to the report.

These safety initiatives come nearly two weeks after the deadliest mass attack in China in a decade on Nov. 11, when a man reportedly

upset over his divorce settlement drove into a crowd in the southern city of Zhuhai, killing 35 people.

The head of the Communist Party in central Changsha city, Hunan province, also conducted an inspection of public safety efforts, including traffic management and police deployment on Saturday, another state media outlet said.

Hunan province had a third attack on Nov. 19, in which a driver ploughed into students and pedestrians outside a school in southern China's Changde, further stoking concerns about growing violence in the country, where analysts say economic pressures are having repercussions on mental health.

The reports did not specifically mention these incidents, nor were

## Israel says rabbi who went missing in the UAE was killed

TEL AVIV (AP): Israel said Sunday that the body of an Israeli-Moldovan rabbi who went missing in the United Arab Emirates has been found after he was killed in what it described as a "heinous antisemitic terror incident."

The statement from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said Israel "will act with all means to seek justice with the criminals responsible for his death." Israeli authorities did not say how they determined the killing of Zvi Kogan was a terror attack and offered no additional details.

Kogan, 28, an ultra-Orthodox rabbi who went missing on Thursday, ran a Kosher grocery store in the futuristic city of Dubai, where Israelis have flocked for commerce and tourism since the two countries forged diplomatic ties in the 2020 Abraham Accords.

The agreement has held through more than a year of soaring regional tensions unleashed by Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023 attack into southern Israel. But Israel's devastating retaliatory offensive in Gaza and its invasion of Lebanon, after months of fighting with the Hezbollah militant group, have stoked anger among Emiratis, Arab nationals and others living in the the UAE.

Iran, which supports Hamas and Hezbollah, has also been threatening to retaliate against Israel after a wave of airstrikes Israel carried out in October in response to an Iranian ballistic missile attack.

The Emirati government did not respond to a request for comment. However, senior Emirati diplomat Anwer Gargash wrote on the social platform X in Arabic on Sunday that "the UAE will remain a home of safety, an oasis of stability, a society of tolerance and coexistence and a beacon of development, pride and advancement."

Early Sunday, the UAE's state-run WAM news agency acknowledged Kogan's disappearance but pointedly did not acknowledge he held Israeli citizenship, referring to him only as being Moldovan. The Emirati Interior Ministry described Kogan as being "missing and out of contact."

"Specialized authorities immediately began search and investigation operations upon receiving the report," the Interior Ministry said.

Netanyahu told a regular Cabinet meeting later Sunday that he was "deeply shocked" by Kogan's disappearance and death. He said he

appreciated the cooperation of the UAE in the investigation and that ties between the two countries would continue to be strengthened.

Israel's largely ceremonial president, Isaac Herzog, condemned the killing and thanked Emirati authorities for "their swift action." He said he trusts they "will work tirelessly to bring the perpetrators to justice."

Israel also again warned against all nonessential travel to the Emirates after Kogan's killing.

"There is concern that there is still a threat against Israelis and Jews in the area," a government warning issued Sunday said.

Kogan was an emissary of the Chabad Lubavitch movement, a prominent and highly observant branch of ultra-Orthodox Judaism based in Brooklyn's Crown Heights neighborhood in New York City. It said he was last seen in Dubai. The UAE has a burgeoning Jewish community, with synagogues and businesses catering to kosher diners.

The Rimom Market, a Kosher grocery store that Kogan managed on Dubai's busy Al Wasl Road, was shut Sunday. As the wars have roiled the region, the store has been the target of online

## Wounded Bangladesh protesters receive robotic helping hand

DHAKA (AFP): Squeezing rubber-covered robotic prosthetic hands, Bangladesh protesters wounded during the deadly revolution to topple autocratic leader Sheikh Hasina test out replacement arms for their lost limbs.

"I'll be able to do some everyday tasks with this artificial hand," said student Hafeez Mohammad Hossain, 19, whose right hand was ripped off in gunfire on August 5.

It was the same day protesters stormed Hasina's palace as she fled to India by helicopter. In the middle of the chaos, Hossain said a police officer levelled a shotgun at him and fired. He described searing pain as gun pellets lacerated his back and leg.

Surgeons picked out the gunshot, but were unable to save his hand. "I can't write anymore," Hossain said. "I'm struggling to learn how to write with my left hand." On Thursday he was fitted with a prosthetic limb, alongside four other students who also lost their hands during the months-long protests in which at least 700 people were killed during a police crackdown.

Robolife Technologies, a Bangladesh organization manufacturing artificial hands, said the prosthetic limbs use sensors connected to the nerves to move.

The company says it allows users to grasp objects, to type and use a phone. "If you ask me whether they work like organic hands, I'd say no," said Antu Karim, who is working on the government-backed project to fit the limbs.

"But these hands allow the boys to hold a glass if thirsty, or a spoon to eat," he added. "At least, they won't be looked down upon for not having hands."

Hasina's 15-year tenure saw widespread human rights abuses, including the mass detention and extrajudicial killings of her political opponents. Limbless protesters held a rally earlier this month demanding the interim government who took over after Hasina's fall support those injured in the protests.

Many say they have not received the aid they need.

The four other former protesters who had arms fitted on Thursday

included Mohammad Mamun Mia, 32, a father of two, whose hand was hacked off by a gang he said was loyal to Hasina's Awami League party. The new arm is far from perfect, but it has made a huge difference.

"I'll be able to do some regular tasks with this hand," he said, saying that while he cannot work driving a tractor in the fields again, he hopes now to open a small business.

Arif Hossain Sagar, 19, had his hand amputated after it failed to heal from an injury he sustained during the protests, and doctors worried about gangrene. "I can't do any regular activities now," Sagar said. "I rely on others for eating or bathing."

The new hand will return a degree of normality to his life, he said. Nayeem Hasan, wounded when attackers pounced on him as he went to donate blood to help those injured after a fire, broke into tears.

The new arm would help him fulfil his simple dream. "I have a one-year-old daughter who wants me to hold her," Hasan said.

## Fire rips through slum area in Philippine capital

MANILA (AFP): Raging orange flames and thick black smoke billowed into the sky Sunday as fire ripped through hundreds of houses in a closely built slum area of the Philippine capital Manila.

Manila Fire District said around 1,000 houses were burned in the blaze that is thought to have started on the second floor of one of the homes.

There were no immediate reports of casualties.

Drone footage shared online by the city's disaster agency showed houses in Isla Puting Bato village of Manila razed to the ground.

The structures housed around 2,000 families, according to the fire department.

Village resident Leonila Abiertas, 65, lost almost all her possessions, but managed to save her late husband's ashes.

"I only got the urn with the ashes of my husband," a crying Abiertas said.

"I really don't know how I can start my life again after this fire."

Fire and disaster services deployed 36 trucks and four fire boats while the country's airforce sent in two helicopters to help extinguish the fire.

"That area is fire-prone since most of the houses there are made of light materials," firefighter Geanelli Nunez said.

## Biden praises COP29 deal, vows US action

WASHINGTON (AFP): US President Joe Biden praised the COP29 deal Saturday as a "significant step" to fighting global warming, and pledged continued action by America despite his incoming successor Donald Trump's climate skepticism.

"While there is still substantial work ahead of us to achieve our climate goals, today's outcome puts us one significant step closer," Biden said in a statement.

After two exhausting weeks of negotiations in Azerbaijan, the pact hammered out commits developed nations to pay at least \$300 billion a year by 2035 to help developing countries green their economies and prepare for worse disasters.

Biden hailed the goal as "ambitious," though poorer nations quickly decied it as inadequate.

The Baku meeting kicked off shortly after Trump won a new term in the White House, potentially setting the stage for him to undo actions by Biden's administration.

Biden, who leaves office on January 20, said he was "confident" the United States "will continue this work: through our states and cities, our businesses, and our citizens, supported by durable legislation like the Inflation Reduction Act."

"While some may seek to deny or delay the clean energy revolution that's underway in America and around the world, nobody can reverse it — nobody."

## Russia says US using Taiwan to stir crisis in Asia

MOSCOW (Reuters): The United States is using Taiwan to provoke a serious crisis in Asia, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Rudenko told TASS news agency in remarks published on Sunday, reiterating Moscow's backing of China's stance on Taiwan.

"We see that Washington, in violation of the 'one China' principle that it recognises, is strengthening military-political contacts with Taipei under the slogan of maintaining the 'status quo', and increasing arms supplies," Rudenko told the state news agency.

"The goal of such obvious U.S. interference in the region's affairs is to provoke the PRC (People's Republic of China) and generate a crisis in Asia to suit its own selfish interests."

The report did not cite any specific contacts that Rudenko was referring to.

China views democratically governed Taiwan as its own territory, a claim that Taiwan's government rejects. The U.S. is Taiwan's most important international backer and arms supplier, despite the lack of formal diplomatic recognition.

The U.S. State Department did not immediately respond to a request for comment on Rudenko's remarks outside office hours.

In September, President Joe Biden approved \$567 million in military support for Taiwan. Russia responded that it was

standing alongside China on Asian issues, including criticism of the U.S. drive to extend its influence and "deliberate attempts" to inflame the situation around Taiwan.

China and Russia declared a "no limits" partnership in February 2022 when President Vladimir Putin visited Beijing shortly before launching a full-scale invasion of Ukraine, triggering the deadliest land war in Europe since World War Two.

In May this year, Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping pledged a "new era" of partnership between the two most powerful rivals of the United States, which they cast as an aggressive Cold War hegemon sowing chaos across the world.

## Australia protest forces ship to abort arrival at coal port, 170 arrested



SYDNEY (Reuters): A climate change protest off the coast of Australia's New South Wales State forced an inbound ship to turn back from the country's largest terminal for coal exports on Sunday, the port operator said.

New South Wales police said 170 protesters were arrested on Sunday for refusing to move from the

shipping channel near the Port of Newcastle.

The port, some 170 km (105 miles) from the state capital Sydney, is the largest bulk shipping port on Australia's east coast.

A Port of Newcastle spokesperson said disruption due to the protest was "minimal" but that an inbound vessel "aborted due to people in the channel

and has been rescheduled to come in". Port operations would continue as normal on Sunday if police were able to keep the shipping channel clear, he said. Police said the harbour remained open despite "some serious disruptions".

The climate activist group Rising Tide, which organised the 50-hour protest that started on Friday, said the vessel forced to turn around was a coal ship. Three people were arrested on Saturday after being removed from the water.

Climate change is a divisive issue in Australia, the world's second-biggest exporter of thermal coal and the largest exporter of coking coal. A similar protest in November last year disrupted operations at the Port of Newcastle, forcing all shipping movements to cease temporarily.

## Russia removes commander in Ukraine for misleading reports, war bloggers say

MOSCOW (Reuters): Russia has removed a senior general in Ukraine for giving misleading reports about the progress of the war as Defence Minister Andrei Belousov tries to clear out poor commanders, pro-Russian war bloggers and Russian media said.

Ahead of winter, Russian forces advanced at the fastest rate in Ukraine since the start of the 2022 invasion, though progress was much slower in some areas - particularly around Sieversk in the eastern region of Donetsk.

Russian media cited unidentified sources as saying that Colonel General Gennady Anashkin, the commander of the Southern Grouping, had been removed from his command, though there was no official confirmation.

Russian war bloggers have long complained about the command of the operation around Sieversk where they said poorly supported Russian units were thrown into deadly battles for little apparent tactical gain.

"Only the lazy did not write about the problems there: overall, it took the system about two months to react properly," Rybar, a respected pro-Russian blogger said on Telegram.

"Anashkin, was removed from office for false reports in the Sieversk direction," Rybar said, using the Russian version of the place name. One war correspondent for Russian state television also said Anashkin had been removed from his com-

mand. The Russian Defence Ministry did not respond to a request for comment. Reuters, which was unable to verify the reports, could not reach Anashkin for comment due to the security situation inside Russia.

If Russia could take control of the Sieversk area, it could then push towards Kramatorsk - a major city in the region. RBC cited an unidentified Defence Ministry source as saying that Anashkin had been moved as part of a "planned rotation" of personnel.

In his reports on the change of command, prominent pro-Russian war blogger Yuri Podolyaka quoted Belousov as saying that "you can make mistakes but you cannot lie".



**PONTYPRIDD, WALES:** A general view of the scene on Sion Street on November 24, 2024 in Pontypridd, Wales. The UK Met Office issued warnings for heavy rain and snow, along with strong winds.



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## Australia shows the way on curbs on social media

AUSTRALIA has introduced a bill which will penalise social media platforms – X, Facebook, Instagram, TikTok – with a fine of 50 million Australian dollars (US\$32.5 million – if they fail to stop children from holding accounts. Communications Minister Michelle Rowland said of the proposed law that it “places the onus on social media platforms, not parents or children, to ensure protections are in place.”

Rowland told parliament, “For too many young Australians, social media can be harmful. Almost two-thirds of 14 to 17-year-old Australians have viewed extremely harmful content online, including drug abuse, suicide or self-harm.”

Spain and France have proposed laws which drew the cut-off age. Spain has raised the bar from 14 to 16, and France has put the bar for those below 15. Florida in the United States keeps the ban for those below 14. It shows that social media addiction for youngsters has assumed epidemic proportions, and there is rising concern all over the world as to how to curb it.

The fear expressed by Katie Maskiell of UNICEF Australia is that a stricter law could force the youngsters to find ways of breaking the bar and they could turn to more dangerous methods. Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese acknowledged that this was a possibility but he felt that the proposed law would be a landmark legislation.

Maskiell felt that more is needed to be done than making stringent laws. There are also doubts whether it is technically feasible to impose the ban barring the youth from accessing the social media platforms. The social media outlets will have a year's time to work out the firewalls needs to stop youngsters getting on to the social media.

Social media has become a big issue, and it is not confined to innocent children accessing it. It has also raised concerns about the reliability of the information that is purveyed on it. In September this year, Rowland had moved a bill that social media platforms allowing misinformation and disinformation which is “reasonably verifiable as false, misleading or deceptive and reasonably likely to cause or contribute to serious harm” will be liable to a fine of up to five percent of the global revenue of the platform.

Elon Musk, owner of X, has termed the Australian government fascist for this, and the Australians have hit back at him. Rowland defended the move saying, “Misinformation and disinformation pose a serious threat to the safety and wellbeing of Australians, as well as to our democracy, society and economy. Doing nothing and allowing this problem to fester is not an option.”

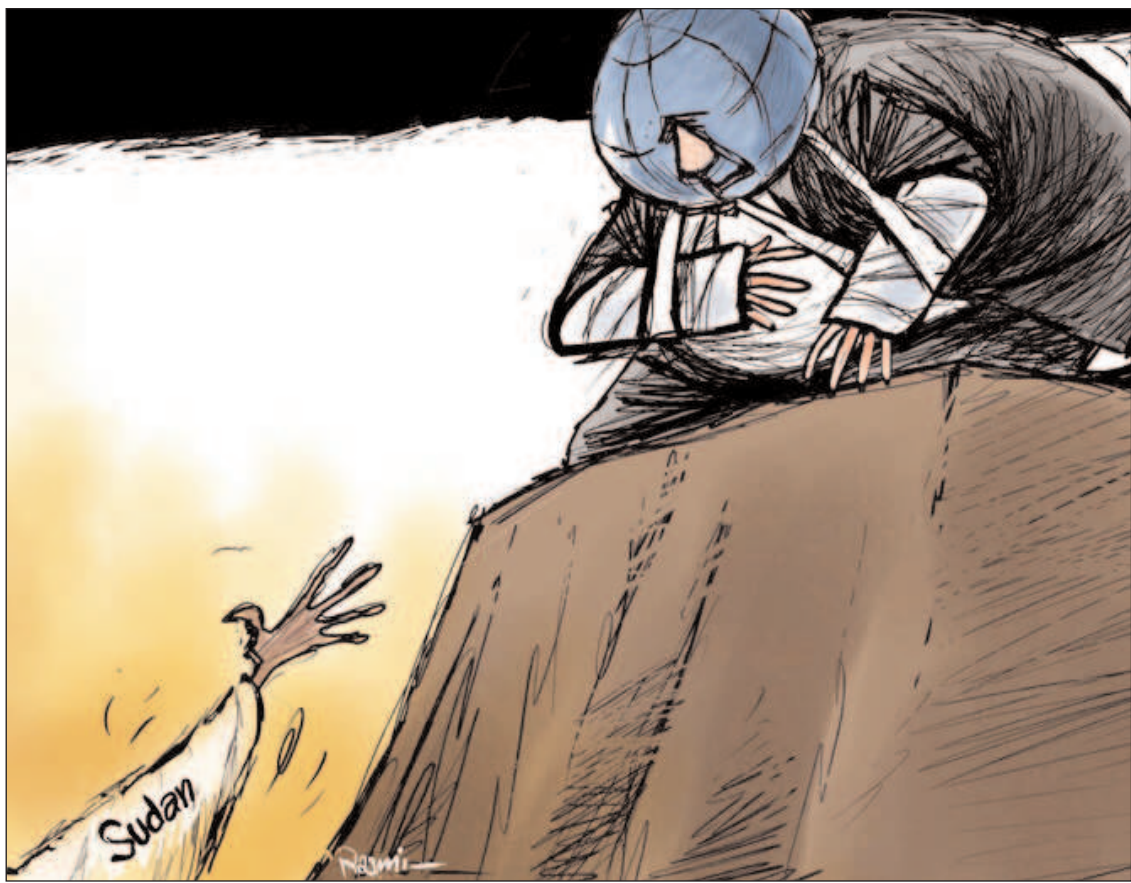
The social media owners like Musk are sure to cry foul but as Rowland has rightly pointed out that what appears on the social media, when it happens to carry wrong information, is a threat to social harmony and even economic stability. Perhaps the social media platforms have to form a committee or an association of their own and adopt a social and more code, so that governments would not have to interfere.

It is an old debate that there is a difference between liberty and licence. It can be argued that the existing libel laws should take care of the excesses of the social media platforms. But as in the case of youth on social media accessing material that could be toxic for their minds, there is need for strict restrictions. It is a responsibility that the owners of the social media platforms should assume themselves.

When ChatGPT came into the market, the Internet companies themselves came forward to warn that AI could cause problems and there is need for regulation. There is need for regulation of social media. The question is whether the social media platforms would find ways to create norms for themselves, or will they have to imposed from outside.

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## Israel and its supporters cannot gaslight the law

Refik Hodzic

It was expected that the issuance of arrest warrants by the International Criminal Court (ICC) against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defence Minister Yoav Gallant for their roles in crimes committed against Palestinian civilians in Gaza would cause a flood of furious responses from Israel and its allies.

The chorus is as colourful as its arguments are flimsy and dehumanising: from French writer Bernard-Henri Levy, who claims the ICC can only prosecute in countries without a “proper judicial system” to Republican Senator Lindsey Graham declaring war on the ICC and any nation that dares to implement its warrants.

However, the more sinister attacks, illustrated by statements of Democratic Congressman Ritchie Torres and Israeli politician Naftali Bennett, which argue that Israel's actions were justifiable as self-defence or reprisals against Hamas's brutal October 7 attack, constitute a dangerous form of gaslighting and need to be debunked.

These arguments fail not only on moral but also on legal grounds, when taking into account international humanitarian law and legal precedents set by special courts like the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). The protections afforded to civilians in armed conflict are absolute and non-derogable, and the ICC is right to enforce them.

The argument that Israel is exercising its “right to self-defence” has been made throughout this war and not just in response to legal rulings. However, self-defence under international law is not a justification for violating fundamental legal principles. The targeting of civilians, indiscriminate attacks and disproportionate use of force are explicitly prohibited under the Geneva Conventions and customary international law.

During the ICTY's prosecution of Milan Martić, leader of Serb rebels in Croatia, for the shelling of Zagreb, the Appeals Chamber unequivocally held that attacks against civilians cannot be justified by self-defence. It stated that “whether an attack was ordered as pre-emptive, defensive or offensive is from a legal point of view irrelevant” if the conduct of the attack violates principles of international law.

In Gaza, evidence indicates that Israeli military operations have resulted in widespread and systematic attacks against civilians. Residential areas, hospitals and schools – protected spaces under international humanitarian law – have been subjected to intense bombardment.

Even in cases where military targets may exist, attacks that fail to distinguish between civilians and combatants or cause disproportionate harm to civilian populations violate Articles 51 and 52 of Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions.

Therefore, Torres's argument that the ICC is “criminalising” self-defence does

not hold.

Bennett, who himself has made statements of intent to commit crimes against Palestinian civilians, asserts that Israel is “fighting back” Hamas's attacks. However, international law unequivocally prohibits reprisals against civilian populations. Article 51(6) of Additional Protocol I states: “Attacks against the civilian population or civilians by way of reprisals are prohibited in all circumstances.” This prohibition applies irrespective of the conduct of the opposing party.

The ICTY precedents further reinforced this, including in the case of

Bennett argue that Hamas's alleged use of human shields absolves Israel of responsibility for civilian casualties. This is a dangerous misrepresentation of international law.

While the use of human shields by Hamas would itself be a violation of international law, it does not diminish Israel's obligation to avoid harm to civilians. Additional Protocol I clarifies that violations by one party do not permit the opposing party to disregard its own legal obligations.

The Appeals Chamber of the ICTY addressed this issue directly, emphasising that the failure of one party

anticipated military advantage. The ICC's charges against Israeli leaders focus precisely on this issue. Reports from Gaza have highlighted the devastating impact of military operations on civilians, with entire neighbourhoods razed, residential buildings purposefully demolished and vital infrastructure destroyed.

Moreover, the principle of distinction, enshrined in Article 48 of Additional Protocol I, mandates that parties to a conflict must at all times distinguish between civilian populations and combatants. Weapons and tactics that cannot discriminate between the two, such as large-scale aerial bombardments of urban areas, are considered inherently unlawful.

The case of Martić illustrates this point: the ICTY found that the use of indiscriminate weapons, such as cluster munitions, in civilian areas constitutes a direct attack on civilians and a grave breach of international law. The parallels with the weaponry and tactics employed in Gaza are evident.

Israel's actions in Gaza have clearly provided the ICC with enough ground to pursue a case against Netanyahu and Gallant.

In this context, Torres's assertion that the court is engaging in an “ideological crusade against the Jewish State” is simply false. The ICC does not single out specific nations; it prosecutes individuals where there is credible evidence of war crimes, crimes against humanity, or genocide.

The ICC's intervention serves a critical purpose: to uphold the universal principles of humanity enshrined in international law. Accountability is essential to deterring future violations and ensuring justice for victims.

To dismiss the ICC's actions as a “kangaroo court”, as Torres did, disregards the court's mandate and the legal precedents it draws upon, including those established by tribunals for the former Yugoslavia, Rwanda and Sierra Leone.

While the October 7 attack by Hamas constitutes a heinous crime that demands accountability, it does not give carte blanche for the commission of war crimes in response. International law is designed to regulate conduct in war precisely to prevent the escalation of violence and protect those most vulnerable – civilians.

All states, and especially those most powerful like the United States, now have a choice – to engage in gaslighting and the defence of indefensible crimes committed by Israel and erode the very foundations of a rules-based international order, or to uphold the legitimate effort by the ICC to ensure accountability for crimes committed against Palestinians in Gaza.

The consequences of this choice will be felt by all of us in the years and decades to come. Whatever happens next, one thing is crystal clear – the law cannot be gaslighted.

## Netanyahu even more dangerous as corruption trial nears

Yossi Mekelberg

When Benjamin Netanyahu eventually leaves politics, hopefully sooner rather than later, his future biographers could spare us from using adjectives such as humble, remorseful, selfless or reflective, in favor of shameless, audacious, self-serving and, above all, harmful to his own country and its neighbors.

Alex Gibney, who produced “The Bibi Files,” a documentary based on leaked footage from Netanyahu's police interviews, remarked: “I've never seen the depth of moral corruption as I've seen in this man.” The documentary cannot be screened in Israel for legal reasons and Netanyahu, in his despair, has made an unsuccessful attempt to block it from being screened internationally.

It is another reason why the Israeli prime minister is so desperate to delay, indefinitely if possible, giving evidence in his corruption

probably any country, while one is a defendant in a corruption case. After all, this is a case that questions his suitability to be in politics at all, let alone to hold the most powerful position in the country.

He might even be right that Hezbollah or Hamas might target him while he is in court, which could also lead to innocent people losing their lives. He obviously does not want this to happen; after all, he used to be known, at least by his own account, as the “defender of Israel.” However, the conclusion must not be to halt the legal proceedings, which promise to be a highly embarrassing affair for him. They will lay bare, in the full glare of publicity, his relationships with several very wealthy men with clear business interests in Israel, whom he could have potentially “helped” and who, allegedly in return, showered him and his wife with expensive presents and

***It is of paramount importance that Israel is not left in the hands of a prime minister with split attention while the country is embroiled in a war on as many as seven fronts. Instead, he should do the decent thing and at least suspend himself from office for the duration of the trial. And if he will not, there is a provision in Israel's Basic Law, which has a near-constitutional standing, of incapacitation: “Should the prime minister be temporarily unable to perform his duties, his position shall be filled by the acting prime minister.”***

trial, thus saving himself the embarrassment and humiliation of being questioned by the prosecution on the very issues in this police investigation that he wanted to never see the light of day.

The first revelations of Netanyahu's allegedly corrupt behavior emerged as far back as late 2016. Eight years later, and four and a half years into this trial, a verdict is not even close. In such a high-profile legal affair – in which the serving prime minister is indicted on three cases of bribery, fraud and breach of trust – the lack of urgency in reaching a verdict, obviously without compromising the defendant's right to a fair and just trial, is harming the country and society. However, it is Netanyahu and his lawyers who are the chief culprits, delaying proceedings before his indictment and ever since.

Last week, a district court in Jerusalem expressed its exasperation with these delaying tactics and told the prime minister to start giving evidence on Dec. 2, despite another of his pathetic attempts to play the victim card, or in this case the “I am too busy to show up” routine. In this latest instance, Netanyahu's defense team requested the delay on the grounds that he had been unable to prepare his testimony due to the time pressures of managing a multifront war. The court begged to differ and ruled that it had already given Netanyahu more than enough time to prepare when it postponed the date of his court appearance from July to December, stating that it was “not convinced that a substantial change in circumstances has occurred which would justify a change to the date we set in our (original) decision.”

If the lack of preparation time claim was not convincing, Netanyahu's lawyers then pulled from their hat a different rabbit: “security” – not the country's, but his own. They claimed that, for his own protection, he must not be allowed to stay for a prolonged time in the same place in case of an attack. According to the Israeli press, the Shin Bet, the agency in charge of his security, has raised no concerns about his safety during his appearance in court.

All of this leads to one conclusion: that Netanyahu, with some help from his lawyers, has given a perfect explanation as to why it is impossible to run a complex country such as Israel, and

favorable coverage in their media outlets.

After all, who would like to be in this position? Yet this is the law, and it must be applied equally to all. Hence, the interests of the country will not be served by endless delays to the court's procedures.

In the meantime, it is of paramount importance that Israel is not left in the hands of a prime minister with split attention while the country is embroiled in a war on as many as seven fronts. Instead, he should do the decent thing and at least suspend himself from office for the duration of the trial. And if he will not, there is a provision in Israel's Basic Law, which has a near-constitutional standing, of incapacitation: “Should the prime minister be temporarily unable to perform his duties, his position shall be filled by the acting prime minister.”

Netanyahu would not trust anyone to replace him for any length of time, as he knows that they would be after his job permanently. Hence, it is for the attorney general to request the Supreme Court to declare Netanyahu incapacitated. And a major reason for such a move is that there would be a bigger danger looming: of Netanyahu staying in power while his trial continues and that he might see that his best chance of escaping justice was to escalate at least one of the war fronts that Israel is fighting on, thereby engineering a worse emergency.

One cannot rule out such a possibility, considering Netanyahu's deceptive character. There are too many indications that decisions on a ceasefire with Hamas have been marred by Netanyahu's wish to cling to power. And his request to delay giving evidence in court while the war is still raging raises the suspicion that it is ulterior motives and not the interests of the country that are dictating his actions.

As times goes by, Netanyahu's tricks to prolong his trial have become toxic, sucking the last drop of energy out of Israel's political system and society. But for the first time in this case, the judges have been firm with the PM and his lawyers. It might also be time for the attorney general to use her legal powers and declare Netanyahu unfit for office, not only for the sake of Israel's democracy and transparency, but also to prevent him from leading the country into even more dangerous military adventures.



# How the West prospers as the rest drown

Global financial systems are metaphorically connected vessels, in which the policies of one country can create ripples felt by another. Recently, a troubling phenomenon has emerged: Wealthier Western economies, in their bid to tame inflation — often driven by corporate greed or “greedflation” — are adopting high interest rates. This seemingly domestic monetary policy has severe reverberations for the Global South’s poorer economies, precipitating a sovereign debt crisis of unprecedented scale.

In their quest to tame domestic inflation, Western central banks, notably the US Federal Reserve and the European Central Bank, often resort to hiking interest rates, a strategy that, while stabilizing their own economies, wreaks havoc on poorer nations. This policy tightens domestic credit but has dire global ramifications, particularly for emerging economies saddled with substantial dollar-denominated debt. As these rates climb, so do the costs of borrowing, making debt repayment increasingly untenable. For example, following the interest rate increases in 2022, many developing countries faced ballooning debt servicing costs alongside severe currency depreciation.

These nations end up caught in a vicious cycle: They must allocate more of their scarce resources to debt repayment while their currencies weaken, further inflating their debt burden. The situation echoes the debt crises of the 1980s — often referred to as the “Volcker shock” — that crippled Latin America and Africa, but now with the

Hafed Al-Ghwel

repayments forces poorer nations into austerity traps, decimating their socioeconomic fabric. Austerity measures, often mandated by international creditors like the International Monetary Fund, primarily hurt the disadvantaged, skewing income distribution by shifting benefits to the top 10 percent, while impoverishing the bottom 80 percent.

The austerity cycle leads to stagnant or declining real wages and mounting unemployment, pressuring local labor markets to compromise on pay, worsening existing inequalities. This creates fertile ground for socioeconomic instability, directly impeding human capital development and long-term economic prospects. International financial structures, skewed toward creditor interests, thus perpetuate a cycle in which the Global South is structurally disadvantaged, effectively condemning it to tread water in a sea of debt as wealthier nations consolidate their prosperity.

The disparity in global economic policy, with Western economies vigorously combating inflation through aggressive monetary policies, heavily burdens the Global South. As interest rates rise in the Global North, debt servicing costs for poorer nations soar, exacerbating their financial woes and precipitating potential defaults. High inflation and modest global growth compound these challenges, pushing 15 percent of poor countries into debt distress and leaving half on the brink.

This is not merely about domestic stability, it also highlights an alarming neg-

lect of the broader international economic repercussions. Such policies significantly strain global economic health, fostering inequality as these nations grapple with austerity measures, deteriorating socioeconomic conditions and hindered long-term recovery. This cyclical debt enmeshment prevents the Global South from achieving sustainable development, while rich nations consolidate their prosperity, laying bare a systemic financial inequity that threatens global stability.

It is this precise dynamic that epitomizes how the West prospers as the rest drown. As wealthier nations move to protect their markets and labor forces, poorer countries continue to bear the brunt. An ensuing cycle of debt and dependency effectively ensures that, while the Global North establishes a semblance of economic order, the Global South remains ensnared in a web of borrowing and austerity. In recent years, the inevitable widening gap between the West and the rest of the world has become unsustainable.

A comprehensive overhaul of international debt policies is long overdue. The current case-by-case basis of the G20 Common Framework is ineffective, failing to offer the predictability necessary for substantial debt relief. A more systematic approach is essential, one that includes a multilateral sovereign debt restructuring mechanism. This would facilitate fair and equitable treatment across all creditors, ensuring that countries can prioritize investments in green growth and climate resilience without being

shackled by debilitating debt service obligations.

Moreover, to address the urgency driven by climate priorities that have languished under underfunded commitments, a dual-pillar approach is necessary. Countries with dire debt situations require comprehensive restructuring involving all forms of international creditors — private, bilateral and multilateral. This should be reminiscent of the large-scale debt relief initiatives of the early 2000s, adapted to the current needs of climate and development investments. For less-indebted nations, enhancing credit and providing debt suspension through multilateral institutions could offer more fiscal space and reduced capital costs, enabling them to meet climate and development goals more effectively.

Simultaneously, geopolitical tensions and rising protectionism pose significant risks to global cooperation. Multilateral dialogue between major global powers like the US and China is crucial to navigating these geopolitical frictions. Additionally, fostering a supportive environment for affordable lending from multilateral development banks and new issuances of special drawing rights can provide the necessary liquidity for emerging markets.

Such innovative, equitable solutions are imperative — not only to address the financial disparities exacerbated by climate disasters but also to stave off the social instability that unchecked debt crises are bound to trigger. Thus, an urgent, holistic and collaborative strategy is essential for a truly balanced global economic order, before the West ultimately drowns the rest.

# US veto confirms its responsibility for Israel’s crimes in Gaza

Abdel Aziz Aluwaisheg

On Wednesday, the US vetoed a UN Security Council resolution calling for an “immediate, unconditional and permanent ceasefire” in Gaza. Although the draft also demanded “the immediate and unconditional release of all hostages,” the US UN representative said that was not enough. The vote was 14-1 in favor of the resolution, but it was not adopted because of the US veto.

The US move is inexplicable, considering the continuing humanitarian catastrophe visited by Israel on the people of Gaza. Health officials on Wednesday put the death toll from Israeli attacks at 43,985 people so far, the majority civilians, in addition to countless more missing under the rubble of their homes and many more injured and maimed for life. Almost all Gazans, more than 2 million of them, have been displaced, some multiple times since the war started last year.

The veto is a dangerous move because it will certainly be understood by Israeli officials as a green light to continue their onslaught. It could thus be seen as aiding and abetting the atrocities being committed by Israel.

The arrest warrants issued by the International Criminal Court on Thursday have provided further proof of the crimes committed by Israel. The court’s Pre-Trial Chamber unanimously agreed to issue warrants for the arrest of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and former Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, “for crimes against humanity and war crimes committed from at least 8 October 2023 until at least 20 May 2024, the day the prosecution filed the applications for warrants of arrest.”

Given the overwhelming evidence of Israel’s criminal behavior, the US administration now appears to be an accessory to those crimes, if not an active accomplice and partner.

The administration’s responsibility is compounded when you take into account that it continues to provide Israel with the arms used in committing those crimes.

In addition to the International Criminal Court warrants regarding war crimes and crimes against humanity, there is mounting evidence of genocide being carried out in Gaza, for which the US administration would also be liable, as it has failed to stop it and has provided Israel with the means to carry it out. The International Court of Justice is deliberating the matter, but it said there was a plausible case of genocide as early as January. Since then, there has been more evidence and experts have weighed in convincingly in that direction.

Amos Goldberg, an expert on genocide and professor of Holocaust history at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, has argued that Israel is in fact committing the crime of genocide. In April, he wrote a blistering article titled “Yes, it is genocide” in Hebrew in an Israeli publication. “Although it is so difficult and painful to admit this and despite all efforts to

think otherwise, at the end of six months of a brutal war it is no longer possible to escape this conclusion ... What is happening in Gaza is genocide because the level and pace of indiscriminate killing, destruction, mass expulsions, displacement, famine, executions, the wiping out of cultural and religious institutions, the crushing of elites (including the killing of journalists), and the sweeping dehumanization of the Palestinians — create an overall picture of genocide, of a deliberate conscious crushing of Palestinian existence in Gaza,” he wrote.

Goldberg wrote this more than six months ago. The crimes he described have only become more

ing in Gaza.

Article IV of the Genocide Convention of 1948 makes it imperative for all states to take measures to prevent, stop and punish the crime of genocide, including by punishing its perpetrators, “whether they are constitutionally responsible rulers, public officials or private individuals.” This duty is incumbent on states whenever there is sufficient evidence of the crime of genocide being committed and does not need a final conclusion by the International Court of Justice, which has already found that there was a plausible case of genocide. Thursday’s International Criminal Court decision, reports by international organizations

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**Aryeh Neier, America’s most prominent advocate of human rights and civil liberties, came to the conclusion that Israel was committing genocide in Gaza, citing its obstruction of the delivery of humanitarian assistance to Gaza since the start of the war. Born in Nazi Germany in 1937, Neier is a Holocaust survivor and author of important works on human rights who has dedicated his life to the promotion of human rights, including the prevention of genocide and prosecution of human rights violators. He was the head of the American Civil Liberties Union, the largest advocate for civil rights in the US. In 1978, he co-founded Human Rights Watch, the US’ largest global human rights monitoring group.**

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First in an article in the New York Review of Books in June, and since in several media interviews, Neier said that he had come to that conclusion in the face of the incontrovertible evidence of Israel’s culpability of genocide. Goldberg and Neier’s conclusions have been corroborated by extensive evidence provided by international organizations operat-

in the field and expert conclusions all point in the same direction.

In the face of these serious accusations, the US should, at the very least, allow the UN Security Council to pass a resolution calling for a ceasefire, which is a minimal ask given the enormity of the atrocities being committed against the people of Gaza.

Since the beginning of the conflict, the US has used its veto power several times to shield Israel from censure. Reacting to Wednesday’s veto, Human Rights Watch said: “Once again, the US used its veto to ensure impunity for Israel as its forces continue to commit crimes against Palestinians in Gaza.” Many countries have echoed this statement, roundly criticizing the US veto.

In addition to giving Israel the nod to continue its violation of Gaza, the decision to block the UN vote will further damage the US’ reputation in the region, as it provides further evidence of blind support for Israel’s brutal war, eroding what remains of the goodwill and support for America in the region and globally. It also weakens the US’ attempts to promote human rights and respect for the rule of international law in other parts of the world.

# Trillion-dollar decarbonization estimates demand a global reality check

For years, the intertwined issues of climate change and decarbonization seemed sacrosanct, almost immune to scrutiny. Scientists, economists, and policymakers often toed the (party) line, wary of being labeled climate skeptics. Given that backdrop, the intensifying debate over the global bill for decarbonization — whether its distant benefits justify the staggering immediate costs — is a welcome reckoning. Indeed, the complexity of the debate, reflecting economic, technological, environmental and equity concerns, is only now beginning to dawn on the world.

Indian Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar’s remark that “Europe has to grow out of the mindset that Europe’s problems are the world’s problems, but the world’s problems are not Europe’s problems,” made in 2022 in the context of the Ukraine war, resonates strongly here. Climate change may be a politically popular issue in progressive cities and regions of Europe and the US, but it should not dictate the priorities of the entire planet, especially when the projected global costs range from \$3 trillion to \$12 trillion annually.

The US, of course, is poised for a dramatic policy shift. Republican President-elect Donald

Arnab Neil Sengupta

increasingly acknowledge the colossal upfront investments required, the risks to economic stability, and the disproportionate burdens placed on developing nations.

The world’s reliance on fossil fuels is undeniable, with coal, oil, and gas responsible for over 75 percent of greenhouse gas emissions, according to the UN. Shifting from these energy sources to renewables is critical, but fraught with challenges. Wealthier nations may have the resources for a smooth transition, but the Global South lacks the means to achieve this without substantial financial assistance — assistance that many developed countries are reluctant to provide amid concerns over governance and corruption in aid-receiving nations.

Moreover, breakthroughs in technology that are essential for decarbonizing heavy industry and aviation remain uncertain, meaning that these sectors face significant hurdles in transitioning to clean energy. Truth be told, whether such breakthroughs will materialize soon enough is an open question. While urban transportation worldwide may gradually embrace electric or hybrid

solutions, innovations such as green hydrogen for energy-intensive sectors are still in their infancy.

Renewable energy sources do promise energy security by reducing dependence on fossil fuel imports, yet this is not universally applicable. Not all nations enjoy abundant solar or wind resources, and nuclear energy — once heralded as a solution — has grown less competitive due to rising costs. (Even though proponents tout declining costs of renewables and the job-creation potential in green energy sectors as compelling incentives for decarbonization.)

Granted, in public health terms, transitioning to cleaner energy offers clear benefits. Northern India’s annual smog crisis, a health catastrophe exacerbated by vehicle emissions and the burning of crop stubble, underscores the urgency of clean energy adoption. Studies from institutions such as Oxford University project long-term economic savings from accelerated decarbonization, although skeptics say that these savings hinge on speculative technological advances and policy consistency.

What is certain is that rapid decarbonization raises risks to economic stability and job losses in traditional energy sectors,

which are, in fact, capable of meeting the energy needs of the planet without requiring trillions of dollars of additional investments every year. Saudi Arabia has championed a pragmatic approach, as articulated by Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan at a recent G20 session in Rio de Janeiro. He emphasized equitable and inclusive transitions, highlighting the Kingdom’s investments in technologies that have lowered emissions intensively in oil and gas operations. Saudi Arabia’s example shows that balancing environmental goals with economic and developmental priorities is possible.

In the final analysis, the decarbonization debate cannot be reduced to binary positions. It is less about whether the world should transition and more about how to achieve it equitably, pragmatically, and sustainably. Revisiting the costs and methods is not a rejection of climate action, but an overdue acknowledgment of its complexity. The true challenge lies in ensuring that this moment of introspection leads to a consensus that, instead of raising climate ambition, aligns ambition with affordability, leaving no country behind in the pursuit of a livable planet.

# The EU needs a strong clean industrial deal

Jean Pisani-Ferry, Simone Tagliapietra and Laurence Tubiana

The EU positioned itself as the global front-runner on climate action five years ago, when it launched the European Green Deal. But building a sustainable economy is even more important now that the effects and costs of global warming are increasing. Moreover, the natural gas crisis following Russia’s invasion of Ukraine in 2022 has underscored the need to accelerate decarbonization to secure the bloc’s energy supply, lower its power costs and foster social cohesion. What began as a climate agenda can now help the EU tackle its existential challenges.

To meet these goals, the EU must implement the “Fit for 55” package, which calls for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55 percent by 2030, and quickly adopt the proposed target of cutting greenhouse gas emissions by 90 percent by 2040. Back-tracking is not an

option, as it would expose the bloc to more adverse climate shocks and further damage its competitiveness and security, while also compromising its global credibility.

To be sure, the path to carbon neutrality will not be easy. As the energy transition gathers pace, questions of fairness will arise, such as who will bear the costs of decarbonizing the building, transport and agriculture sectors. It may also test the EU’s cohesion, as the emergence of green industries in peripheral regions could reconfigure power within the bloc. Globally, it will raise concerns about ensuring a level playing field with non-EU countries that are not decarbonizing at the same speed.

Achieving a clean, just and competitive transition requires a new clean industrial deal that promotes decarbonization alongside sustainable growth and industrial development. Such an integrated policy

package, which European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen has pledged to advance in the first 100 days of her second mandate, would build support for the green transition, making it politically acceptable.

A European industrial strategy must create the right conditions for investment. For starters, that means making renewables more affordable and spurring their deployment by introducing tax credits, reforming commodity markets and more. It will also be necessary to cut bureaucratic red tape (without diluting climate policy), such as by accelerating permitting and improving access to funding and markets to mobilize the resources that clean-tech manufacturers need to grow and that energy-intensive industries need to retrofit.

Fortunately, there are many ways to boost green

investment, including by incorporating a public investment rule in the new EU fiscal framework and increasing funding for the European Investment Bank so that it can maximize its ability to de-risk clean energy investments. The EU could also make better use of its common budget by establishing a new European competitiveness fund — which Von der Leyen has also promised to introduce — to spur innovation and by tying disbursements to the implementation of member states’ national energy and climate plans. A savings and investments union could help as well by contributing to a more robust European financial market.

Such a strategy could use public procurement to create a domestic market for innovative clean technologies and products that are made in Europe. Of course, as managing

resources such as water becomes increasingly important, circular economy and environmental protection measures should also feature prominently.

There is also a need to reflect on how to integrate the clean energy and digital transitions and overcome the tradeoffs between the two. For example, data centers require a lot of energy, but digital technologies will be critical to the efficient management of the future power system.

Lastly, workers must be trained for the jobs of the future to mitigate the energy transition’s social impact, especially in regions with carbon-intensive industries.

To address sector-specific issues, a clean industrial deal should subsidize strategic supply chains in technological areas where the EU has a comparative advantage, while taking into consideration the

tradeoffs between decarbonization, competitiveness and security. This can be done by “Europeanizing” as much as possible.

Following the recommendations in Mario Draghi’s recent report on European competitiveness, it will be crucial to channel public funding to important projects of common European interest and increase the use of instruments such as the Innovation Fund. The European Hydrogen Bank’s pioneering schemes — including “auctions as a service,” a way for member states to top up EU Innovation Fund allocations to support more projects, and “carbon contracts for difference” to help businesses hedge against future price movements — could serve as a model.

To ensure that scarce resources are allocated to important projects of com-

mon European interest, the European competitiveness fund should be designed to combine new and existing financial instruments. Moreover, the new EU fiscal framework should give preferential treatment to national support for projects and efforts should be made to source funding from revenues generated by the EU’s Emissions Trading System and member states’ carbon contracts for difference. Any plan for large-scale industrial decarbonization can be credible only if it includes concrete measures to lower the cost of capital and provide sufficient resources.

The clean industrial deal, like the EU’s Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism and deforestation law, will have global repercussions. To ease geopolitical tensions and diversify its sources of critical raw materials and components, the bloc could develop clean trade and investment partnerships with strategic third countries. Collaborating on green energy goals with non-EU governments would go a long way toward boosting European competitiveness and security.

But clean trade and investment partnerships can be established only if two conditions are met. First, the so-called Team Europe approach, whereby member states join forces on external action, must be scaled up to increase the EU’s leverage in third countries. Second, these partnerships must be coordinated at the executive vice-presidential level to ensure overall policy coherence and impact.

The political viability of the European Green Deal depends on the EU implementing a policy package that combines decarbonization efforts with measures to boost competitiveness and social cohesion. Implementing a strong clean industrial deal should thus be the main task of the new European Commission.





# Political instability to further fuel financial uncertainty

## F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: The All Pakistan Business Forum (APBF) on Sunday stressed the need for undertaking economic reforms and improving the regulatory environment so that financial stability can be achieved in the long-run.

The APBF President Syed Maaz Mahmood, in a statement issued here on Saturday, stressed the need for reducing cost of doing business, besides evolving a new price control mechanism, as huge taxation, rising oil prices and constant jump in electricity and gas tariffs have lifted the cost of production to a new high. He warned that bailout packages from the IMF were unlikely to speed up economic growth, as the political instability and lack

of reforms would further deteriorate the financial situation in the country.

The APBF President observed that amidst continuous of hike in cost of production in the country, what the Pakistan's economy really needs is persistent and sound economic management.

Chairman Ibrahim Qureshi warned the authorities that high inflation can hurt economic growth and a careful policy is required to keep it in control. He said that the pace of inflation is skyrocketing at a time when the economic activity is slowing down.

Ibrahim Qureshi said that the anti-business policies would prove detrimental to the industries due to high cost of doing business and will also open the floodgates of inflation. In

addition to making the electricity bills costlier and unaffordable for the consumers, the hike in base tariff would escalate prices of all household goods being widely used in every household, he added.

Syed Maaz Mahmood termed the constant increase in tariffs unlawful and a violation of NEPRA's own rules and regulations, as any increase in tariff has to be determined and implemented only after holding public hearings but unfortunately they have solely decided to raise the tariff without holding public hearings, he argued. He condemned the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority's decision to increase electricity tariffs on daily basis, stating that the burden of power theft, mismanagement, and inef-

ficiencies cannot be shifted to consumers on the pretext of fuel adjustment.

The APBF President said that Pakistan's industry had been harmed by the high cost of doing business, which discouraged investment in capacity and capability and called for easing the burden of heavy taxes on the power sector.

Syed Maaz stated that the constant increase in power tariffs on the pretext of fuel adjustment had increased electricity prices and added to the already high cost of trade and industry. Seeking comparable energy tariffs for domestic industries in order to capture the global market, he stated that due to high electricity rates, power theft became rampant as the tariff was unaffordable to consumers.

# Political stability vital to attract foreign, local investment: PIAF

## F.P. Report

LAHORE: Raising grave concern over the falling trend of foreign direct investment the Pakistan Industrial and Traders Associations Front (PIAF) on Sunday said that the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) into Pakistan has plunged by 4 percent to \$243 million during the first quarter of the current fiscal year, indicating that the government has failed to win the confidence of foreign investors due to continued uncertainty in the country.

PIAF Chairman Faheem ur Rehman Saigol, in a joint statement along with senior vice chairman Nasrullah Mughal and vice chairman Tahir Manzoor Ch, observed that the inflows under the FDI recorded 32.7 percent decline to \$393 million during the quarter under review as compared with \$575 million in the same quarter of the last year.

Quoting the data, Faheem ur Rehman Saigol

said that the total foreign private investment into the country fell by 34.2 percent to \$242.2 million during the quarter under review when compared with \$378 million in the corresponding quarter of the last fiscal year.

The portfolio investment in the capital market registered massive decline in outflow during the quarter under review.

Senior vice chairman Nasrullah Mughal said that the outflow of portfolio investment recorded \$12.1 million during the first quarter of the current fiscal year as compared with the outflow of \$100.5 million in the same quarter of the last year.

The foreign public investment under the head of debt securities recorded an outflow of \$18.2 million during the first quarter of the fiscal year 2022/2023 as compare with inflow of \$980 million in the same quarter of the last fiscal year.

Vice Chairman Tahir Manzoor Ch observed that

the total foreign investment including private and public recorded a decline of 83.6 percent to \$223 million during the first quarter of the current fiscal year as compared with \$1.36 billion in the same quarter of the last fiscal year.

Tahir Manzoor Ch said that China has been the leading investor in Pakistan for few years and was a major contributor to the increase in the size of FDI. However, the new fiscal FY23 may drag down the inflows from elsewhere due to slowdown of economies in the developed countries, he warned.

Faheem ur Rehman Saigol said that Pakistan has remained a potential market for foreign investors, who still have plans to make fresh investment in the country, but they have continued to wait for the return of economic stability.

He highlighted uncertainty in the rupee-dollar parity as one of the major concerns of foreign investors. He said a slow-

down in the economy had badly impacted business confidence. It is must for the authorities concerned to first create an enabling environment for the local businessmen desiring to make new investment.

He advocated the need for raising the country's tax base so that tax-to-GDP ratio improves from current poor level. He urged the trade officers to explore opportunities to diversify exports of goods and services in their respective areas, asking them to meet the challenges faced by Pakistan in European markets.

He also suggested the ministry to devise strategies for promotion of Pakistani products, calling upon trade officers to take advantage of opportunities offered by China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

He said that previously, foreign investors mostly poured money into the sectors which did not pose a risk to their profit margins due to rupee depreciation such as the power sector.



LAHORE: People selecting and purchasing old warm clothes at Empress Road.

## FCCI panel suggests tough action

LAHORE (APP): Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI) Standing Committee on Food Regional Chairman Shahid Imran has said that tax evasion undermines Pakistan's financial stability and unfairly burdens honest taxpayers.

Speaking to a delegation of traders, led by former FPCCI vice president Chaudhry Zahid Iqbal from Vehari, here on Sunday, he called for stringent government measures to recover outstanding dues from evaders, ensuring equity and accountability in the tax system.

Shahid Imran stressed that targeting tax evaders would not only boost revenue but also demonstrate the government's commitment to justice and good governance. He proposed naming and penalizing high-profile offenders to deter others and urged the government to remain firm against resistance or lobbying from influential groups.

Deputy delegation leader Mian Muhammad Azhar Shaikat noted that such measures would reduce the strain on compliant taxpayers, decrease reliance on excessive borrowing.

# SNGPL disconnect 186 illegal connections

## F.P. Report

LAHORE: Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL) has intensified its efforts to combat gas theft, conducting a series of raids across Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Islamabad. During these operations, 186 illegal gas connections were disconnected, and fines totaling Rs. 7 million were imposed on violators.

In Lahore, the regional team disconnected 21 illegal connections and 4 connections due to compressor usage. The team also imposed fines amounting to Rs. 2.88 million for gas

theft cases. Similarly, in Faisalabad, 7 connections were severed for illegal usage, and one for compressor misuse, with fines of Rs. 0.06 million levied against the offenders.

In Sheikhpura, the SNGPL team disconnected 3 illegal connections and imposed hefty fines of Rs. 3.7 million on violators. Meanwhile, in Gujranwala, one illegal connection was severed, accompanied by fines totaling Rs. 0.10 million.

In Bahawalpur, the team disconnected one illegal connection and another 18 for compressor misuse. In Multan, 14 illegal connec-

tions and 3 compressor-related violations were addressed. Similarly, in Sahiwal, two illegal connections were disconnected, with fines of Rs. 0.18 million imposed.

The Karak region saw the most extensive action, where 111 illegal connections were disconnected, and fines amounting to Rs. 0.10 million were imposed. The team also registered six FIRs against offenders involved in gas theft.

SNGPL remains steadfast in its mission to combat gas theft and ensure uninterrupted gas supply and fair services to its consumers.

# Malaysians show interest in importing Pakistani food

LAHORE (APP): Malaysians have expressed strong interest in importing high-quality Pakistani food and snacks to meet the rising demand. A delegation of Pakistani food exporters, led by Coordinator to Federal Tax Ombudsman Saifur Rehman, is currently on a two-week tour of Malaysia to explore untapped export markets.

According to a report received from Kuala Lumpur, here on Sunday, the growing interest is driven by the increasing popularity of Pakistani snacks

and food products, which are known for their rich blend of flavors, spices, and traditional recipes. Pakistani basmati rice, spices, confectionery, processed food, and various types of internationally recognized mimko have particularly gained traction in the Malaysian market.

Saifur Rehman said that with Malaysia's diverse multicultural population, there is a significant demand for Halal-certified products. Pakistan, with its strong Halal compliance standards, is well-posi-

tioned to meet this demand, creating more opportunities for Pakistani exporters to penetrate the Malaysian market.

Trade collaborations between the two Muslim countries have further facilitated smoother import processes, he added. Exhibitions, food fairs, and promotional campaigns have played a key role in showcasing the quality and variety of Pakistani food products, strengthening bilateral ties and boosting trade between the two nations.

# Saudia's non-oil exports surge 16.8% in Q3

RIYADH (Arab News): Saudi Arabia's non-oil exports reached SR79.48 billion (\$21.17 billion) in the third quarter of 2024, a rise of 16.76% compared to the same period in 2023, according to official data.

As reported by the General Authority for Statistics, the Kingdom exported non-oil goods worth SR19.58 billion to the UAE, followed by India and China at SR6.78 billion and SR6.48 billion.

Chemical products led Saudi Arabia's non-energy exports in the third quarter, accounting for 25.5 percent of total shipments, marking a 5.3 percent annual rise. Plastic and rubber products followed, comprising 24.9 percent of the total, with an 8.9 percent increase compared to the third quarter of 2023.

Strengthening the non-oil private sector is a key objective under Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 as the Kingdom works to diversify its economy and reduce reliance on crude oil revenues.

"The ratio of non-oil exports (including re-exports) to imports increased to 36.6 percent in the third quarter of 2024 from 34.9 percent in the third quarter of 2023. This was due to a 16.8 percent

increase in non-oil exports and an 11.4 percent increase in imports over that period," said GASAT.

In October, Moody's projected the Kingdom's non-hydrocarbon real gross domestic product would grow between 5 percent and 5.5 percent from 2025 to 2027, driven by increased government spending.

The International Monetary Fund projected the Saudi economy would expand by 4.6% in 2025, supported by diversification efforts to strengthen the non-oil private sector.

However, GASTAT highlighted that overall merchandise exports decreased by 7.3 percent year on year in the third quarter, primarily due to a 14.9 percent drop in oil exports.

Consequently, oil exports as a share of total exports fell to 71.3 percent in the third quarter from 77.3 percent recorded during the same period last year.

To stabilize the market, Saudi Arabia implemented a production cut of 500,000 barrels per day in April 2023, a reduction extended until December.

China remained Saudi Arabia's top export destination in the third quarter, receiving SR41.94 billion worth of goods. Japan and

South Korea followed at SR25.62 billion and SR25.50 billion, respectively, while India received SR24.35 billion.

GASTAT data revealed that imports to the Kingdom increased by 11.4 percent year on year in the third quarter, reaching SR217.25 billion, while the nation's surplus of the merchandise trade balance decreased by 43.4 percent.

In the third quarter, China accounted for the largest share of imports at SR53.78 billion, followed by the US and India at SR17.58 billion and SR11 billion, respectively.

King Abdulaziz Sea Port in Dammam was the primary entry point for goods in the third quarter, with imports valued at SR64.88 billion, representing 29.9 percent of the total inbound shipments.

Among the other major terminals of entry for imports was Jeddah Islamic Sea Port, which handled 20.1 percent of the incoming shipments, followed by King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh and King Abdulaziz International Airport, which handled 12.6 percent and 6.4 percent of the imports to the Kingdom.

In a separate report, GASTAT revealed that

Saudi Arabia's non-oil exports increased by 22.8 percent year on year in September, reaching SR25.95 billion.

The authority revealed that the Kingdom sent non-energy goods valued at SR6.54 billion to the UAE in September, while India and China received inbound shipments worth SR2.35 billion and SR1.73 billion, respectively.

Plastic and rubber products comprised 25.7 percent of non-oil exports in September, a 19.5 percent annual rise, while chemical products accounted for 25.3 percent, marking a 4.4 percent increase.

The ratio of non-oil exports to imports rose to 37.1 percent in September, compared to 34.8 percent during the same month in 2023.

Despite the growth in non-oil exports, overall merchandise exports dropped 14.9% in September due to a 24.5 percent decline in oil exports. Consequently, the share of oil exports in total exports fell from 79.7 percent in September 2023 to 70.7 percent in September 2024.

China remained the leading trade partner, receiving SR13.91 billion in exports, followed by Japan at SR7.98 billion and the

UAE at SR7.49 billion.

Other major destinations for Saudi Arabia's exports include India, South Korea, the US, and Egypt, as well as Singapore, Bahrain and Poland.

In September, Saudi Arabia's exports to the Gulf Cooperation Council countries stood at SR12.08 billion, while the value of outbound shipments to Islamic non-Arab nations was SR6.71 billion.

According to GASTAT, the Kingdom's imports increased by 15 percent year on year in September, reaching SR69.88 billion, while the surplus of the merchandise trade balance decreased by 56.9 percent during the same period.

China held the first position in the Kingdom's imports, constituting 25.8 percent of total imports in September, valued at SR17.99 billion.

In September, Saudi Arabia received incoming shipments valued at SR5.39 billion and SR3.45 billion from the US and Germany, respectively.

The report revealed that the Kingdom handled inbound shipments valued at SR19.65 billion or 28.1 percent of the overall imports at the King Abdulaziz Sea Port in Dammam in September.

# BMP calls for proactive measures as political uncertainty rattles economy

## F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry's Businessmen Panel (BMP) has stated that political uncertainty has rattled the Pakistan economy, asking the government to take proactive measures to counter external and domestic challenges, besides stabilizing the economy.

In a statement issued here today, the FPCCI former president and BMP Chairman Mian Anjum Nisar said that the private sector leadership under the banner of Pakistan Businessmen Panel has always stood firm and united against harmful actions to national economy and

the people of the country has not accepted any move by mafias, who were responsible for creating chaos through unnecessary and unwarranted proposals, detrimental to national cause.

He outlined a comprehensive economic agenda aimed at steering the country towards progress. He emphasized the critical need for a strategic approach to economic development, calling for concerted efforts from both the government and political parties.

Mian Anjum Nisar observed that industry was expecting to presage easing of all political uncertainty paving the way for economic stability that all stakeholders and associated media pundits insisted

would be a key factor in turning the economy around.

This in the face of ever-rising electricity rates as pledged to the International Monetary Fund in an attempt to attain full cost recovery (instead of improving the management of the sector as is required).

Mian Anjum said that the government should be committed to transforming the economy of the country, as the process of transforming the economy is already underway in the country, acknowledging that structural reforms in every sector takes time.

He mentioned that the government will have to take joint action to combat currency smuggling and

narrow the difference in dollar rates between official and open markets. It is the fact that the government has undertaken various initiatives for the betterment of the country.

The trade deficit narrowed by 3.6 percent to \$1.3 billion, demonstrating positive progress and expressed optimism that the government's efforts would lead to an expansion in export potential and the export market.

The BMP leader said that the government would encounter the external and domestic challenges, which are enormous but the government will have to take proactive measures to overcome them. He said that the Pakistan Credit Guarantee

Company had been formed for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), emphasizing that the companies had to stand on their own feet and should not rely on subsidies.

He stated that a substantial change should introduce to the FBR to enhance its performance with a view to raise the economic growth of this country. He said that the economic managers should diligently work on reforms in the FBR and ensure their implementation. He praised the efforts of the caretaker government and urged consultations with the BMP in the fiscal budget-making process to facilitate the business community.

Furthermore, he called upon political parties to

announce clear and robust economic strategies. He argued that these strategies should not only focus on short-term gains but also encompass a long-term vision for sustained progress. The Chairman emphasized that such transparency from political leaders is crucial for instilling confidence in the business community and investors.

The BMP Chairman outlined a comprehensive economic agenda aimed at steering the country towards progress. He emphasized the critical need for a strategic approach to economic development, calling for concerted efforts from both the government and political parties.

Turning his attention to

the international stage, he highlighted the need for the country to actively engage with the global market. He argued that tapping into international opportunities is key to unlocking the full potential of the economy. Encouraging businesses to explore and expand their presence in the global arena, he urged policymakers in the upcoming government to create an enabling environment for international trade and investment.

He mentioned that the government will have to take joint action to combat currency smuggling and narrow the difference in dollar rates between official and open markets. It is the fact that the government has undertaken various ini-

tiatives for the betterment of the country.

He observed that industry was expecting to presage easing of all political uncertainty paving the way for economic stability that all stakeholders and associated media pundits insisted would be a key factor in turning the economy around.

BMP leader said, "we shall continue our efforts for the protection of our community and the countrymen at large, who have been directly and indirectly involved in national economic growth." He said that BMP has never safeguarded the vested interests of mafia, which not only halt the progress of the country but curb the large part of society.





**SOUTHAMPTON:** Mohamed Salah of Liverpool during the Premier League match between Southampton FC and Liverpool FC at St Mary's Stadium.

## Salah sends Liverpool eight points clear after Southampton scare

SOUTHAMPTON (AFP): Mohamed Salah fired Liverpool eight points clear at the top of the Premier League as the leaders survived a scare from lowly Southampton thanks to the Egypt star's second half double in a 3-2 away win on Sunday.

Arne Slot's side had squandered the lead given to them by Dominik Szoboszlai's second goal this season as Adam Armstrong levelled before the break at St Mary's.

Mateus Fernandes put bottom of the table Southampton ahead after the interval before Salah sparred Liverpool's blushes.

Salah coolly netted the equaliser and then held his nerve to stroke home the late penalty that gave him 12 goals in all competitions this season and six in his last five league appearances.

Thanks to Salah's late heroics, Liverpool have left second placed Manchester City trailing in their wake after the champions' dismal 4-0 defeat against Tottenham on Saturday.

Slot has made a remarkable start to his time in charge of the Reds, winning 16 of his first 18 games in all competitions.

The former Feyenoord manager's deft touch has established Liverpool as favourites for a first Premier League title since 2020 in his maiden season at Anfield after replacing Jurgen Klopp.

Liverpool were below their best against Southampton but the gritty victory was the ideal start to a pivotal period.

The Reds host Real Madrid in the

Champions League on Wednesday, before Manchester City head to Anfield next weekend.

Liverpool have won 10 of their first 12 league matches, with only two previous teams in the competition's history failing to lift the title after reaching that mark.

On a wet and windy afternoon on the south-coast, Liverpool threatened to blow Southampton away as Salah unleashed a curling effort that forced Alex McCarthy into a sprawling save.

Salah volleyed over from Andrew Robertson's cross and went close again moments later, taking a touch at the far post before drilling a low strike that McCarthy repelled at full-stretch.

Szoboszlai was next to test the over-worked McCarthy with a long-range blast, before Cody Gakpo almost beat the Southampton keeper from the edge of the area.

Salah to the rescue  
Southampton manager Russell Martin has been criticised for sticking to his philosophy of playing out from the back despite some costly mistakes from his defenders.

Once again, Martin's men were punished for taking an unnecessary risk in their own area as Liverpool took the lead in the 30th minute.

McCarthy needlessly rolled the ball to Fernandes, who was immediately put under pressure by Curtis Jones, prompting a panicked clearance from Flynn Downes.

Szoboszlai seized on the miscued pass and slotted a composed finish past McCarthy from 18 yards.

Out-played for much of the half,

Southampton snatched a controversial equaliser in the 42nd minute.

Virgil van Dijk carelessly conceded possession to Tyler Dibling and Robertson responded by tripping the winger on the edge of the area.

Referee Sam Barrott pointed to the spot even though the foul appeared to have taken place just outside the box, with VAR supporting his decision.

Armstrong's penalty was saved by Caoimhin Kelleher, but the Southampton forward reacted quickest to smash the rebound past the Liverpool keeper.

Liverpool had lost their momentum and they were hit with a sucker punch in the 56th minute.

Dibling started the devastating break with a superb long pass that Armstrong surging towards the Liverpool area, where he checked back and found the unmarked Fernandes, who guided an inch-perfect shot past Kelleher.

But Salah hauled Liverpool level nine minutes later after another McCarthy howler.

Salah's well-timed run beat the Southampton offside trap and McCarthy's ill-judged decision to race off his line allowed the Egyptian to meet Ryan Gravenberch's pass with a predatory finish.

Liverpool could scent victory and they were handed the points with seven minutes left.

Yukinari Sugawara blocked Salah's cross with his arm and the Egyptian stepped up to drive the penalty past McCarthy before whipping off his shirt in a delirious celebration.

## ICC dismisses Indian media's claims about emergency board meeting

DUBAI (Monitoring Desk): The International Cricket Council (ICC) has rejected Indian media reports about an emergency board meeting scheduled for Tuesday regarding the Champions Trophy.

According to ICC sources, no meeting has been planned to discuss issues such as the Champions Trophy schedule, the hybrid model, or India's refusal to participate. These claims were branded as baseless.

Earlier, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) had also expressed unawareness about any such meeting. Indian media had recently alleged that an emergency meeting was set for November 26, with representatives from the PCB and the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) expected to attend.

The ICC clarified that no decisions or discussions on the Champions Trophy's future or related matters are currently scheduled.

## Olympic champion An wins China crown in style

HONG KONG (AFP): South Korea's Olympic champion and world number one An Se-young blew away home hope Gao Fangjie in just 38 minutes to win the China Masters on Sunday.

The 22-year-old triumphed for the first time since her Paris Games exploits with a ruthless 21-12, 21-8 victory over the unseeded Gao in the southern city of Shenzhen.

It was An's fourth win on the BWF World Tour this year and cemented her status as the undoubted top player in women's badminton. "I'm happy beyond words to win this title. I was determined to succeed," said An.

In the men's final, Denmark's third seed Anders Antonsen was an equally emphatic 21-15, 21-13 winner over sixth-seeded Indonesian Jonatan Christie. The top players will now gear up for the season-ending BWF World Tour Finals on December 11-15 in Hangzhou, China.

## Murphy backs Zhao snooker return after betting ban

YORK BARBICAN (Agencies): Former world champion Shaun Murphy says snooker is better for having Zhao Xintong in it after the Chinese player made his return to top-level competition following a 20-month ban.

Zhao, 27, was one of 10 players banned in a corruption scandal but, after a suspension of one year and eight months, has returned and qualified as an amateur for the UK Championship - the competition he won in 2021.

He did not directly throw a match but was initially suspended for two and a half years, reduced after his early admissions and guilty plea. He accepted charges of being a party to another player fixing two matches and betting on matches himself.

"Xintong was always a slightly different case to the others," said Murphy, who beat Zhao 6-5 in the opening round of the UK Championship on Saturday at the York Barbican.

"He was not a cheat, he did break the rules but admitted that and served his punishment. He should be allowed to move on and come back to the sport when he qualifies. The game is better for having Xintong in it."

"Let them know this is a big lesson, don't make the mistake," said Murphy, who beat Zhao 6-5 in the opening round of the UK Championship on Saturday at the York Barbican.

"He was not a cheat, he did break the rules but admitted that and served his punishment. He should be allowed to move on and come back to the sport when he qualifies. The game is better for having Xintong in it."

"Let them know this is a big lesson, don't make the mistake. Play snooker, it's a very good thing."

Murphy felt Zhao would be welcomed back to the sport on a full-time basis if he qualified again for the main World Snooker Tour.

# Zimbabwe defeat Pakistan in first ODI by 80 runs on DLS method

BULAWAYO (Monitoring Desk): A combined team effort propelled Zimbabwe to defeat Pakistan in the first ODI of the three-match series by 80 runs on the Duckworth-Stern (DLS) method due to heavy downpour here on Sunday.

Pakistan, chasing a target of 206, were in trouble at 60/6 in 21 overs when heavy rain halted play at Queens Sports Club. With the weather preventing any further action, the umpires called off the match, handing victory to the hosts, who were 80 runs ahead of the DLS par score.

The Green Shirts had a shaky start to the run chase as both opening batters fell prey to Blessing Muzarabani inside five overs.

Kamran Ghulam (17) and Mohammad Rizwan (19\*) played cautiously to help the team recover but Sean Williams removed the former to break Pakistan's momentum. The visitors slipped from 40-2 to 58-6 in quick succession

with the skipper watching the wickets fall on the other end. Rizwan (19) and Aamir Jamal (0) were on the crease when the rain stopped the action.

Earlier, Zimbabwe, after being invited to bat first by Pakistan captain Mohammad Rizwan, were bowled out for 205 in the 41st over.

The hosts started strongly, with openers Joylord Gumbie and Tadiwanashe Marumani adding 40 runs in the first six overs.

However, their partnership ended in disappointment when Gumbie was run out after a mix-up in the sixth over. He scored 15 runs from 17 balls, including three boundaries.

Marumani built brief partnerships with Dion Myers, Craig Ervine, and Sean Williams but was dismissed in the 16th over, leaving Zimbabwe at 83/4. He contributed 29 runs off 41 balls, hitting two fours and a six. After his departure, Zimbabwe's middle order crumbled, and they

were reduced to 125/7 by the 26th over.

Sikandar Raza and Richard Ngarava then steadied the innings with a crucial 62-run partnership for the eighth wicket. Raza played a determined knock of 39 from 56 balls, including six boundaries, before being dismissed by debutant Faisal Akram in the 38th over. Faisal struck again in the same over, removing Blessing Muzarabani for a duck, reducing Zimbabwe to 187/9.

Ngarava showed resilience, top-scoring with 48 runs from 52 balls, hitting six boundaries and a six. He, along with Trevor Gwandu (3\*), helped Zimbabwe cross the 200-run mark with a fighting 10th-wicket stand.

For Pakistan, Faisal Akram and Agha Salman were the standout bowlers, taking three wickets each. Haris Rauf, Mohammad Haseen, and Aamir Jamal chipped in with a wicket apiece.

## Davis Cup organisers hit back at critics of Nadal retirement ceremony

MÁLAGA (AFP): Davis Cup organisers said tennis superstar Rafael Nadal had the retirement ceremony that he wanted this week in Malaga, despite some criticism of the event from people close to the player.

The 22-time Grand Slam winner played his final match on Tuesday as Spain were eliminated in the quarter-finals by Netherlands. Following that disappointing end to his stellar career Nadal gave a speech which ran over 10 minutes long.

Various sports stars including Novak Djokovic left messages in a video which was played on screens at the venue. Spain captain David Ferrer also gave a speech about Nadal but some have suggested the 'King of Clay' deserved a bigger farewell.

"It's not the time to blame anyone, but the feel-

ing is that we witnessed something shabby," Nadal's coach Carlos Moya told Onda Cero radio station.

"It's true that we're talking about a Tuesday night, but we knew for months that if Spain had lost, Nadal would have retired that day..."

"It was a farewell that did not live up to what Rafa Nadal means to this sport," Spain's surprise early elimination may have caught out some hoping to attend record 14-time French Open winner Nadal's goodbye, including Djokovic.

"I would have preferred something different, more in line with his incredible career," said the 38-year-old's uncle and key influence, Toni Nadal. "It could have been a more dynamic ceremony." The International Tennis Federation (ITF) said they had given Nadal the departure he wanted.

"We felt it was very important to listen to what Rafa wanted and how he wanted to be celebrated, that's what we did, we took his lead and delivered on that," ITF president David Haggerty told reporters Sunday. "People can have whatever opinions they want, whether it was right or not -- we delivered the ceremony that Rafa wanted."

Davis Cup finals tournament director Feliciano Lopez had promised a "very special" farewell that lived up to his career.

"I think we should focus, all of us, on the fact that Rafa chose the Davis Cup to be the final tournament of his career, instead of keeping on talking about his farewell ceremony," said Lopez on Sunday. "Honestly, we did our best. We should focus more on that he chose Davis Cup as his final tournament."

## Pant becomes most expensive player in IPL history

NEW DELHI (Agencies): Rishabh Pant became the most expensive player in the history of the Indian Premier League as he was signed by Lucknow Super Giants for 27 crore (€2.54m) at the mega auction in Saudi Arabia.

The India wicketkeeper, 27, was the subject of a bidding war between the Super Giants and his former side, Delhi Capitals. Pant, who returned to the game in this year's IPL after an 14-month lay-off following a car accident, beat the record set earlier in the day when Shreyas Iyer was signed for 26.75 crore (€2.51m) by Punjab Kings.

Australia seamer Mitchell Starc, who held the record prior to the auction, was signed for 11.75 crore (€1m) by the Capitals, some way short of his 24.75 crore (€2.3m) cost when he was signed by Kolkata Knight Riders last year.

Jos Buttler was the only Englishman in the initial batch of players auctioned in Jeddah, and the England white-ball captain and wicketkeeper was picked up by Gujarat Titans for 15.75 crore (€1.4m).

Liam Livingstone was signed from the second set of players, joining Royal Challengers Bangalore for 8.75 crore (€827,000).

Harry Brook was re-signed by Delhi Capitals for 6.25 crore (€590,000).

Brook had been picked by the Capitals in last December's mini auction but withdrew from the 2024 IPL following the death of his grandmother.

The Capitals also snapped up Australia batter Jake Fraser-McGurk, who hit four half-centuries for them last season, for 9 crore (€850,000).

Hundreds of players will go under the hammer at the IPL's mega auction across Sunday and Monday, with sides looking to build their squads after retentions in October.

## Verstappen wins fourth consecutive Formula One world title



LAS VEGAS (AFP): Max Verstappen claimed a fourth consecutive Formula One world title under the lights of the Las Vegas Grand Prix on Saturday and was immediately hailed as "amongst the greats".

The 27-year-old Dutchman came home in fifth place in a race won by George Russell of Mercedes as he became just the sixth man after Michael Schumacher, Lewis Hamilton, Juan Manuel Fangio, Sebastian Vettel and Alain Prost to claim four championships.

Driving with calm acumen in the gambling capital of America, Verstappen finished just ahead of his friend and rival Lando Norris of McLaren to take the title. His calm drive in defence of his crown overshadowed a perfect night for Russell who claimed his second win of the season.

Russell finished 7.313 seconds clear of seven-time champion Hamilton, who had started from 10th on the grid, with Carlos Sainz finishing third ahead of Ferrari team-mate Charles Leclerc, Verstappen and Norris, who was 43 seconds ahead of McLaren team-mate Oscar Piastri.

Nico Hulkenberg was eighth for Haas ahead of RB's Yuki Tsunoda and Sergio Perez in the second Red Bull. Norris, who needed to outscore

Verstappen by three points to keep his title hopes alive, took an extra point for fastest lap, but his challenge was over.

Seven wins in the opening ten races launched Verstappen to this success, but he needed to overcome a mid-season run of ten without a win before victory in a rain-hit race in Brazil set up his fourth title.

"It's been a long season," admitted Verstappen. "It started off amazingly, we were cruising and then we had a tough run, but we kept it together."

"At 17, I was just happy to be here and learn and never thought of this. To stand here now as a four-time champion is just incredible. 'It's been so competitive this time. A really challenging season and challenging for me as a person too at times. It has taught me a lot and we've handled it well as a team. A special season. A beautiful season.' Remarkably, Verstappen has been on top of the world championship in an unbroken run since the Spanish Grand Prix in 2022.

'Great human' 'It's incredible, he's done an amazing job,' said Red Bull team chief Christian Horner. "He's been outstanding all year and we are just very proud of him. He's won eight Grand Prix and the championship with two

races to spare and you can't ask for more than that."

Horner added: "He just gets in the car and he delivers, he's a great human. It puts him amongst the greats." Norris added: "Massive congrats to him. He's deserved it."

"He drove an incredible season and when you have the quickest car he dominated and when he didn't he was still there and always on my heels. He made my life tough, we made his tough at times I'm sure but he drove a better season."

On his race, Norris admitted: "It was pretty 'pants' (poor), bad pace, grip, tyre management, just a poor weekend from us." Verstappen was congratulated by his rival drivers and many others after the race, Hamilton notably leading the way.

"First of all, I've got to say a big congratulations to Max for winning the championship still with races to go," said Hamilton.

Russell, meanwhile, described his lights-to-flag victory as a "dream weekend".

"It's going to be a big party. I was planning on flying in a couple of hours, but I'm definitely not getting on that flight and I am going to enjoy my night with all my team."

Fastest in practice and most of qualifying, Hamilton had made errors that cost him pole and left him 10th on the grid to produce a vintage performance, responding to talk of his F1 "shelf life" ending with a bravado drive before he moves to Ferrari to replace Sainz at the end of the season.

"If I had done my job yesterday it would've been a breeze today, but I had fun coming from the back in 10th. The team did a fantastic job this weekend," said Hamilton.





## In brief

### DIG reviews duty points

ISLAMABAD (APP): Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Police, Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Syed Ali Raza conducted a late-night visit to various duty points across the federal capital on Saturday. A public relation officer told APP that, during the visit, DIG Raza briefed officers on law-and-order responsibilities, emphasizing the importance of performing their duties diligently and efficiently. DIG Raza reiterated that ensuring the safety of citizens' lives and property remains the top priority of the Islamabad Police. "No one will be allowed to take the law into their own hands, and violators will face strict legal action," DIG warned. He further expressed hope that the peace-loving citizens of Islamabad would continue to cooperate with the police in maintaining law and order in the city.

### Ismail Tara remembered

ISLAMABAD (APP): The second death anniversary of renowned comedian Ismail Tara is being observed on Sunday. He was born on November 16, 1949, in Karachi. His real name was Muhammad Ismail Merchant. He joined the performing arts in 1964 and performed on stage, television and cinema during his career. He performed on the silver screen and played various roles in different films. He won Nigar Awards five times during his showbiz career. His famous dramas include Fifty Fity, Rubber Band, Yeh Zindagi Hai, One-Way Ticket, Delhi Colony, Ismail Time, and other stage dramas. Ismail Tara died in Karachi at the age of 73 due to kidney disease.

### English faculty plan concludes

ISLAMABAD (APP): The three-day English Faculty Development Program concluded at the Higher Education Commission. The program was organized by the National Academy of Higher Education in collaboration with the Regional English Language Office of the US Embassy, Islamabad. The program, featuring renowned resource person Dr. Patricia Pashby, focused on three key themes aimed at addressing modern challenges and opportunities in English language education. It included Teaching Language through Literature, Exploring Culture in the Language Classroom, and Redesigning Assignments in the Age of AI.

### Parveen remembered

ISLAMABAD (APP): Legendary poetess Parveen Shakir was remembered on her 72nd birth anniversary being observed across the country on Sunday. Born on November 24, 1952, in Karachi, Parveen Shakir held a master's degree in English literature and served in Pakistan's civil service at a distinguished level. She started writing at a very young age, both in prose and poetry, while contributing her articles both in Urdu and English newspapers. She was highly educated with two Master's degrees, one in English literature and one in linguistics. She also held a PhD and another Master's degree in bank administration. Her all-poetry books are collected in Mah-e-Tamam (Full Moon). She also published a collection of her newspaper columns, titled Gosh-e-Chashm (Corner of the Eye), Kaf-e-Aina (The Mirrors Edge), which was released posthumously with works from her diaries and journals.

# Rwanda, Pakistan huge trade potential

ISLAMABAD (APP): Ambassador of Rwanda to Pakistan, Ms. Fatou Harerimana on Sunday said that bilateral cooperation between Rwanda and Pakistan in the health sector and public health is inevitable and there is potential on both sides in this sector.

There is a need to further increase the bilateral economic and trade relations between Pakistan and Rwanda, for which the role of the private sector from both sides is very important, the Ambassador said and added that Pakistan and Rwanda enjoy friendly relations underpinned by mutual respect, growing economic ties and cooperation at multilateral fora.

Rwanda and Pakistan, with a longstanding relationship spanning sixty-two years, actively collaborate in various fields, including trade, health, and investment, she remarked.

She said that Rwanda's real GDP of Rwanda grew by 9.7% in the first quarter of 2024, exceeding the previous year's growth rate of 8.2% and the country has

shown remarkable resilience, driven by strong consumer spending in key sectors such as services and industry.

The ambassador said that despite ongoing challenges, Rwanda's labor market experienced a strong recovery, with over half a million new jobs created in the fourth quarter of 2023, marking the most significant reduction in unemployment since the COVID pandemic.

"The labor market expansion in Rwanda was broad-based, with women benefiting slightly more than men and to leverage its youth demographic, Rwanda needs to expand labor force participation, as only 2.8 million out of 8.1 million working age individuals are employed full time.

She said that Rwanda aspires to become a Middle-Income Country by 2035 and a High-Income Country by 2050.

It plans to achieve this through the implementation of the second National Strategies for Transformation (NST-2), a five year-development agenda under-

pinned by sectoral strategies focused on meeting the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Updating on the economy, she said that Rwanda's economy continued to stage a strong growth in the first half of 2024 and after growing by an average of 8.2% in 2022-2023, real GDP increased by 9.7% in the first half of 2024. The GDP growth is expected to maintain momentum in 2025-26, with a projected average of 7.7%, to a recovery in global tourism, new construction projects, and manufacturing activities, she added.

CEO of GAK HealthCare International, Dr. Akbar Niazi Teaching Hospital, and Islamabad Medical and Dental College,

Yasir Khan Niazi said that Pakistan and Rwanda have huge potential in public health sector and they are ready to work and increase bilateral cooperation in this area.

Yasir Khan said that Rwanda is a growing economy in the African region where there is immense potential in the health sector.

## International Mountain Day:

# Photographic competition announced

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) has announced a photographic competition to commemorate International Mountain Day 2024, to be observed on December 11.

According to an official source, this day will be marked under this year's theme, "Mountain Solutions for a Sustainable Future-Innovation, Adaptation, and Youth," which highlights the importance of preserving mountainous landscapes and promoting sustainable development.

This initiative aims at engaging youth, inspire innovation, and raise awareness about the role of

mountains in fostering a sustainable future.

The event is part of ongoing efforts to celebrate Pakistan's natural heritage and encourage responsible tourism.

The photographers and nature enthusiasts are encouraged to participate in this unique opportunity to showcase their talent while supporting a meaningful cause.

The competition invites both amateur and professional photographers to capture the beauty of mountains while reflecting the spirit of sustainability.

In the amateur category, the top three prizes are Rs. 30,000, Rs. 15,000, and Rs. 10,000, respectively.

Meanwhile, the professional category offers prizes of Rs. 50,000, Rs. 30,000, and Rs. 20,000 for first, second, and third place winners. The entries must be submitted by December 02 through the provided online portal, and selected photographs will be exhibited at the Pakistan National Council of Arts (PNCA) on International Mountain Day.

The competition will engage photographers to showcase their creativity by capturing mountain-related elements such as culture and heritage, mountain people and their lifestyles, Pakistan's mountainous landscapes, adventure sports, and the flora and fauna of mountain areas.

# Encroachment mafia plays havoc with Pindites

RAWALPINDI (APP): With persistent sluggish response of authorities to strike encroachment mafia, situation in main bazars of Rawalpindi continues to worsen making lives of residents and commuters difficult.

Most of pavements and footpaths as well as main roads are often seen flooded with vendors, stalls and carts, leaving no room for buyers and shoppers to easily approach their desired shops and outlets.

Although encroachments are not new to city but escalated dramatically to every nook and corner of the city with busy market places like Murree Road; Raja Bazaar, Motti Bazaar, Kashmiri Bazaar and surrounding markets like Jamia Masjid Road, Banni Chowk and Circular Road; Saddar and Chotta Bazaar; Commercial Market, Tench Bhatta, Lal Kurti, Bakra Mandi, Adiala Road and several other markets remaining clogged with vendors crowding sidewalks, forcing pedestrians to walk on roads.

The stalls, kiosks, handcarts and makeshift setups spring up overnight, swallowing footpaths, sidewalks, streets and roads. In

almost all main bazars of the city, the groups of organized individuals and businesses in collusion with the officials of civic bodies have illegally occupied the public spaces which were once used by pedestrians.

"The encroachers have become a mafia. Their mushroom growth is perplexing. Although in many cases, the shopkeepers themselves rent them out footpath spaces and charge from them," said Munir Ahmed, a shopkeeper in commercial market. "In other cases, they set up their businesses on vacant places, footpaths and corridors, in connivance with civic authorities."

He termed rapid growth of encroachers as worrisome, affecting their business as well as mobility of shoppers and desired a mechanism to streamline vendors abruptly occupying main spaces at markets.

The rise of the encroachment mafia is not simply the work of a few street vendors but a well-organized network involving influential figures who turn a deaf ear to calls of shopkeepers and buyers, apparently for some financial

gain.

"The encroachment mafia had created a hidden 'rent system' for receiving illegal money from vendors for occupying public spaces at markets," claimed a school teacher Muhammad Arif. "This informal system of bribery and collusion brings hardships for city residents, making it difficult for them to traverse through these clogged markets and roads."

For pedestrians, especially for families, elderly and children, he said, it becomes risky to navigate through streets and roads narrowed due to encroachments and subsequent traffic jams.

Efforts by Municipal Corporation Rawalpindi (MCR) and two cantonment boards to remove these encroachments have had limited success. Demolition teams' clear illegal structures but within days the vendors return again.

The local administration removed a significant number of encroachments from Raja Bazaar, Bara Bazaar, Commercial Market, Murree Road and surrounding areas during first week of current month, but the same cropped up again.



ISLAMABAD: Labourers busy in work at site of under-construction PTCL Chowk underpass project during development work in Federal Capital.

## 69 absconders involved in crimes held

ISLAMABAD (APP): The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Police have arrested 69 absconders, proclaimed offenders and target offenders involved in heinous crimes during the ongoing week.

A police spokesperson told APP on Sunday that special tasks were assigned to all senior police officials to ensure the arrest of proclaimed offenders and absconders involved in different criminal activities in the federal capital. He said during the crackdown, the Islamabad Police teams have arrested 69 absconders, proclaimed offenders and target offenders during the ongoing week.

DIG Saif Ali Raza said that the ICT Police is taking all possible steps to eradicate the crime from the city and those involved in heinous crimes and illegal activities will be dealt with iron hands. Safety of the lives and property of the citizens is the foremost priority of Islamabad Capital Police, DIG added.

Citizens are also requested to cooperate with police during the checking process and inform police about any suspicious activity around them through the emergency helpline Pucar-15.

## Nation pays tributes to Marium

ISLAMABAD (APP): November 24, marks the 9th martyrdom anniversary of Marium Mukhtiar, Pakistan's first female fighter pilot to die in the line of duty where people from all walks of life through media platforms pays glowing tribute to her bravery and sacrifice.

Mariam Mukhtiar was born on May 18, 1992, in Karachi.

She joined the Pakistan Air Force (PAF) in 2011 and graduated as a fighter pilot in 2014.

Tragically, her life was cut short on November 24, 2015, when her FT-7PG aircraft crashed near Kundian, Mianwali District, during a routine training mission. PTV news channel reported.

Mariam's actions that day exemplified her courage and selflessness. Despite experiencing a serious technical malfunction, she and her instructor, Squadron Leader Saqib Abbasi prioritized saving the aircraft and avoiding populated areas.

Unfortunately, Mariam ejected at too low an altitude and succumbed to her injuries.

A few more covert terms. "Bulla chokas ee khial rakhhi," for example, roughly translates to, "This customer is well-off, treat him with respect." The message is clear from the senior or the shop owner to make sure this person walks out with something expensive in their bag.

Conversely, if a customer is just browsing, there's a code too: "Diwo ha aitch karo." It instructs a junior salesman to wrap it up and focus on more promising customers.

The phrase "Bulla kasso kahrr ha" signals that a customer looks too poor to make a purchase. "It's a red flag. It tells the team to get rid of him quickly," Afzal

# Arshad immortalized in artwork at PNCA

ISLAMABAD (APP): Renowned Sri Lankan artist, Mueen Saheed made a memorable addition to his tour of Pakistan by presenting a special painting dedicated to Arshad Nadeem, Pakistan's celebrated Olympic gold medalist, to the Pakistan National Council of Arts (PNCA).

The artwork, now part of the PNCA's prestigious permanent collection, pays homage to Nadeem's remarkable achievements and his role in uniting fans across borders.

The piece, titled The Throw, features an abstract portrayal of Nadeem and his mother, veiled behind Saheed's distinctive brushstrokes and use of small squares. Known for his signature style of Abstract Narrative Expressionism, Mueen captures not just the physical likeness but also the emotional depth of his subjects.

Through energetic colors and dynamic forms, the painting reflects the strength, perseverance, and spirit of the athlete who brought pride to Pakistan

on the global stage.

The presentation ceremony at PNCA, part of the artist's Passages of Light exhibition, was attended by key figures in the arts and culture sector, including PNCA Director General Muhammad Ayoub Jamali and Federal Minister for Information and Culture, Attaullah Tarar. The minister praised Saheed's gesture, noting the significance of honoring a national hero whose journey resonates beyond sports, inspiring audiences from Pakistan, India, and around the world.

Saheed shared his motivation for the piece, explaining, "Arshad Nadeem's story is one of resilience and humility. His victory at the Olympics and the moments of sportsmanship with his Indian counterpart, Neeraj Chopra, were powerful examples of unity in competition. I wanted to create a piece that celebrates his legacy and the human spirit that transcends borders."

This new addition to

PNCA's collection highlights Saheed's commitment to cultural diplomacy through art. Throughout his career, the artist has paid tribute to icons and leaders from various fields, having previously painted portraits for sports legends like Virat Kohli and Kumar Sangakkara, Bollywood personalities such as Jacqueline Fernandez, and esteemed world leaders including Prince Charles and the King of Brunei.

The Arshad Nadeem painting joins Saheed's broader body of work showcased during his Pakistan tour, which included successful exhibitions at the Lahore Museum and PNCA Islamabad. His artworks, exploring themes of heritage and identity, have sparked meaningful dialogue and strengthened cultural ties between Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

With this gift, Saheed continues his tradition of using art as a bridge between nations, celebrating shared values and stories that inspire beyond borders.

## ANF recovers drugs

RAWALPINDI (APP): Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) while conducting four operations across the country managed to recover over 192 kg drugs and arrested three smugglers, said an ANF Headquarters spokesman.

He informed that 80 kg morphine and 30 kg hashish hidden for the purpose of smuggling were recovered in the Qila Abdullah district, in Balochistan.

About 250 grams ice concealed in 'Peshawari chappals' were recovered from a parcel booked for New Zealand at a courier office in Karachi.

4.1 kg hashish was

recovered from the possession of an accused arrested on GT Road, Rawalpindi.

The spokesman further informed that in an operation conducted near Kala Shah Kaku Toll Plaza, Lahore two accused, members of an inter-provincial drug smuggling gang were arrested.

Acting on a tip-off, an operation was conducted at Kala Shah Kaku Toll Plaza. ANF tried to stop a suspicious Toyota Hiace single cabin but, instead of stopping the vehicle, the suspects tried to escape.

In their attempt to escape from the scene, the suspects also damaged an ANF vehicle but, ANF personnel suc-

cessfully stopped and arrested the accused.

Upon search of the vehicle, 65 packets of hashish weighing 1200 grams each were recovered from the vehicle. Total 78 kg hashish worth approximately Rs 5.5 million was recovered from the vehicle.

The suspects confessed their involvement in smuggling drugs from Peshawar to different districts of Punjab. The investigation of the accused is underway to arrest other members of the gang.

Separate cases have been registered against the arrested accused and further investigations are under process.

## RTO conducts raids

RAWALPINDI (APP): Regional Tax Office (RTO) Rawalpindi, on the directives of Chief Commissioner, Regional Tax Revenue, Muhammad Hamza Nazir and Wasimullah Khattak along with their team members raided at various shops and business outlets.

They sealed two bakeries for not issuing PoS receipts and also imposed fines amounting to Rs 500,000.

Talking to APP, AC, Muhammad Hamza Nazir said that action is being

ing PoS receipts at various business centers.

The Assistant Commissioners, Regional Tax Revenue, Muhammad Hamza Nazir and Wasimullah Khattak along with their team members raided at various shops and business outlets.

They sealed two bakeries for not issuing PoS receipts and also imposed fines amounting to Rs 500,000.

Talking to APP, AC, Muhammad Hamza Nazir said that action is being

taken against the rules violators. The teams conducted raids in different areas including Abid Majeed Road and Scheme-III in Cantonment areas and inspected issuance of the PoS receipts, he added.

Raids are being conducted to make the tax system transparent in business centers, he said adding, if the receipts are not being issued to the customers at any business outlet, a complaint can be registered through the "Tax Asan App".

Next time when you walk into a store in the twin cities, take a moment to listen closely. There's a good chance the salesmen are speaking in shorthand, and it might just change the way you shop forever.

## Bulla beware: Decode the secret language of shopkeepers

ISLAMABAD (APP): If you frequently visit the markets of Rawalpindi and Islamabad, you may have overheard salesmen in shoe or garment shops speaking a language that seems unfamiliar, using numbers and expressions understood only by insiders.

Don't worry, it's not a new dialect it's a coded system of communication passed down through generations, with shopkeepers using it to keep an edge over customers, protect profit margins and all without anyone catching wind of it.

Let's break it down. One of the most commonly overheard words in this private terminology is "Bulla." But don't jump to

a conclusion, it's not name-calling or an insult. In fact, it is the term salesmen use to refer to a customer, regardless of gender. When a customer walks into the shop, the sales team quickly assesses their appearance, clothing, and posture. If they're deemed a "Bulla," the game is on.

So, who created this code? Where did it come from? According to many elderly shopkeepers, the origins are unclear. "It comes from our forefathers," says one elderly Pindi salesman, "We call it 'Batori,' a collection of phrases that no one outside the market understands," most shopkeepers responded similarly to APP.

Though there's no official record of "Baton" in trade talk history, it continues to thrive in the streets of the twin cities and beyond.

Muhammad Afzal, a salesman with over 30 years of experience in Pindi, Islamabad's markets, shares his insights with a grin. "This secretive set of slangs is passed down like a sacred trade secret. Every new salesman to the market is taught as an initiation ritual." According to Afzal, it helps conceal information from the customers about a product's real price and allows salesmen to control the process to ensure maximum gains.

He continues, revealing



Daesh claims responsibility

BAGHLAN (Ariana News): IS-K has claimed responsibility for a gun attack that left 10 people dead at a Sufi shrine in northern Baghlan province. Interior Ministry spokesman Abdul Matin Qani confirmed that a gunman opened fire on Sufis taking part in a weekly ritual at the Sayed Pasha Agha shrine in a remote area of Nahrin. Abdul Ghayoor Khadim, a provincial police official, said that several people were arrested in connection with the incident, and that an investigation has been launched.

The Frontier Post

AFGHANISTAN

Jamadi-ul-Awwal 22 1446 — Monday, November 25, 2024

Customs reject 60 tankers

KABUL (BNA): The Ministry of Finance has announced that 60 tankers of low-quality oil were rejected at the country's customs last week. The Ministry explained that the Directorate of Oil Quality and Monitoring at the Ministry of Finance, responsible for ensuring the quality of imported petroleum products according to set standards, rejected 60 tankers of substandard oil at the customs of Abu Nasr Farahi in Farah and Turghundi in Herat last week.

Asia is comparable to a living body composed of soil and water. The heart that beats inside the body is Afghanistan. The destruction of Afghanistan would be the destruction of Asia. And in its progress and prosperity lies the well-being of Asia. - Allama Iqbal

Seminar on prisoner reform, education begins in Kabul



KABUL (TOLONews): A five-day seminar organized by the Prisons Administration for prison officials from the 34 provinces of the country began yesterday (Saturday) in Kabul.

The head of the Prisons Administration, at the opening ceremony of this seminar titled "Better Management of Prisoner Reform and Education," emphasized the importance of providing ethical education for prisoners.

Mohammad Yousuf Mestari, the head of the administration, said: "We must act with kindness and good conduct toward everyone. As long as an action does not go against Islamic law, we are obliged to use good manners. The law has its place, but the essence of Islamic law is ethics."

Meanwhile, the head of the National Examination Authority, Abdul Baqi

Haqqani, who spoke on the first day of the seminar, highlighted the importance of treating prisoners with respect and providing them with necessary services.

Abdul Baqi Haqqani said: "For someone who is a prisoner, serving them is very valuable. Whether they are ill or in prison, keeping such individuals happy is not easy. Clothing, food, open spaces, and education are the rights of a prisoner."

Ghulam Haidar Shahamat, acting head of the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority, also stated during the event that they are working in coordination with the Prisons Administration to provide technical and vocational training for prisoners. According to Ghulam Haidar Shahamat, such opportunities have already been created in the prisons

of 16 provinces.

Shahamat added: "The Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority is currently operating in 16 provinces, meaning 16 prisons. Next year, we plan to expand these programs, offering trades and skills that meet the needs of these individuals so their time in prison can be spent learning valuable skills."

Atiqullah Darwish, the Chief of the Criminal Division of the Supreme Court, stated at the event: "A prisoner who comes as a murderer should not leave as a murderer, and someone who enters as a thief should not leave as a thief."

According to officials, this seminar has been organized for prison officials from all 34 provinces, aiming to improve the implementation of educational and reform programs in prisons.

450,000 mt of goods transferred

KABUL (BNA): The Ministry of Public Works has reported that, from the beginning to the end of the month of Aqrab this year, a total of 452,031 metric tons of goods were transferred via Afghanistan's railway network.

According to information provided to Bakhtar News Agency by the Ministry's Media Office, during this period, 336,233 tons were transferred via the Hairatan railway, 40,788 tons via the Aqina railway, 70,780 tons via the Turghundi railway, and 4,229 tons via the Khaf-Herat railway. In total, 450,074 tons of petroleum and other goods were imported into the country. Additionally, 1,957 tons of commercial goods, mainly consisting of dried fruits and pomegranate juice, were exported.

The Ministry of Public Works has emphasized its ongoing efforts to create better conditions for increasing transfers and to ensure that traders receive the necessary support.

It is worth mentioning that, in the month of Mizan current fiscal year, Afghanistan's railway network facilitated the transfer of 347,563 tons of goods, including over 7,000 tons of exports and transit shipments.

Over 50,000 women employed

HERAT (Khaama Press): Sayed Abdul Wahid Sadat, Deputy of the Afghanistan Saffron Union, has announced that currently, 50,000 to 60,000 women in Herat province are employed in saffron processing.

Bakhtar News Agency, under the control of Taliban, reported that 85% of saffron processing in Afghanistan is carried out by women, according to the Afghanistan Saffron Union.

This comes at a time when saffron cultivation in recent years has grown and gained attention from global customers.

The USAID recently announced that a deal has been signed to sell 600 kilograms of Afghan saffron at the 2024 Paris Exhibition, valued at over \$1 million. Afghanistan saffron, known for its unique taste and high quality, is considered among the best saffron in the world.

In a recent achievement, the International Taste Institute in Belgium awarded Afghanistan saffron the title of the best saffron for the ninth time.

Despite such achievements in agriculture, Afghanistan is facing a dire humanitarian crisis marked by widespread poverty. The oppressive policies of the current regime, particularly those restricting women and girls from accessing education and employment, have exacerbated the already dire situation.

Many women, despite their critical contributions to industries like saffron processing, are being forced out of public life and economic opportunities.

The lack of education and job access for half the population not only deepens the cycle of poverty but also limits the country's potential for economic recovery.

International organizations have stressed the urgent need for inclusive policies to address Afghanistan's humanitarian challenges and to ensure that its people, particularly women, can contribute to rebuilding the nation's future.

Russia signals openness to removing Taliban from terrorist list

KABUL (TOLONews): Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Andrey Rudenko told TASS news agency that Moscow does not intend to obstruct the process of removing the "Taliban" from Russia's list of "terrorist organizations."

Rudenko emphasized that completing the legal procedures for this process could provide new motivation for positive interaction between Russia and Afghanistan, particularly in the economic sector.

He stated: "Completion of legal procedures of

removing the terrorist organization's status from the Taliban Movement will attribute a positive impetus to Russian-Afghan interaction in various spheres."

The Russian official also stressed that it is still too early for Moscow to take an official stance on recognizing the Islamic Emirate.

"As regards the issue of the official recognition of current Afghan authorities, it is early to talk about it thus far. Let's act gradually, step by step, but we do not intend to artificially impede the processes," Rudenko

noted. The Deputy Foreign Minister added that Russia is taking practical steps to establish engagement with Afghanistan's interim government on mutual and shared interests.

Relations between Russia and Afghanistan have moved towards cautious interaction since the Islamic Emirate regained power in Afghanistan in 2021.

Although the Islamic Emirate is on Russia's list of "terrorist organizations," diplomatic and economic engagements with Kabul have begun.

Afghan migrants face arrests despite documents

KABUL (TOLONews): A number of Afghan migrants in Iran have told TOLONews that Afghan citizens, despite holding legal documents, have been arrested and deported by Iranian police in recent days and weeks.

Afghan migrants in Iran have called on the interim government to seriously address their challenges.

"The Islamic Republic police do not value our documents. A few nights ago, when I went out to get something I needed, they arrested me," Khalid Sultani, an Afghan migrant in Iran, told TOLONews.

These migrants emphasize that job restrictions, arrests, and deportations have increased more than

ever in recent days.

"There are challenges that migrants face. The host country's policy is based on returning undocumented migrants, but even legal migrants face difficulties due to the large number of migrants in the country," said Asadullah Zairi, another Afghan migrant in Iran.

Meanwhile, Zabihullah Mujahid, the spokesperson for the Islamic Emirate, has said that efforts are being made to ensure Afghan migrants abroad do not face problems.

He reiterated his call for Afghan migrants who left the country illegally to return.

The spokesperson for the Islamic Emirate said: "The Islamic Emirate has made

every effort to ensure that our migrants in neighboring countries do not face problems. If they do encounter issues, efforts are made to resolve them to some extent. Yes, our migrants in Iran have had their challenges, and we have seriously addressed migrant issues during meetings with Iranian officials. Additionally, we have invited undocumented migrants to return to their own country."

This comes as the International Organization for Migration (IOM) said in a recent report on Friday that the return rate of Afghans to Afghanistan decreased by three percent in the past week compared to the previous week.

Financial aid distributed to thousands of martyr families

BAGHLAN (BNA): Officials from the Directorate of Martyrs Disabled Affairs in Baghlan province have reported that thousands of families of martyrs and persons with disabilities have been registered and provided with their rights.

Ehsanullah Abid, the head of the directorate, informed Bakhtar News Agency that during the

third quarter of the current year, 81.24 million Afghanis were distributed to the families of martyrs and persons with disabilities. He added that 12,290 martyr families and 5,409 individuals with disabilities have been registered, including those from the previous administration and the Islamic Emirate.

Abid highlighted that the

disbursement process is carried out in a transparent manner after thorough surveys and investigations, with all eligible recipients receiving monthly allowances through bank transfers.

Furthermore, officials noted that these families are also referred to various charitable organizations to address their additional needs.

Panjshir to establish mulberry orchard on 25 acres of land

BAZARAK (BNA): The Directorate of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock of Panjshir province is establishing a mulberry orchard on 25 acres of land in the center of the province. Qari Fazlullah Deoband, the head of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock in Panjshir, told Bakhtar News Agency reporter that to improve the economic situation of farmers and create job opportunities, this department, with financial support from the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock, is establishing a mulberry orchard on 25 jeribs of land in Bazarak district. He added that 2,025 mulberry saplings have been distributed to farmers for the establishment of this orchard. He emphasized that such projects not only help strengthen the local economy but also have a positive impact on environmental conservation and sustainable development.

Bamiyan marks fourth anniversary of deadly twin bombings

BAMIYAN (Amu TV): Sunday marks the fourth anniversary of two deadly explosions in the city of Bamiyan, Afghanistan, which killed at least 20 people and wounded around 60 others.

On November 24, 2020, at approximately 4:40 p.m., two bombs detonated near a hotel in the city's central market.

The blasts claimed the lives of women and children among the victims. Local authorities reported that one explosive device was hidden in a roadside ditch, while the other was concealed in a wheelbarrow.

**Responsibility for the attack**

Four years after the attack, no individual or group has claimed responsibility, and the Taliban at the time also denied involvement.

Tariq Arian, the spokesperson for Afghanistan's Ministry of Interior in the previous government, accused the Taliban of orchestrating the bombings. Local officials in Bamiyan stated that six individuals were arrested in connection with the attacks, some of whom confessed during initial investigations.

Sayed Anwar Rahmati, the then-governor of Bamiyan, alleged that the Haqqani Network, led by Sirajuddin Haqqani—now the Taliban's interior minister—was behind the bombings.

**Calls for justice**

In the days following the attack, civil society activists and Bamiyan residents erected protest tents, demanding accountability and clarity regarding how

such an attack occurred in their city.

Ismail Zaki, one of the protest organizers, told local media that the goal of the demonstrations was to compel both the local and central governments to provide transparent and satisfactory answers about the incident. The protest lasted 13 days before coming to an end.

**National reactions**

At the time, Afghanistan's presidential palace condemned the attack in a statement, expressing condolences to the victims and their families. "The Taliban and other terrorist groups have intensified violence across the country, targeting civilians and damaging public infrastructure," the statement read.

Sarwar Danish, then the country's second vice pres-

ident, called the attack a failed attempt by "enemies and terrorist groups" to expand the geography of violence and fear in Afghanistan. He urged local authorities and security agencies to identify and bring the perpetrators to justice.

Former President Hamid Karzai also condemned the bombings, describing them as a "conspiracy against the peace and stability" of the Afghan people.

**Unanswered questions**

Despite initial arrests and widespread condemnation, the attack's perpetrators remain unidentified, and no group has claimed responsibility. For many in Bamiyan, the incident remains a painful and unresolved chapter, highlighting the enduring challenges of accountability and justice in Afghanistan.

Islamic Emirate invests 415 billion Afs in mining

KABUL (TOLONews): The office of the Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs in a statement said that 415 billion afghani have been invested in the exploration, extraction, and processing of 21 major mines in Afghanistan.

These mines include gold, iron, ruby, chromite, cement, coal, lead, and zinc, most of which are located in the provinces of Ghor, Herat, Kabul, Takhar, Baghlan, Parwan, and Kandahar.

The office of the Deputy PM for Economic Affairs stressed that the Islamic Emirate prioritizes standardized investments in

mining.

Hamdullah Fitrat, the deputy spokesperson for the Islamic Emirate, said: "For almost three years, the work on the exploration, extraction, and processing of 21 mines has been ongoing at a cost of about 415 billion afghani. These mines are located in Herat, Ghor, Kandahar, Takhar, Baghlan, Kabul, and Parwan provinces. The mines include gold, chromite, coal, lead and zinc, cement, and ruby."

Meanwhile, some experts believe that the proper utilization of Afghanistan's mines is crucial for the country's economic growth and development, as well as for providing employment opportunities for its citizens. They emphasize the need for more facilities to be made available to investors.

"If systems for processing precious stones are installed in Afghanistan, they could play a role in improving the economy and reducing unemployment in the future," Ismail Zadran, an economic analyst, told TOLONews.

"To this end, more facilities must be provided. Firstly, there is the issue of security, which, thanks to God, is not a concern in

Afghanistan.

Secondly, international trade regulations must be established, as Afghanistan currently relies on international donors," said Shams Rahman Ahmadzai, another economic analyst.

The statement from the office of the Economic deputy PM added that, based on preliminary assessments, Afghanistan has natural reserves worth three trillion dollars. Geological and geophysical studies on several other major mines have also been completed, and work is ongoing to allocate these mines to bidders.

Parwan expands orphanage capacity, enhances care

PARWAN (TOLONews): The department of Labor and Social Affairs in Parwan province stated that the capacity of the orphanage in the province has increased from 100 to 400 individuals, including girls.

According to the department, many orphaned and homeless children are being educated and nurtured in these orphanages.

"We have created a capacity for 400 individuals in public and private orphanages. Orphaned children and children whose parents are addicted are identified and supported," said Qudratullah Zakir, head of Labor and Social Affairs in Parwan province of Afghanistan.

Meanwhile, several children in these orphanages have called for better facilities for education.

"We need desks and chairs so that we can study and learn comfortably," said Amina, one of the students.

"In our classrooms, there are only carpets, and there are no desks or chairs. We request the authorities to provide these facilities," said Nilofar, another student.

Recently, a new and standard orphanage has been established in Parwan by a domestic organization, with its equipment



Attack on Baghlan worshippers spark domestic, int'l reactions

BAGHLAN (TOLONews): The shooting of worshippers in Nahrin District of Baghlan Province has elicited both domestic and international reactions.

Former President Hamid

Karzai condemned the attack as a terrorist and inhumane act, expressing condolences to the families of the victims.

A statement from Karzai's office read: "Former President Hamid Karzai considers the attack on a group of worshippers in Nahrin District of Baghlan Province a terrorist act and a crime against humanity and strongly condemns it. The former president, while extending his condolences and sympathies to the grieving families, prays for paradise for the martyrs and a swift recovery for the injured."

Samim Shamsi, a political affairs analyst, commented on the targeting of civilians, stating: "Any attack on civilians, especially in sacred places like mosques, is against Islamic and human principles. All

such attacks must be prevented."

The United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights have also condemned the attack and called for a thorough investigation.

UNAMA stated on X: "UNAMA condemns Thursday's armed attack against a Sufi place of worship in Baghlan province, northern Afghanistan in which at least 10 people were killed. UNAMA urges de facto authorities fully investigate the incident, prevent future attacks & ensure communities are protected."

Richard Bennett, the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights in Afghanistan, said: "Religious minorities remain under grave threat.

All Afghans have the right to worship in peace. More prevention, protection & justice needed."

Hamdullah Fitrat, Deputy Spokesperson of the Islamic Emirate, stated after the attack: "Investigations are ongoing to identify and punish those responsible. The Islamic Emirate condemns this incident and considers it an unforgivable act. This was the work of extremist groups for whom the spilling of a Muslim's blood is commonplace."

In the attack by unidentified assailants on worshippers in Nahrin District of Baghlan Province, ten people were killed. The Islamic Emirate also announced that several individuals have been arrested in connection with the incident.

No individual or group has yet claimed responsibility for the attack.



# Bilawal voices concern over deteriorating law and order in Kurram

F.P. Report

KARACHI: Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has expressed grave concern over the worsening law and order situation in Kurram District.

Bilawal has demanded a comprehensive report on the situation from the Governor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), highlighting that the region is "burning in the flames of unrest" while the provincial government remains absent.

In a statement, Bilawal revealed that over the past three days, 80 civilians

have been killed, and even the safety of homes can no longer be guaranteed.

"Maintaining law and order is the foremost responsibility of the provincial government," Bilawal stressed, lambasting the PTI-led KP government for failing to protect its citizens.

"The loss of lives has left the nation grieving, and we cannot bear to see Khyber Pakhtunkhwa consumed by the flames of unrest," he added.

Bilawal's remarks underscore the gravity of the situation, with calls for immediate action to restore peace in the troubled region.

He termed the government's silence in the face of growing insecurity as tantamount to becoming "an ally of terrorists."

Meanwhile, Chairman of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has underscored the importance of collective efforts to end all forms of violence against women.

In a message on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, he emphasized the need to empower women and safeguard their safety, dignity, and rights. Reaffirming the PPP's dedication to gender equality and women's

empowerment, he called for a society free from fear, discrimination, and violence. He expressed grave concern over the widespread prevalence of gender-based violence, urging immediate action to address its causes through comprehensive legislative, social, and cultural reforms.

"Violence against women is a gross violation of human rights and a major impediment to achieving a just and equitable society. We must commit ourselves to eliminating it from all aspects of life, be it at home, in the workplace, or public spaces," he said.



ISLAMABAD: Protesters of PTI throwing stones on police during a clash on Sunday. — INP photo

Delegation completes visit to Kurram

## Parties agree to seven-day ceasefire

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: The government delegation/jirga formed by Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to address the recent incidents in Kurram District and seek a peaceful resolution has concluded its two-day visit and returned to Peshawar.

Advisor to the Chief Minister on Information

and Public Relations, Barrister Dr. Saif, stated that both parties have agreed to a seven-day ceasefire.

They also reached an understanding on the exchange of prisoners and the handover of bodies.

Dr. Saif shared that on the first day of the visit, the delegation met with the Shia community leaders, while on the second

day, they held discussions with Sunni elders.

He termed this agreement a significant step towards resolving the issues.

He highlighted the provincial government's commitment to de-escalating tensions in the district. Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur had formed the jirga to address the situation, and under Dr. Saif's

leadership, the delegation successfully mediated between the parties.

In this first phase, the jirga succeeded in fostering consensus on a ceasefire, the exchange of prisoners, and the handover of bodies.

This development marks an essential move towards restoring peace and stability in Kurram District.

## Indian SC weighs Yasin Malik's trial

MIRPUR, AJK (APP): In a significant legal development, the Supreme Court of India has reportedly emphasized the importance of a fair trial, drawing comparisons to the case of terrorist Ajmal Kasab, during the ongoing appeal by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) concerning veteran Kashmir freedom struggle leader Yasin Malik, says a report reaching here Sunday from across the line of control (LoC).

Yasin Malik, the report said, is embroiled in a fake case linked to the alleged killing of an Indian Air Force person-

nel.

As the CBI challenges a directive for Malik's physical appearance in a Jammu court, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta expressed serious security concerns, highlighting potential risks to both Malik and witnesses involved in the trial.

The bench, comprising Justice Abhay S Oka and Justice Augustine George Masih, is currently deliberating on the matter, the report said.

In a related statement, Raja Muzaffar, US-based acting Chairman of Yasin Malik faction of tge JKLF- Jammu Kashmir

Liberation Front, on Sunday urged the Indian government to reconsider its stance on Malik, arguing that he should be viewed not as a terrorist, but rather as a figure akin to Gandhi or Nelson Mandela for the people of Kashmir, says a message reaching and released to the media here Sunday night.

The JKLF acting Chairman contends that acknowledging this perspective was essential for resolving the long-standing issues in the region, emphasizing the need for political will to foster change, he concluded.

## Bushra Bibi, CM Gandapur 'lead' PTI convoy to Islamabad

F.P. Report

PESHAWAR: PTI Central Information Secretary Sheikh Waqas Akram confirmed that the wife of Imran Khan, Bushra Bibi is part of the PTI convoy leaving Peshawar, alongside workers traveling to Islamabad for the ongoing protest.

The convoy, under the leadership of Ali Amin Gandapur and Sheikh Waqas Akram, is heading towards the capital, with Bushra Bibi traveling alongside the workers.

Sheikh Waqas Akram emphasized the importance of solidarity during this time, stating, "The workers cannot be left alone at this moment." He further added that if PTI expects workers to bring their families, then it would be only fitting for Khan's family to be the first to participate in the march.

Akram expressed confidence that the goals set by Imran Khan will be successfully achieved, despite the ongoing challenges.

The convoy continues its journey as PTI remains determined in its call for protest in Islamabad.

Earlier, the convoy of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister (CM) was unable to leave the province amid internal disagreements and logistical challenges, sources revealed.

Reportedly, Bushri Bibi, a key figure within the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), expressed her intention to participate in the ongoing protest. However, PTI leader Ali Amin Gandapur has prohibited her from joining, citing the already precarious situation faced by the party.

"There are already enough difficulties for us," Gandapur reportedly stated, emphasizing the need to avoid any missteps at this critical juncture. Meanwhile, Bushri Bibi remained firm in her stance, asserting that she is adhering to the directives of PTI Chairman Imran Khan.

Sources disclosed that the disagreement led to a heated discussion between Gandapur and Bushri Bibi. "I am following Khan Sahib's orders," both leaders maintained during their exchange.

The inability to resolve these differences and the ongoing logistical hurdles are raising concerns about the party's ability to manage its protest efforts effectively.

## Erdogan to discuss Ukraine war with NATO chief

ANKARA (Reuters): Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan will discuss the latest developments in the Russia-Ukraine war with NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte on Monday during his visit to Ankara, a Turkish official said on Sunday.

Russia struck Ukraine with a new hypersonic medium-range ballistic missile on Thursday in response to Kyiv's use of US and British missiles against Russia, marking an escalation in the war that began when Moscow launched a full-scale invasion of its neighbor in February 2022.

NATO member Turkiye,

which has condemned the Russian invasion, says it supports Ukraine's territorial integrity and it has provided Kyiv with military support.

But Turkiye, a Black Sea neighbor of both Russia and Ukraine, also opposes Western sanctions against Moscow, with which it shares important defense, energy and tourism ties.

On Wednesday, Erdogan opposed a US decision to allow Ukraine to use long-range missiles to attack inside Russia, saying it would further inflame the conflict, according to a readout shared by his office.

Moscow says that by giving the green light for Ukraine to fire Western missiles deep inside Russia, the US and its allies are entering into direct conflict with Russia. On Tuesday, Putin approved policy changes that lowered the threshold for Russia to use nuclear weapons in response to an attack with conventional weapons.

During their talks on Monday, Erdogan and Rutte will also discuss the removal of defense procurement obstacles between NATO allies and the military alliance's joint fight against terrorism, the Turkish official said.

## Dar terms PTI's protest conspiracy against country



F.P. Report

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Sunday questioned Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) repeated calls for strikes, terming them as well-thought out conspiracy against country's prestige.

In a press statement, the DPM/FM expressed his regret over PTI's protest announced for November

24 in Islamabad.

He said that the party announced its protests at a time when important global personalities were on visit to Pakistan, adding wether it was 14th October on the occasion of Chinese premier's visit or on 15-16 October when the heads of government of SCO arrived to participate in high-level event hosted by Pakistan.

DPM/FM Dar said, similarly, the Belarusian

President was due on Monday on his official visit to Pakistan and prior to it, Belarusian ministers and business delegation were also arriving today.

He called upon the PTI's leadership to give priority to the national interests and the country on their petty political interests.

**People rejected PTI's politics of confrontation: Musadiq Malik**

Federal Minister for Petroleum Musadiq Malik on Sunday said people had rejected PTI's politics of agitation and confrontation, which is aimed at destabilizing the country and no any convoy was taken out from Punjab, Sindh and Balochistan.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa CM and Bushra Bibi heading towards Islamabad but they would never succeed in their nefarious designs, he said.

## Lahore ranks tops list of most polluted cities

LAHORE (APP): The provincial metropolis, despite governments intensified efforts, occupies top position among the list of the most polluted cities in the world

On Sunday evening, the Air Quality Index (AQI) was recorded at 242 that is very unhealthy.

As per the data collected from the IQ Air website on Sunday at 06:52 pm, Dhaka (Bangladesh) ranked second with an AQI of 230 (very

unhealthy), followed by Sarajevo (Bosnia Herzegovina) with an AQI of 206 (very unhealthy).

The air quality in fourth to tenth-ranked cities is unhealthy.

Beijing (China) is ranked fourth with an AQI of 180 (unhealthy), closely followed by Delhi (India) and Hanoi (Vietnam) with an AQI of 174 (unhealthy).

Meanwhile, Mumbai (India) is ranked seventh with an AQI of 169

(unhealthy), followed by Kolkata (India) with an AQI of 161 (unhealthy). Tehran (Iran) is ranked ninth while Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan) is in tenth place with an AQI of 158 and 151 (unhealthy), respectively.

After reeling under toxic smog for around one month, air quality in Lahore and most districts in Punjab improved considerably last week due to changes in wind directions and rains in the upper

parts. This caused the Punjab government to resume physical classes at schools and outdoor activities as per normal routine.

However, the air quality has started deteriorating again due to emissions from moving and stationary sources and stable atmospheric conditions. Health professionals have advised the public to take all possible measures to avoid smog-related health hazards.

## President reaffirms commitment to women's rights, end to violence

ISLAMABAD (APP): President Asif Ali Zardari has reaffirmed on the 'International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women', that they were united in solidarity with women and girls across the world who endured violence in many forms.

"This day serves as a reminder to intensify our efforts to end violence against women and girls," he

said in a message on the observance of International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women on November 25. On this day, he reaffirmed commitment to protect the rights of women, provide them with a safe and enabling environment, and reduce gender-based violence.

"We need to empower women by providing them education, focusing on their skill-building

and ensuring their financial independence. It is also essential to raise awareness about women's rights and eliminate violence against them," he stressed.

The president said that violence against women was a pervasive human rights issue that affected nearly one in three women globally. The urgency for immediate and collective action could be gauged from the fact that

thousands of women lost their lives annually in acts of violence, he observed. "This year's theme 'Every 10 Minutes, a Woman is Killed. #NoExcuse'.

UNITE to End Violence against Women" calls upon us to increase investments in prevention strategies, survivor support, and systemic reforms to address this grave violation of human rights", President said.

## Hezbollah fires more than 180 rockets and other projectiles into Israel

BEIRUT (AP): Hezbollah fired at least 185 rockets and other projectiles into Israel on Sunday, wounding seven people in the militant group's heaviest barrage in several days, in response to deadly Israeli strikes in Beirut while negotiators pressed on with cease-fire efforts to halt the all-out war.

Meanwhile, an Israeli strike on a Lebanese army center killed one soldier and wounded 18 others on the southwestern coastal road between Tyre and Naqoura, Lebanon's military said. Israel's military expressed regret and said the strike occurred in an area of combat against

Hezbollah, adding that its operations are directed solely against the militants. The strike was under review.

Israeli strikes have killed over 40 Lebanese troops since the start of the war between Israel and Hezbollah, even as Lebanon's military has largely kept to the sidelines.

Lebanon's caretaker prime minister, Najib Mikati, condemned the latest strike as an assault on U.S.-led cease-fire efforts, calling it a "direct, bloody message rejecting all efforts and ongoing contacts" to end the war. Hezbollah began firing

rockets, missiles and drones into Israel after Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023, attack out of the Gaza Strip ignited the war there. Hezbollah has portrayed the attacks as an act of solidarity with the Palestinians and Hamas. Iran supports both armed groups.

Israel has launched retaliatory airstrikes at Hezbollah, and in September the low-level conflict erupted into all-out war as Israel launched waves of airstrikes across large parts of Lebanon and killed Hezbollah's top leader, Hassan Nasrallah, and several top commanders.

The Israeli military said some of the projectiles fired Sunday were intercepted.

Israel's Magen David Adom rescue service said it treated seven people, including a 60-year old man in severe condition from rocket fire on northern Israel, a 23-year-old man who was lightly wounded by a blast in the central city of Petah Tikva and a 70-year-old woman who suffered smoke inhalation from a car that caught fire there.

In Haifa, a rocket hit a residential building that police said was in danger of collapsing. It was unclear whether the

injuries and damage were caused by rockets or interceptors.

Sirens wailed again in central and northern Israel hours later.

Israeli airstrikes without warning on Saturday pounded central Beirut, killing at least 29 people and wounding 67, according to Lebanon's Health Ministry.

Smoke billowed above Beirut again Sunday with new strikes. Israel's military said it targeted Hezbollah command centers in the southern suburbs of Dahiyeh, where the militants have a strong presence.

Israeli attacks have

killed more than 3,700 people in Lebanon, according to the Health Ministry. The fighting has displaced about 1.2 million people, or a quarter of Lebanon's population.

On the Israeli side, about 90 soldiers and nearly 50 civilians have been killed by bombardments in northern Israel and in battle following Israel's ground invasion in early October. Around 60,000 Israelis have been displaced from the country's north.

The Biden administration has spent months trying to broker a cease-fire, and U.S. envoy Amos Hochstein was in the

region last week.

The European Union's top diplomat called Sunday for more pressure on Israel and Hezbollah to reach a deal, saying one was "pending with a final agreement from the Israeli government."

Josep Borrell spoke after meeting with Mikati and Lebanese Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri, a Hezbollah ally who has been mediating with the group.

Borrell said the EU is ready to allocate 200 million euros (\$208 million) to assist the Lebanese military, which would deploy additional forces to the south.

The emerging agreement would pave the way for the withdrawal of Hezbollah militants and Israeli troops from southern Lebanon below the Litani River in accordance with the U.N. Security Council resolution that ended the month-long 2006 war. Lebanese troops would patrol the area, with the presence of U.N. peacekeepers.

Lebanon's army reflects the religious diversity of the country and is respected as a national institution, but it does not have the military capability to impose its will on Hezbollah or resist Israel's invasion.