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Editor: JAVED SIDDIQ

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Govt, JI agree to form technical committees to review petroleum levy



ANI

RAWALPINDI/ PESHAWAR/ LAHORE/KARACHI:

The government and Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) have agreed to hold technical-level talks on reducing the petroleum levy and fuel prices, with both sides to form teams of experts to examine the issue and work out a feasible mechanism for providing relief to consumers. The decision was announced at a press conference in Lahore on Thursday following a meeting between the JI leadership and a government delegation at Mansoorah. Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal, Prime Minister's Adviser on Political Affairs Rana Sanaullah and Punjab Minister Khawaja Salman Rafiq represented the government, while

JI emir Hafiz Naeemur Rehman led the party delegation. The government invited the JI to nominate experts to join the technical discussions, which are scheduled to begin on Monday. Ahsan said the two sides would examine the petroleum levy and other proposals and expressed hope that the technical teams would develop a workable solution within two weeks.

Sanaullah said the government was ready to consider feasible proposals put forward by the JI to reduce the burden on consumers. He said both sides wanted to provide relief to the public and that the discussions had been held in a positive atmosphere.

Rehman said the JI would continue its sit-ins against high petroleum prices while negotiations

with the government proceeded simultaneously. He added that the party had already constituted its technical team and was ready to discuss the proposals with the government.

The JI team is led by Liaquat Baloch and includes Naveed Ali Baig, Ziauddin Ansari, Nasrullah Randhawa and Faisal Shah.

Iqbal said the government delegation had visited Mansoorah on the instructions of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and that the government itself wanted petroleum prices to be reduced and relief provided to the people.

He further stated that the government had proposed forming a committee to identify a practical mechanism for providing relief through the petroleum levy and

invited the JI to nominate experts so both sides could jointly work out a viable solution. "The government will consider any feasible proposal," he added.

Iqbal stressed that the national interest was paramount and said the government did not want unrest in the country. He noted that Pakistan was also fighting terrorism and warned that hostile elements could exploit instability.

He said political and economic stability was essential for attracting investment and that unnecessary protests and disorder could discourage investors.

He added that Pakistan had been moving towards economic recovery after 2016 but the impact of the previous four years had not been fully overcome.

PM Approves Trade Facilitation Board to Streamline Cross-Border Trade



ANI

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday approved the establishment of a Trade Facilitation Board, to be chaired by him, aimed at streamlining trade processes and addressing non-tariff barriers to cross-border commerce.

Chairing a meeting on trade facilitation in Islamabad, the prime minister said the board would take decisions to improve the entire trade supply chain and resolve issues affecting cross-border trade.

The meeting was informed that the board would prepare a roadmap to promote trade, formulate a Trade Facilitation Index and devise a mechanism to monitor progress.

PM Shehbaz directed the relevant authorities to work on an "emergency basis" to enhance the capacity of the country's ports and ordered the formation of working groups to oversee the process.

He said these groups would focus on increasing port capacity, improving coordination among relevant departments, ensuring compliance with the regulatory framework, facilitating pre-arrival clearance and promoting the participation of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in international trade.

The prime minister also called for the simplification of transportation, clearance and other procedures for importers and exporters at ports, directing that "maximum possible facilitation" be provided to the business community. The meeting was informed that ongoing reforms had reduced port charges, resulting in a significant increase in port utilisation.

It was further briefed that the facility for submitting Goods Declarations before the arrival of vessels was being expanded. The measure is expected to speed up clearance procedures.

Food Security and Research Minister Rana Tanveer Hussain, Commerce Minister Jam Kamal Khan, Economic Affairs Minister Ahmad Khan Cheema, Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb, Maritime Affairs Minister Junaaid Anwar Chaudhry, Adviser to the PM for Industries and Production Division Haroon Akhtar Khan, Minister of State for Finance and Railways Bilal Azhar Kayani and other senior government officials attended the meeting.

A day earlier, Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan instructed their governments to prepare an action plan to raise bilateral trade to \$200 million, as the two countries sought to move their economic partnership to a "qualitatively new" level. Before that, leaders of the 10 Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) member states on Tuesday adopted the "Bishkek Declaration", setting out plans to deepen cooperation on security, trade and technology as the organisation marked its 25th anniversary, with Pakistan taking over as chair to host the next meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of State in 2027. On August 22, PM Shehbaz reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to further strengthening ties with Malaysia across all spheres, including security, law enforcement, trade and investment. In a statement, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said Malaysian Home Minister Datu' Seri Saifuddin Nasution Ismail called on PM Shehbaz at the Prime Minister's House in Islamabad.

Govt plans oil city at Hub with offshore SPM, dual pipelines, bonded storages



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ISLAMABAD: The government has initiated work on an ambitious plan to establish an integrated oil city at Hub, Balochistan, featuring an offshore Single Point Mooring (SPM) facility, dedicated crude oil and petroleum product pipelines, and large-scale bonded storage infrastructure aimed at transforming the region into a major petroleum logistics and trading hub. The proposed project is expected to provide Pakistan with additional capacity to handle large crude oil and petroleum product vessels while easing pressure on existing port infrastructure at Karachi and Port Qasim, where limitations restrict the berthing of very large vessels. According to official sources, a consultancy firm Technique has been hired to conduct a basic feasibility study of the proposed structure required for oil city. The study will determine the technical and commercial viability of the project and advise the government on whether it should proceed with development of the required infrastructure.

The study is expected to be completed within two months, after which the government will decide on the next phase of the project. The proposed oil city will be developed on government land at Hub that

was previously allocated to Parco for establishment of a coastal refinery. Instead of leaving the strategically located land underutilised, the government now plans to use it for a broader petroleum infrastructure project that can potentially bring together import handling, storage, pipeline connectivity and petroleum product distribution facilities.

During a recent visit to Karachi, the minister for petroleum and natural resources was briefed by Parco management on the proposed development. The company presented its concept paper for the oil city, following which the minister directed Parco to undertake the basic study and further develop the proposal.

Under the concept presented by Parco, a Single Point Mooring facility would be established offshore in deep water, allowing large crude oil tankers and vessels carrying finished petroleum products to discharge their cargo without having to enter shallow-water port facilities.

The SPM will be connected to the mainland through two dedicated pipelines. One pipeline will transport imported crude oil towards KPT's Kemari facilities, while the second will carry finished petroleum products towards Port Qasim, with connectivity to the existing White Oil Pipeline network.

The proposed oil city is also being linked with the government's renewed customs-bonded storage policy, under which petroleum companies and international traders will be able to store imported products in bonded facilities without immediately paying applicable duties and taxes, subject to the relevant regulatory framework.

Security forces kill 15 terrorists trying to infiltrate from Afghanistan: ISPR

ANI

Security forces have killed 15 terrorists who were trying to infiltrate through the Pakistan-Afghanistan border opposite North Waziristan District, the military's media wing said on Thursday, adding that the engagement lasted for 36 hours. According to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), security forces detected the "movement of a group of khawarij belonging to Indian-sponsored Fitna Al Khawarij during the night of August 31 and September 1." Fitna al-Khawarij is the state-designated term for the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP). "Own troops responded professionally and with patience to engage them successfully," the statement said. The ISPR further added that as a result of "precise and skillful engagement" that lasted for 36 hours, 15 terrorists were killed. During the



follow-up sanitisation operation, a significant quantity of weapons and ammunition were also recovered from the killed terrorists, which ISPR said had "further exposed the nefarious designs of Khawarij and their facilitators" seeking to "disrupt peace and stability in the

country". "This incident along Pakistan-Afghanistan border once again vindicates Pakistan's persistent stance regarding the abject failure of the Afghan Taliban Regime to deny the use of Afghan soil to the terrorist organisation, under their patronage, for cross-border terrorism," the statement added. The ISPR further stated that the Afghan Taliban regime "has consistently failed to ensure effective border management and honour its international obligations." Pakistan has repeatedly accused terrorist groups based in Afghanistan of carrying out attacks inside the country and demanded that Kabul take action against them. The Afghan Taliban government has rejected accusations that it allows its territory to be used for attacks against Pakistan. Pakistan's security forces "remain resolute and unwavering in their commitment" to protecting the country's borders, it added.

NCCIA Reissues Notices to Momina Iqbal, Saqib Chadhar

ANI

LAHORE: The National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency (NCCIA) on Thursday reissued notices to television actor Momina Iqbal and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) MPA Saqib Chadhar after new digital evidence emerged, while a special investigation team has been formed to conduct a fresh probe into the matter. According to an NCCIA spokesperson, the special team will be headed by an officer of the rank of deputy director and will examine the newly surfaced digital evidence, previous records and other relevant information related to the case. The spokesperson said the team was directed to complete the investigation within one month and submit its report to the NCCIA Director General. A decision regarding further legal action will be taken in light of the findings and recommendations contained in the investigation report, the spokesperson added. The NCCIA cautioned that declaring any individual guilty or innocent before completion of the investigation would be premature.

Acting President Gillani stresses maximum relief for floods affected people of GB

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ISLAMABAD: Acting President, Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani on Thursday said that the situation arising from floods in Gilgit-Baltistan required continued attention and coordinated efforts and stressed that maximum relief must be ensured to the affected people. He expressed these views while talking to Deputy Speaker Gilgit-Baltistan Assembly, Malik Kifayatullah Rehman, who called on him at Aiwan-e-Sadr, along with former Forest Minister, Muhammad Imran Wakeel belonging to Tangir Valley in the Diamer and former Member Provincial Assembly (MPA) from Kohistan Abdul Sattar



Khan, a Presidency's news release said.

Matters relating to the overall political situation in Gilgit-Baltistan also came under discussion. Abdul Sattar

Khan said that the people of Kohistan were grateful to Mr Gilani for providing a Degree College in Dasu during his tenure as Prime Minister of Pakistan.

Dar Orders PASSCO to Ensure Timely Wheat Supply to Provinces

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ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister (DPM/FM), Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Thursday chaired a meeting to take notice of wheat stocks in the country and directed PASSCO to immediately supply wheat to the provinces as per the allocations approved by the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) and the Steering Committee.

The deputy prime minister appreciated the cooperation and coordination extended by all provinces, the Ministry of National Food Security and Research, and the Ministry of Commerce in resolving issues related to wheat imports, stabilising prices and curbing hoarding, a DPM's Office news release said. He further directed the provinces to ensure timely payments and lifting of the allocated wheat supplies. The meeting reiterated the decision to import up to one million



metric tonnes of wheat, for which the Trading Corporation of Pakistan (TCP) was directed to start the process forthwith. In the first phase, 250,000 metric tonnes of wheat will be imported, with delivery scheduled for November. The DPM stressed that all concerned institutions must continue working in close coordination to ensure adequate wheat availability.

DC Jhelum Honours Teachers and Journalists at Non-Formal Education Ceremony

By: ANI Correspondent:

JHELUM -- A Certificate distribution ceremony was held in Jhelum under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner Mir Raza Ozgen, who honoured teachers completing IT training under the Non-Formal Education Programme and journalists for their contributions to educational initiatives.

The Deputy Commissioner appreciated the dedication of non-formal education teachers and urged them to enhance their digital and technical skills. He also commended District Officer Literacy Maimoona Anjum for her efforts to strengthen non-formal education projects across the district.

IT trainer Syed Ali Zaidi was recognised for providing modern tech-



nological training to teachers. Senior journalist and Press Club President Sohail Imtiaz Khan, Makhdoom Hussain Chaudhry, Raheel Khalil and Mirza Johar Iqbal received honorary certificates for their media coverage and support for educational activities. Media Coordinator

Asghar Mirza and Social Media Coordinator Muhammad Owais were also honoured.

Donors supporting the non-formal education sector were also presented with honorary certificates in appreciation of their continued contributions.

PM Shehbaz Sharif Approves Establishment of Trade Facilitation Board

By: ANI :

ISLAMABAD -- Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chaired an important meeting on facilitating trade and approved the establishment of a Trade Facilitation Board. The Prime Minister himself will chair the board.

The proposed board will work to improve the entire trade supply chain and take decisions on all non-tariff issues related to cross-border trade. It will also formulate a road-map for trade promotion, develop a Trade Facilitation Index and devise a monitoring strategy.

The Prime Minister directed that urgent measures be taken to improve the operational capacity of the country's ports and instructed the formation of various working groups.

The working groups will focus on enhancing port capacity, improving coordination among relevant departments, ensuring compliance with the regulatory framework, pre-arrival clearance and increasing the participation of small and medium-sized enterprises in international trade.

The Prime Minister also directed



that maximum facilities be provided to importers and exporters at ports by simplifying cargo delivery, clearance and other related procedures.

The meeting was informed that port charges had been reduced under ongoing reforms, following which there had been a significant improvement in the utilisation of ports. The briefing also noted that the facility for submitting Goods Declarations before the arrival of vessels was continuously increasing.

Federal Minister for National

Food Security Rana Tanveer Hussain, Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan, Federal Minister for Economic Affairs Ahad Khan Cheema, Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Muhammad Aurangzeb, Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Junaid Anwar Chaudhry, Prime Minister's Adviser on Industry Haroon Akhtar, Minister of State for Finance and Railways Bilal Azhar Kayani and relevant senior government officials attended the meeting.

Commissioner Sargodha Reviews Healthcare and Administrative Affairs in Noorpur Thal

By: City Reporter ANI :

SARGODHA -- Commissioner Sargodha Division Hafiz Shaukat Ali, accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Khushab Dr. Jahanzeb Hussain Laber, visited Tehsil Headquarters (THQ) Hospital Noorpur Thal to review healthcare facilities being provided to patients.

Assistant Commissioner Noorpur Thal Shazia Rehman, Medical Superintendent THQ Hospital Noorpur Surgeon Dr. Ameer Umar, doctors, nursing staff and other relevant officials were also present on the occasion.

The Commissioner was given a detailed briefing on the availability of medicines, medical facilities and other treatment services being provided to patients at the hospital. He inspected various departments, including the Emergency Department, Male and Female Wards, Gynecology Ward, Pharmacy, Reception Counter and Laboratory, and reviewed the facilities available to patients.

Hafiz Shaukat Ali also checked the attendance of doctors and nursing staff and directed medical personnel to further improve patient care. He emphasized that the vision of Punjab



Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif regarding the provision of free medicines must be implemented in letter and spirit.

He said that providing quality, timely and effective healthcare services to patients visiting government hospitals was a top priority of the Punjab Government. The Commissioner also reviewed cleanliness arrangements at THQ Hospital Noorpur and directed the administration to ensure further improvement in patient care and hospital management.

Later, Commissioner Hafiz Shaukat

Ali, along with Deputy Commissioner Dr. Jahanzeb Hussain Laber, visited the Assistant Commissioner's Office in Noorpur Thal. Assistant Commissioner Shazia Rehman briefed the Commissioner in detail about the administrative affairs of Noorpur Thal Tehsil, ongoing development projects and other government activities.

The Commissioner directed the concerned officers to further improve the delivery of public services and ensure the effective implementation of government policies and initiatives.

Punjab Chief Secretary Announces Zero Tolerance for Corruption

Report: ANI Correspondent:

LAHORE --- Chief Secretary Punjab Zahid Zaman and DG Anti-Corruption Sohail Zafar Chatta addressed all provincial secretaries, commissioners and deputy commissioners through video link.

Chief Secretary Zahid Zaman expressed concern over growing complaints of corruption in Punjab and announced a zero-tolerance policy. He said DG Anti-Corruption had been given full authority to take action against corrupt officials.

DG Anti-Corruption Sohail Zafar Chatta said lists of officers were



being prepared and officials with a questionable reputation would not be assigned important responsibilities. Sources said the Chief Minister

had also empowered the Anti-Corruption Establishment to take strict action against corruption without interference.

Balochistan Lawmakers Meet NAVTTC Chairman to Discuss Skills Development

Report: Hurish Shah FT

ISLAMABAD --MNA Pullin Baloch and Senator Sana Jamali from Balochistan met NAVTTC Chairman Engr. Qamar-ul-Islam Raja at NAVTTC Headquarters in Islamabad.

The meeting focused on NAVTTC's ongoing efforts to strengthen technical and vocational education and expand skills development opportunities for Pakistan's youth.



Global CIO Summit to Bring Together 800+ Technology and Cybersecurity Leaders in Pakistan

Report: ANI :

Karachi /Pakistan: Pakistan will host the World CIO 200 Summit & Awards 2026 - Pakistan Edition on September 12, bringing together more than 800 technology executives, cybersecurity professionals and business leaders, including over 100 senior Pakistani technology professionals based overseas.

The Karachi event is part of the World CIO 200 Roadshow 2026, a global leadership platform spanning more than 60 countries. Organised in Pakistan by ITCN Asia and powered by Global CIO Forum, the summit will focus on artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, digital transformation, enterprise technology and technology-led business growth.

The event will be inaugurated by Dr Erdal Ozkaya, President of the Global CISO Forum, and Zarrar Hasham Khan, Federal Secretary, Ministry of IT and Telecom.

Senior speakers from Pakistan and



abroad, including leaders from banking, telecommunications, cybersecurity and technology sectors, will participate in discussions on cyber resilience, data protection, emerging technologies and digital transformation.

The participation of more than 100 Pakistani technology executives based overseas is expected to strengthen links between Pakistan's

technology ecosystem and international markets, promoting knowledge exchange, investment opportunities and global collaboration.

The 2026 platform is built around four pillars – Knowledge, Health, Human and Community – with a focus on innovation, digital well-being, human-centric leadership and resilient global communities.

PLUS, Rotary Club Host ‘Voices Behind the Bars’ to Promote Rehabilitation and Access to Justice

Report: ANI Correspondent:

Karachi: Pakistan Legal United Society (PLUS), in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Karachi Silver Sands, organised “Voices Behind the Bars”, a showcase highlighting vocational training, rehabilitation and access to justice for inmates, in Karachi on September 2.

The event brought together representatives from civil society, the business community, academia and professional organisations to witness the impact of initiatives aimed at equipping inmates with skills and creating opportunities for rehabilitation and social reintegration.

The showcase featured vocational skills including graphic designing, fine arts, solar technician training and other technical programmes, alongside legal assistance, employment opportunities and access-to-justice initiatives.

Participants emphasised that reha-



bilitation goes beyond correction and should focus on restoring dignity, building confidence, developing skills and creating sustainable livelihood opportunities. A commitment was also made by participating stakeholders to support and sustain vocational training and rehabilitation centres, ensuring continued access to skills development, justice and employment opportunities for inmates. Artwork created by women and juvenile

inmates under the training programme was also exhibited for sale. The proceeds will go directly to the inmates to help them support their families while serving their sentences.

The event was described as an important step towards prison reform and social reintegration in Pakistan, highlighting the potential of partnerships between legal aid organisations, civil society and Rotary clubs to create lasting social impact.

Jamaat-e-Islami Observes Nationwide Strike; Protests Held Across Tharparkar

Report: ANI :

Tharparkar --On the call of Jamaat-e-Islami Central Ameer Hafiz Naeemur-Rehman, a nationwide strike was observed on Thursday against rising inflation, unemployment and the levy/surcharge imposed on petroleum products.

Protest rallies were held in several towns of Tharparkar, while markets and commercial centres remained closed at various locations.

In Islamkot, a rally was taken out from the Press Club to Town Mor, while in Kaloi, markets and commercial centres remained closed and a protest rally was held from the Grid Station to Kaloi Chowk.

Protests were also organised in Diplo and Mithi, where participants raised slogans against inflation, unemployment and the petroleum levy. In Mithi, a shutter-down strike was observed and a rally was held from the Jamaat-e-Islami office to Kashmir Chowk.

Jamaat-e-Islami leaders demanded withdrawal of the petroleum levy/surcharge, effective measures to control inflation and practical steps to address unemployment.



The protests across Tharparkar highlighted concerns over the rising cost of living and increasing financial pressure on consumers.

Higher Education Department Finally Wakes Up, Raises Serious Questions Over BZU Seniority

Report: ANI

MULTAN --- The Higher Education Department (HED), Government of Punjab, has raised serious legal and administrative questions over the seniority mechanism being followed at Bahauddin Zakariya University (BZU), Multan, while examining the case concerning the nomination of the Pro Vice Chancellor.

In an official letter dated 31 August 2026, addressed to the Vice Chancellor BZU, the HED questioned how the date of joining and date of seniority could be treated as separate matters when seniority is normally determined with reference to the date of joining. The department has sought clarification from the university along with documentary evidence.

More significantly, the HED has questioned whether a 2002 decision of the BZU Syndicate concerning the grant of ante-dated seniority was ever incorporated into the University Statutes and subsequently approved by the Chancellor under the relevant provisions of the BZU Act, 1975.

The department has indicated that if such approval was not



obtained, the seniority of Professors and Associate Professors may have to be determined strictly in accordance with the BZU Act and duly approved statutes.

The letter has also raised a particularly critical question: why did the practice of granting ante-dated seniority allegedly continue despite directions of the Chancellor dated 17 July 2019 and 21 April 2020 calling for discontinuation of such practice?

These observations have brought BZU's seniority framework under renewed scrutiny, particularly because seniority can directly affect

eligibility and consideration for important statutory and administrative positions.

The HED has directed the Vice Chancellor to provide the required documents and explanations “within two days positively,” indicating the urgency with which the provincial government is examining the matter.

The development may now require BZU to demonstrate that its seniority decisions were supported not merely by internal resolutions, but by the statutory approvals required under university law.

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Group Editor: Dr. Waheed Mehmood Khan, Editor: Javed Siddiq

Executive Editor: Naseem Hassan Awan, Joint Editor: Hurish Shah

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Opinion

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Balochistan Needs Wisdom, Political Foresight and a Practical State Policy – Not Statements



By Ch Shabbir Balochistani : Published by ANI

Balochistan is no longer merely a provincial issue; it has become a defining question for Pakistan’s political stability, economic future and the credibility of the state. In such circumstances, every word spoken by those in power and by political leadership carries greater weight. Particularly when statements directly affect people’s livelihoods, agriculture, businesses or the economic interests of a region, they must be assessed not through the lens of political emotion, but through the standards of responsible statecraft.

The recent statement concerning orchards and standing crops therefore deserves serious consideration. If there is a security challenge in an area, if an individual or group is accused of anti-state activities, or if there is a genuine threat of terrorism, the state has every right and responsibility to act according to law. However, such action should be based on individuals, evidence and due process, so that the economic future of innocent citizens, farmers and business communities is not placed at risk.

Balochistan’s orchards are not simply trees standing on pieces of land. They represent the livelihoods of thousands of families, years of hard work by farmers, wages for labourers, business for local markets and an entire economic chain. Damage to an orchard is therefore not merely the loss of a crop; it can disrupt the economic life of an entire community.

The true strength of a state is not measured by its ability to frighten its citizens. Its real strength lies in its capacity to uphold the law while maintaining a clear distinction between the guilty and the innocent.

Balochistan now needs a policy that treats security and economic development not as competing priorities, but as mutually reinforcing

pillars of stability. Where there is peace, investment can grow, employment can expand and young people can begin to see a future for themselves. Security policy must therefore be accompanied by a serious strategy for economic recovery.

Balochistan possesses extraordinary potential in minerals, agriculture, horticulture, the coastal economy, energy and its young population. The challenge is to transform this potential from statistics and political speeches into a practical economic programme.

Farmers need modern irrigation systems, cold-storage facilities, agricultural research, better marketing networks and access to export markets. Young people need technical education, digital skills and opportunities for entrepreneurship. Local industries and small businesses should be strengthened through accessible financing and a supportive business environment. In the development of mineral resources, local communities must receive meaningful opportunities for employment, training and economic participation.

Such measures would not only transform Balochistan’s economy; they could also provide fresh momentum to Pakistan’s overall economic direction.

Political dialogue is equally essential. Those who disagree must have the opportunity to be heard. Young people who feel frustrated or alienated must be engaged rather than ignored. Political parties, tribal elders, business representatives, farmers, young professionals, academics and civil society should all be given meaningful space in policy-making.

When people feel that their voices are being heard and their opinions have a place in state decisions, the foundations of public trust become stronger.

At the same time, the rule of law must apply equally to everyone. If a citizen violates the law, action should be taken. But it must also be clearly understood that citizens who respect the law have a right to the protection of their lives, property, dignity and livelihoods. Protecting these rights

is not a favour from the state; it is one of its fundamental responsibilities.

The writ of the state does not simply mean the use of force. True state authority means the supremacy of law, access to justice and protection of citizens’ fundamental rights.

The people of Balochistan must be given confidence that the state is a protector of their resources, livelihoods and future. Such confidence cannot be created through statements alone; it must be built through practical policies and visible action.

Political leaders must also recognise that a statement made today no longer remains confined to a political gathering or press conference. Through social media, it can reach national and international audiences within minutes. Statements made by people holding positions of responsibility therefore go beyond political rhetoric; they also shape perceptions of the state and the country.

The solution to Balochistan’s challenges lies neither in security measures alone nor in harsh language. The real answer lies in a combination of law, dialogue, economic justice, political inclusion, education, employment and responsible governance.

If the state wants to strengthen itself, it must protect the livelihoods of its citizens. If it wants lasting peace, it must rebuild public trust. And if Balochistan is to become a genuine partner in Pakistan’s economic development, its people must be offered not fear, but a credible guarantee of a better future.

This is not the time for emotional statements. It is the time for state wisdom, political foresight and responsible decision-making.

Balochistan needs decisions that strengthen the bond between future generations and Pakistan, provide them with meaningful opportunities for progress, and give them confidence that their future is connected to the prosperity and stability of the country. Balochistan does not need more political statements. It needs a clear, fair, progressive, practical and responsible state policy—one guided by wisdom, political vision and a genuine commitment to the people’s future.

Rewiring the Classroom: Artificial Intelligence, the Ministry of IT & Telecommunication, and the Making of Pakistan’s Digital Future

By: Dr Muhammad Ahsan Iqbal (Researcher & Assistant Professor) Published By:ANI News Agency

In lecture halls from Gilgit to Gwadar, a quiet but consequential transition is under way. The chalk-and-textbook classroom that has defined Pakistani education for seven decades is beginning to share space with adaptive software, generative tutors, and algorithmically personalized learning paths. This is not a peripheral experiment confined to elite private schools; it is fast becoming a matter of national policy, driven by an unusually assertive Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication (MoITT) that has staked its institutional identity on the proposition that artificial intelligence is no longer optional infrastructure for a developing nation, it is the infrastructure.

I. The Global Reordering of Learning Artificial intelligence has, within the span of a single decade, moved from the periphery of educational technology to its very centre. Adaptive learning platforms now diagnose a student’s conceptual gaps in real time; large language models draft, translate, and simplify instructional material in seconds; and predictive analytics allow administrators to identify at-risk students long before an exam confirms the danger. UNESCO and the OECD have both framed this shift not as an incremental improvement but as a structural transformation of the pedagogical contract itself between teacher and student, between curriculum and competence, between credential and capability.

For a country such as Pakistan, where an estimated twenty-six million children remain out of school and where teacher-to-student ratios in rural districts routinely exceed the sustainable threshold, the promise of AI is not merely convenience. It is a potential corrective to decades of structural inequity. A well-designed AI tutoring system does not tire, does not discriminate by dialect or class background, and can, in principle, deliver individualized instruction at a marginal cost approaching zero once the underlying infrastructure exists. The operative clause, of course, is once the underlying infrastructure exists and it is precisely here that the state’s role becomes indispensable.

II. Pakistan’s Educational Predicament and the Case for AI

Pakistan’s education system carries the weight of contradictions that AI, deployed thoughtfully, is uniquely positioned to address. The country produces hundreds of thousands of computer science and engineering graduates annually, yet a persistent skills mismatch leaves employers reporting shortages of Alliterate talent

even as youth unemployment remains stubbornly high. Rote memorization continues to dominate assessment culture in large segments of the public system, producing credentialed graduates whose problem-solving and analytical capacities lag behind regional peers. And a yawning digital divide between Punjab’s urban centres and Balochistan’s remote tehsils, between well-resourced private academies and under-equipped government schools has historically hardened rather than dissolved with each new wave of educational reform.

Artificial intelligence, properly governed, offers three specific correctives. First, it can personalize instruction at scale, allowing a single teacher in an under-staffed government school to effectively differentiate content for forty or fifty students of varying ability. Second, it can compress the distance between Pakistan’s curriculum and global labour-market demand, embedding data literacy, computational thinking, and applied AI skills directly into the pipeline that feeds the country’s freelancing economy and its aspirations in IT exports. Third, and perhaps most consequentially, it can serve as an equalizer provided the state, rather than the market alone, ensures that access to AI-enabled learning does not become one more privilege reserved for those who can already afford it.

III. The Ministry of IT and Telecommunication: From Regulator to Architect

It is against this backdrop that the Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication, under Federal Minister Shaza Fatima Khawaja, has repositioned itself. Historically concerned with telecom regulation, spectrum allocation, and connectivity targets, MoITT has in the past two years assumed a role closer to that of a national curriculum architect and human-capital strategist a mandate that extends well beyond its conventional regulatory footprint into classrooms, teacher-training colleges, and university faculties.

The National Artificial Intelligence Policy 2025

The centerpiece of this repositioning is the National Artificial Intelligence Policy, approved by the Federal Cabinet as a roadmap intended to steer Pakistan toward what officials describe as a knowledge-based economy. The



policy is structured around several interlocking pillars. The first establishes an AI innovation ecosystem, anchored by a National AI Fund and a network of Centres of Excellence in AI planned across seven major cities, designed to seed research, incubation, and commercialization. The second pillar, and the one most directly relevant to education, is termed Awareness and Readiness a human-capital development programme envisioning the training of roughly two hundred thousand individuals annually, the award of thousands of scholarships, and tens of thousands of paid internships, with explicit attention to extending AI literacy to marginalized and underserved communities rather than concentrating it in metropolitan universities.

Hence, This is not merely a policy it’s a national commitment to responsible innovation, ethical governance, and inclusive prosperity through AI.

Translating Policy into Programmes Policy documents are frequently where good intentions in Pakistani governance come to rest undisturbed. What distinguishes the current phase is the pace at which MoITT has begun converting its AI policy into operational programmes. The ministry’s National AI Advancement Initiative envisions the rollout of twenty thousand online AI training courses, structured over six-to-twelve-month cycles and aimed squarely at fresh graduates, government officials, freelancers, and significantly serving teachers, delivered through a dedicated learning management system. In parallel, the AI Seekho 2026 programme, developed in partnership with Google for Developers, Telenor, and the incubator Innovista, has introduced a nationwide upskilling track built around applied ‘vibe coding’ and practical AI-application development, backed by a prize pool for youth-led hackathons and linked to Pakistan’s network of National Incubation Centres, which now support several thousand start-ups.

–To be Concluded

Pakistan as a Regional Power: Opportunities, Challenges and the Road Ahead



By: Mahmood Khan mahmoodk308@gmail.com Published By:ANI News Agency

Pakistan occupies one of the most strategically significant positions in Asia. Situated at the crossroads of South Asia, Central Asia, the Middle East and China, the country has considerable geographical, military and diplomatic potential to emerge as a major regional power. Its borders with China, India, Afghanistan and Iran, together with its coastline along the Arabian Sea, give Pakistan a strategic importance that extends well beyond its immediate neighbourhood.

Yet geography alone cannot make a country a regional power. In today’s world, genuine influence depends not only on military strength but also on economic stability, political credibility, technological development, strong institutions and effective diplomacy. Pakistan’s real challenge, therefore, is to transform its geostrategic importance into meaningful geo-economic influence.

Pakistan’s nuclear capability and sizeable armed forces make it an important security actor in South Asia. Its military strength provides strategic deterrence, particularly in relation to India, while the country has also gained considerable experience in dealing with terrorism and complex security challenges. However, Pakistan’s greatest opportunity may increasingly lie in its economic geography.

Its location provides a potential trade and transit route connecting China and Central Asia with the Arabian Sea and the wider Middle East. If developed effectively, Pakistan could become an important corridor for regional trade, energy and transportation, particularly for landlocked Central Asian countries seeking access to international markets. Such connectivity could gradually help Pakistan move from being viewed primarily through a security lens towards becoming a regional power driven by trade and economic cooperation.

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has added another important dimension to this potential. CPEC offers opportunities in infrastructure, energy, transportation and industrial development while strengthening Pakistan’s economic relationship with China. Gwadar, in particular, has been presented as a potential gateway linking China, Pakistan, Central Asia and the Middle East.

However, infrastructure alone cannot guarantee economic transformation. Pakistan needs political stability, predictable economic policies, efficient customs and logistics systems, reliable energy supplies, better roads and railways, and a secure environment for domestic and foreign investors. If these conditions are created, CPEC and other connectivity initiatives could help Pakistan establish itself as a significant

regional economic hub. Without them, much of the country’s geographical advantage could remain unrealised.

Pakistan’s most persistent strategic challenge remains its relationship with India. The rivalry between the two nuclear-armed neighbours has shaped South Asian politics for decades. The Kashmir dispute, military competition, terrorism-related allegations and other unresolved issues continue to create tensions and restrict regional cooperation.

This rivalry has also carried a significant economic cost. South Asia remains one of the least economically integrated regions in the world despite its huge population, growing markets and substantial economic potential. Pakistan needs to maintain credible national defence while also pursuing diplomacy and regional stability. Military strength can provide deterrence, but economic strength, political confidence and sustained diplomatic engagement are essential for lasting influence. A confident Pakistan should therefore seek stability without compromising its national interests.

Afghanistan presents another major challenge as well as an opportunity. A peaceful and stable Afghanistan could provide Pakistan with greater access to Central Asian markets and create new opportunities for trade, transportation and regional economic integration. On the other hand, instability, terrorism and border tensions can seriously undermine Pakistan’s security and economic development.

Pakistan’s policy towards Afghanistan should therefore go beyond traditional security calculations. Effective border management and counterterrorism measures remain essential, but Islamabad should also promote trade, infrastructure, diplomatic engagement and people-to-people contacts. A stable Afghanistan would not only benefit Pakistan’s security but would also be important for its ambition to become a regional connectivity hub. At the same time, Pakistan must carefully manage its relations with competing global powers. China remains one of Pakistan’s most important strategic and economic partners, while the United States continues to be an influential global economic and diplomatic power. The growing competition between Washington and Beijing presents a difficult environment for Islamabad.

Pakistan should avoid being forced into a binary choice between major powers. Instead, it should pursue a balanced and multi-dimensional foreign policy based on national interests. Islamabad can maintain strong relations with China while developing constructive ties with the United States, the European Union, Gulf countries, Central Asia, Russia and other emerging economies. Pakistan’s foreign policy should create opportunities rather than excessive dependence on any single power. Perhaps the greatest obstacles to Pakistan’s regional ambitions, however, are internal. Political instability, weak governance, economic uncertainty,

unemployment, energy challenges, terrorism, population pressures, water scarcity and climate change continue to place serious pressure on national development.

A country cannot exercise sustained regional influence if its domestic institutions remain weak. Political polarisation also makes long-term economic planning difficult. Pakistan needs continuity in national policies so that successive governments can build upon existing initiatives rather than repeatedly changing direction. Institutional reform, the rule of law, democratic stability, quality education and human-capital development must therefore be treated as matters of national importance.

Pakistan has traditionally viewed its strategic position largely through the lens of geopolitics and security. The future demands a broader vision centred on geo-economics. The central question should not simply be who Pakistan’s allies are, but how Pakistan can make itself economically valuable to the region.

This requires increasing exports, attracting foreign investment, improving taxation, modernising agriculture, investing in information technology and artificial intelligence, expanding vocational education and building a skilled workforce. Pakistan should also make greater use of its overseas diaspora by encouraging investment, knowledge transfer, entrepreneurship and technological cooperation.

Pakistan possesses many of the ingredients required for regional influence: strategic geography, a large population, nuclear deterrence, military capability, access to the Arabian Sea, strong relations with China and links with the Muslim and Central Asian worlds. But potential does not automatically translate into power.

Pakistan’s future as a regional power will depend on whether it can achieve political stability, economic resilience, institutional strength and diplomatic flexibility. It must move from strategic dependency towards greater strategic autonomy, from confrontation towards connectivity, and from a predominantly geopolitical outlook towards a geo-economic strategy.

The opportunity is enormous. Pakistan can potentially become a bridge connecting China, Central Asia, South Asia and the Middle East. But the challenge is equally significant.

The real struggle for Pakistan’s regional future will not be fought only along its borders. It will also be fought in its economy, institutions, schools, universities, industries and diplomatic corridors. If Pakistan succeeds in strengthening these foundations, its strategic geography can become a source of genuine economic and political power. If it fails, its geographical importance may remain only a matter of strategic potential. Pakistan has the geography to become a regional power. The real question is whether it has the political will, economic capacity and institutional strength to turn that geography into power.

The Blessed Life of Prophet Muhammad SAW : A Mercy and Guidance for All Humanity



Written By: Ijaz. ul.hassan Published By:ANI News Agency

The 63-year blessed life of the Holy

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, the Mercy to the Worlds and the Final Prophet, is a source of light, mercy, guidance and a complete way of life for all humanity. Allah Almighty sent him as a mercy to all the worlds. Every aspect of his life reflects an unparalleled example of truthfulness, honesty, justice, compassion, love, courage, patience, humility and complete devotion to Allah Almighty. He was not only a guide for Muslims but a great benefactor and exemplary leader for all humanity.

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ was born in Makkah during the Year of the Elephant. His father, Abdullah, had passed away before his birth, while his mother was Hazrat Aminah. After the passing of his mother during his childhood, his grandfather, Abdul Muttalib, and later his uncle, Abu Talib, took responsibility for his care and upbringing.

During his youth, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ worked as a shepherd and later engaged in trade. His exceptional honesty and integrity earned him the noble titles of Al-Sadiq and Al-Amin, meaning the truthful and the trustworthy, among the people of Makkah.

At the age of 25, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ married Hazrat Khadijah (RA), who remained his devoted and sincere companion throughout her life. He also participated in Hifl al-Fudul, an agreement established to support the oppressed and uphold justice.

Before receiving Prophethood, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ would spend time in worship and contemplation in the Cave of Hira. At the age of 40, Angel Jibreel (AS) brought him the first revelation from Allah Almighty, marking the beginning of his Prophetic mission.

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ conveyed the message of the Oneness of Allah, justice, equality and the welfare of

humanity. The disbelievers of Makkah subjected him and his Companions to severe hardships and persecution, but he remained steadfast and patient.

Despite the boycott in the Valley of Abu Talib, the hardships faced at Taif and the loss of beloved family members and companions, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ continued to show extraordinary patience and compassion. Even toward those who opposed him, he prayed for guidance rather than seeking revenge.

The Miracles of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ

The life of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ is also marked by numerous miracles granted to him by Allah Almighty. The Holy Qur’an is his greatest and everlasting miracle, providing guidance to humanity until the end of time.

During the miraculous journey of Isra and Mi’raj, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ was taken through the heavens, and the five daily prayers were bestowed upon his Ummah.

Among other miracles narrated in Islamic tradition are water flowing from between his fingers, small quantities of food becoming sufficient for large numbers of people through Allah’s blessing, and the miracle of the splitting of the moon. Trees, stones and animals are also mentioned in Islamic traditions as having responded to or testified to his Prophetic mission.

These miracles are regarded by Muslims as signs of his Prophethood and of the special status granted to him by Allah Almighty.

Migration to Madinah and the Establishment of a Community

After the migration to Madinah, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ established the Prophet’s Mosque and created a bond of brotherhood between the Muhajireen and Ansar. Through the Constitution of Madinah, he established a framework for a community based on justice, cooperation and mutual responsibilities.

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ also led the Muslim community during major battles including Badr, Uhud and the Battle of the Trench, demonstrating courage, leadership and strategic wisdom.

The Treaty of Hudaibiyyah became another important milestone in his mission, opening new oppor-

tunities for peace, dialogue and the peaceful spread of the message of Islam.

The Conquest of Makkah and His Extraordinary Forgiveness

The Conquest of Makkah remains one of the most powerful examples of the Prophet’s mercy and forgiveness.

Those who had persecuted him and his followers for years stood before him with little power to resist. Yet, rather than responding with widespread revenge, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ demonstrated remarkable forgiveness and compassion.

His conduct during the conquest remains an enduring example of restraint, mercy and reconciliation.

The Farewell Sermon

In the 10th year after Hijrah, during the Farewell Pilgrimage, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ delivered his historic Farewell Sermon.

The sermon emphasized fundamental principles including the sanctity of human life and property, equality, brotherhood, justice and the rights and dignity of women.

His message established principles that remain deeply significant for Muslims and continue to provide moral guidance for humanity.

A Legacy That Continues to Guide Humanity

In the 11th year after Hijrah, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ passed away from this world. Yet his teachings, character and example continue to live on and remain a source of guidance for generations.

His life teaches humanity the values of truthfulness, trust, justice, compassion, patience, forgiveness, courage, humility and devotion to Allah Almighty.

The Seerah of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ is not merely a record of historical events. It is a complete example of how faith, character, leadership, compassion and responsibility can shape both individuals and societies.

For Muslims around the world, the life of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ remains the ultimate example to follow. His message continues to inspire hearts and guide people toward righteousness, justice, mercy and peace.

May Allah’s peace and blessings be upon Muhammad ﷺ and upon the family of Muhammad.

Punjab Police Holds Closing Ceremony of 14th Internship Programme

Report: ANI Correspondent:

LAHORE -- The closing ceremony of the 14th batch of the Punjab Police Internship Programme was held at the Central Police Office Lahore, where Inspector General of Police Punjab Abdul Karim and senior officers distributed certificates among students who successfully completed their internships.

Addressing the ceremony, IG Punjab Abdul Karim said the practical experience gained during the programme would contribute to the students' career development. He said Punjab Police was providing internship opportunities to promote education, research and greater understanding of police work.

According to the Punjab Police spokesperson, 65 students, including 38 from Punjab University and 27 from Government College University, participated in the 14th batch. The students were divided into five groups and attached to different Punjab Police branches for five weeks.

During the internship, students received practical exposure to the



CTD, Special Branch, Safe Cities Authority, Investigation and IT branches. They also presented reports based on their experiences and observations.

The students thanked IG Punjab and the Punjab Police for providing them an opportunity to learn about

police operations and field challenges. Additional IG Training Asim Gulzar, DIG Training Munir Ahmad Zia Rao, DIG R&D Inam Waheed and other senior police officers attended the ceremony. Representatives from Government College University and Punjab University also participated.

Pullain Baloch-Led NA Information Committee Expresses Serious Concern Over Non-Payment of Media Workers' Salaries

Report: ANI Correspondent:

ISLAMABAD-- The National Assembly Standing Committee on Information and Broadcasting expressed serious concern over the continued non-payment and delay in payment of salaries to media workers, emphasizing that employees associated with the media industry should not be made to suffer due to outstanding liabilities owed by government institutions to media houses.

The committee meeting was held at the Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation (PBC) Headquarters, Islamabad, under the chairmanship of MNA Pullain Baloch.

The committee observed that timely payment of salaries is a fundamental responsibility of media organizations and stressed the need for all concerned authorities to take effective measures to protect the legitimate financial rights of media workers.

Reiterating its earlier position, the committee was unanimous in its view that outstanding salaries of media employees must be cleared without further delay. It sought comprehensive details regarding salaries and other financial dues pending against media organizations.

The committee directed the Press Information Department (PID) to provide details of payments made to print and electronic media outlets, including the amounts paid, outstanding payments and the status of pending claims.

Committee Expresses Concern Over Delay in PBC Shortwave Transmitter Project

The committee also expressed serious concern over the prolonged non-completion of the Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation (PBC) Shortwave Transmitters project at Landhi, Karachi, which was approved under the Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) during the financial year 2006-07.

Taking serious note of the considerable delay in completion of the project, the committee sought a detailed report on its present status, expenditure incurred so far, remaining



financial requirements, reasons for the delay and the timeline for its completion.

The committee stressed that development projects funded through public money should be completed within the stipulated timeframe and that unnecessary delays must be properly explained and addressed.

The committee also decided to call officials of the Finance and Planning Divisions to explain the non-release of funds for the project.

PEMRA Directed to Formulate Comprehensive Code of Conduct for Morning Shows

The committee also deliberated on the content and programming of morning shows aired on television channels, particularly in the context of maintaining appropriate standards of decency, responsibility and public interest. The committee directed the Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA) to formulate a comprehensive and clearly defined code of conduct for morning shows.

The proposed code should provide appropriate guidelines regarding the nature of content, use of language, treatment of sensitive issues, participation of guests and overall editorial standards, while ensuring that television programming remains consistent with applicable laws and regulatory requirements.

Committee Seeks Details of Pending Liabilities of TV Channels

The committee further directed PEMRA to furnish comprehensive details of pending liabilities of television channels, including the nature and amount of outstanding dues, the period for which such liabilities have

remained pending and the steps being taken by the regulator for their recovery.

The committee stressed the need for effective regulatory oversight and timely resolution of outstanding financial obligations.

The committee emphasized that the media sector plays a vital role in informing the public and strengthening democratic institutions. It underscored the need for a healthy, responsible and professional media and stressed that broadcasters must adhere to appropriate professional and ethical standards.

The committee directed the concerned departments and regulatory authorities to furnish the requested information within the stipulated timeframe and decided to take up the matters for follow-up in its subsequent meeting.

PBC Directed to Start Programmes and News Bulletins in Regional Languages

The committee also directed Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation to initiate programmes and news bulletins in all regional languages on Radio Pakistan to provide broader access to information and programming for people across the country.

The meeting was attended by MNAs Asia Naz Tanoli, Shaheen, Mehtab Akbar Rashdi, Syed Amin-ul-Haque, Rana Ansar, Maulana Abdul Ghafoor Haideri and Barrister Danyal Chaudhary, Parliamentary Secretary for Information, Secretary Ministry of Information Ashfaq Ahmed Khalil Mack, PIO Raeesa Adil, PEMRA Chairman Ms Amreen Jan and other officers of PBC and PEMRA.

NA Interior Committee Chairman Raja Khurram Shahzad Nawaz Reviews Balochistan Security, ICT Bill and Islamabad Law and Order

Report: ANI Correspondent:

ISLAMABAD -- National Assembly Standing Committee on Interior Chairman Raja Khurram Shahzad Nawaz chaired a meeting to review Balochistan security, the ICT Local Government Amendment Bill 2026, cybercrime, illegal SIMs and Islamabad's law-and-order situation.

The committee discussed the proposed in-camera briefing on Balochistan security and efforts to arrange a briefing by the provincial government.

The ICT Local Government Amendment Bill 2026 was approved by eight members, while four PPP members opposed it and submitted a dissenting note.

Officials briefed the committee on online fraud, WhatsApp hacking and illegal SIMs. PTA officials said 1.8 million



illegal SIMs had been blocked in two years, while Rs4.2 billion in fines were imposed over illegal SIMs in six months.

The committee also discussed the dispute over village and mouza records between Rawalpindi and Islamabad and directed senior Rawalpindi officials to provide a clear

timeline for resolving the issue.

On Islamabad's law and order, officials said crime had declined by 28 per cent recently, while Safe City operations had led to the arrest of 132 gangs. The chairman expressed concern over drug trafficking and directed authorities to take effective action against drug dealers.

40th Senior Management Course Officers Visit Parliament House



BY: Hurish Shah/FT

ISLAMABAD -- Delegation of 34 Grade-19 government officers from the National Institute of Public Administration (NIPA), Karachi, participating in the 40th Senior Management Course, visited Parliament House in Islamabad along with three faculty members.

Senate Secretary Syed Hasnain Haider briefed the delegation on the constitutional role, powers, proce-

dures and administrative structure of the Senate. He highlighted the Senate's role in ensuring equal representation of the provinces and protecting the interests of smaller provinces.

Joint Secretary Senate Secretariat Zubair Thaheem briefed the participants on the role of standing committees, parliamentary oversight, accountability, legislation and parliamentary diplomacy.

The delegation also visited the

Senate Museum and Senate Hall, watched a documentary on the history of the Upper House and participated in a detailed question-and-answer session.

The Senate Secretary presented a commemorative shield to the delegation, which also presented him with a shield. The participants appreciated the visit and the Senate Secretariat's role in promoting democratic values and strengthening the parliamentary system.

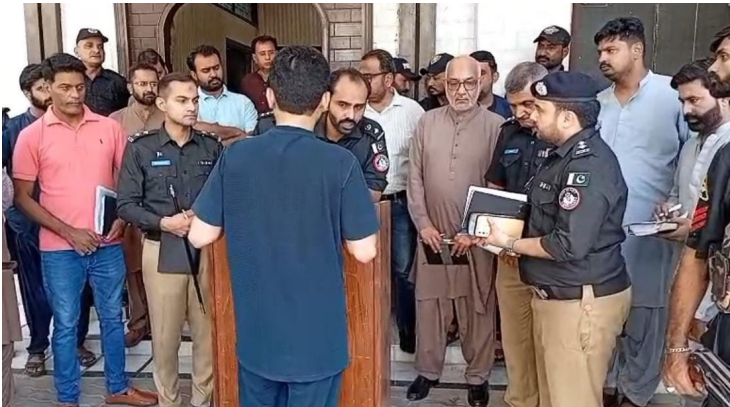
SSP Hyderabad Orders Immediate Action on Citizens' Complaints

Report: ANI Correspondent:

Hyderabad -- SSP Hyderabad Shahzeb Chachar met citizens at his office, listened to their complaints and issued on-the-spot directions to relevant police officers for action in accordance with the law.

He directed officers to resolve public grievances on a priority basis and submit reports on the progress of action taken.

Shahzeb Chachar said timely and lawful resolution of citizens' legitimate complaints is among Hyderabad Police's top priorities. He added that complaints would not only be heard but action



would also be monitored until resolution.

DC Chaman Conducts Surprise Inspections of Government Schools

Report: Our Correspondent ANI :

Chaman: Deputy Commissioner Chaman Habib Ahmed Bangalzai, along with District Education Officer Abdul Quddus Khan Achakzai, conducted surprise inspections of several government schools as part of an ongoing education monitoring campaign.

The officials inspected attendance, classroom teaching, cleanliness, drinking water, washrooms and other basic facilities, while also interacting with students.

DC Bangalzai directed teachers and education officials to ensure full attendance and quality teaching, warning that strict departmental action would be taken against absent



or negligent teachers.

He said surprise inspections of educational institutions across the district would continue to improve transparency and the quality of education.

National Press Club, IDC Sign Agreement to Offer Special Discounts to Members and Families

Report: Hurish Shah FT :

ISLAMABAD -- The National Press Club (NPC) Islamabad and Islamabad Diagnostic Centre (IDC) have signed an agreement to provide welfare benefits to NPC members and staff. Under the agreement, NPC members, staff, their families and parents will receive special discounted rates on diagnostic and medical tests at more than 180 IDC branches across Pakistan.

To avail the discount, NPC members will be required to present their NPC membership card or a verification letter issued by the Press Club.

NPC President Abdul Razzaq



Siyal and Secretary Dr Farqan Rao welcomed the agreement, describing it as an important welfare initiative for journalists and their families.

They thanked IDC for extending special concessions and expressed hope that the partnership would expand further.

HEC Chairman Calls for Collaborative Approach to Address Higher Education Challenges



Report: Hurish Shah

ISLAMABAD --Chairman Higher Education Commission (HEC) Pakistan Dr Niaz Ahmad Akhtar has stressed the need for greater coordination and a collaborative approach to address challenges facing the country's higher education sector.

He expressed these views during a meeting with Chairperson Punjab Higher Education Commission Dr Iqar Ahmad Khan, Chairperson Sindh Higher Education Commission Dr S. M. Tariq Rafi and representatives of the Higher Education

Departments of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan.

Officials from HEC's Quality Assurance and Research and Innovation Divisions also attended the meeting.

Dr Niaz Ahmad Akhtar emphasised strengthening communication among higher education stakeholders and holding regular consultations on matters concerning the sector.

He highlighted the growing importance of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and said its effective integration into higher education was essential

to prepare universities, faculty and students for future challenges and opportunities.

He stressed the need to equip students and faculty with relevant AI skills while promoting innovation, research, entrepreneurship and practical applications of emerging technologies.

The participants discussed measures to enhance collaboration and agreed to continue regular engagements and work towards greater consensus on policies and initiatives aimed at strengthening Pakistan's higher education sector.