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CDF apprises US delegation of challenges faced by Pakistan during Afghan conflict



ANI

A delegation of America's Afghanistan War Commission called on Chief of Defence Forces (CDF) and Chief of the Army Staff Field Marshal Asim Munir on Monday and acknowledged Pakistan's "longstanding role and sacrifices during the conflict in Afghanistan", according to the military's media affairs wings.

The visiting delegation also appreciated Pakistan's continued contribution to regional peace and stability, the Inter-Services Public Relations said in a statement.

The delegation, led by its co-chairs, Shamila N. Chaudhary and Dr Colin F Jackson, met CDF

Munir at General Headquarters (GHQ) in Rawalpindi.

"The delegation is undertaking a review of the United States' 20-year engagement in Afghanistan," the statement said, adding that its discussion with the military chief covered topics including "Pakistan's support, the regional security environment and developments in Afghanistan, with focus on perspectives relevant to the commission's work". For his part, CDF Munir shared Pakistan's perspective on the security dynamics that shaped the conflict, also highlighting the challenges the country faced during the prolonged US engagement in Afghanistan.

The ISPR statement added that he highlighted the need to incorporate a regional perspective, as well as Pakistan's experience in assessing the strategic, diplomatic and operational dimensions of the conflict.

The US Congress established the Afghanistan War Commission in 2021 as an independent body to review US decisions pertaining to the war in Afghanistan from June 2001 to August 2021, according to the commission's website.

US forces had withdrawn from Afghanistan in Aug 2021, ending a 20-year war. The withdrawal was completed a minute before midnight on Aug 30, 2021. The US had launched a military intervention

in Afghanistan following the Sept 11, 2001, attacks, ushering in two decades of conflict in which civilians suffered widespread violence and abuses.

Some 800,000 US servicemembers served in Afghanistan during this period. During the war, 2,238 US servicemembers died and nearly 21,000 were wounded.

Meanwhile, over 40,000 civilians were killed and 77,000 wounded in attacks by Taliban insurgents, the Islamic State (IS) group, and in operations by the armed forces of the Afghan Republic or the international coalition led by the US, according to the United Nations mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA).

President reaffirms commitment to right to information



ANI

designed to mislead."

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to the right of every citizen to access information, particularly on matters of public importance. In a message on the International Day for Universal Access to Information observed on September 28, he said, "In a democracy, citizens can participate meaningfully in public life only when they have access to information that is timely, credible and reliable." "The Constitution of Pakistan provides a clear foundation for this right. The 18th Constitutional Amendment strengthened the constitutional framework for freedom of expression and inserted Article 19-A, which gives every citizen the right to access information in all matters of public importance, subject to regulation and reasonable restrictions imposed by law. The Right of Access to Information Act, 2017 further provides a legal framework for access to information at the federal level," he added.

"Today, however, the right to know has become more complex. The rapid growth of digital platforms, artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies has changed the way information is produced, distributed and consumed," he said, adding, "The challenge is no longer only whether information is available. It is also whether citizens can distinguish reliable information from content that is false, manipulated or deliberately

distorted or weaponised by a range of actors, including state and non-state actors, terrorist and criminal networks and out-of-control and too powerful tech giants. This makes access to accurate and credible information more challenging and an extremely important part of an informed democracy. It also calls for greater attention to the role of pro-people journalists, media organisations, communication professionals, researchers and other experts in helping citizens navigate this fast-changing information environment."

"Our response must therefore be to protect the citizen's right to know while ensuring that the efforts to address monetised misinformation and disinformation do not become the vehicle to suppress legitimate public interest journalism, fair criticism and meaningful public debate," he remarked.

He said, "Transparency, accountability and responsible communication by public institutions remain essential. Citizens must be able to obtain reliable information from credible sources, particularly on matters that directly affect their lives."

"On this day, let us reaffirm Pakistan's commitment to protect the right of citizens to access information and to strengthen the institutions and professional practices needed to uphold that right in a rapidly changing information environment," he concluded.

Federal govt signals possible governor's rule in KP

ANI

The federal government has stepped up talk of imposing Governor's Rule in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, with Law Minister Azam Nazeer Tarar saying the Constitution provides for the measure if the required conditions are met. Speaking to journalists, Tarar said the Constitution was clear on the procedure for imposing Governor's Rule or declaring an emergency. "If circumstances arise where the Constitution requires Governor's Rule or an emergency, it can and will be imposed," he said, according to reports.

Tarar said any such move would follow the constitutional process and would be taken if the relevant requirements were fulfilled. Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan Amir Muqam went further, saying the legal and constitutional requirements for imposing Governor's Rule in KP had already been fulfilled.

Muqam attributed the situation to the province's law and order challenges and what he described as actions by Chief Minister Sohail Afridi. He said consultations were under way and that a decision could be taken at any time.

Muqam also criticised the PTI-led provincial government over governance, security and public services, arguing that restoring law and order should be the priority. KP Governor Faisal Karim Kundi has also spoken about the possibility of Governor's Rule, while stressing that any decision would have to be taken under



the Constitution and law.

Kundi previously said consultations had taken place over the matter and that the Constitution allowed for Governor's Rule. More recently, he said that if President Asif Ali Zardari issued an order imposing Governor's Rule, it would be implemented. Chief Minister Sohail Afridi has rejected the prospect of Governor's Rule or an emergency, saying he would not change his position because of such threats. Afridi has instead called for the federal government to revise its security policy and said the provincial government should be taken into confidence on counterterrorism measures.

The developments come amid growing tensions between the federal and KP governments over security, governance and the PTI's planned political activities.

PTI leader Naeem Haider Panjutha has challenged the federal government to impose Governor's Rule, warning that such a move would further worsen the situation in the province.

Tarar seeks year-wise account of KP counterterrorism funds

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ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar on Monday demanded a year-wise account of funds allocated to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa under the National Finance Commission (NFC) framework for counterterrorism, questioning their utilisation amid continuing security challenges in the province. Addressing a press conference alongside Minister of State for Interior Talal Chaudhry, Tarar said the entire country had provided additional resources to the provincial government specifically for counterterrorism measures, and it must explain how the funds received each year had been spent. He questioned why Safe City surveillance systems



had not been established across the province and why a forensic laboratory had not been set up, forcing samples to be sent to Lahore for examination. He said surveillance cameras could help investigators trace suspects and vehicles used in terrorist

attacks. Recalling the martyrdom of Captain Mubeen and SSP Zahid Gondal in Punjab, Tarar said Safe City cameras had helped investigators trace the facilitators involved in the attacks. The minister said the provincial government should disclose whether the counterterrorism funds had been spent on strengthening police, improving security infrastructure or other purposes. He asked whether the money had been used for political activities, distributed among members of the provincial assembly or diverted for personal gain. Atta Tarar said despite governing the province for around 12 and a half years, the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)-led government had failed to take adequate ownership of counterterrorism efforts and strengthen the security apparatus.

Six terrorists killed in separate K-P, Balochistan operations: state media

ANI

Security forces killed six terrorists in two separate operations in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan, state media reported on Monday, citing security sources. According to the sources, four terrorists belonging to the Indian-backed proxy group "Fitna al-Khawarij" were killed during an intelligence-based operation in K-P's Dera Ismail Khan district. The sources said security forces closely monitored the terrorists' movements before targeting them during the operation, while a large cache of weapons and ammunition, along with Afghan currency, was also recovered. The operation was carried out under the government's Azm-e-Istehkam counterterrorism framework. Security officials said counterterrorism operations would continue as part of efforts to dismantle terrorist networks and establish lasting peace in the country. In a separate operation in Balochistan's Nokcha area, security forces killed two terrorists belonging to the banned Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) during a chase after an empty water bowser was set on fire, according to security sources.

Three traffic wardens martyred after gunmen attack police vehicle in K-P's Tank

ANI

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: Three traffic wardens were martyred, and at least one other was seriously injured when unidentified armed men opened fire on a traffic police vehicle in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa's (K-P) Wazirabad area of Tank district on Monday, District Police Officer Abdul Samad said.

The incident took place near Shehzada Market in Wazirabad, where the attackers opened fire on the vehicle carrying traffic police personnel, according to police. The three officers who were killed were identified as Constable Saleem Shah,



Constable Gul Ameen, and driver Pir Fayyaz. One injured officer was identified as Qaiser Mohammad Walid Khan, a resident of Barwand, while another injured person was identified as Zafri Baloch, according to the details provided by

officials.

Police said the attackers also took the traffic police vehicle with them after the shooting. The whereabouts of traffic police in-charge Ismatullah remained unknown, police said.

Police and army personnel launched a search operation to trace the attackers and the stolen vehicle after receiving information about the incident. The vehicle was later found abandoned near a bridge under construction in Garha Budha, officials said. Police said the attackers had been identified as members of Fitna al-Khawarij, while the bodies of the martyred officers and the injured were shifted to Tank Hospital.

Trump asked Xi whether China would buy US weapons, reveals envoy to Beijing

ANI

US President Donald Trump asked Chinese President Xi Jinping whether Beijing would be interested in buying American weapons, Washington's envoy to China has revealed.

"President Trump continues to say, hey, we sell arms to other people around the world. He (US president) actually asked President Xi, would he like to buy some at one point," US Ambassador to China David Perdue told Fox News on Sunday. Trump hosted Xi for a high-stakes summit at the White House on Thursday. The two leaders met Friday again for a private tea session and reviewed pictorial and text archives in Washington before Xi flew home, concluding his three-day state visit to the US.

Describing Xi's state visit to the US as "successful," Beijing on Monday said it is "dedicated to world peace." Read: China, US agree tariff cuts on \$60 billion of goods including agriculture, household items

"China has built its military based on its own needs and is dedicated to safeguarding world peace and stability," Foreign Ministry



spokesman Guo Jiakun told reporters in Beijing, Perdue made the remarks while defending Washington's continued arms sales to Taiwan. "President Trump continues to say, 'Hey, we sell arms to other people around the world,'" Perdue said. A US State Department official subsequently told the South China Morning Post that US law prohibits arms sales to China and that Washington has "no offer or plan" to sell weapons to Beijing. Perdue said Washington's Taiwan policy had not changed, citing the one-China policy, Taiwan Relations Act, three US-China communiqués and Six Assurances.



Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Water Resources, Senator Jam Saifullah Khan, chairs a meeting to review progress and developments concerning the K-IV water supply project

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National

Pakistan and Republic of Korea explore enhanced institutional collaboration in judicial automation

ISLAMABAD: Han Sungho, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, called on the Chief Justice of Pakistan at the Supreme Court Monday. The meeting was attended by Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb and senior official of the Government of Pakistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Welcoming the Ambassador, the Chief Justice of Pakistan referred to the 20th Conference of Chief Justices of Asia and the Pacific held in Seoul, where Justice Miangul Hassan Aurangzeb represented the Supreme Court of Pakistan and held discussions with Justice Noh Gyeong Pil, Minister of National Court Administration of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Korea, on judicial administration, digital transformation and institutional capacity building. Acknowledging the Supreme Court of the Republic of Korea's considerable experience in judicial automation and technology-enabled court administration, the Chief Justice noted that closer institu-



tional engagement could further support Pakistan's ongoing efforts in automation and digital integration. Both sides discussed the proposed Memorandum of Understanding between the judiciaries of Pakistan and the Republic of Korea, which is expected to be signed during the forth-

coming visit of the Chief Justice of Pakistan to Seoul, and expressed hope that it would provide a structured framework for sustained cooperation, mutual learning and exchange of experience, particularly in judicial automation, digital transformation and technology-enabled justice delivery. His

Excellency appreciated the reform initiatives of Pakistan's judiciary and expressed support for further strengthening judicial cooperation between the two countries.

The meeting concluded in a cordial atmosphere, and souvenirs were exchanged as a gesture of goodwill.

Pak-Africa Council, Nyle Group ink agreement to strengthen regional trade ties

ISLAMABAD: Patron-in-Chief of the Pak-Africa Council, Ambassador Hamid Khan signed a strategic



partnership agreement with Nyle Group Ethiopia during his official visit to Ethiopia, marking a new step toward strengthening business and investment cooperation between Pakistan and Africa region. The signing ceremony was held in Addis Ababa in the presence of Ambassador of Pakistan to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the African Union, H.E. Atif Sharif Mian. Mr. Feng Qiang, President of the Shenzhen Government Procurement Association and Chairman of the Industrial Globalization Alliance, also witnessed the agreement, said a release issued here on Monday.

Minister IT visits Huawei Global Support Center in Islamabad

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information Technology and Telecommunication Shaza Fatima Khawaja visited Huawei's Global Support Center (GSC) in Islamabad, where she was given a briefing on its operations, toured the centre and interacted with young Pakistani engineers and technology professionals supporting global ICT operations. The Minister was received by Ethan Sun, CEO Huawei Pakistan, Ahmed Bilal Masud, CEO AI & Cloud, Huawei Pakistan, and senior management of GSC. Speaking on the occasion, Shaza Fatima stated that Huawei GSC demonstrated Pakistan's growing potential as a global hub for technology and IT-enabled services. Describing the model as "exports without shipping containers," she said Pakistani professionals were



increasingly delivering high-value digital services to international markets from

within the country. She highlighted Pakistan's young workforce, noting that

around 68 percent of the population is under the age of 30, and emphasized the need to translate this demographic strength into skilled human capital and global economic opportunities. Recalling Huawei-Pakistan training partnership agreed during the Prime Minister's visit to China, Shaza Fatima appreciated Huawei's commitment to train 300,000 young Pakistanis in ICT skills. She stressed stronger collaboration among government, industry and academia to build a sustainable technology talent pipeline and connect young Pakistanis with international opportunities. The Minister appreciated Huawei's contribution to technical capacity building through its ICT Academies and encouraged the company to further expand investment, knowledge transfer, mentoring and explore opportunities for establishing an R&D centre in Pakistan.

FPCCI demands extension in income tax return filing deadline

LAHORE: Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI) Monday urged the federal government and Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) to extend the deadline for filing income tax returns by one month - moving the cutoff date to October 31, 2026 - to facilitate trade, industry, and other tax filers. The apex trade body emphasized that this extension is not a concession but a practical necessity to ensure maximum tax compliance, broaden the tax base and alleviate the immense pressure currently faced by business community, small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and individual taxpayers. FPCCI President Atif Ikram Sheikh highlighted that as the September 30 deadline approaches, taxpayers and tax practitioners are facing severe systemic bottlenecks. The FBR's IRIS portal has been experiencing frequent slowdowns, glitches, and downtimes due to heavy national traffic. These technical disruptions are preventing thousands of willing taxpayers from submitting their returns and wealth statements accurately and on time, he added. He explained that business community is fully committed to fulfilling its national duty and contributing to national exchequer.

Sexual element essential for harassment law to apply, Federal Constitutional Court

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Constitutional Court has held that the presence of a sexual element is essential for harassment to be actionable under the Protection Against Harassment of Women at the Workplace Act, 2010, and that merely undesirable, inappropriate or harmful conduct does not constitute sexual harassment under the law. The court set aside the Islamabad High Court's judgment and restored the order passed by the President in a harassment matter. A three-member bench comprising Chief Justice Aminuddin Khan, Justice Ali Baqar Najafi and Justice Syed Arshad Hussain Shah allowed petitions filed by Usman Shahid and Aqeel Abbas in a case concerning Nadia Sarwar, an employee of the National Bank of Pakistan. In its detailed written judgment, the court held that the Protection Against Harassment of Women at the Workplace Act, 2010 could not be applied to every form of inappropri-

ate conduct or complaint. It said the presence of a sexual element was necessary for harassment to be actionable under the law. The judgment said conduct that was undesirable or harmful but lacked a sexual element would not be entertainable by the Federal Ombudsman under the Act. However, the concerned organisation could take disciplinary action in such matters under its own service rules. The court clarified that the basic purpose of the law was to protect women and men at the workplace from sexual harassment and, therefore, it could not be applied to every complaint of a general nature. The Federal Constitutional Court also held that the President was empowered under the law to hear a representation against a decision of the Federal Ombudsman. It said the High Court, while exercising its constitutional jurisdiction, could interfere with an ombudsman's decision only where abuse of authority, violation of law or breach of the principles of natural justice was established.

ITP issues rain advisory as water accumulation slows traffic on Islamabad roads

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Traffic Police (ITP) on Monday issued a traffic advisory as rain continued in the federal capital, warning motorists that water accumulation on different roads could slow traffic flow.

An ITP spokesperson told APP that citizens should leave early and keep extra time for their journey to avoid inconvenience during the rainy weather.

The spokesperson advised motorists and motorcyclists to reduce speed and maintain a safe distance from vehicles ahead, as wet roads could increase the risk of accidents. Drivers were asked to use fog lights during rain, stay in their lanes and properly use side mirrors, indicators and seat belts while driving.

Motorcyclists were advised to use the extreme left lane, keep their speed low and wear helmets for their safety.

The spokesperson said ITP officers were present on roads to facilitate and guide citizens and help maintain smooth traffic flow during the rain.

DIG Islamabad Ali Wasim Holds Open Court at F-8 Markaz, Directs Prompt Action on Public Complaints

Report: ANI Correspondent:

ISLAMABAD --To facilitate direct access of citizens to senior police officers and ensure prompt resolution of their grievances, DIG Islamabad Ali Wasim held an open court at F-8 Markaz.

Citizens and complainants in various cases presented their applications and concerns before the DIG, who listened to their grievances and directed the relevant officers to ensure timely action on each matter strictly on merit and in accordance with the law.

Ali Wasim also instructed the officers to take effective measures for



resolving public complaints and providing relief to citizens.

NBF to host literary session 'Yaadon Ki Purwai' on Oct 2

ISLAMABAD: National Book Foundation (NBF) will host a special literary session titled "Yaadon Ki Purwai" on Friday(October 2) to pay tribute to the literary contributions and intellectual legacy of four distinguished Urdu poets—Nasir Kazmi, Munir Niazi, Amjad Islam Amjad and Mohsin Naqvi.

The event will be held at the National Book Foundation, 45 Book Centre, near Telephone Exchange, Mustafa Town, Lahore.

The session, to be presided over by renowned poet Gulam Hussain Sajid, will bring together scholars and literary personalities who will share their views on the poetic contributions, intellectual dimensions, literary influence and memories associated with the four eminent poets.

Various aspects of their creative journeys and contributions to Urdu literature will be highlighted during



the session. A Ghazal singing performance will also be presented as part of the programme. Talking to APP, Director Headquarters, NBF, Murad Ali Mohmand said that "Yaadon Ki Purwai" was being organised to highlight the literary contributions and intellectual dimensions of the four prominent poets among the younger generation.

He said the session would enable

young readers and literature enthusiasts to become more familiar with their creative legacy and strengthen their connection with Urdu literature. Managing Director, NBF, Dr Kamran Jahangir, will deliver the opening remarks, while Director Headquarters, NBF, Murad Ali Mohmand, will present the vote of thanks. Dr Shahida Dilawar Shah, Dr Saima Akram, Dr Shahid Ashraf and Saadia Qureshi will speak at the literary session. Sania Sheikh and Zahid Hashmi will perform Ghazals, while Areej Fatima will serve as the moderator. Murad Ali Mohmand said such literary sessions aimed to introduce the creative contributions of prominent figures of Urdu literature to the younger generation and promote the tradition of reading and literary engagement through meaningful literary dialogue.

NBF has invited scholars, writers, poets, teachers, students and literature enthusiasts to attend the event.

IWMI Expert Calls for Better Water Governance

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan can significantly strengthen its water security and unlock the full potential of its water resources through improved governance, scientific knowledge, modern technology and stronger institutional capacity, IWMI Country Representative Dr Muhammad Ashraf said.

In an interview with APP, he said that water resource development, efficient water management and sound governance were key pillars for ensuring sustainable use of the country's water resources.

He said Pakistan had considerable opportunities to further develop its water resources through dams, small and mini dams, ponds and groundwater recharge initiatives. "These resources can support hydropower generation, irrigation, domestic needs, ecological requirements and recreational activities," he said. Dr Muhammad Ashraf emphasised that efficient water management could fur-



ther enhance the benefits derived from existing water resources, particularly in agriculture.

He said modern technologies, including satellite-based information, climate data and sensor-based systems, could help farmers determine crop water requirements and improve irrigation scheduling. "Technology can tell us whether a crop needs water and how much water it requires," he said, highlighting the potential of data-driven agriculture to promote efficient water

use and improve productivity. He said efficient management was equally important in the domestic water sector, where better storage, treatment, distribution and consumption practices could help conserve both water and energy. Highlighting the importance of governance, he said effective water governance provided the foundation for developing and managing water resources in a sustainable manner. He said good governance required a comprehensive knowledge base, appropriate legal instruments, capable institutions, professional skills and effective implementation mechanisms. "Knowledge is the foundation of water governance," he said, stressing the importance of reliable scientific information for informed decision-making. Referring to groundwater management, Muhammad Ashraf said detailed information about aquifers, groundwater depth, recharge rates, water quality and sustainable extraction capacity could help establish effective licensing and management mechanisms.

Pak, Oman seeks wider opportunities for youth: PMYP

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Oman on Monday discussed expanding employment opportunities, skills development and labour mobility for Pakistani youth and skilled workers, as Advisor to the Prime Minister and Chairman Prime Minister's Youth Programme (PMYP) Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan met Omani Ministry of Labour Undersecretary Khalid bin Salim Al Ghammari in Muscat, according to the press release received

here. During the meeting, Rana Mashhood highlighted Pakistan's large youth population as a major pool of skilled and semi-skilled manpower and said Pakistan was mapping high-demand skills in destination countries to align its training programmes with the specific requirements of international labour markets. Chief PMYP identified Oman as an important destination for Pakistani workers and expressed hope that the Sultanate would continue to provide employment opportunities for Pakistan's skilled and semi-

skilled workforce. Undersecretary Khalid bin Salim Al Ghammari reciprocated the views and assured that the Omani government would continue working with Pakistan to strengthen labour mobility, skills development and employment opportunities for Pakistani workers, particularly youth.

The meeting underscored the two countries' focus on linking skills development with labour-market demand and creating greater employment opportunities for Pakistani youth in Oman.

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Opinion

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Why Democracy Struggles to Flourish in Developing Countries Like Pakistan



By: Mahmood Khan
Published By:ANI News Agency

Democracy is often described as government of the people, by the people and for the people. Yet in many developing countries, democracy has struggled to become a stable and deeply rooted system of governance. Pakistan provides an important example. The country has held regular elections and experienced civilian governments, but democratic institutions have repeatedly faced political instability, institutional conflict and interruptions.

The question, therefore, is not whether democracy is suitable for Pakistan, but what conditions are necessary for democracy to flourish.

Pakistan’s experience demonstrates that elections alone cannot create a mature democracy. Democracy requires strong institutions, constitutional continuity, political tolerance, an independent judiciary, a free media and respect for the public mandate. Pakistan has competitive multiparty elections, but assessments including Freedom House’s 2026 report have raised concerns about political rights, civil liberties and the influence of the military over political and governmental processes.

The Problem of Institutional Imbalance

One of Pakistan’s central challenges has been the imbalance between civilian and non-civilian institutions. Historically, periods of military rule interrupted the development of parliamentary traditions and weakened institutional continuity. A World Bank study has also identified regime instability and the dominance of the military as important factors contributing to Pakistan’s political uncertainty.

A sustainable democracy requires every institution to operate within its constitutional boundaries. Parliament must legislate, governments must govern, courts must interpret and enforce the law within their constitutional role, and national security institutions must remain within their legally defined responsibilities.

When these boundaries become unclear, elected governments can struggle to develop long-term policies and democratic institutions remain vulnerable.

Political Parties Must Also Change
The weakness of democracy cannot

be attributed entirely to state institutions. Political parties themselves have important responsibilities. In many developing countries, political parties can become heavily dependent on personalities, families or influential individuals rather than strong internal democratic structures.

A mature political party should encourage internal democracy, transparent finances, policy development and opportunities for younger leaders and women. Political opponents should be regarded as legitimate competitors rather than permanent enemies.

Democracy cannot flourish when every change of government is treated as a battle for political survival.

The Culture of Political Intolerance

Another major obstacle is political intolerance. Governments and opposition parties frequently accuse one another of undermining democracy while, at different times, supporting measures that restrict their political opponents.

This can create a recurring cycle: one government uses state institutions against its opponents, and when political power changes hands, similar practices may be repeated. Over time, public confidence in institutions suffers.

Democracy rests on the understanding that today’s opposition may become tomorrow’s government. Political parties therefore need rules and institutions that protect political competition, because those same protections may eventually protect them.

Rule of Law and Independent Institutions

No democracy can remain sustainable without the rule of law. Citizens must have confidence that the law applies equally to politicians, bureaucrats, businesspeople and ordinary citizens.

Judicial independence, an impartial election commission, accountable public administration and transparent government spending are essential components of democratic governance. Concerns raised by international rights organisations regarding judicial independence, due process, electoral competition and freedom of expression underline the importance of strengthening these institutions.

The objective should not simply be to create new political slogans, but to build institutions that are stronger than individuals.

Education and Economic Security
Democracy also depends on an informed population. Where poverty, limited educational opportuni-

ties and unemployment are widespread, citizens may become more vulnerable to patronage politics, misinformation and political manipulation.

Education should therefore include civic education: an understanding of the Constitution, Parliament, local government, voting rights, civic responsibilities and the importance of political tolerance.

Economic development also matters. Greater economic security can provide citizens with more independence and a stronger ability to participate meaningfully in public life.

Local Democracy Is the Foundation

Pakistan also needs stronger local government institutions. Democracy should not be limited to voting once every few years for national or provincial representatives.

Citizens should have meaningful opportunities to influence decisions concerning schools, roads, sanitation, transport, housing and health-care through elected local institutions. Effective local government can bring democracy closer to ordinary citizens while also creating opportunities for a new generation of political leaders to gain experience in governance.

From Elections to a Culture of Governance

Pakistan does not necessarily need less democracy; it needs deeper and more institutionalised democracy. Key priorities include constitutional continuity, credible elections, independent institutions, political tolerance, freedom of expression, effective local government, internal democracy within political parties and greater transparency.

The 2024 general election demonstrated both the resilience and the difficulties of Pakistan’s democratic process. Multiple political parties competed and citizens participated, while observers and rights organisations also raised concerns about aspects of the electoral environment and political freedoms. Ultimately, democracy cannot be imported, imposed or created overnight. It must be built through practice.

Pakistan’s democratic future will depend not simply on who wins elections, but on whether political actors accept constitutional rules, institutions become stronger than personalities, and the citizen’s vote is treated as the foundation not merely the decoration of political authority.

That is the real challenge for Pakistan and many other developing countries: transforming democracy from an electoral event into a permanent culture of governance.

The Khawarij Mindset and Pakistan’s Martyrs, A Lesson from History and the War Against Terrorism



By: Rana Farooq Ashraf
Published By:ANI News Agency



Islamic history contains events whose lessons remain

relevant centuries later. The martyrdom of Hazrat Ali (RA) is one of them. It was not only the assassination of a great Companion and Caliph; it also demonstrated how religious slogans, outward piety and extremist thinking can combine to turn a person against his own community.

Hazrat Ali (RA) was attacked in the mosque of Kufa in 40 AH by Abd al-Rahman ibn Muljam and later died from his injuries. Historical accounts associate Ibn Muljam with the Khawarij. Their well-known slogan was “La hukma illa lillah” – “There is no judgment except that of Allah.”

The sovereignty of Allah is, of course, a fundamental Islamic principle. The danger emerged when a religious principle was interpreted in an extremist manner and used to justify rebellion, takfir and violence against other Muslims.

This is one of history’s most important lessons:

A religious slogan by itself does not make an action religious. The nature of the action, its consequences and the sanctity of human life must also be considered.

The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) warned Muslims about people whose outward worship and recitation of the Qur’an would be impressive, while the true understanding of religion would not penetrate their hearts and conduct. Such warnings remain important for Muslims seeking to understand the dangers of religious extremism.

Pakistan has fought a long and difficult battle against terrorism. During this struggle, the Pakistan Army, police, Frontier Corps, Rangers and other law-enforcement institutions have made enormous sacrifices. Thousands of Pakistani civilians have also lost their lives to terrorism.

These are not merely numbers. Behind every martyr is a family: a mother who lost her son, a father who lost his child, a wife who lost her husband, and children who lost their father.

The most dangerous weapon of

terrorism is not always a rifle, an explosive or a suicide vest. Its most dangerous weapon is an extremist ideology that convinces a person that killing another human being can become a religious duty.

When an armed group declares Muslims to be unbelievers simply because they disagree with its ideology, rejects the state through violence and targets innocent people in the name of religion, the problem is no longer merely a security issue. It becomes an assault on the moral, social and religious foundations of society.

This is where the martyrdom of Hazrat Ali (RA) connects with the challenges facing Pakistan today.

The Khawarij had religious slogans. They had religious language and outward forms of worship. But when religious thinking was combined with extremism, the result ultimately led to bloodshed among Muslims.

Today, when a terrorist uses sacred religious language to justify the killing of a soldier, police officer, worshipper, teacher, student or ordinary citizen, society must judge the reality of his actions rather than the slogans he uses.

A soldier standing at a security post is not merely protecting a border or a building. He is protecting millions of citizens who want to live peacefully in their homes. He is protecting the worshipper entering a mosque, the child going to school, the worker earning a livelihood and the ordinary citizen travelling on the road. The terrorist, by contrast, seeks to spread fear, destroy public confidence and weaken the authority of law.

That is why the distinction must remain clear:

The soldier is a protector; the terrorist is a killer.

The soldier risks his own life to protect others, while the terrorist takes the lives of others to impose his ideology.

This difference is fundamental.

The sacrifices of Pakistan’s martyrs also remind us that the fight against terrorism cannot be won

through military action alone. The ideological dimension must also be addressed. Mosques, religious scholars, educational institutions, families, media and civil society all have a role in protecting young people from extremist propaganda.

Takfir, sectarian hatred and the killing of innocent people cannot be made acceptable by attaching religious language to them. Differences should be addressed through knowledge, dialogue, courts and law—not through guns and explosives.

Pakistan’s military martyrs have demonstrated through their sacrifices that national security comes at a tremendous human cost. When a soldier stands between a terrorist and the civilian population, he is not simply defending himself. He is accepting responsibility for protecting an entire society.

Remembering the martyrs should therefore go beyond ceremonies and slogans. The real tribute to their sacrifice is to build a society in which the rule of law is respected, citizens are protected, religion is not exploited to spread hatred, and disagreement is never turned into a justification for murder.

The martyrdom of Hazrat Ali (RA) also teaches us that extremism does not begin when a weapon is picked up. It can begin much earlier—with a mindset in which a person considers himself the sole owner of truth and everyone who disagrees with him an enemy.

Pakistan therefore has to confront not only the weapons of terrorists but also the ideology that attempts to provide those weapons with religious justification.

Pakistan’s martyrs are national protectors. Their sacrifices are not the property of one institution; they are an inheritance of the entire nation.

The blood of a martyr does not call us toward hatred. It calls us toward unity, peace, law and national responsibility.

From the martyrdom of Hazrat Ali (RA) to the struggle against terrorism in modern Pakistan, the historical lesson remains clear: killing innocent people in the name of religion is not service to Islam; it is a misuse of Islam’s sacred name.

And those who give their lives protecting Pakistan’s citizens, soldiers, police officers, worshippers and communities deserve to be remembered with honour and respect. Pakistan’s peace is a trust entrusted to us by its martyrs.

Carbon Competitiveness: Pakistan’s Next Export Challenge



By: Babar Akhtar
Published By:ANI News Agency

Embedded emissions will be a reality in Europe soon, and Pakistan

should prioritize dealing with the trade of carbon, conversion to clean energy and industrial efficiency. Global trade is coming into an era where competitiveness won’t only depend on price, quality, tariff and delivery time. Exporters will be called upon more and more to produce evidence of the production method, and the amount of carbon emitted to produce it. The clearest sign of such a transition is the European Union’s Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). Its definitive phase, which includes certain products such as cement, iron and steel, aluminium, fertilizers, electricity and hydrogen, started on 1 January 2026.

Pakistan’s immediate exposure is limited. CMAB will not cover the textiles and clothing sector, which is the country’s biggest export to Europe. That is not to be equated with safety. European Union continues to be one of the key trade partners of Pakistan with bilateral trade at €12.2 billion in 2025, and Pakistan is the largest beneficiary country of the EU’s GSP+ preference scheme. Such a trade link won’t be protected by a regulatory move that the EU has made clear. CBAM is designed to have a wide reach, and its carbon reporting requirements are already influencing how private companies choose their suppliers, even before these requirements become mandatory. For Pakistan, the key question goes beyond whether its exports face a carbon charge today. It is whether Pakistani industry is ready for a trading environment where buyers increasingly base their decisions on the emissions generated during pro-

duction and reliable data on environmental performance.

CBAM makes the emissions in an imported product payable. This makes a difference for accurate measurement, energy monitoring and independent verification, and not just a matter of reputation. For the manufacturers in Pakistan, installation of solar panels will not suffice. If a company is powered by renewable electricity, it may not demonstrate its environmental performance, if it has no credible carbon accounting systems, no digital production records and no internationally recognized reporting procedures. What’s being measured isn’t just the pollution-free performance of a factory, but whether the factory can make a record of that performance that is acceptable to a foreign auditor.

The next phase of China-Pakistan economic cooperation could play an important role in this transition. While CPEC has largely focused on roads, power generation, and major infrastructure projects, its next phase could help modernize Pakistan’s industries. Renewable energy equipment, battery storage, energy efficient machinery, smart meters, digital monitoring systems, and carbon accounting technologies will enable Pakistani companies to decrease both energy consumption and embedded emissions, and will create the measurement capacity that regulated markets now require. Special economic zones provide a natural laboratory for developing export-oriented industry that is less polluting. Operating industries there might be able to bundle renewable energy, modern machines, and digital traceability and standardized emissions reporting in one location. Chinese companies might provide technology and production expertise, whereas Pakistani companies build up the necessary capabilities to compete in highly regulated markets. Such zones would have more value in the operating practices they normalize, than the equipment they

install.

There is no substitute for domestic policy reform, and technology cannot replace this action. Energy, trade, environmental and industrial affairs in Pakistan must be coordinated as emissions are treated either as an energy or a trade problem or as a part of environmental and industrial affairs and not as an economic issue for all to solve. Support will be required to the smaller exporters, without technical staff, to compile an emissions inventory, identify inefficient processes and meet the verification requirements. Establishing the national capacity on carbon measurement is a critical field, where Universities, testing laboratories and certification bodies have a very important role to play but with limited capacity. The challenge is not so much an environmental duty as it is an industrial competitiveness challenge. Some of the companies which will have measured and reduced emissions will soon be more attractive to European buyers and to companies, investors and supply chains increasingly seeking credible sustainability information. Those that cannot will somehow be filtered out from the agreement far well before any tariff may be put to be enforced.

CBAM is a good barometer of the evolving course of global trade. It is not the matter of how Pakistan behaves in the light of one of the European regulations. Essentially it is one question whether the nation will be able to modernize its production base before the carbon efficiency establishes itself as a general standard of international commerce. However, if the objective is to not only import clean energy equipment, but to build technological, conceptual, and industrial enterprise for the production of cleaner goods and showcase, then there is a potential for CPEC to facilitate such change, albeit carefully planned. The new trading system is leading to carbon efficiency being priced as a cost of access to markets.

COP30 must make good on past climate pledges

JACINDA ARDERN, CARLOS LOPES, AND LAURENCE TUBIANA

In 2015, the landmark Paris climate agreement set the ambitious but necessary goal of limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, and ensuring that the increase stays “well below” 2 C. With the average global surface temperature having already reached 1.1 C above the 20th-century baseline, time is running out to reach this goal. Yet governments so far have failed to agree on a strategy for doing so. At the 62nd session of the UN Climate Change Subsidiary Bodies (SB62) in Bonn last month — the negotiations intended to lay the groundwork for November’s UN Climate Change Conference in Brazil — countries got so hung up on the details of the agenda that little progress was made. Such delays have long characterized the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, but they are at odds with scientific reality, which demands rapid and unified action.

Building consensus is, thus, a key challenge facing Brazil’s COP30 presidency. The task ahead is formidable not only because of the challenges inherent in the UNFCCC process, but also because four interconnected global developments are undermining trust and impeding multilateral cooperation. First, the global-governance architecture, with the UN at its core, is showing signs of disarray. Institutions that were designed to nurture and facilitate cooperation are increasingly hamstrung by bureaucratic inertia and outdated organizational structures. With reform efforts gridlocked, the UN system risks losing its relevance, and multilateralism its credibility.

Second, the rise of transactional diplomacy has meant countries prioritize their own short-term interests over collective long-term needs. This approach, based on a narrow conception of national interest, effectively precludes broad-based cooperation, as it erodes the norms that have traditionally underpinned international engagement. Third, compromise is increasingly being rejected in favor of “realism,” leading to extreme polarization and entrenched negotiating positions. Multilateral negotiations frequently come down to the wire, and the results are often disappointing, further encouraging transactional engagement at the expense of cooperation and compromise.

Finally, climate change is increasingly taking a back seat to other challenges, with armed conflicts, a global trade slowdown, intensifying growth headwinds, and record debt levels consuming countries’ political attention, diplomatic space, and financial resources.

Brazil clearly has its work cut out. Above all, it must resist the tendency for COP presidencies to emphasize fresh agreements and ambitious commitments — the kind that grab headlines and make the negotiations look like a smashing success, but often fall short when the hard work of implementation begins. Brazil’s COP30 presidency must eschew flashy results in favor of pragmatic pathways to deliver on past commitments.

Fortunately, Brazil recognizes this. Its fourth letter to the international community outlines an action agenda aimed at making progress on what the world has “already collectively agreed” during previous COPs and in the Paris climate agreement. Specifically, the agenda seeks to leverage existing initiatives to complete

the implementation of the first “global stocktake” under the Paris agreement, which was concluded at COP28.

This focus on previously agreed outcomes is well-suited to the current geopolitical context, in which any agreement can be difficult to reach. Representatives at the SB62 in Bonn did not achieve a consensus, and last month’s G7 summit failed to deliver a joint communique. Rather than perpetuating stalemates, the action agenda invites stakeholders to make progress where agreement already exists.

The agenda also charts the way forward. It is organized into six thematic “axes,” including stewarding forests, oceans, and biodiversity; transforming agriculture and food systems; and building resilience for cities, infrastructure, and water. “Unleashing enablers and accelerators” in finance, technology, and capacity-building — the final, cross-cutting axis — will accelerate implementation at scale. Since responsibility for the implementation and governance of climate policy is distributed among many actors — which must have some level of trust that others are doing their part — the agenda also establishes “transparency, monitoring, and accountability” as top priorities. To this end, Brazil’s COP30 presidency should seek to deliver a set of shared principles and supportive mechanisms. As COP30 special envoys, we extend our full support to the action agenda. By emphasizing consolidation, rather than spectacle, Brazil is setting the stage for a highly productive COP30 — one focused on bridging divides, building trust, and delivering genuine progress. The task ahead is daunting, but the chance to rebuild momentum is real.

—Arab News



Yousaf Raza Gilani Stresses Collective Responsibility for Education and Welfare of Orphan Girls



Report: ANI Correspondent:

KARACHI -- Chairman Senate Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani has said that providing orphan girls with education, care, dignity and opportunities for a better future is a shared religious, social and humanitarian responsibility.

Addressing the inauguration ceremony of “Mustafa Girls – MyHome” orphanage in Karachi, Chairman Gilani congratulated Dr. Haji Muhammad Tayyab, Dr. Ubaid ur Rahim and the entire Al-Mustafa Blair Society team for launching the initiative.

He said the facility was not merely a building but a symbol of hope, protection, education and a brighter

future. He emphasized that institutions for orphan children should provide not only shelter but also quality education, skills development, healthcare, confidence-building and character development.

Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani said orphan girls deserved equal opportunities to pursue their dreams and excel as doctors, engineers, scientists, lawyers, entrepreneurs and professionals in various fields. He stressed that their dreams were no less important than those of any other girl and called for empowering them to become confident, capable and self-reliant members of society.

The Chairman Senate appreciated philanthropists, social workers and

volunteers for their continued efforts for the welfare of vulnerable segments of society. He said educating and empowering a girl was an investment in the future of families, communities and the country.

Addressing the girls, Gilani urged them to believe in themselves, pursue their education with dedication, dream big and recognize their potential. He expressed hope that they would become a source of pride for their families, society and Pakistan. He also appreciated Al-Mustafa Blair Society for translating its message, “Care, Educate, Empower – For a Better Tomorrow,” into practical action and prayed for the success and sustainability of the institution.

Farah Naz Akbar Inspects Islamabad Gas Stations to Review PM’s Relief Scheme



Report: Qurat-ul-Ain Ali Khawaja / ANI

ISLAMABAD -- Member of the National Assembly, President of the PML-N Women’s Wing Islamabad and Parliamentary Secretary for National Heritage & Culture Farah Naz Akbar visited various gas stations in the federal capital to inspect the implementation of the Prime Minister’s PKR 500 Special Relief Scheme. During the visit, she

reviewed relief distribution registers and administrative arrangements and interacted with station staff and citizens to obtain firsthand feedback about the scheme’s implementation and accessibility.

Speaking on the occasion, Farah Naz Akbar said providing immediate and direct relief to the public was a key priority of the government under the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. She stressed that the PKR 500 relief

scheme must be implemented transparently so that eligible beneficiaries receive assistance without unnecessary difficulties.

She directed station management and staff to maintain courteous conduct toward citizens and ensure complete transparency throughout the distribution process.

Citizens expressed satisfaction with the initiative and appreciated the efforts aimed at providing relief amid economic pressures.

Syedaal Khan Nasar Calls for Collective Efforts to Strengthen Pakistan’s Economy and Stability



Report: Syed Moteen :

ISLAMABAD -- Acting Chairman Senate Syedaal Khan Nasar held a meeting at Parliament House with parliamentarians and representatives from various segments of society, including lawyers, doctors, tribal elders, civil society members and representatives of chambers of commerce.

The meeting covered the prevailing political and economic situation, trade and investment, national security, global peace and other matters of mutual interest.

Syedaal Khan Nasar said Pakistan’s political and military leadership was taking measures to promote regional and global

peace, reduce tensions and strengthen the national economy. He appreciated the Prime Minister’s address to the United Nations General Assembly, saying it presented Pakistan’s perspective, national priorities and the sentiments of its people before the international community.

He said Pakistan attaches great importance to its fraternal relations with Saudi Arabia and the protection of Haramain Sharifain and other sacred places. He described the Makkah Agreement as an important development and expressed commitment to its implementation.

The Acting Chairman emphasized that a conducive business environment was essential for promoting

trade and investment, economic growth, employment generation and stability. He expressed confidence that continued efforts would help improve economic conditions and provide greater relief to the people.

Paying tribute to the Pakistan Armed Forces and security forces, Syedaal Khan Nasar said their sacrifices in the fight against terrorism were unparalleled. He said the nation stood firmly with the security forces and remained committed to eliminating terrorism.

He stressed that state institutions, political leadership, the business community and civil society must collectively contribute to peace, stability, economic development and prosperity in Pakistan.

MNA Dr Mahesh Kumar Malani Visits Rescue 1122 Office in Mithi, Receives Guard of Honour

By Nareender Kumar/ANI

MITHI -- Member of the National Assembly (MNA) Dr Mahesh Kumar Malani visited the Rescue 1122 office in Mithi, where the rescue team presented him with a guard of honour.

Assistant Commissioner Mithi Umer Ashraf, District Health Officer Dr Lekhranj Sarangani and Sushil Malani accompanied him during the visit. Rescue 1122 Mithi In-charge Habibullah Rahmoon briefed Dr Malani on the department’s operations and emergency response services. He said the rescue team remained on duty round the clock to provide timely assistance during emergencies.

The official said Rescue 1122 Mithi responds to road traffic accidents, fire incidents, drowning cases, well



rescues, floods and heavy rainfall, building collapses, vehicle recovery and animal rescue operations.

The briefing highlighted Rescue

1122’s role in protecting human lives and providing prompt and professional emergency assistance to the community.

Uzbekistan Strengthens Position as Stable Partner for Long-Term International Business

Report : ANI

TASHKENT: Initiatives announced by Uzbekistan President Shavkat Mirziyoyev during the Open Dialogue with entrepreneurs in Khiva, Khorezm Region, have drawn increased interest from international business representatives, foreign investors and multinational companies.

The dialogue highlighted Uzbekistan’s ongoing efforts to strengthen the business environment, attract investment, expand exports and integrate the country more deeply into global value chains while protecting investors’ rights.

According to the report, the number of registered business entities in Uzbekistan has exceeded 530,000, while 2.4 million permanent jobs have been created in the private sector and exports have reached a record level.

The country is also expanding institutional support and financing opportunities for foreign investors



and joint ventures. An additional \$100 million has been allocated to guarantee credit lines, while grants and preferential financing of up to 10 billion soums are being introduced for high-growth companies.

To support companies seeking access to international markets, the state will cover up to 50 percent of expenses related to placing products on major international electronic trading platforms.

The initiatives also focus on strengthening private property protections, ensuring stability in tax legislation, reducing administrative pressure and improving the assessment of tax risks in line with international standards.

Uzbekistan is further promoting green growth through incentives for energy-efficient technologies and solar power generation, alongside the introduction of a national certification system for environmentally friendly products.

The Khiva Dialogue also emphasized regional development, with special legal regimes planned for pharmaceutical, textile and IT clusters in Khorezm Region and improved integration with international transport and logistics corridors. The reported measures reflect Uzbekistan’s efforts to create stronger institutional guarantees, reduce investment risks and provide international businesses with greater access to the growing Central Asian market.

US Afghanistan War Commission Delegation Calls on Field Marshal Asim Munir at GHQ

Report: ANI Correspondent:

RAWALPINDI -- A delegation of the U.S. Afghanistan War Commission, led by Co-Chairs Shamila N. Chaudhary and Dr. Colin F. Jackson, called on Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, NI (M), HJ, Chief of Army Staff and Chief of Defence Forces (COAS & CDF), at General Headquarters (GHQ), Rawalpindi.

The delegation is reviewing the United States’ 20-year engagement in Afghanistan. Discussions covered matters of mutual interest, including Pakistan’s support, the regional security environment and developments in Afghanistan, with a focus on perspectives relevant to the Commission’s work.

Field Marshal Asim Munir shared Pakistan’s perspective on the security dynamics that shaped the conflict and highlighted the challenges faced by Pakistan during the prolonged conflict in Afghanistan. He stressed the importance of incorporating the regional perspective and Pakistan’s experience while assessing the strategic, diplomatic and operational dimensions of the conflict.



The delegation acknowledged Pakistan’s longstanding role and sacrifices during the Afghanistan con-

flict and appreciated its continued contribution to regional peace and stability.

Jamal Shah Kakar Announces International Civil Award in Name of Nawaz Sharif



Report: ANI Correspondent:

QUETTA --Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Balochistan General Secretary Jamal Shah Kakar announced the establishment of the “Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif International Civil Award” during a ceremony held at Governor House Quetta.

Addressing the gathering, Jamal Shah Kakar said democracy was

not merely the name of elections but a thought, an attitude and a continuous struggle. He said the right of people to choose their representatives, supremacy of the Constitution, respect for Parliament, tolerance of political differences and acceptance of the voters’ verdict were fundamental democratic principles.

He said the award had been named after PML-N leader Mian

Muhammad Nawaz Sharif and would be presented annually to personalities from Pakistan and around the world who had made political sacrifices for the respect of Parliament, supremacy of democracy and the principle of “Vote Ko Izzat Do”, besides rendering outstanding public services.

Jamal Shah Kakar reiterated the commitment to promoting democratic values and public service.

World Rabies Day Observed at Civil Hospital Mithi with Focus on Rabies Prevention



Report: ANI

MITHI -- An awareness event was held at Civil Hospital Mithi in connection with World Rabies Day under the supervision of Civil Surgeon Dr. Shahid Ahmed Jhanjhi, highlighting the importance of collective efforts to prevent and control rabies.

Dr. Shahid Ahmed Jhanjhi, along with doctors and paramedical staff, led the awareness initia-

tive at the hospital in line with this year’s theme, “Stronger Together.” The event highlighted the importance of coordination and community participation in preventing rabies and improving public health.

Educational materials were distributed among participants, while awareness sessions were conducted on rabies prevention, the importance of timely vaccination and immediate measures following potential expo-

sure to the disease.

District Health Officer Tharparkar Dr. Lekhranj Sarangani said community involvement and cooperation among relevant departments were essential in combating the preventable disease.

The event reaffirmed the commitment of the medical community in Mithi to strengthening preventive healthcare services and supporting global efforts to eliminate rabies-related deaths.