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PM Shehbaz chairs high-level security meeting amid evolving Middle East situation

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: A high-level meeting to review the regional and internal security situation of Pakistan was held in Islamabad on Sunday with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in the chair. The meeting took a detailed review of the prevailing regional environment and overall security dynamics in the region. Pakistan's role and various measures for the promotion of peace and stability in the region were also discussed. During the meeting, the situation in Afghanistan also came under consideration with detail. Participants were also briefed on the country's internal security situation and the

arrangements in place to ensure law and order. meeting also reviewed the situation that emerged following the attack on Iran by the United States and Israel, as well as the developments after the attacks in the Middle East and Gulf countries. On the prime minister's directives, the meeting reviewed measures for the evacuation of Pakistani nationals from Iran. The Foreign Office gave a detailed briefing on efforts being undertaken to ensure their safe return. It was informed that evacuation is being facilitated through Azerbaijan. The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a high level meeting regarding the regional situation and Pakistan's security situation.

Pakistan maintains delicate balancing act in UNSC meeting on Iran

PEAK POINT



UNITED NATIONS: Pakistan struck a delicate balance at a tense UN Security Council meeting on Saturday, condemning unwarranted attacks on Iran, expressing solidarity with Gulf states, and urging an immediate return to negotiations and diplomacy. The Council's emergency session examined the repercussions of the US and Israeli air strikes on Iran and laid bare the deep divisions within the 15-member body over the escalating crisis. Speaking at the meeting, Pakistan's Permanent Representative, Ambassador Asim Iftikhar Ahmad, outlined Islamabad's growing concern as the situation in the Middle East becomes more complex with each new development. "Pakistan condemns the initiation of unwarranted attacks against the Islamic Republic of Iran, in violation of international law," the ambassador said. At the same time, he stressed that Pakistan also "condemns the attacks against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, and stands in solidarity with all these brotherly countries."

Ayatollah Khamenei's assassination: A new chapter for Iran, a region at a crossroads

PEAK POINT



IRAN: The assassination of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Iran's Supreme Leader and Marjai Taqleed for millions of Shia Muslims, in coordinated US-Israeli airstrikes marks a turning point not only for the Islamic Republic of Iran but for the wider West Asian region. His assassination removes a figure who for more than three decades stood at the apex of Iran's political, military and religious order. Yet those expecting the immediate collapse of the Iranian system may be misreading both its structure and its history. Ayatollah Khamenei was not merely a head

of state. As Supreme Leader, he exercised ultimate authority over foreign policy, the armed forces and the direction of the revolution. As Marjai Taqleed, a source of emulation in Shia jurisprudence, he embodied religious legitimacy that extended beyond Iran's borders. His passing, therefore, creates a vacuum that is institutional as much as

so far emerged. Names circulating in Tehran include Sadeq Larijani, the former judiciary chief and a close aide to Khamenei; Alireza Araf, who oversees Iran's seminaries; Mohsen Araki, a long-time member of the Assembly; Mohsen Qomi, an adviser within the Supreme Leader's office; and Hassan Khomeini, the grandson of the Islamic Republic's founder, Ruhollah Khomeini. Araf, a source said, may be the favourite for filling in the space left behind by Ayatollah Khamenei. The late Ebrahim Raisi had been widely seen as a frontrunner before his own death.

Iranian armed forces chief of staff Abdolrahim Mousavi killed, Iran TV says



TEHRAN: According to Iranian TV, the country's armed forces chief of staff, Abdolrahim Mousavi, was killed in strikes on Iran, Reuters reports. Mousavi was among the some 30 key Iranian regime leaders and military chiefs reportedly targeted in yesterday's joint US-Israeli strikes.

Pak Armed Forces destroy Afghan Kharchar Check Post in Kurram sector

PEAK POINT

PESHAWAR: Pakistan Armed Forces continued effective and decisive retaliatory actions against Afghan Taliban aggression and destroyed the Afghan Kharchar Check Post in the Kurram sector, killing several Afghan Taliban. Security sources said that following unprovoked aggression against Pakistan, the Afghan Taliban are suffering heavy human and material losses. They said that Operation Ghazab Lil Haq is ongoing and will continue until all its objectives are achieved. The Afghan Taliban.

Protests erupt in different cities across Pakistan; 10 dead in violent clashes near US Consulate in Karachi

PEAK POINT

KARACHI/LAHORE/GILGIT/ISLAMABAD: Ten people died in Karachi on Sunday, a hospital official said, after protesters clashed with law enforcement personnel near the US Consulate on Mai Kolachi Road, as protests erupted countrywide against the US-Israeli attacks on Iran. Dr Mohammad Sabir Memon, the executive director of Civil Hospital Karachi's (CHK) trauma centre, told Dawn that 10 had died and 31 were injured in the wake of protests near the consulate. According to a list of casualties he shared with Dawn, the injuries and wounds to all resulted from "gunshots". According to a statement by Edhi, law enforcement personnel resorted to teargas shelling and baton-charge to control

the situation. The protests follow the assassination of Iran's Supreme Leader



Ayatollah Ali Khamenei in Saturday's coordinated US-Israeli airstrikes on Tehran. In its statement, the US Embassy in Islamabad said: "We are monitoring reports of ongoing demonstrations at the US Consulates General in Karachi and Lahore, as well as calls for additional demonstrations at US Embassy Islamabad and Consulate General Peshawar. "We advise US

citizens in Pakistan to monitor local news and observe good personal security

The two policemen were injured by "hard and blunt instruments", while "two protesters with firearm injuries" were also brought to JPMC, the surgeon told Dawn. Emotional scenes were witnessed outside the CHK's mortuary, where bodies were brought for legal formalities. Sindh govt expresses grief, forms JIT in an official statement, shared by the information minister's spokesperson Husain Mansoor, the Sindh government expressed "deep grief" over the loss of lives in the clash. "The protesters entered after breaching the security cordon of the US Consulate and committed vandalism," the statement said. However, the government put the number of deaths at six, adding that "several" were injured.

More strikes aimed at Iran after US, Israeli assault kills supreme leader Khamenei



ISRAEL: Israel said it had launched another wave of strikes on Iran on Sunday, as Iranians faced uncertainty after the killing of their supreme leader in US and Israeli attacks that threatened to destabilize the wider Middle East. Hours after the United States and Israel said that an air strike killed Ayatollah Ali Khamenei as part of the most ambitious series of attacks on Iran in decades, Iranian state media confirmed the 86-year-old leader's death on Saturday. US President Donald Trump said the air strikes on Iranian targets were aimed at ending a decades-long threat from Iran and ensuring it could not develop a nuclear weapon as he sought to justify a risky gambit that seemed to go against his professed opposition.



SPORTS



Pakistan cricket's lack of T20 evolution exposed by World Cup exit



PEAK POINT

Pakistan and the top sides such as India, West Indies, South Africa and England.

"Other teams have evolved to the demands of Twenty20 cricket, but neither our team nor our players meet those standards," Akmal told AFP.

"It is like other teams are playing on the moon and we are on earth. We only beat smaller teams but lose to top teams."

Pakistan had high hopes for the T20 World Cup after sweeping Australia 3-0 in a pre-tournament series.

The team boasted a quintet of spinners that should have been

suited to the turning pitches in Sri Lanka where they played all their matches.

But they received a rude awakening in their first match against the Netherlands when only they squeezed home by three wickets in the final over thanks to Faheem Ashraf's 11-ball 29.

"Failed to handle pressure"

Like most of his predecessors at World Cups, Agha blundered in the pressure-cooker match against India, which only went ahead after reversing the decision to boycott the match just days before the encounter.

Agha won the toss and asked

India beat West Indies by 5 wickets to qualify for T20 World Cup semi-finals



PEAK POINT

KOLKATA: India national cricket team defeated West Indies cricket team by 5 wickets in a crucial Super 8 Group 1 match of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup, securing a place in the semi-finals.

India successfully chased the target of 196 set by West Indies, reaching 196/5 in the final over. Sanju Samson starred with an unbeaten 97, supported by Tilak Varma (27), Suryakumar Yadav (18), and contributions of 10 runs each from Ishan Kishan and Abhishek Sharma.

West Indies posted 195/4 in their 20 overs, with Roston Chase scoring 40, Jason Holder 37, Rovman Powell 34, and Shai Hope 32.

Jasprit Bumrah claimed 2 key wickets for India, restricting the West Indies to a chaseable total.

With this win, India advances to the semi-finals, keeping their title hopes alive in the 2026 T20 World Cup.

South Africa beat plucky Zimbabwe ahead of New Zealand semi-final



PEAK POINT

South Africa survived a brilliant all-round show by Zimbabwe captain Sikandar Raza to record a five-wicket win on Sunday, which means they remained unbeaten ahead of a semi-final against New Zealand on Wednesday.

After Zimbabwe scored 153-7 in New Delhi, South Africa survived an early wobble.

Dewald Brevis hit 42 off 18 balls as the 2024 runners-up reached 154-5 in 17.5 overs. Raza earlier hit 73 and then took 3-29 with his off-spin for Zimbabwe, who had stunned Australia and co-hosts Sri Lanka in the group stage to reach the Super Eights.

Raza struck on the third ball of the South African chase to send

him caught for 31.

Brevis and David Miller, who hit 22, put on 50 before two more quick strikes from Zimbabwe.

Blessing Muzarabani dismissed Miller, and Raza removed Brevis.

Tristan Stubbs (21) and George Linde (30) then put on an unbeaten 53 to steer their side to the target.

After choosing to bat, Zimbabwe lost the in-form opener Brian Bennett, who hit an unbeaten 97 in the defeat by India, for 15.

Raza reached his fifty off 29 balls before falling to left-armner Kwena Maphaka, caught by Miller off a leading edge. Clive Madande boosted the total with 26 not out off 20 balls at the end.

Record-breaking Rs26.11b media rights deal set to transform PSL 2026-29



Back-to-back International success for Pakistan's top ranked Mikaeel Ali

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's No. 1 ranked ITF junior, Mikaeel Ali Baig, has delivered an exceptional back-to-back performance on the international circuit, reinforcing his position as one of the country's leading junior athletes.

Competing first at the higher-tier ITF J60 Guatemala, Mikaeel advanced to the doubles final, demonstrating his consistency and ability to perform against a strong international field, according to information made available here by Pakistan Tennis Federation (PTF) on Sunday.

His deep run at a J60 event highlighted both his competitive maturity and growing presence at higher levels of junior tennis.

Immediately following Guatemala, Mikaeel traveled to Kingston, Jamaica, where he produced a dominant

championship match tiebreak in the semifinals — to earn his 5th ITF Doubles title.

In singles, Mikaeel defeated opponents from the USA, Brazil, Czech Republic, and Canada en route to the final, where he secured the championship with a commanding 6-3, 6-1 victory. The win marks his 6th ITF Singles title.

In doubles, partnering with USA's Indra Vergne, he battled through tightly contested matches — including a



LGPG Red clinch title at 6th Pakistan Polo Association Junior Championship





STRIVE launches “SMA Endgame 2030” to drive National Policy on Prevention, early diagnosis and treatment of spinal muscular atrophy in Pakistan

NADEEM TANOLI
ISLAMABAD: In a historic gathering of medical experts, government officials, and philanthropists, the Strive Eradication of Disability Foundation (STRIVE) launched its ambitious “SMA Endgame 2030” roadmap at the Movenpick Hotel (Centaurus). The event, titled “From Possibility to Policy: Shaping the SMA Future,” aimed to formulate a national policy for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) in Pakistan. The conference was attended by high-profile dignitaries, including the Health Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Dr. Syed Ijaz Ali Shah (Chief of Health Sector Reforms, KPK), who pledged state resources to combat the genetic disorder. CEO Muhammad Yasir Khan: “Disability is a Biological Defect, Not Just Destiny.” In a moving and powerful address, STRIVE Founder and CEO Muhammad Yasir Khan challenged the societal narrative regarding disability. Speaking from his wheelchair, Khan emphasized that attributing treatable disabilities solely to “divine will” is a form of societal negligence. “We must stop viewing disability merely as ‘God’s will’ in a way that prevents us from seeking

solutions. If a fever is an infection and thirst is a biological need, then disability is a biological defect that we must fight,” Yasir Khan stated. He paid tribute to international researchers whose work on gene therapies is saving thousands of lives globally. Khan stressed that STRIVE’s mission goes

This war cannot be won by an organization alone; it requires state patronage,” Khan concluded, urging the KP government to lead the way in eradicating SMA. Government Pledges Support Health Minister KP, Syed Qasim Ali Shah, admitted that prior to STRIVE’s advocacy, he was unaware of

rather than short-term relief. “SMA Endgame 2030” Strategy Waseem Rafiq, STRIVE’s Program Manager, unveiled the organization’s 5-year plan. He revealed that STRIVE has already sponsored 31 treatment cycles for 16 patients (costing approx. PKR 1.1 million per cycle). The

tors provided critical clinical insights: Dr. Gul-e-Sahar (Medical Educator): Highlighted that 1 in 54 people in Pakistan is a carrier of SMA. She urged General Practitioners to stop dismissing “floppy babies” as having delayed milestones, warning that “time is motoneuron.” Dr. Wasim-ur-Rehman (Pediatric Neurologist, Shifa Int.): Explained that in Type 1 SMA, 95% of motor neurons are lost by six months. He advocated for immediate SMN1 genetic testing and prenatal Chorionic Villus Sampling (CVS) at 11-12 weeks. Dr. Athar Khalili (Pediatric Neurologist, North West Hospital): Shared success stories of patients treated with Risdiplam, noting significant improvements in motor function (CHOP INTEND scores) from 16 to 50, allowing previously immobile children to sit. Dr. Ihab Azim (Head of Physical Therapy, Foundation University): Discussed the shift from palliative care to functional optimization, emphasizing aquatic therapy and respiratory support (BiPAP) to prevent deformities. Philanthropy and Social Impact Majid Qureshi (Director, STRIVE): Opened the event by urging the audience to “soften their hearts” and support the cause financially and morally. Renowned philanthropist

Saleemuddin Feroz (Trustee, Cancer Foundation & Hunar Foundation) traveled from Karachi to attend. He announced plans to extend STRIVE’s reach to Karachi, offering collaboration with Indus Hospital and its nursing institutes to support SMA care. Haris Tariq, father of an SMA survivor named Dastan, gave an emotional testimony. He credited Yasir Khan for saving his daughter’s life, stating that at 3.5 years old, she can now speak complex words, a feat impossible without the medication arranged by STRIVE. Dr. Nisar, STRIVE’s spokesperson, delivered a passionate appeal, calling Yasir Khan the “next Edhi.” He recounted the decade-long struggle of the organization and warned the audience that “silence and inaction make us complicit in the deaths of these children.” A Call for Mental Reformation Sir Rehan Allahwala, a tech educator, criticized the country’s education system for producing workers rather than problem-solvers. He praised STRIVE for utilizing AI and technology in their mission, stating, “The biggest disability in Pakistan is in our mindset, not our bodies.” The event concluded with a renewed commitment from all stakeholders to ensure that SMA is no longer a death sentence in Pakistan.



beyond charity; it is a war against disability itself. He highlighted the tragedy of losing children in Pakistan simply because families cannot afford treatment, citing a recent loss of a child from KP who had shown improvement but passed away due to a lack of sustained medication. “We need legislation on prevention, diagnosis, and cure.

the severity of SMA. He announced that the KP government would utilize its Provincial Cabinet’s special committee to approve financial assistance for high-cost diseases like SMA, which are not covered by the standard Sehat Card. He promised to arrange a meeting with the Chief Minister to institutionalize a long-term cure strate-

“Endgame 2030” plan focuses on: Prevention: Mandatory pre-marital genetic screening. Diagnosis: Institutionalizing newborn screening. Treatment: Establishing a structural pool fund to move away from individual emotional appeals. Medical Experts: “Time is Motoneuron” A panel of distinguished doc-

Opinion & Editorial

“Dual standards of society”

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Breaking the cycle

THE confrontation between Pakistan and Afghanistan has taken a dangerous turn. Attacks, retaliatory strikes and the massing of forces along the border have transformed already fraught ties into what our defence minister described as an “open war”. Amid this volatility, the Afghan Taliban have indicated that they are “ready for dialogue”, even as hostilities continue. Such statements are not new. Kabul has, on several occasions, expressed a “preference” for engagement and mutual understanding. The difficulty has not been the absence of talks, but the absence of outcomes that address Pakistan’s central grievance, which is the continued use of Afghan territory by the banned TTP and other terrorist groups to mount attacks inside Pakistan. Islamabad maintains that it exhausted diplomatic avenues before resorting to force. Multiple rounds of engagement — including mediation efforts by Qatar, Turkey and Saudi Arabia — produced discussions and proposals but no binding guarantees. Pakistan demanded written commitments; Kabul confined itself to verbal assurances. Meanwhile, attacks by the TTP and other groups registered a sharp uptick, intensifying public pressure and deepening mistrust between the two neighbours.

Amina shahzadi couple of years ago, the drama Bakhtawar, starring Yumna Zaidi, aired on TV. The drama began with the determined character Bakhtawar, who was talking with her sister about her dreams. Suddenly, her gambler father entered the home with a bridal dress. Since he had lost his daughter in gambling, he dragged her with him for marriage. Bakhtawar had been seeing this sort of situation since childhood, but this incident transformed her. She became determined and gathered the courage to confront the so-called society. When her mamu came with a proposal for his son, she broke down in front of them. Later that night, she eloped with her mother to another city. On the way, she noticed many suspicious gazes from men, and she realized that she was not only facing this trouble maybe every other women have to bear men’s lewd eyes. When she tried to find a rented home, she also faced many troubles because they had no man with them. Both of them were not getting a home just because there was no man in their family. Suddenly, they approached a reasonably rented house, and they decided to avail this opportunity as soon as possible. But again, being simple women became a reason for taunts. She told the landlord, “We have our brother as well. He will come soon.” Even her mother was surprised why she

gave a false statement. To be honest Every woman is distinguished from men by having long hair, and they have their obsession but she was compelled to cut her hair for her safety. When her mother entered her room, she was surprised. Bakhtawar’s eyes were saying that there is no place for single women here. Why do people consider women incomplete without men? Society does not accept single women whether they are widows or divorced. In this male-dominated society, women are always considered weak and insecure without men. Now Bakhtawar herself became the protection for her mother and daughter. When she was roaming in the disguise of a man, for the first time she walked freely without the fear of men’s lustful eyes. She talked to herself in a monologue and enjoyed her safety wholeheartedly. All of these things indicate how insecure women are in our society. They are not safe, they cannot walk freely, and the cause of their troubles is men. As the episodes continued, they revealed the reality of the so-called landlord whose appearance looked religious, but his actions were completely opposite. We saw how he misused religion against women. When Bakhtawar went outside in the attire of a lady, he chased her and tried to find opportunities to talk to her. On the other hand, he criticized her and tried to assassinate her character just because she went outside. He not only harassed

Bakhtawar but also had bad intentions for her mother. He symbolized the double-standard man who shows a religious personality but is a devil for his own wife. These things are not just part of a drama. In real life, girls are also compelled to do such things. Recently, we all saw that a 13-year-old girl, Nooran, was forced to change herself. She saw the bitter reality of this society at an age when girls dream and chase butterflies. But instead of playing with her toys, she had to play with her emotions. Although she was a girl, she had to represent herself as a male in front of this cruel society because they don’t care if people are hungry; they only care that girls are working. And when they recognized her as a working girl, they arrested her. But the question arises: why was she being arrested? She was feeding her family. Those who created hurdles for her should have been punished instead of her. Now new constitutions are being introduced for Afghan women where men have a right to beat their wives until their bones are not fractured. In Pakistan, every year 36,000 girls are burned by acid, and hundreds of girls are raped by strangers. They are being killed in the name of honor killing. On the other side we never seen any men who was disrespected in the name of honor killing. They are differently treated by their parents because they are men who are the boss of home. Males are showing their power everywhere. Even girls are not safe in their workplaces. Women are being oppressed and caged in their homes. This is all because of the wrong interpretation of Islam. Islam does not stop women from getting knowledge; rather, it emphasizes the rights of girls. Women are not minimal creatures; daughters are blessings, and they also have their own share in property. But new laws are signing that if men beat their wives as long as no bones are broken, it is allowed. They forget the real and organic rule of Islam. Our Prophet (ﷺ) states that if a man spends on his wife and family seeking reward from Allah, it is charity for him. In this world, thousands of wives are treated like slaves. Instead of getting comfort from their husbands, they receive threats and spend their lives with compromise. It seems that now everything is taking women back to the past era when they had no right to speak, and their biggest crime was simply being a woman. This is a one-sided picture of male dominated society but on the other hand males are also struggling in front of some specific agenda which is being paid by non Muslims. In Pakistan “orat March” is a fine example of this. In this time we need to understand the exact value of human beings without gender discrimination. Islam has differentially given the right to all them.

NA Standing Committee Chairman seeks global intervention on IWT violation by India

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Chairman of the National Assembly Standing Committee on Water Resources, Ahmad Atteeq Anwer, MNA, has urged the international community to take action against what he described as direct violations of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) by India. He called on global community to take notice and help ensure compliance with the decades-old water-sharing agreement.

In an interview with APP, the Chairman said that Pakistan intends to raise the matter at international forums and pursue the case through the Permanent Court of Arbitration to seek legal remedy under the provisions of the treaty. The Chairman said the committee had conveyed the gravity of the situation to the international community, stressing that India was "using water resources as a weapon."

Stressing the need for regional



peace and economic stability, the Chairman said India must be pressed by the international community to comply with the Indus Waters Treaty.

The Indus Waters Treaty, brokered by the World Bank in 1960, governs the use of waters from the Indus River system between the two neighboring countries. It is widely regarded as one of the most enduring water-sharing agreements in the world, having survived multiple periods of political and military tension.

The Chairman emphasized that Pakistan would engage with

friendly nations that maintain strong diplomatic ties with India, urging them to play a constructive role in encouraging compliance with the treaty.

"We will reach out to our brotherly and friendly countries who have good relations with India to help stop IWT violations and support a fair resolution," he said.

He warned that continued disputes over water resources could have serious implications for regional stability, agriculture, and economic development.

"Water security is directly linked to food security and economic sustainability. Any unilateral action undermines trust and threatens long-term peace in the region," he added.

Responding to a question, the Chairman indicated that further diplomatic efforts and legal consultations are underway as Pakistan prepares to formally escalate the matter through international channels.

Peaceful protest a right, but vandalism won't be tolerated, warns Mohsin Naqvi

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Sunday said peaceful protest is everyone's right but vandalism under the guise of protest will not be tolerated under any circumstances. Naqvi said this in a statement during his visit to various areas of Islamabad to review the law and order situation. During his visit to the Red Zone, Diplomatic Enclave, and other key locations, the interior minister inspected security arrangements and issued directives to ensure foolproof security within the Diplomatic Enclave. He emphasised that security arrangements must be comprehensive and complete in every respect, noting that the law will take its course against those who disrupt daily life. Islamabad Police Inspector General Ali Nasir Rizvi briefed the interior minister on the current law and order situation. Islamabad Chief Commissioner Muhammad Ali Randhawa, the deputy commissioner, and other senior officials were also present on the

occasion.

The development comes after at least nine people were killed and more than 12 others injured on Sunday in violent clashes that erupted between protesters and law enforcement personnel outside the US Consulate in Karachi, hours after Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei was killed in the opening salvo of a massive US and Israeli attack. The confrontation began when demonstrators attempted to enter the consulate premises, prompting security forces to respond, according to Rescue 1122 Sindh.

Iranian state television confirmed Khamenei's death early Sunday, hours after US President Donald Trump declared that Khamenei died in the conflict that had defined his rule of Iran, and a senior Israeli official told Reuters his body had been found following US-Israeli airstrikes on Iran.

In a separate statement, Naqvi said it was a day of mourning for the people of Iran and Pakistan.



ISLAMABAD: Mr Muhammad Muddasir Tipu, Ambassador of Islamic Republic in Tehran has said the Pakistani students in Iran and the expatriates are being evacuated by land routes.

President Zardari felicitates Bosnian leadership on Independence Day

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD:

President Asif Ali Zardari, Sunday, extended his warmest felicitations to Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina Dr Denis Bećirović on the auspicious occasion of their Independence Day.

The similar felicitations were extended to the two members of Bosnia and Herzegovina Presidency Zeljko Komšić and Zeljka Cvijanović.

In his letters, the president highlighted that Pakistan and Bosnia and Herzegovina enjoyed close and historic relations founded on mutual trust, goodwill and shared understanding. President Secretariat Media Wing said in a press release.

"President Zardari expressed his confidence that the friendly bilateral ties between the two nations would continue to grow and deepen in the years ahead, to the mutual benefit of the people of both countries," the press release added. The president further conveyed his best wishes for the good health and well-being of the leadership.

Death toll in joint US-Israeli military strike on Iran primary school rises to 148

PEAK POINT

IRAN: The death toll from a joint US-Israeli military strike on a primary school in southern Iran has risen to 148, most of them schoolgirls, Iranian authorities said on Sunday, according to the Financial Times.

The strike occurred on Saturday as US and Israeli forces launched coordinated military operations against Iran, beginning in Tehran and extending to other parts of the country. Mohammad Ashouri, governor of Hormozgan province, stated that Shajareh Tayebeh primary school in the coastal city of Minab was hit at approximately 10:45am.

Ashouri said around 170 schoolgirls were inside the school at the time of the attack and expressed hope that rescue teams might find survivors



beneath the rubble. In a statement, the Minab judiciary reported that 148 people had been killed and 95 others injured.

State television broadcast images of the destroyed school building, showing desks buried under debris as distraught mothers gathered in the courtyard.

Iranian officials condemned the strike, describing it as an example of US and Israeli aggression. President Masoud Pezeshkian called the attack "savagely" and "inhumane," while foreign ministry spokesperson.

415 Afghan combatants killed, 182 check posts destroyed in operation Ghazab lil-Haq: Atta Tarar

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD:

Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar said on Sunday that the security forces have killed 415 combatants of the Afghan Taliban regime, destroyed their 182 posts, and captured 31 others during Operation Ghazab lil-Haq, launched following "unprovoked action" from across the border.

Providing a summary of the Afghan Taliban regime's losses at 16:00 hours, the minister said that over 580 Afghan operatives were injured during the Operation Ghazab lil-Haq (Righteous Fury).



Around 185 tanks, armed vehicles, and artillery have also been destroyed during the operation, he added. The minister noted that around 46 locations across Afghanistan were also targeted by air, effectively.

Amir Muqam contacts GB leaders, reviews law & order situation

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD:

Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan Engineer Amir Muqam held telephone conversations with senior officials of Gilgit-Baltistan to review the law and order situation.

The federal minister spoke with Gilgit-Baltistan Governor Syed Mehdi Shah, Chief Minister Justice (ret'd) Yaqub Khan, former chief minister Hafiz Hafeezur Rehman, Chief Secretary Abrar Ahmed Mirza, and Inspector General of Police Dr Nasser Akbar Khan. During the calls, the minister discussed the overall situation in the region and expressed sorrow over the loss of lives and damage to property caused by the protests. He



said such incidents affect public life and services and must be addressed through dialogue and lawful measures.

Engineer Amir Muqam asked the chief secretary to submit a detailed report on the incidents, including the reasons for the unrest, steps taken by the administration, and the current ground situation. The minister also expressed grief over the reported martyrdom of Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei.

COMSTech to strengthen cooperation with IAEA in health and food security sectors

PEAK POINT

ISLAMABAD: In a significant development aimed at expanding scientific cooperation for sustainable development in Africa, Coordinator General of OIC-COMSTech, Prof Dr Muhammad Iqbal Choudhary held high-level and productive meetings at the headquarters of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna, Austria, resulting in key agreements to jointly implement health and food security initiatives in African countries.

During the visit, Prof Choudhary met with Ms Najat Mokhtar, Deputy Director General of the IAEA's Department of Nuclear Sciences and Applications, and Mr Jean-Pierre Cayol, Department Programme Coordinator, to review ongoing cooperation and explore new avenues of collaboration under the existing Memorandum of Understanding between OIC and IAEA.

The meeting was also attended by Pakistan's Ambassador Muhammad Kamran Akhtar and Dr Riaz,



Technical Lead from the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission.

Both sides agreed to launch collaborative projects

in Senegal, Nigeria, and Uganda, focusing on two major priority areas.

The first initiative aims to strengthen radiation therapy

and diagnostic services in nuclear medicine through the expertise of leading Pakistani institutions, including the Nuclear Institute for Radiotherapy and Nuclear Medicine (NURI).

The second area of cooperation involves the application of nuclear radiation technology for post-harvest treatment to reduce food losses in the targeted African countries, with technical support from Pakistani institutions.

Discussions also emphasized enhanced cooperation and knowledge sharing in the fields of healthcare and food

security. It was further proposed to engage the Islamic Development Bank and the Islamic Solidarity Fund to support and strengthen the implementation of the initiative.

The participants agreed that Pakistan's technical expertise and institutional excellence would be utilized for capacity building and human resource development in partner countries.

The meeting marked an important step toward expanding OIC-IAEA collaboration aimed at promoting sustainable development.