



CRISIS RESPONSE BULLETIN

March 02, 2015 - Volume: 1, Issue: 7

English News 2-30

Natural Calamities Section **2-6**

Safety and Security Section 7-13

Public Services Section 14-30

Maps 31-38

Urdu News 53-39

Natural Calamities Section 53-51

Safety and Security section 50-48

Public Service Section 47-39

HIGHLIGHTS:

Mild, Severe Earthquake may also Occur in Future as Well: ERRA 02

Pakistan to Attend Disaster Risk Reduction Moot 02

ERRA to Launch Campaign for Building Code Adoption 03

More Rains Predicted in the Country During Sunday to Tuesday 03

Pakistani, Foreign Universities Ink 70 MoUs To Explore Avenues of 05

Mutual Cooperation

7 Pakistani security men among 10 held for jailbreak 07

Implementing NAP: No funds to register Afghan refugees, says 08

SAFRON ministry

Commitment reiterated: Victory only option in fight against terrorism. 09

Chief Minister Punjab

400 foreign students studying in Punjab seminaries to be deported 11

Four sentenced to death for Lahore prison attack 12

Turkish surgeon inaugurates work on SIUT children hospital 14

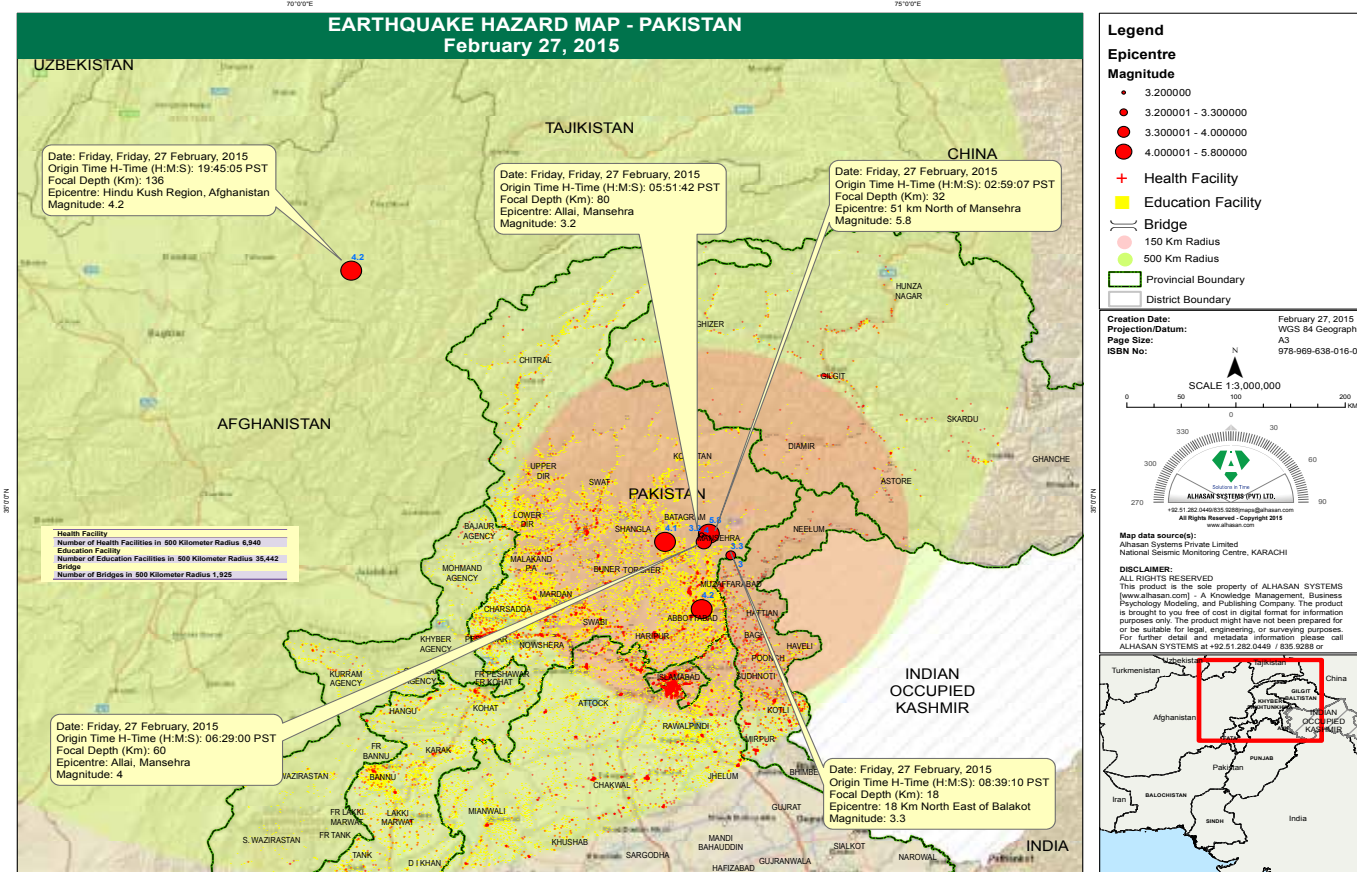
Need for greater anti-polio efforts in some districts stressed 15

600 Pakistani students to return from Cuba as doctors 16

International arbitration begins in \$573m claim against Pakistan 17

MAPS

- PAKISTAN WEATHER MAP
- EARTHQUAKE HAZARD MAP - PAKISTAN
- CNG SECTOR GAS LOAD MANAGEMENT PLAN-SINDH
- FATA AND KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA - TDPS SITUATION MAP
- WEATHER CONDITION MAP OF PAKISTAN 01 MAR 15
- GAS PIPELINE BLAST IN BALOCHISTAN
- VEGETATION ANALYSIS MAP OF PAKISTAN
- DISTRICT LAYYAH ELECTRICITY LOAD SHEDDING SITUATION MAP



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NATURAL CALAMITIES

NEWS HEADLINES

Mild, Severe Earthquake May Also Occur in Future as Well: ERRA

Pak Observer, February 28, 2015

Six infants Die in Drought-Hit Tharparkar

ARY News, February 28, 2015

Pakistan To Attend Disaster Risk Reduction Moot

The Nation, February 27, 2015

DETAILS

ISLAMABAD: Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Authority (ERRA) would soon launch an awareness campaign for adoption of its building codes to minimize damage in case of future natural disasters. Deputy Chairman ERRA Maj. Gen. Muhammad Azeem Asif in monthly review meeting while giving his comment on Friday morning 5.4 Richter Scale that jolted Hazara and AJK, maintained that the authority will ensure minimizing damages and safety of the people in future natural disasters. It merits mention that a strong earth-quake jolted Hazara Division and northern parts of Pakistan including Federal capital Islamabad, Lahore and other parts of country early Friday morning, said a press release.

According to the National Seismic Monitoring centre Karachi and US Geological Survey, the earthquake measured 5.4 on the Richter scale and had an epicenter 100 kilometers north-north east of Islamabad and at a depth of 2.40 km. The earthquake also jolted AJK Capital Muzaffargarh, Balakot, Allai Mansehra and other nearby town and cities. The strong quake created panic among the people who promptly came out from their homes in panic. According to the information, so far there were no reports of any loss of life or property. The epicenter of Friday's earthquake was just 19 kilometers north of Baffa, close to Balakot where a 7.6 magnitude massive earthquake struck in 2005 killing at least 75,000 people.

According the Earthquake, Reconstruction Rehabilitation Authority (ERRA), mild and severe earthquake may also occur in future as well as main boundary thrust and Himalayan thrust are active which causing jolts in the Hazara Division and AJK from time to time. The official said that seismicity in the Himalaya dominantly results from the continental collision of the India and Eurasia plates, which are converging at a relative rate of 40-50 mm/yr. Northward under thrusting of India beneath Eurasia generates numerous earthquakes and consequently makes this area one of the most seismically hazardous regions on Earth. The surface expression of the plate boundary is marked by the foothills of the north-south trending Sulaiman Range in the west, the Indo-Burmese Arc in the east and the east-west trending Himalaya Front in the north of India.—APP

MITHI: Six more children died in nursery ward of Mithi Civil Hospital in drought hit Tharparkar district of Pakistan's southern Sindh province on Saturday Feb 28, 2015, ARY News reported. The death toll due to food shortage in the desert district of Thar during current year has reached to 190. The area continues to suffer food shortage causing malnutrition in mothers resulting in various health disorders in newborn children. The desert district of Thar bordering India passing through severe drought spell for a long period. Insufficient health facilities and the government neglect has multiplied the misery of the resident of the area. Scarce rainfall and the government's inability to ensure food supplies in the region cause malnutrition and other health issues causing deaths.

The Thar desert, straddling the Indian border and one of Pakistan's poorest areas, has seen an alarming number of children suffering pneumonia or diarrhea due to a dangerous mix of drought, poverty and poor health infrastructure. The deaths have prompted criticism for the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), which governs Sindh. The provincial government had recently announced to invest Rs. 5.4 billion (\$53 million) in installing 750 solar-powered reverse osmosis water purification plants across the sprawling desert district, to help get safe drinking water to the region's over 1.5 million population. According to Sindh government, all of the facilities are expected to be set up and working by June this year.

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan is going to participate in the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) to be held in Japan from March 14-18, 2015, the highest level meeting to set forth commitments to minimise disaster risks. Pakistan would be participating in this global event as an effective representation and positioning to make an effort towards minimising disaster risk factors. According to Dr Muhammad Hanif, Weather Expert WCDRR Pakistan, the world is about to face numerous disasters due to climate change and Pakistan is one of top three countries that are most prone to disasters. Dr Hanif stressed the government needs to fully participate in the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and plan for the future. He said according to the weather data collected recently, 2014 was termed by experts the hottest in the world and the impact of that weather change is going to affect the weather patterns in coming years. Reviewing past 10 years of Pakistan's history, Dr Hanif said, it would not be wrong to state that the natural and manmade disasters namely internal conflict, 2005 earthquake and flash floods in the last decade have impacted the country's development and caused severe damage to the infrastructure, human lives and overall the livelihoods of vulnerable communities.

Pakistan faced drought for a prolonged period of 1998 to 2001. Later the country was shocked by the earthquake of 2005. In 2007, from June to July, 3 million people were affected due to the storms and cyclones in Sindh and Balochistan and this was followed by flash floods in the coastal regions and frontier province at the end of the decade which displaced more than 20 million people. Since then, Pakistan is facing floods every year. The 2010 floods in Pakistan are also marked as a major disaster in the world data. Natural hazards have been defined as natural phenomena which pose a threat to people, structures or economic assets and may cause disaster. High winds, floods, fires, volcanic eruption, landslides, droughts and earthquakes are all natural hazards. Out of 6 major natural hazards, namely floods, cyclones, droughts, landslides, earthquakes and volcanoes, Pakistan has been a victim of all these natural hazards except for volcanoes (Tahir, 2007). According to experts, natural disasters are an outcome of a complex interaction between natural hazards with a society as a natural disaster occurs when an extreme geological, meteorological, or hydrological event exceeds the ability of a community to cope with

Pakistan – Earthquake

ECHO DailyFlash, February 27, 2015

Five Wounded as Earthquake Hits Batagram

Pakistan Today, February 27, 2015

ERRA to Launch Campaign for Building Code Adoption

Business Recorder, February 27, 2015

Flood victims: Saudi Arabia Launching New Construction Projects

Business Recorder, February 27, 2015

More Rains Predicted in the Country During Sunday to Tuesday

that event. The United Nations General Assembly Resolution adopted in 2013 (68/211) on International Strategy for Disaster Reduction states that the World Conference will result in a concise, focused, forward-looking, and action-oriented outcome document to adopt a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction.

- An earthquake of magnitude 5.4M, at 29km depth, occurred in the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in northern Pakistan on 26 February, at 21.59 UTC. The epicentre was located near the border of Battagram and Mansehra districts, approximately 23km south-east of the town of Allai. Tremors were felt around Islamabad and parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, according to media.
- USGS PAGER estimates over 3.6 million people were exposed to Light shaking. As of 27 February, local media report 15 people injured and a number of mud houses collapsed in the affected area.
- The earthquake is considered of moderate strength. At present, no confirmed information about the humanitarian impact is available.

ISLAMABAD: A 5.4-magnitude earthquake struck northwest Pakistan early Friday Feb 26th, injuring at least five people and causing minor damage, officials and seismologists said. The quake hit 37 kilometres north-northeast of the city of Mansehra, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, at a depth of 28.9 kilometres, the US Geological Survey said. It was followed by two aftershocks with a magnitude of 3.2 and 4, Pakistan's meteorological department said. The quake was also felt in surrounding towns and districts, including the capital Islamabad and in parts of Pakistan-administered Kashmir. Zarif Ul Maani, a senior official in Battagram district neighbouring Mansehra told AFP that at least five people were injured and taken to hospital.

Two houses were also damaged, Maani said. Pakistan straddles part of the boundary where the Indian and Eurasian tectonic plates meet, making the country susceptible to earthquakes. It was hit by a 7.6-magnitude quake on October 8, 2005 that killed more than 73,000 people and left about 3.5 million homeless, mainly in Pakistan-controlled Kashmir. A 7.7-magnitude earthquake devastated several areas in southwestern Baluchistan province in September 2013, killing at least 370 people and leaving 100,000 homeless.

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Saudi Arabia is launching new construction projects to help improve the life of the people of Pakistan affected by recent floods in their areas here on Thursday. The construction projects which would be completed in the flood-hit areas include schools (07), basic health units (02), low cost houses (191), and water supply schemes (23). The task of constructional projects would be accomplished through a Saudi Organisation "King Abdullah's Relief Campaign for Pakistani People (KARCPP)". The construction work on improving the infrastructure of the affected districts would be started soon with a cost of Rs 395.2 million rupees, Dr Khalid M Al-Othmani, the Regional Director of King Abdullah Relief Campaign for Pakistani People (KARCPP) said.

He also said the team of KARCPP with the co-operation of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), would build the above mentioned projects in Muzaffargarh, Ranjanpur, DG Khan, Mianwali, Khanewal, Bahawalpur and Layyah areas, to express solidarity with the victims of the calamity hit families of Pakistan. He added that similar projects would also be started in other provinces of Pakistan to facilitate the people affected by natural calamity in their areas. Saudi Arabia had announced to launch relief and construction projects worth millions of US dollars which would be completed under the supervision of Muhammad Bin Naif, the second Crown Prince, Minister of Interior of Saudi Arabia and Patron-in-Chief of KARCPP, he said.-PR

Met Office predicted more winter rains with snowfall over the hills in the country from Sunday to Tuesday. Met Office informed that another westerly wave is likely to enter Pakistan through Balochistan on Saturday (night) and expected to grip the upper parts of the country from Sunday

Pakistan Meteorological
Department (PMD), February 26,
2015

Alkhidmat Foundation Sheikhupura Assist Flood Affectees With Winter Package Distribution

AKF News, February 26, 2015

Six Killed as Rain Plays Havoc in KP, FATA

DAWN News, February 26, 2015

CM wants media to highlight achievements of Sindh govt

DAWN News, February 25, 2015

(evening/night).

Under the influence of this weather system; Scattered rain with snowfall over the hills is expected in upper Punjab, lower (Balochistan & Sindh), upper Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (KP), Kashmir, Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) and upper Federally Administrated Tribal Areas (FATA) while at isolated places in north Balochistan, South Punjab and upper Sindh during Saturday (night) to Tuesday. Met Office informed that thunderstorm rain (snowfall over the hills) with occasional hail storm is expected at scattered places in lower parts of the country (Makran, Kalat, Karachi, Hyderabad and Mirpurkhas divisions) from Saturday (night) to Monday (morning) while in upper parts of the country including Islamabad (Rawalpindi, Sargodha, Faisalabad, Sahiwal, Gujranwala, Lahore, Malakand, Mardan and Hazara divisions), upper FATA (Bajaur, Mohmand, Kurram, Orakzai & Khyber agencies), GB and Kashmir from Sunday (night) to Tuesday. Met Office further elaborated that thunderstorm rain with snowfall over the hills is also expected at isolated places in north Balochistan (Quetta and Zhob divisions), south Punjab (Bahawalpur, Multan & D. G. Khan divisions), KP (Peshawar, Kohat, D I Khan & Bannu divisions) and upper Sindh (Sukkur division) on Saturday/Sunday. It was further informed that the system may produce scattered thunderstorm with isolated heavy to very heavy falls accompanied with occasional hailing in (Hazara, Rawalpindi, Lahore and Gujranwala) divisions, Islamabad and Kashmir during Sunday (night) to Monday. The possibility of landslides in the Kashmir and adjoining areas of Baltistan can not be ruled out during the period.

SHEIKHUPURA: Alkhidmat Foundation arranged a winter package distribution ceremony for the flood affected families of Sheikhupura. Dr. Tariq Mehmood Malik (President Alkhidmat Foundation Sheikhupura) and Mr. Abdul Malik Mureed distributed the packages among the flood affectees families. Alkhidmat Foundation thus fulfills its promise of keep helping the most deserving flood affected families.

PESHAWAR: Six people, including three women, were killed and five others injured as heavy rains and hailstorm lashed different parts of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Federally Administered Tribal Areas on the night between Tuesday 24th Feb and Wednesday 25th Feb. Some hilly areas also received snow that brought down the mercury level to a freezing point. Tourist resort Malam Jabba in Swat district received 82mm rain followed by Parachinar, Kurram Agency, where 72mm rain was recorded, said Met officials. Both areas also received moderate snowfall. The rain and hailstorm was accompanied by thunderstorm and lightning, which caused panic among the people. A police official said that a kitchen in the house of one Hakeem Shah in Mattani area of Peshawar collapsed, killing three women on the spot. He added that a woman, her daughter and daughter-in-law were killed in the incident. The provincial capital received 28.3mm rain during the past 24 hours, while hailstorm hit some of the localities, including Hayatabad, on Tuesday night. Boundary walls of various houses in parts of Peshawar also collapsed due to heavy rain. Also, rainwater submerged the main arteries of the provincial capital which caused heavy traffic jam. Students and office-goers got late to reach their institutions due to traffic snarls. Workers of Water and Sanitation Services, Peshawar, were called to clear rainwater and slush from the roads on Wednesday morning.

The downpour also caused suspension of power supply in different localities of the city and surrounding areas. A resident of Hayatabad said that electricity supply could not be restored even after lapse of 24 hours. In Ghalanai, two children were killed when roof of a house collapsed due to rain in Khawajawas Kor of Haleemzai tehsil of Mohmand Agency. Kifayatullah, a resident of the area, told Dawn that the roof of the mud-brick house of one Wahab Khan caved in after midnight, leaving his two teenage daughters dead and three sons injured. The rain also caused damage to standing crops in the area. In Charsadda, at least 40 boats were swept away and several makeshift cabins of fish sellers destroyed in Sardaryab area on Wednesday after heavy rain in the highlands of Malakand division caused surge in the level of Kabul river. Sardaryab is one of the major recreation places for the people of Charsadda, Peshawar and surrounding villages and districts.

In Landi Kotal, a man was killed and two children suffered injuries when the roof of a house collapsed in Malagori area of Jamrud tehsil, while flash floods swept away four vehicles in Landi Kotal tehsil. Local people said that hailstorm and heavy rains lashed parts of Landi Kotal tehsil, while nearby mountains received snow. In Bannu, a heavy current of floodwater washed away a portion of a bridge on the Kurram river here in the wee hours of Wednesday. One Ameerullah told Dawn that a large portion of the bridge collapsed after heavy floods in Kurram river damaged the protection wall. The people of Surrani area of Bannu were cut off from the main town due to the bridge collapse. In Swabi, hailstorm lashed the district and damaged standing wheat crop here on Wednesday. Farmers said that the hailstones accompanied by heavy rain lashed areas in Chota Lahor tehsil, Swabi, Razaar and Topi.

KARACHI: Asking the media to highlight achievements of his government, Sindh Chief Minister Qaim Ali Shah has said despite progress made by the province in every field over the past seven years of PPP rule, their opponents are not ready to acknowledge this. Addressing a gathering of journalists during a visit to the Karachi Press Club (KPC) on Tuesday Feb 24, 2015, he said the PPP government had rendered valuable services to people and Sindh had moved forward in economic and financial terms. The government had established nine universities, including one in Lyari, and was running 52,000 schools, he added.

He said children in Tharparkar were not dying only of hunger as reported by the media but mostly because of complications at the time of birth. The chief minister said more medical facilities had been provided in the hospitals of Mirpurkhas, Mithi, Umarmot and Tharparkar where 2,000 patients were treated on daily basis. He said the government had installed biggest reverse osmosis plant of Asia in Mithi and expressed the hope that Thar would not face drought in future. He recalled the exemplary role played by the KPC for the promotion of democracy and freedom of press and presented a cheque for Rs 10 million to office-bearers of the club.

Tackling Disasters

Express Tribune, February 25, 2015

Pakistani, Foreign Universities Ink 70 MoUs To Explore Avenues of Mutual Cooperation

The News, February 25, 2015

GULMIT: The 2005 earthquake in Pakistan that struck Kashmir and adjoining areas had a severe impact on the education system, thousands of students and teachers were killed. A large number of schools were destroyed. Most school buildings and educational institutions do not comply with the hazard resistance designs, are poorly constructed, and lack preparedness and response plans. The 2010 floods destroyed approximately 410 schools all over Pakistan. Apart from the destruction caused by natural calamities, the Army Public School attack on December 16, 2014 was no less than a mighty man-made disaster.

There is an agreement among experts that many schools collapse due to lack of knowledge and of policy formulation and guidelines for school site selection, design, construction, and use of construction materials, especially in mountainous areas of Pakistan as these areas are more vulnerable to natural disasters. Moreover, the security plans drawn up by the government for schools, both government and public, do not cater to the needs of the schools. Equally contributing to such factors is the lack of preparedness in schools in terms of evacuation plans, designated evacuation areas, and safety awareness.

NGOs have been working for long to sensitise children and community members over the preparedness measures taken in the face of natural and man-made disasters, but the government needs to supplement the efforts of NGOs by doing its own work. Most government school buildings are in a poor condition, which needs to be improved where necessary. Several schools are being allocated funds by the government on an annual basis, which barely meet the basic needs of the schools. Most of the funds are often embezzled by middle men. Many children and teachers are not aware of natural and man-made disasters and the impact they can have, there is hence a need for a mass awareness campaign. Moreover, the government needs to formulate policies regarding disaster management at school level and make provisions for curriculum enrichment in order to have disaster management incorporated in the syllabus. School buildings should be constructed under the supervision of experts. A child will only be able to continue his/her studies if a disaster-resilient environment is engendered.

ISLAMABAD: Over 70 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) were signed among various national and international universities at the two-day Vice Chancellors Forum (VC Forum) on 'Universities in the Islamic World: Facing Global Challenges' which concluded here on Feb 24th. These MoUs will open new avenues of mutual cooperation, networking and understanding among national and international universities. The forum was jointly organised by the Comsats Institute of Information Technology(CIIT), Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Trainings, Higher Education Commission, Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, Morocco, Federation of Universities of the Islamic World, Morocco, and the Jang Media Group.

The VC Forum was the congregation of vice chancellors, rectors, presidents of universities and higher education institutions of the Islamic world. Heads of universities of Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Algeria, Cameroon, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kyrgyz Republic, Libya, Malaysia, Niger, Nigeria, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Yemen, Gambia, Jordan and other Muslim universities participated in the forum. On concluding day of the forum, multiple panel discussions were also held on different disciplines covering wide range of issues and challenges being faced by universities in the Islamic world.

The prominent topics included Fostering Links with Community, Sustainable Higher Education Systems, Sharing of Knowledge and Fostering Collaboration, Higher Education, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, International Landscape: Role of University Leadership, Higher Education: New Visions for Future, Role of Higher Education in Economic Revitalization, Mapping International Research Collaboration-Future Trends, Equality of Access and Role of Women in Higher Education and in Society, and Partnering with Industry.

While stressing on the need for community services in universities, Islamic University Uganda Vice Rector Professor Dr. Abdul Kaziba Mpaata said, "We need to incorporate community to make meaningful research." "We all share social responsibility and the problems we face are the same. If we effectively engage community then we can substantially eradicate poverty from our community," he added. Sarhad University of Science and Information Technology Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Salim ur Rehman, while explaining the importance of community work for university students, said that terms like house job and internship relate with community work. "Universities need to extend their boundaries and infuse it with community. Last year, the Sarhad University started projects on small scale, but it received tremendous appreciation by the community. Our students worked in education, health and agriculture sectors. It is heartening to see that 52% of the universities in Pakistan engage with the community. There is tremendous contribution of universities and its students whenever there is a natural disaster in the country. People trust the academia and students that their funds would reach the deserving people. They support and help them and extend their outreach," he said.

While talking about the social responsibility of a university, Inonu University Turkey Rector Professor Cemil Celik said that their university is the first university in Turkey to start such vast projects. "Inonu University wants to make a difference in the lives of the community. This university is located in Malatya which contributes to the 85% production of dried apricots. Last year, the university has planted more than 500,000 saplings around the university. The students grow vegetables on their own. There are Children's University, Centre for Women and a rescue team in the university. The Solar Energy Centre installed at the university produces 5.3MW electricity which is one-third of energy required by the university," he said.

The panellists on the second day of VC Forum were: Professor Dr Hashim Ali Mohamed Salem, vice chancellor of the Sudan University of Science and Technology; Professor Dr Syed Khawaja Alqama, vice chancellor of the Bahauddin Zakariya University, Pakistan; Professor Khaleda Ekram, vice chancellor of the Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology, Bangladesh; Dr Kamalain K. Shaath, president of the University of Gaza, Palestine; Professor Dr. Javed

Three More Die In Drought Hit Tharparkar

Pakistan Herald, February 24, 2015

Ashraf, vice chancellor of the Quaid-i-Azam University, Pakistan; Professor Dr Md Abdu Sattar, vice chancellor of the Jessore University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh, and many others.

The forum concluded with the resolution recommending maintaining a regular liaison among institutions of higher learning and facilitating scholarships for students. It also proposed establishment of virtual centres of excellence as well as promoting exchange of students and faculty among the participating institutions of higher learning. An exhibition was also held on the sidelines of the forum which provided an excellent opportunity to universities-higher education institutions to showcase their respective areas of strength. It was third VC Forum in the federal capital which was participated by vice chancellors, rectors, presidents of the universities in the Islamic world. The earlier two VC Forums were organised one each in June 2012 and September 2013 in Islamabad. The next forum will be held in August 2016 in Islamabad.

MITHI: Three more children died in Mithi area of drought hit Tharparkar district in Sindh province of Pakistan on Feb 24, 2015, ARY News reported. The death toll due to food shortage in the desert district of Thar during current year has reached to 180. The area continues to suffer food shortage due to severe drought for a long time. Scarce rainfall and the government's inability to ensure food supplies in the region cause malnutrition and other health issues causing deaths.



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The Missing Link in the Governance Structure of Pakistan

Page 6



Dubai Goes Green

Page 12



The Future of Medicine: Nanotechnology

Page 16

MAPS

Inside

- LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS 2005 - PROVINCE WISE TURNOUT
- NANOTECHNOLOGY FUNDING - IMPACT FACTOR 2013
- NATURAL DISASTER TRENDS IN PAKISTAN

CASE STUDY

Page 39

- Emergency Management in the Arabian Peninsula: A case study from the Sultanate of Oman

NEWS

- Plan to elaborate a unified GCC stance on environmental issues
- Iran facing acute water shortage
- IPCC report rings alarm over climate change
- 63pc Pakistanis marks 2013 election fair
- Oman sets up center to deal with Ebola epidemic
- Kuwait to participate at IWSE 2014 in Canada

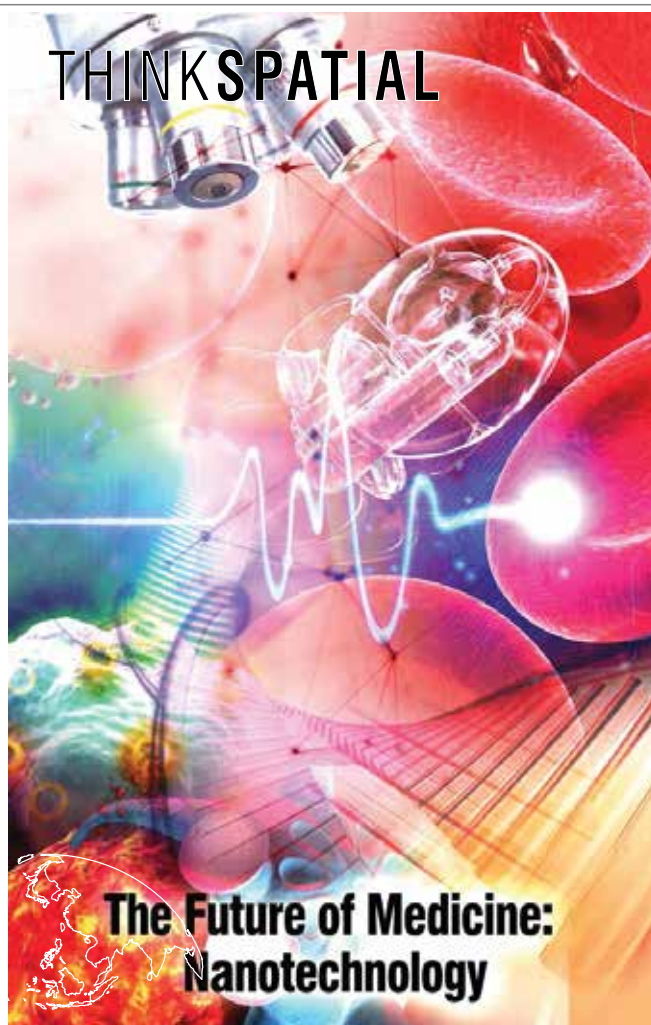
BOOK CORNER

Page 44

- Energy and Environment in Saudi Arabia: Concerns & Opportunities
- Pakistan on the Brink: The Future of America, Pakistan, and Afghanistan
- Global Capitalism and the Crisis of Humanity
- Armies and State-building in the Modern Middle East: Politics, Nationalism and Military Reform

INFOTAINMENT

Page 51



SAFETY AND SECURITY

NEWS HEADLINES

7 Pakistani security men among 10 held for jailbreak

Daily Excelsior, March 1, 2015

Caught in the act: 'Militants' caught trying to abduct ANP leader

The Express Tribune, February 28, 2015

IED blast in South Waziristan injures 12 Security personnel

The Express Tribune, February 28, 2015

Shikarpur case will be sent to military court: CM Sindh

The News, February 28, 2015

Imambargah blast: Two Shikarpur bombing

DETAILS

ISLAMABAD: Three religious leaders and seven security personnel have been arrested for allegedly helping two terrorists, including one involved in the killing of 10 foreign climbers in 2013, escape from a Pakistani jail in Gilgit-Baltistan region. About four inmates made a bid to flee from the jail in regional capital of Gilgit on Friday. Regional chief secretary Sikandar Sultan said that two prisoners escaped, including Habib ur Rehman involved in the killing of climbers at the Nanga Parbat peak. He said one prisoner was killed and another injured when security forces resorted to firing at the fleeing men in Gilgit-Baltistan region, a territory disputed between India and Pakistan. Ten foreign climbers and a Pakistani guide and cook were killed as gunmen wearing the uniform of paramilitary Gilgit-Baltistan Scouts stormed into the base camp of Nanga Parbat, one of the world's highest mountains in June, 2013. So far seven jail staff personnel and three religious leaders have been arrested for their alleged involvement in the case, Dawn reported. Police and other security forces had launched a search operation on Friday evening after receiving an intelligence tip of their location, Gilgit-Baltistan police chief Zaffar Iqbal Awan said.

A clash took place between security personnel and the fugitives in a hilly area near Minwar in which a policeman and a prisoner were injured. The police sealed off roads near a river but the besieged prisoners jumped into a ditch and escaped. The official said police had found some drugs, dates and other items left by the fleeing prisoners. He said the search operation had been extended to Padi, Thalichi and areas bordering Diamer district. Awan said police are checking medical stores and private hospitals in the area to trace the injured prisoner. A joint investigation team is dealing with the case under the supervision of Home Secretary Sibtain Ahmed.

KARACHI: Two suspected militants were caught and later handed over to the police for trying to abduct the local leader of the Awami National Party (ANP) in Orangi Town on Saturday. Nearly 20 suspects on two hi-roof vans and at least four motorcycles tried to kidnap ANP's Syed Badshah Afridi at Toori Bangash Colony within the limits of Iqbal Market police station. The kidnapping bid was, however, foiled as Afridi's brother immediately called the police. Afridi, who is also the former president of ANP's PS-94 and a transporter by profession, claimed that two of the suspects were caught and handed over to the police while the remaining ones managed to escape. He was receiving threats by militants since November last year, he said. "The men were threatening me to leave the ANP or give them 'donation' money," Afridi claimed. "They warned me that if I do not follow their instructions, they will kill me." The ANP spokesperson said Afridi was fortunate to escape the kidnapping bid but reminded that a large number of party workers have been targeted in the past three years, particularly in district West. He demanded the police protect the party leaders to secure their lives. Orangi Town SP Ali Asif said that the no case has been registered as the complainants have yet to approach the police.

Twelve security personals were injured on Saturday when a security forces convoy came under an IED attack in the Sarwakai area of South Waziristan, a security official confirmed to The Express Tribune. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack so far, and the injured have been shifted for treatment.

IDPs return

Assistant Political Agent South Waziristan Nawab Safi told The Express Tribune that repatriation of IDPs is set to commence from March 16 this year after a gap of about 15 months. The IDPs' families will be sent back to 14 villages of the Sarwakai and Sarrarugha Tehsils of South Waziristan. The families will be facilitated with cash through an ATM, amounting to Rs25,000. In addition Rs10,000 will be provided for transport per family. IDPs families will be registered start from March 8 to March 11 at the Political Compound South Waziristan, the official added.

The official says that in the new phase about 8,000 families will be repatriated to their homes in South Waziristan. The five tehsils of the Mehsud area of South Waziristan, the Sararogha, Sarwakai, Tayarza, Makin, and Lahda tribes got displaced as a result of Operation Reh-a-Nejat in 2009. The official said the areas where the IDPs families will be repatriated is not only clear, but they have also been provided with facilities, and different development work has been done in the area. So far, 11,924 families have been repatriated. About 79,000 families were displaced from South Waziristan due to the Operation.

KARACHI: Chief Minister Sindh, Qaim Ali Shah announced on Saturday that a ban had been placed in Sindh on police transfer and postings. Speaking at a press conference here, Qaim Ali Shah said police officials would remain on their post for at least one year. He added that Rs 5 million would be provided to the police and Rangers in the province. According to the CM, the Shikarpur tragedy case would be sent to a military court. At least 61 people including children were killed when a suicide bomber blew himself up inside an imambargah in Shikarpur during Friday prayers on January 30.

CM Sindh Qaim Ali Shah revealed that the suicide attacker responsible for the Shikarpur bombing was brought from Balochistan. Qaim Ali Shah told reporters that the facts of the Shikarpur case had been revealed and he praised the role of law enforcement agencies for the arrest of two accused. "The accused of the Shikarpur tragedy will be punished," he said. Qaim Ali Shah added that the families of the Shikarpur tragedy victims had protested and he cited that families of those who lost their loved ones in the Peshawar massacre had also demanded the arrest of the culprits.

SUKKUR: Two men suspected of facilitating the January 30 Shikarpur Imambargah attack were arrested in a raid on Friday, police said. SSP Shikarpur Saqib Ismael Memon told the media that the suspects were arrested after being identified by the already arrested suspects during

abettors arrested

The Express Tribune, February 28, 2015

Implementing NAP: No funds to register Afghan refugees, says SAFRON ministry

The Express Tribune, February 27, 2015

Not a safe haven: 4,055 refugees arrested so far

The Express Tribune, February 27, 2015

Bomb scare: Schools closed till March 1

The Express Tribune, February 27,

interrogation. "Shikarpur police in a raid in village Abdul Khaliq Kambrani near Sultankot has managed to arrest two persons who played the role of facilitator for the suicide bomber in Imambargah Karbala Maula attack," SSP Memon said. He said a drum full of explosive materials and detonators and other items used for preparing bombs was also recovered. At least 64 people were killed and many others wounded when a deadly suicide blast ripped through the Imambargah during Friday prayers late last month. The outlawed Jundullah militant group had claimed responsibility for the attack.

The police officials presented both arrested persons before the media, with their faces covered with black cloth. They were identified as Ghulam Rasool Brohi, a resident of Khanpur, and Khalil Brohi, belonging to Dera Murad Jamali. The SSP said that one person from Khasti Brohi village near Khanpur was arrested on Thursday, on whose pointation the security officials learnt about the new suspects and their whereabouts. During interrogation, the alleged facilitators also confessed to killing Shia cleric Shafqat Hussain Mutahiri near Khanpur some two months ago, the official said. He further revealed that the two had also planned to attack a rally of Shia activists after Imambargah bombing through a pressure-cooker bomb, but failed to carry out the attack. The SSP said the accused belonged to the outlawed outfits Lashkar-e-Jhangvi and Jaish-e-Islam. Their third accomplice, Ali Sher Brohi, is absconding and raids are being conducted to arrest him.

Suicide bomber

Giving details about the suicide bomber, SSP Memon said that Mohammad Ilyas, a resident of Quetta, was brought to Shikarpur by Mohammad Raheem, who handed him over to the two accused presented before the media. The age of the suicide bomber was estimated to be between 18 and 20 years and before carrying out the attack on Imambargah, Ilyas stayed for a week with Ghulam Rasool and Khalil.

ISLAMABAD: Despite tall claims by the federal government, the finance division has failed to release the promised funds to the Ministry of States and Frontier Regions (Safron) division for registration of illegal Afghan citizens under the National Action Plan (NAP) despite a lapse of two months. This was revealed by senior officials of the ministry to the National Assembly standing committee on government assurances held here on Thursday. The ministry said that the deadline to complete the registration process of illegal Afghan citizens in Pakistan is June 2015, but because due funds have not been released by the finance division, there is no headway in starting the registration process under NAP. "We have sent a proposal to the finance division for releasing Rs680 million for the registration, but not even a single penny has been released so far," the officials said. They also sought the committee's help to take up the issue with the finance division.

The Safron ministry informed that there are 1.6 million registered Afghan refugees in the country, but some one million are estimated to be unregistered. The fate of these registered Afghans would be decided at the tripartite meeting of Pakistan, Afghanistan and UNHCR in Geneva scheduled for March 16, 2015. Before this, the tripartite meeting would also be held on March 11 in Islamabad to discuss the issue. "The three parties would have to give a handsome package to these refugees for repatriating them to their home country," said the federal secretary for Safron. Besides, he said, those who would not be registered till December 15, 2015 would be forcefully repatriated. "We will start taking action against those who are not registered and there would be no mercy for them." He also informed the meeting that FIA would establish its counter on the border areas to check the illegal emigrants. The ministry officials said that there are 39 refugee camps in the country, but around 70 per cent of the displaced Afghans are out of these camps. Secretary Parliamentary Affairs Manzoor Ali Khan said that many Afghans and Bangalis have got illegal and fake ID cards and passports and there are legal complications while repatriating them back. The committee decided to invite ministry of finance and foreign affairs in the next meeting to resolve the financial matters aimed at expediting the registration process.

Passport issues

Director General Passport Muhammad Safdar informed the committee that there is no backlog in issuing passports. Besides, he said, the authorities have planned to establish new passport offices in districts with no office in addition to 10 new offices abroad. Out of these ten, three would be established in the United States – one each in Chicago, Houston and Washington. The ten offices abroad would be functional in the next three months. Muhammad Safdar said the passport office has 40 per cent less staff than optimal. The DG informed the committee that various steps have been taken to minimise the role of brokers in the passport office. At present, there is no role of the brokers because there is no backlog, he said.

PESHAWAR: At least 4,055 Afghan refugees have been arrested since the government decided to tighten the noose around unregistered Afghans in the province. A police official told The Express Tribune at least 2,047 were booked under Section 14 of the Foreigners Act and deported by the K-P Home and Tribal Affairs department. "All the arrested refugees were shifted to police stations. Those who were able to produce proof of registration cards issued by NADRA were released, while the ones residing without registration in Pakistan were booked and later deported to their home country via Torkham," he said. He added the police was asked to collect data on Afghan students in schools and seminaries as well as on Afghan teachers and prayer leaders. Around 250 prayer leaders were among those arrested and deported. The policemen said the ongoing crackdown would continue in the coming days. Refugees have been asked to register with their local police stations in Peshawar and this has forced many families and students of seminaries to flee the country. Police said 10,016 suspicious people were arrested in search and strike operations, including 4,055 Afghan refugees across the province.

MATTA: Following the directives of the district administration and police, All Swat Private Schools Management Association (ASPSMA) has decided to close all schools down in Matta tehsil until March 1. The announcement was made during a meeting of association members on

2015

Solving crime: Suspects take lie detector test

He Express Tribune, February 27, 2015

Commitment reiterated: Victory only option in fight against terrorism, CM

The Express Tribune, February 27, 2015

UK offers Pakistan help in cyber security

The News, February 27, 2015

Darul Uloom Haqqania

Wednesday. The decision came only a day after an explosive device was defused outside a private school. ASPSMA President Sawab Khan told The Express Tribune the association was forced to take such measures, keeping the safety of students and faculty in mind. "After the terror bid was thwarted on Tuesday, police and district administration asked school managements to padlock schools until February 28," he said, adding the association decided to extend the break to March 1. When contacted, DPO Saleem Marwat confirmed the development. "Majority of the government schools will reopen on March 1, so we asked private schools to follow the same schedule," he told The Express Tribune.

LAHORE: Two suspects in the murder of an aspiring model on Thursday took a polygraph test as part of the ongoing investigation. Also on Thursday, the investigation in-charge and investigation officer were suspended for delay in completion of investigation. Police said mobile phone records of the suspects, Tooba and Farooq, had been obtained. They said the victim, Abeera, had attended a fashion show in Faisalabad on January 10 and returned to Tooba's house in Lahore on January 11. Police said three suspects, Haider, Tooba and Farooq, were being investigated. They said Haider was a relative of the hostel manager where Abeera lived. They said the man acted as a middleman and introduced girls living at the hostel to men like Farooq.

LAHORE: Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif said on Thursday that eradicating terrorism, religious extremism and sectarianism was a national mission. He was chairing at a meeting convened to review steps taken to implement the National Action Plan (NAP) against terrorism. It was also decided to reform the Prosecution Department to facilitate quick disposal of cases in the meeting. Proposals regarding the provision of incentives to prosecutors on the basis of their performance were also reviewed in the meeting. Sharif said the NAP had been unanimously formulated to rid the nation of terrorism. He said victory was the only option in the war against terrorism. The chief minister said requisite amendments had been made to laws to eradicate terrorism, extremism and sectarianism. Sharif said some laws had been amended to make sentences more stringent.

He said the prohibition on misuse of loudspeakers, printing and proliferating hate literature and graffiti should be strictly enforced. He said indiscriminate action should be taken against militants and their sympathisers. Sharif said law enforcement agencies should crack down on those involved in illegal trading of arms. He said security arrangements at prisons should be beefed up. Sharif said foolproof security arrangements should be made at religious places. He said the Quick Response Force should be tasked with securing important locations. Sharif said a comprehensive monitoring system for the Prosecution Department should be formulated. He said the government had taken concrete steps to secure citizens' lives and properties. Sharif said state-of-the-art technology was being used to maintain public order. He said steps were being taken to reform the police. The chief minister stressed the importance of remaining vigilant and keeping tabs on the activities of suspects. He said all resources should be used to maintain public order. Home Minister Shuja Khanzada, Auqaf Minister Atta Muhammad Maneka, former law minister Rana Sanaullah, Government Spokesperson Zaeem Qadri and National Assembly Member (MNA) Hamza Shahbaz Sharif were also present on the occasion.

ISLAMABAD: The United Kingdom (UK) has offered Pakistan to assist in areas of cyber security for developing state of the art research centre to combat terrorism effectively. "The UK and Pakistan have agreed to find ways and means to cooperate in areas of developing cyber security. Pakistan has sought technical expertise from the UK in this regard," official sources confirmed to The News here on Thursday. The cyber security has got immense importance to implement National Action Plan (NAP) to root out extremism and terrorism from the country. The UK is also facing threat of terrorism and they want to assist Pakistan to ensure cyber security for itself and other parts of the world including for Great Britain. According to the Ministry of Information Technology (MoIT), Philip Barton, British High Commissioner to Pakistan, called on Minister of State for Information Technology Anusha Rahman on Thursday.

"We can collaborate in application development or other areas of common interest. We are going to establish a "Research and innovation centre" through ICT R&D Fund Company where we want to produce quality research of international standards with the collaboration of industry and academia. UK may join hands with us to make it work, the minister said. The British High Commissioner agreed with the minister to formulate a "mutual working group" which will be comprising of high commission and ministry's official. This working group will jointly work out the "priority areas" in ICT where; both the countries could collaborate and cooperate. While referring to the recent visit of the British Minister for Cabinet Francis Maude to Pakistan and his subsequent meeting with the IT minister, the high commissioner said Francis highly appreciated the vision and efforts of Pakistani government for the development of information communication technology (ICT) sector and expressed willingness to further cooperate and collaborate in areas of common interest in the ICT.

While expressing her views Anusha Rahman said it was a meaningful meeting with the British minister and we shared profound ideas related to the development of ICT in Pakistan. She said that Pakistan and UK enjoy strong cordial relations and UK government engagement with MOIT for enhancement of ICTs in Pakistan will further augment this bond. There are lot of opportunities and areas available in Pakistan, where we can collaborate effectively. The minister added that ministry of IT is committed to deliver on PML-N manifesto for the betterment of the people of Pakistan in particular the welfare of masses living in underserved and un-served areas of the country by using information communication technologies. Telecenters, technology parks, availability of left over spectrum, tech-city supporting start ups, are some of the key mile stones to realise this objective. The high commissioner appreciated the commitment of the government of Pakistan in putting the country on the path of technological advancement and assured the active support of his government and BHC in the key potential areas of cooperation for the development of ICT sector in Pakistan.

ISLAMABAD: An Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) in Rawalpindi was informed on Thursday that

students involved in killing of Benazir

Daily Dawn, February 27, 2015

students of Darul Uloom Haqqania, Akora Khattak, were involved in the murder of former prime minister Benazir Bhutto, however, the seminary administration denied having any connection with the suspects. The hearing of the Benazir murder case — headed by Justice Pervez Ismail — was held at the ATC special court established inside Adiala Jail in Rawalpindi. FIA Peshawar Inspector Naseer Ahmed and Sub-Inspector Adnan appeared before the court and informed about the involvement of Darul Uloom Haqqania's students in the killing of Benazir Bhutto. Both the state witnesses also presented related evidence to support their statements. During the hearing, Darul Uloom Haqqania's director education Wisal Ahmed also recorded his statement. He admitted that the suspected suicide bomber Abdullah alias Saddam Nadir alias Qari Ismail and arrested suspects Rasheed alias Turabi and Faiz Muhammad had received education from the seminary but rejected the claim that Darul Uloom Haqqania holds any association with the above mentioned suspects.

Ahmed said that among the suspects involved in Benazir murder case, few had left the seminary before completing their education. Brigadier (ret'd) Javeid Iqbal Cheema, former director general of National Crisis Management Cell (NCMC) — a sub division of interior ministry — also appeared before the court on Thursday to record his statement. Cheema apprised the court that the press conference, which he conducted after the killing of Benazir Bhutto, was done on the orders of the then president General (ret'd) Pervez Musharraf. He said whatever he had said during that press conference were not his personal views but that of the government. As per Brig (ret'd) Cheema's previous statement, submitted by the FIA along with case challan, the former DG NCMC was quoted as saying that a day after Bhutto's assassination, on December 28, 2007, he held a press conference on the advice of General (ret'd) Musharraf. In the FIA's version of Brig Cheema's statement, he maintains that he held the press conference, in compliance with Gen Musharraf's orders, to dispel the negativity against the regime, that prevailed in the aftermath of the assassination.

Earlier, Cheema had said that before the said press conference, he was summoned to the headquarters of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), where he met the interior secretary and the heads of the ISI, Military Intelligence and Intelligence Bureau. He told the court that the spymasters briefed them about their meeting with Gen Musharraf and handed him the video and instructed him to hold a press conference to this effect. He also told the court that he also consulted then-interior minister retired Lt-Gen Hamid Nawaz before holding the press conference. The special court regarding Benazir murder case has so far conducted more than 300 hearings.

LeJ involved in sectarian attacks to pressure govt to halt executions: interior ministry

The Express Tribune, February 26, 2015

The government on Wednesday said the banned Lashkar-e-Jhangvi is involved in the latest wave of sectarian attacks in the country in a bid to pressurise the government to halt executions of their members, BBC Urdu reported on Wednesday. In a letter addressed to provincial authorities, the interior ministry has said that the LeJ had sought support from al Qaeda in executing reprisal attacks over the execution of its members and crackdown by security forces, but the militant group refused. That prompted the LeJ to turn to Taliban chief Mullah Fazlullah who provided financial support with the promise of further assistance.

The ministry's letter warned that the group may resort to kidnapping citizens and trade them for their incarcerated comrades. According to the interior ministry, the group has also tasked a man, Abdul Rehman from Kabirwala in Punjab, for carrying out attacks in the province. The letter further warned that the group has already planned attacks in Lahore, among other areas of Punjab. Responsibility for carrying out the February 13 attack on a Shia mosque in Hayatabad are of Peshawar, which left at least 19 dead, was accepted by the TTP. Another TTP linked group, Jundullah, had claimed responsibility for attack on a Shia mosque in Shikarpur in late January that left at least 60 dead. Nearly two dozen people have been hanged since the government reinstated capital punishment in terror cases amid public outrage over the Dec 16 at the Army Public School in Peshawar that left 150 people, mostly children, dead. Earlier in February, two LeJ militants who had been convicted for the murder of a doctor, were hanged at the Karachi Central Jail.

TDPs Statistics as of 26-02-2015

Agency	Total Registr ation	NADRA Verified	Registe red Return	Sponta neous Return	Un- Registe red Return	Active for Food	Total Balance
Bajaur	86407	72895	72895	0	0	0	0
FR- Tank	2256	2228	1852	0	0	376	376
Khyber	176396	97367	11260	0	15730	86107	86107
Kurram	56122	47802	21937	6135	2022	19730	25865
Mohma nd	48954	36759	36759	0	0	0	0
NWA	102047	10876	0	0	0	10876	10876
Orakzai	48656	38275	8660	8367	14114	21248	29615

Public security: Safe city project to start in Lahore this year says Shahbaz

The Express Tribune, February 26, 2015

400 foreign students studying in Punjab seminaries to be deported: Shahbaz Sharif

The Express Tribune, February 25, 2015

K-P may expell 294 Afghan prayer leaders soon: sources

The Express Tribune, February 25, 2015

Executing NAP: Afghans to go home by year end, says minister

The Express Tribune, February 25, 2015

SWA	94096	71124	4443	2094	7455	38641	66681
Grand Total	614934	377326	157806	16596	39321	176978	219520

LAHORE: The Safe Cities Project will be launched in Lahore by the end of the current year, Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif said on Wednesday. He was addressing a press conference at the PML-N Model Town Secretariat along with cabinet members. "Lahore will be the first 'safe city'. Surveillance cameras will be installed at all important spots of the city. A command and control centre will run the information technology-based system. Law enforcement agencies will monitor the city and swiftly respond to any threat," the chief minister said. "The government will use all resources necessary to eliminate the threat of terrorism and extremism. The authorities are collecting information on all religious seminaries in the province," he said. He said that 400 foreign students had been found studying in the seminaries without any documentation. "They will be deported soon. The list has been sent to the federal government to initiate action," he said. "Afghan refugees who do not have proper documentation will also be sent back to their country. We are importing 1,000 biometric machines that will be linked to the NADRA database. They will be used to verify whether someone is a Pakistani citizen or not," he said. He said the government was importing tracking equipment to monitor the movement of Schedule IV individuals. "The Punjab government is bearing the expenditure of these security initiatives on its own. No funds have been requested from the federal government in this regard," he said.

Lessons about promoting tolerance and inter-faith harmony will be added to the curricula of universities, schools, colleges and religious seminaries," he said. "Hundreds of people supporting terrorists have been arrested in the province. The authorities are taking steps to effectively prosecute them. A counter-terrorism force has been established in the province. A new batch of 1,500 personnel will complete its training in July. We are giving them bullet-proof jackets and helicopters to fight terrorism. The Quick Response Force and the Rapid Response Force have also been established," he said. "There is no debate on the definition of good or bad terrorists. Militancy and terrorism will be dealt with an iron hand," he said. "The government is working on several socio-economic projects. We will build 8,000 to 10,000 new homes for homeless people. A solar power project has been completed in Bahawalpur," he said.

LAHORE: Four hundred foreign students studying in different madrassas across Punjab without local documentation will be deported soon, Punjab Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif told reporters on Wednesday. He added that a list of these students has been sent to the federal government. Addressing a press conference at the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Model Town Secretariat along with Punjab Cabinet ministers and top government officials, the chief minister said his government would use all means and resources to end the menace of terrorism and extremism from the province. "It's a high-time to end terrorism. It's now or never.

All those Afghan immigrants who don't have a permit will also be sent back," he said. "We are importing 1,000 biometric machines which would be linked to the NADRA database and can verify if a person is a Pakistani citizen or not." He said hundreds of elements who are supportive of terrorists or are involved in terrorism in anyway were arrested in the province, adding that matters of prosecution were also being completed quickly. "A counter-terrorism force has been established ... we are giving them bulletproof jackets and helicopters to fight terrorism," he said. A Quick Response Force and a Rapid Response Force have also been established, added Shahbaz.

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) government has issued directions to expel 294 Afghan prayer leaders from different mosques across the province. Sources in the K-P Home and Tribal Affairs Department revealed that the department has issued directions to the commissioners and police officials in the province to expel the 'Afghan Peshimams' of different mosques across the province, including the capital city Peshawar. Sources added that police have removed 58 Afghan prayer leaders from mosques, while the information of 294 Afghan prayer leaders has been provided to police and district commissioners, directing them to expel the imams within a week, the progress of which shall be reported to the home department.

The Home and Tribal Affairs Department's spokesperson, however, denied of any such development. Abdul Kamal, an additional secretary at the department also said that he was unaware about any specific action against prayer leaders. "In the Cabinet meeting it was decided that action should be taken against Afghans who are not registered with the government under Section-14 of the Foreign Act," he said. "I don't know about any other specific action." Kamal added that under the cabinet decision, no matter what their profession is, unregistered Afghans have to be dealt under the Foreign Act.

ISLAMABAD: The federal government has decided to repatriate all Afghan refugees living in the country by the year-end. The decision has been taken to effectively implement the National Action Plan (NAP) to purge the country of militancy once and for all. However, Kabul seems reluctant to welcome its own people and may request Islamabad to allow it sufficient time to brace for the mass repatriation. "It's time for Afghan refugees to go home. We cannot host them anymore [after December 31, 2015]," Federal Minister for States and Frontier Regions Lt Gen (retd) Abdul Qadir Baloch said on Tuesday. As part of Pakistan's new strategy to execute NAP, the government is preparing to return over 1 million unregistered Afghan refugees to their home country in the first phase. Afghan Minister for Refugees and Repatriation Said Hussain Alimi Balkhi is due in Pakistan next week to discuss the mechanism of the large repatriation, Qadir revealed. The country is currently hosting over 2.6 million Afghan refugees, the largest refugee population anywhere in the world, SAFRON officials said.

An estimated 1.5 million of them hold the new proof of registration cards issued by the National

Four sentenced to death for Lahore prison attack

The Express Tribune, February 25, 2015

Irrational distribution: IDPs in the city demand due rations

The Express Tribune, February 25, 2015

Blast in Chaman kills one, wounds 8

Database Registration Authority with the validity of December 31, 2015, they added. "Enough is enough. The International community should help us to honorably send all Afghan refugees back to Afghanistan," the minister said. He, however, insisted that no crackdown was launched against Afghan citizens living in Pakistan. Islamabad has already taken up this issue with the United Nations Refugee Agency after the December 16 Peshawar school massacre, urging it to help the country in the repatriation of Afghan refugees, Qadir said. Interestingly, Kabul is not ready for such a huge influx of Afghans from Pakistan. "We will request Pakistan to give us enough time for necessary arrangements to accommodate millions of refugees," said a senior official of Afghan Embassy in Pakistan who did not want to be named.

SAFRON officials further explained that Pakistan, through the Torkham border, had already pushed more than 35,000 undocumented Afghans from the country in the first six weeks of 2015 who were settled more than 35 years ago. Around 37% Afghan refugees are living outside the camps, which according to them was not legal practice. The rest of Afghan refugees live in 41 camps while 29 camps are in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, 10 in Balochistan while one camp is in Mianwali, Punjab, they added. Pakistan Peoples Party Senator Saeed Ghani was of the view that it is a fact that "illegal aliens including unregistered [Afghan] refugees are a serious threat to our national security but we will also have to fulfill international obligations." MNA Ghalib Wazir from Fata said that the government must come up with an organised policy which may ensure respectful repatriation of hundreds of thousands of Afghan refugees. "It's true we cannot execute the National Action Plan against militants until we send all registered and unregistered refugees back to Afghanistan, so international donors should also assist Pakistan to resolve this humanitarian crisis."

LAHORE: An anti-terrorism court on Wednesday sentenced four militants to death for killing 10 prison staff in an attack in Lahore three years ago, officials said. The four men belonging to Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), a militant group with links to al Qaeda, shot dead the officers as they slept during a dawn raid on their hostel in July 2012. "The court has awarded death sentence to four militants for the 2012 attack on jail staff," special prosecutor Shaikh Saeed told AFP. A court official confirmed the sentences. The convicts were also fined 1.8 million rupees (18,000 dollars) each, he added. Pakistan lifted a moratorium on executions in terror cases in December after Taliban gunmen massacred more than 150 people at a school.

The executions could take decades to be carried out, however, because of the lengthy appeals process allowed under Pakistani law. The four TTP militants, all in their 20s, confessed to carrying out the attack on the residential quarters for prison staff in the densely populated Lahore suburb of Ichra, Saeed said. After killing 10 during the dawn raid armed with Kalashnikov rifles and hand grenades, they then stormed another building where around 30 police prison officers were sleeping. Many were injured as they fled into neighbouring houses in a bid to save themselves from the volley of bullets, Saeed added. The four men were arrested about a year after the attack when they were caught with Kalashnikov rifles and hand grenades at a bus stand in Lahore. Pakistan amended its constitution and set up military courts last month for speedy trial of terrorism cases.

Twenty-four people have been executed since Prime Minister Sharif lifted a six-year moratorium on the death penalty in the wake of the December Taliban school massacre in the northwestern city of Peshawar. Heavily armed gunmen went from room to room at the army-run school killing 154 people, most of them children, in an attack that horrified the world. Since June last year the army has been waging a major campaign against strongholds of the TTP and other militants in the North Waziristan tribal area close to Peshawar. The military says the operation has killed more than 2,000 militants, though the precise number and identity of those killed cannot be verified independently.

PESHAWAR: Urging an end to discrimination, people displaced from North Waziristan held a demonstration outside Peshawar Press Club on Tuesday and demanded authorities provide them with their due rations. The protesters, seeking temporary shelter in Peshawar, chanted slogans to press for their demands. They asked Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) Governor Sardar Mehtab Ahmad Khan to end the alleged discrimination as displaced people residing in Bannu and other southern districts were being provided the promised ration. The IDPs told journalists they had to pay exorbitant rents for accommodation, adding such expenditures remain well beyond their financial means. "We ask the governor to provide rations which were stopped for displaced people living in Peshawar," said Nazirullah, a native of Eidak in North Waziristan. "I urge him not to compel us to protest or hold a sit-in outside Governor House." He added IDPs from the tribal agency, who left everything behind, lead miserable lives in the city.

Youth development

Pak-Khyber Youth Welfare Organisation Chairman Umair Jamal informed reporters during a news conference at Peshawar Press Club that his organisation, with the help of the K-P Directorate General of Sports and Youth Welfare, was launching the 'Aghaz-e-Junoon' volunteer training programme. According to him, workshops will be held across the province to train students in first-aid administration, volunteering for emergencies, active citizenship and youth leadership. He said experts from civil defence and other fields will impart training and volunteers will be selected after passing a written test. He added the programme is set to commence from March 2 in the city. Another programme called 'Venture the Adventure' includes a four-day tour of Kalam, Shogran, Malam Jabba and Chitral for 100 students in four groups. Jamal said the participants will train for camping, mountain climbing, skiing and nature exploration. Jamal said a three-member committee would pick the students. He urged candidates from all divisions to participate in the programme.

QUETTA: At least one person was killed and seven others injured in an explosion on the Mall Road area of Balochistan's Chaman district on Tuesday. Explosives planted on a bicycle

Daily Dawn, February 25, 2015

Targetted operation in Karachi comes to halt due to lack of funds

The Express Tribune, February 24, 2015

Targetted operation in Karachi comes to halt due to lack of funds

The Express Tribune, February 24, 2015

detonated with a huge bang wounding eight passersby. The intensity of the blast destroyed four vehicles situated in the vicinity and also damaged more than a dozen shops. Windowpanes of nearby buildings also shattered due to the blast. Security and rescue teams rushed to the blast site and rescue personnel shifted the victims to District Headquarters Hospital Chaman. One of the victims succumbed to his wounds while receiving medical treatment. FC and police personnel cordoned off the area as a probe into the incident went under way. No group immediately claimed responsibility for the bombing. The blast comes two days after an explosion in Chaman killed a child and wounded nine others. Chaman is a small town in the southwestern province of Balochistan and is one of the two main crossing points for supplies to American and Nato troops fighting the Taliban in Afghanistan. Militants have recently intensified attacks against security forces and national installations in Balochistan, a province plagued by an insurgency and growing sectarian killings.

FC soldier killed in mine blast

A Frontier Corps (FC) lance naik was killed in a mine blast in Marwa area situated in the outskirts of Quetta. A FC spokesperson told Dawn that a mine-sweeping team was busy in clearing Marwa area when it struck a mine planted on the roadside. The explosion killed one FC trooper.

KARACHI: The ongoing operation in Karachi to eradicate terrorism has come to a virtual standstill with law enforcement agencies (LEAs) pointing towards the Sindh government for halting necessary funding and resources, *Express News* reported. As the targeted operation commenced, LEAs had requested Rs4 billion from the Sindh government for resources to carry out operation. However, no funds have been provided by the Sindh government in the past six months, leading to a halt in operations. With the operation underway, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif has visited Karachi six times. The Sindh government also announced to raise a counterterrorism force (CTF) for action against terrorism. The government also referred 57 terrorism cases to the military courts for speedy trial after the implementation of the National Action Plan across the country. Army Chief General Raheel Sharif also laid emphasis on empowering the police and vowed to go to great lengths to support the ongoing operation in Karachi. During his visit to the Rangers Headquarters in Karachi last week he the army chief was briefed on the anti-criminal crackdown being carried out by Rangers and other LEAs in Karachi.

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PUBLIC SERVICES

NEWS HEADLINES

"Zero power load-shedding to industry"

Daily Times, March 1, 2015

Tobacco 'kills two in three smokers'

The Statesman, March 1, 2015

Weekly inflation down by 0.48 percent

The Statesman, March 1, 2015

Turkish surgeon inaugurates work on SIUT children hospital

Daily Dawn, February 28, 2015

DETAILS

ISLAMABAD - The government has exempted the industrial sector from power load-shedding and currently uninterrupted power is being supplied to the industry in order to meet the export orders.

"Zero power outage is being observed to the industrial sector of Pakistan for the last three weeks," Officials sources told APP. They said that the power generation situation in Pakistan has significantly improved and only 2000 MW power shortfall was recorded. The sources said that six to eight hour power load-shedding was being carried out in the urban and rural areas of Pakistan. They said that the government has expedited work on various power projects having accumulative capacity of 10,500 MW with the assistance of China. The menace of load-shedding would be over after completion of this short term power projects, they said.

PESHAWAR: The death risk from smoking may be much higher than previously thought - tobacco kills up to two in every three smokers not one in every two, data from a large study suggests. The study tracked more than 200,000 Australian smokers and non-smokers above the age of 45 over six years, BBC News reported.

Smoking 10 cigarettes a day doubled the risk, while 20-a-day smokers were four to five times more likely to die. Smoking increases the risk of a multitude of health problems, including heart disease and cancer. Cancer Research UK currently advises that half of all long-term smokers eventually die from cancer or other smoking-related illnesses. But recent evidence suggests the figure may be higher. Newer studies in UK women, British doctors and American Cancer Society volunteers have put the figure at up to 67%, said Prof Emily Banks, lead author of the Australian study. "We knew smoking was bad, but we now have direct independent evidence that confirms the disturbing findings that have been emerging internationally.

"Even with the very low rates of smoking that we have in Australia, we found that smokers have around threefold the risk of premature death of those who have never smoked. We also found smokers will die an estimated 10 years earlier than non-smokers," she said. George Butterworth, tobacco policy manager at Cancer Research UK, said: "It's a real concern that the devastation caused by smoking may be even greater than we previously thought. Stopping smoking can bring a person's health risks back down. Ten years after quitting, risk of lung cancer falls to half that of a smoker and risk of heart attack falls to the same as someone who has never smoked, according to NHS Smokefree.

PESHAWAR: The weekly inflation for the week ended on February 26 for the lowest income group up to Rs 8,000 decreased by 0.48 percent as compared to the previous week. The Sensitive Price Indicator (SPI) for the week under review in the above mentioned group was recorded at 198.87 points against 199.82 points registered in the previous week, according to data of Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS). The weekly SPI has been computed with base 2007-2008=100, covering 17 urban centers and 53 essential items for all income groups and combined. Meanwhile, the SPI for the combined income group was also decreased by 0.52 percent as it went down from 206.86 points in the previous week to 205.78 points in the week under review. As compared to the corresponding week of last year, the SPI for the combined group in the week under review decreased by 2.21 percent. As compared to the last week, the SPI for the income groups from Rs8001-12,000, Rs 12,001-18,000 and 18,001-35,000 decreased by 0.50 percent, 0.52 percent, 0.54 percent and 0.53 percent respectively.

During the week under review average prices of 16 items registered decrease, while that of 6 items increase with the remaining 31 items' prices unchanged. The items which registered decrease in their prices during the week under review included tomatoes, eggs, chicken (farm), potatoes, garlic, LPG cylinder, bananas, onions, pulse gram, sugar, pulse moong, pulse masoor, rice basmati, pulse mash, wheat flour and vegetable ghee. The items which recorded increase in their average prices included gur, powdered milk, electricity bulb, red chilly powder, shirting and tea. The items with no change in their average prices during the week under review included wheat, rice IRRI-6, bread (plain), beef, mutton, milk fresh, curd, mustard oil, cooking oil (tin), vegetable ghee (tin), salt powder (loose), cooked beef, cooked pulse, tea prepared, cigarettes, long cloth, lawn, georgette, gents sandal, gents chappal, ladies sandal, electric charges, gas charges, kerosene oil, firewood, washing soap, match box, petrol, diesel, telephone local call and bath soap. — APP

KARACHI: The ground-breaking ceremony of a 235-bed children hospital for urology, nephrology, transplantation and cardiology was performed by renowned transplant surgeon and Turkish parliamentarian Mehmet Haberal near the Sindh Institute of Urology and Transplantation complex on Friday. The SIUT hospital for paediatric urology and cardiology would cater to children in need of specialised treatment, SIUT officials said.

The hospital would be built on an over 3,000-square-foot plot at a cost of over Rs2 billion and was expected to complete within two years, they added. "The children hospital is very important not just for the country but for the entire world and SIUT has done a wonderful job to do this — another feather in its cap," said Prof Haberal after performing the ground-breaking ritual. A self-effacing and modest individual who was elected a member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey from behind bars in 2011 for opposing the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP), Prof Haberal is the pioneer in the fields of transplantation and burn treatment in Turkey and is renowned in the international medical fraternity. He is the founder and president of the Turkish transplantation society, the Turkish burn and fire disaster society, the Middle East burn and fire

Need for greater anti-polio efforts in some districts stressed

Daily Dawn, February 28, 2015

SNGPL team detects illegal meters; arrests suspect

Daily Dawn, February 28, 2015

disaster society and the founder president of the Middle East society for organ transplantation. He founded the board of directors of the world academy of medical, biomedical and ethical sciences in 2012. "I am overwhelmed by the activities of the SIUT. Their activities are not less than a miracle and I have offered them that whatever they need from me I will be there to help them," he said later. An official of the SIUT described SIUT director Prof Adibul Hasan Rizvi and Prof Haberal as two 'rebels' who fought for the good of their people in their countries and both were wonderful professionals.

Dr Philip Ransley, a paediatric urologist from the UK, who helped in the establishment of a paediatric urology unit in the SIUT, said the children hospital was the need of the hour as Pakistan reported six million births every year while there was no such facility in the country. Prof Rizvi said a majority of children were suffering in the country because of poverty and they were being denied their basic human right of health and education. "In such an atmosphere, it has been SIUT philosophy to provide free health facilities with dignity to everyone without discrimination of creed, caste, colour, language and religion," he said. In the field of education, Dr Rizvi said, the SIUT had started the Zainul Abedin Institute of Medical Technology, where everyone could get admission on merit for free.

Appreciating the efforts of Prof Haberal, he said he was a friend of the SIUT and Pakistan and always had generously helped them in their difficult times. The media was informed that the 13-storey building of the children hospital would have different zones. The public zone would consist of accidents and emergency, outpatient and diagnostic imaging departments, while the semi-public zones include renal dialysis unit, wards, operating theatres and other related facilities.

Supportive paediatric environment has also been ensured in the proposed hospital building with bright and colourful interior to make the stay of children comfortable and friendly. The building's top floor would accommodate academic activities, including seminar rooms and a day-care centre. The cardiac department with regular emergency and wards would have complete invasive and non-invasive facilities. "On completion, the hospital will be yet another landmark to the SIUT network of specialised medical care based on the philosophy that promises to serve every individual with utmost respect, compassion, dignity and free of cost," said Dr Rizvi.

KARACHI: In contrast to her harsh criticism of the Sindh government three months back, Minister of State for National Health Services, Saira Afzal Tarar, was on Friday all praise for the provincial authorities for its improved performance in polio vaccination. She, however, warned there were still a few districts and neighbourhoods where the situation needed to be improved. Speaking at a press conference at the provincial health department's offices in the Sindh secretariat, Ms Tarar claimed that overall health indicators of Pakistan had got better during the past few months, which also included progress in otherwise routine immunisation. She said the situation in Karachi had become 'much better' after a host of actions taken by the federal and the provincial governments to boost polio immunisation in particular for the fact that Karachi produced 23 out of 30 polio cases in Sindh last year. She said the Sindh government and all agencies taking care of healthcare and security matters had shown great coordination, which ultimately reflected in the results of the recent National Immunisation Days and special campaigns in the eight high-risk union councils of the city. She said in most parts of the province polio vaccination was more than 90 per cent, however, certain neighbourhoods of Karachi, like Muzaffarabad Colony, Muslimabad Colony and Gadap and Qambar-Shahdadkot district, which produced this year's so far only polio case in the province, were still posing problems. She, however, said the countrywide ratio of refusals in polio campaigns had declined from a previous 1.7 million to 100,000 after the authorities managed to get access to many past no-go areas in the country's northwest and Karachi and immunised children. The Tirah valley in the Federally-Administered Tribal Areas was still among the areas inaccessible for security reasons, she added.

Observing great progress in vaccination campaigns, Ms Tarar said the authorities had decided to merge polio campaigns into routine immunisation as the latter was still a reason to worry as around half of the targeted population still went unattended for various reasons. In the same programme, she said, maternal, neonatal and nutrition segments were being merged into one to improve the country's healthcare indicators. She said the routine immunisation in Sindh was a dismal 29pc, which, with the measures being taken by the authorities, would increase to respectable levels. She said that luckily there had been no fresh polio case in Karachi since October. There was time when half of the city could not be vaccinated against polio but now the same neighbourhoods had shown result of more than 90pc vaccination, she said. The country had produced 13 polio cases so far this year, while in the same corresponding period the number was 35. However, Sindh produced one case, while the first case in the province last year was reported in May. She said the authorities were in contact with the USAID to evaluate weaknesses in the system through third-party evaluation of immunisation campaigns. The project would be in place within two months, she said.

About shortage of BCG – tuberculosis vaccine – in the country, she said that it was because of a worldwide shortage of the vaccine but it was being overcome now. The federal government had dispatched an ample quantity of vaccine vials to the provinces, she said. To a question about how the Shakeel Afridi episode had harmed the polio cause, in which CIA used him in its manhunt for Al Qaeda chief Osama bin Laden in May 2011, she said it was all water under the bridge now and it was time to move on. Sindh health minister, Jam Mehtab Dahar, said the provincial government was using all resources available to improve its healthcare system. Sindh would soon become a polio free province, he claimed.

GUJRANWALA: Sui Northern Gas Pipeline Limited (SNGPL) teams on Friday detected several bogus domestic gas meters being used for commercial purposes and arrested a consumer, while another managed to escape. SNGPL General Manager Tayyab Faisal said the domestic gas meter of Zafar Iqbal of Fatumand was illegal and he was using it for both domestic and commercial purposes. When a team conducted a raid, he managed to escape. The team

Arrest warrants issued over vaccination refusal

Daily Dawn, February 28, 2015

Parts of Balochistan without gas after blast

Daily Dawn, February 28, 2015

Fire destroys 100 huts in Gulshan

Daily Dawn, February 27, 2015

SSGC announces closure of CNG stations on Sunday

Daily Dawn, February 27, 2015

Two blood banks sealed in Larkana

Daily Dawn, February 27, 2015

600 Pakistani students to return from Cuba as doctors

Daily Times, February 26, 2015

removed the meter and got a case registered against him.

Similarly, another team detected two bogus domestic gas meters in Sialkot and arrested the consumer, identified as Kausar Shah, who was allegedly supplying gas to other houses from his unauthorised meters. Faisal said a case had been registered against Shah. He also said gas supply was improving by the day due to a change in weather.

PESHAWAR: The district administrations and police in northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa have issued hundreds of arrest warrants for the parents refusing to vaccinate their children. "I have issued 1,000 arrest warrants over vaccination refusal," Peshawar deputy commissioner Riaz Khan Mehsud told Dawn. Mehsud said the district had 13,000 to 16,000 vaccination refusal cases but there was a total determination on the administration's part to cut them. "We will convince parents about the importance of vaccinating children but if they refuse, we will detain them. There will be no leniency towards them," he said.

DERA MURAD JAMALI: Gas supply suspended since Thursday night when armed man blew up the main pipeline in Bakhtirabad area of Nasirabad, could not be restored to many areas of Balochistan on Friday. "A big portion of the 18-inches diameter pipeline was blown up in the blast," Levies officials said. Repair work on the pipeline had begun and would complete by Saturday, they added.

KARACHI: At least 100 huts were destroyed in a huge fire in Gulshan-i-Iqbal on Thursday afternoon, fire brigade and police officials said. They added that the blaze broke out in huts in Block-13-B near Gilani Railway Station at around 12:52pm. Eight fire engines put out the blaze after hectic efforts lasting over three hours, said a fire brigade official. He said they faced difficulty in accessing the area due to a traffic jam caused by VIP movement at the Expo Centre near Hassan Square. No loss of life was reported, said the Aziz Bhatti police official. The cause of the fire could not be immediately ascertained.

KARACHI: The Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC) announced on Thursday an emergency shutdown of all compressed natural gas (CNG) filling stations for Sunday (March 1). According to a notification issued by the gas utility, the company is undertaking a job of hooking up its main transmission network with the Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Ltd system for transmitting the upcoming imported liquified natural gas (LNG). "During this operation, SSGC will be facing a shortfall of 120 MMCFD gas in its network for 48 hours. Therefore, all CNG stations in Sindh will remain closed from 8am on Sunday till 8am on Monday," said the notification.

LARKANA: The commissioner of Larkana division sealed two blood banks on Thursday and ordered their owners to immediately stop blood exchange process till renewal of their licences. The commissioner took the action during a surprise visit to the blood banks working in Larkana city. Health officials accompanied him. Commissioner Dr Saeed Ahmed had taken the action after receiving complaints about illegal operation of blood banks, sources in the district health office said.

During the visit, the commissioner, Larkana SDM Dr Masood Bhutto and District Health Officer Dr Khalilullah Shaikh found that two units of Bukhari Blood Bank established in Shaikh Zayed Hospital for Women and Chandka Medical College Teaching Hospital were running the blood exchange system despite expiry of their licences. They were registered with the Sindh Blood Transfusion Authority (SBTA) but for months their licences were not renewed, said a health official on the condition of anonymity.

They were well-equipped but their fault was offering services without valid authority that was why they were ordered to stop all operations and get renewed their licences within a week, a health official privy to the raid said. Murtaza Blood Bank established on the VIP road was also running blood the exchange system without valid licence, said the DHO. Its owner was asked to discontinue blood exchange process till renewal of its licence from the SBTA.

Two other facilities — Rehan Blood Bank and Universal Blood Bank — established near the Pediatrics Surgery Unit of Chandka Medical College and near Chandka Bridge of Rice Canal respectively were found running the services without any registration with the SBTA. They were sealed on the spot. Talking to Dawn, the commissioner said these blood banks were not only operating illegally, but were also involved in what he called 'business'. They had no facility of 'blood screening' for hepatitis, Aids and other diseases. They were doing trade and not offering services, he said.

The owner of Rehan Blood Bank de-sealed the location in the presence of the team, but it was again sealed and its owner was picked up and whisked away to police station, the commissioner said. However, sources said, two persons namely Muhammed Nawaz Magsi and Rabnawaz Lashari were arrested for further investigations. In reply to a question, the commissioner said blood banks had adopted a practice of making two or three pints of blood from one pint of blood having minimum quantity of hemoglobin in the pint.¹

They had been committing a crime, he said, adding that they had to mix normal saline solution in the original blood. Sources in the health department said licences of three blood banks which were warned to stop the blood exchange process had been expired on July and November 2014. The commissioner has warned them and other blood banks working in Larkana division to register with the SBTA or face the action.

ISLAMABAD: February 27 and 28 will be memorable days in the history of bilateral links between Pakistan and Cuba — distant countries but at the same time friendly, which currently have good political relations. On these two days the graduation ceremonies of about 600 Pakistani students will be held at the University of Medical Sciences, Sancti Spiritus, and the University of Medical Sciences, Cienfuegos.

With these ceremonies will culminate their studies in Cuba, after seven years as part of the free

LNG import likely to get delayed as terminal incomplete

The Nation, February 26, 2015

scholarship programme that was provided by the government of Cuba in 2006 in which 1,000 Pakistanis studied to graduate as doctors.

For the vast majority of the students, Cuba was the first foreign country to which they were travelling. They were received as ambassadors of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. They studied far away from their families and friends, making enormous sacrifices that today are awarded with the recognition of the educational authorities of both the countries.

Now, once they graduate, many of them with gold titles, they will return to provide services in their communities and will be humble ambassadors of Cuba. For these students, Cuba has become their second homeland and they have beautiful memories of it. Cuba welcomed them as children and provided them with the best of what it had in the field of education of public health.

"Congratulations on behalf of the Embassy of Cuba in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the graduates, the authorities of the High Education Commission, the government of Pakistan and all officials from various government institutions and other sectors of Pakistani society who always provided their full support to this project which now is successfully completed," read a message from the Cuban government.

"Also congratulations to their families and close friends who always gave them support, encouraging them not to miss out on the opportunity provided by the government of Cuba to be doctors, and offer their services to the people of Pakistan."

ISLAMABAD: The government finally has been able to materialise the deal of LNG import from Qatar that will start arriving in Pakistan provided the terminal completes as per timeframe. However, as per some sources, it seems difficult and might be delayed a little bit. Sources said that the time frame for the completion of LNG terminal is March 10, 2015 and as per the government announced plan, the first shipment of LNG will arrive in Pakistan on March 31. Informed sources said that the work is in progress on the terminal but it may take a little longer in completion that can push the first shipment of LNG to arrive in the end of April or start of May. But the sources at the same time said that LNG whereas has been finalised to come in the country. The main user of LNG seems to be the CNG sector at the first stage. Especially in the summer season the demand of household will come down.

Presently the maximum demand of gas is 6000 mmcf against a supply of 4000 mmcf. Qatar will provide 500 mmcf gas to Pakistan on daily basis. Keeping in view the figure, it is not going to fill the total gap of demand and supply of gas in Pakistan but as it varies in different seasons, the overall situation will get better in the country. CNG sector is one of the priority sectors that will be supplied with LNG because LNG import will definitely increase burden on the government in terms of need for foreign reserve and CNG sector will ensure some balance by decreasing burden from the fuel while transferring it to CNG sector. Keeping in view unviable present fuel prices, it is also expected that the petrol prices will not remain the same so CNG will provide some relief to the commuters though it will be expensive as compared to its present prevailing prices.

Presently the issue of distribution charges of SNGPL is pending to be resolved between the CNG industry and the said government entity. Once it is settled, CNG association is ready to open its own LCs to import LNG from Qatar. It is whereas expected that CNG stations will start operating from the month of May, the sources said. Online adds from Karachi: Minister for Trade Engineer Khurram Dastageer on Wednesday said the import of LNG would start in the end of this year that will be used for generation of power up to 3600 megawatts.

Speaking to media in Karachi, the minister said discussions with business community over the directives of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif are underway for the next financial budget. He was of the opinion that they should present positive image of the country through products of skilled persons of the country despite law and order situation, terrorism and shortage of gas and electricity. Commenting on the upcoming Expo Pakistan, Dastageer said it will be bigger exhibition as compared to 2013 edition as delegates up to 1000 from 70 different countries will participate. He said this exhibition will help in spreading positive image of the country, adding that special attention was paid to agro and food processing products.

The minister also informed that this expo will represent culture of all areas of the country that will pave way of success for the country. The Aalishaan Pakistan exhibition this year will be organised in different cities of Europe and first one will be held in London in June 2015, he added. The minister said this opportunity will help the investors to review working condition of factory labourers as condition is quite better compared to other competitive countries. He said due to GSP status exports have been increased up to 1.16 billion. Khurram Dastageer said Pakistan wanted to increase its trade relations with other neighbouring countries including China, Iran and Afghanistan.

International arbitration begins in \$573m claim against Pakistan

Dawn, February 26, 2015

ISLAMABAD: An international arbitration into a \$573 million claim against Pakistan has begun in London under the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID). The claim has been filed in the ICSID by a UK-based shareholder of Progas Pakistan Limited, a company now acquired by the Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC), against Pakistan for alleged expropriation of its LPG infrastructure in Karachi.

Pakistan believes that the case is frivolous, based on hearsay and legally very weak and has decided to vigorously contest it. The government had two years ago appointed Allen & Ivery LLP, a UK-based law firm, and Supreme Court's lawyer Mian Gul Hassan Aurangzeb to defend the case before the ICSID tribunal under arbitration rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law. The petroleum ministry has sent a three-member team to assist the legal team for about three weeks. The team comprises additional petroleum secretary Naeem Malik, Mari Gas official Hassan Mahmood and lawyer Bismillah Rai. Mr Malik was suspended by the prime minister last month after an inquiry committee found him responsible for the recent petrol

crisis.

The government has contended that the claim was frivolous to the extent of building a case on general statement of ministers instead of legal documents and agreements. In one case, foreign shareholders of Progas, led by Ali Allawi of the UK, quoted a Nov 1996 statement of Azam Khan Hoti as federal minister, although he became minister about five months later. The government has informed the tribunal that Mr Allawi claimed to have suffered as an alleged investor in Progas whose LPG import and trading business had failed, but there was no evidence that he was an investor in Pakistan. It said the Progas business had failed because of its fundamentally flawed model and the government had no role whatsoever in this failure because LPG business was a totally deregulated sector.

Since the claimant has raised legal dispute under an agreement between the governments of UK and Pakistan on promotion and protection of investments and was not an investor in Pakistan, the tribunal lacked the jurisdiction to hear the claim. The government argued that the case was an attempt to make Pakistani taxpayers to underwrite and pay for the misguided and short-sighted business aspirations of a private venture. It said the claim had failed to even mention how much investment Mr Allawi had made in Pakistan despite seeking compensation for losses suffered here. The claimant has also failed to establish that he has even become an indirect shareholder and how the company made transactions that caused losses to the overall venture. Moreover, the statements attributed to former petroleum and natural resources minister Usman Aminuddin and former prime minister and finance minister Shaukat Aziz for making commitment to investors had also been denied by them. The government contended that general statements made by political leaders or ministers could not become the basis of legal business transactions that are based on binding contracts, agreements and other legal matters. Moreover, it said, since a majority of shareholders of Progas had reached an amicable business deal with a public sector company (SSGC) for transfer of its terminal infrastructure, the protection of the treaty did not extend indirect investments as allegedly made by the claimant. "The government has been paying fees to lawyers and other expenses for the arbitration for almost two years out of a training fund, but formal arbitration proceedings have started now," an official said. He added that the use of training fund to fight a case of a commercial entity, although with majority shareholding of the government, would raise audit objection because of its irregular use. The fund, under rules, is reserved for training, research and acquisition of expertise for professionals of DGPC which deals with exploration and development of oil and gas in the country. The rules have been relaxed to empower the petroleum secretary to use the fund for training of other officials of the oil and gas sector.

A senior official, however, said the petroleum secretary, as principal accounting officer, had approved and authorised the payment of charges for litigation and international arbitration from the training fund. Documents suggest that until May last year the petroleum secretary had approved a payment of 3.4 million pounds sterling to Allen & Ivery, followed by \$1.62m to BRG of the UK and the court of arbitration as legal fee.

Another Rs7.8m was paid to advocate Mian Gul Hassan. Sources said the litigation expenses should have been borne by the SSGC as it had acquired LPG firm Progas. The SSGC board had resolved to shoulder the cost, but a retired legal director persuaded the government to take things under its control.

ISLAMABAD: The heads of three Rome based United Nations Agencies, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) and World Food Programme (WFP) assured their full cooperation towards Pakistan's Zero Hunger Programme as well as exploring new areas of cooperation.

Federal Minister Food Security and Research, Sikander Hayat Khan Bosan held meetings with the three agencies, in Rome the other day and told them that the government was taking steps to promote and enhance agriculture sector and to ensure food security in Pakistan. Bosan made a particular mention of the government's efforts at crystalizing the Zero Hunger Programme. He sought the assistance of the three Rome-based UN specialised agencies in implementing the Zero Hunger Programme in Pakistan. The Minister thanked the three agencies for their contributions towards agricultural and rural development and poverty alleviation in the country. He urged them to further enhance their activities in Pakistan. He suggested cooperation and support to Pakistani agricultural research institutions including University of Agriculture Faisalabad and the Pakistan Agricultural Research Council. Thanking the government's support and assistance extended to them, the three Heads assured the Minister of their continued efforts to enhance their programmes in Pakistan.

Later in the day, the Minister addressed IFAD's Launching Ceremony of the International Day of Family Remittances. Tracing the history of human movement to new places in search of economic prospects, he highlighted the benefits immigrant brought to their host countries as well as the countries of origin.

Comparing the figures of workers remittances with the ODA flows, he brought out the significance, scope and development potential of remittances. He stressed that a robust strategy on remittances requires addressing challenges in the host countries to enhancing worker's remittances as well as better-channelizing these flows in recipient countries to increase their development impact.

MULTAN: Punjab Finance department has released Rs 1.38 billion for executing Rs 30 billion Metro Bus Service (MBS) project in Multan for utilization during current fiscal year 2014-15, officials said on Wednesday. The approval letter for transfer of the amount to Multan Development Authority (MDA) has been received, said an official associated with the project.

Commissioner Multan Division Asadullah Khan, who is also holding the charge of MDA as DG, is the project director of MBS project in the city of saints. Two oval or circular shape Rotary would

UN agencies assure support in implementing Pakistan's Zero Hunger Programme

The Statesman, February 26, 2015

Rs1.38b released for Multan Metro Bus project

The Statesman, February 26, 2015

50 ghost schools unearthed in Balochistan's one district

The Statesman, February 26, 2015

Senate panel for implementation of electronic media code of conduct

The Statesman, February 25, 2015

also be built, one at Chungi No 9 and the other at BCG chowk, to connect the Metro route to roads for convenience of passengers and smooth operations of Metro buses.

Buildings department officials were engaged in making measurements on the route of metro bus service to assess the area needed to be acquired for the construction purposes, officials said, adding that work would begin "exactly" at the time of the ground breaking of the mega project. An official said that funds were released just days after Provincial Development Working Party (PDWP) accorded final approval to MBS project in Multan. The approval was given to 18.5 kilometre long Route-1 of the MBS project and the development was a testimony to the fact that Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif was committed to upgrade civic facilities in the city to bring it at par with other big cities of the country. Route-1 of the project would begin from Bahauddin Zakariya University and conclude at Chowk Kumharaanwala after passing through Hafiz Jamal road, BCG Chowk, and Vehari Chowk. MDA, the authority that would execute the project, has also engaged Excise department officials for assessment of prices of the structures to be demolished and land to be acquired. - APP

QUETTA: At least fifty ghost schools were unearthed in Balochistan's one district alone, whose staff is receiving salaries, costing millions of rupees to the national kitty. This was stated by Secretary Secondary Education of Balochistan Abdul Saboor Kakar on Wednesday, not naming the district he visited shortly. Hundreds of bogus entries of students were also unearthed in some other districts of Balochistan and data of teachers-students in the Balochistan Educational Information Management System (BEIMS) was also found counterfeit and obsolete, Kakar said while talking to APP.

"As many as 50 schools were not found on ground and there was huge difference of students and schools in the data of BEIMS," he said. "I visited a school in a district, some 50 km from the provincial capital where according to data 1800 students were enrolled whereas the real strength of the school was not more than 900, Secretary deplored.

The requirement of text books, furniture and stationary, he said, was placed for 1800 students. The ghost teachers were deployed, salaries were drawn as per data and the practice would have cost millions of rupees annually to the public exchequer, he added. "We have 10000 primary schools, 1000 middle schools and 900 high schools in Balochistan," Secretary Education said and lamented that due to huge gap between primary, middle and high schools, 18 percent of children hardly reach to matriculation. "To bridge this gap, we have to identify ghost schools and built hundreds of more middle and high schools," he added.

National Accountability Bureau during investigation into the missing book scam has already expressed dissatisfaction and pointed out flaws in BEIMS data. Enrollment of students only in Quetta district was 10,000 less than the demand placed for books during the year 2014, NAB official told. Director Schools Saleem Akhtar Ansari when contacted said due to the managerial and other issues there might be variation in the BEIMS data, however sometimes demands are placed keeping in view that a few number of more students could be enrolled even after the initiation of the classes for new session.

Reports confirmed by the Education department has revealed that there are reportedly 5000 ghost teachers in the province, putting the future of some 1.1 million children at stake, who are officially enrolled in schools. In the previous PPP regime as many as 5000 teachers were appointed under the Aghaz-e-Haqooq-e-Balochistan and a large number of them belonging to rural areas are doing dual jobs, giving least priority to the schools. - APP

ISLAMABAD: Senate Standing Committee on Information, Broadcasting and National Heritage on Tuesday asked the government to take steps for early implementation of the electronic media code of conduct, finalized by the committee after consultations with all stakeholders. The committee meeting chaired by Senator Kamil Ali Agha was of the opinion that if the code of conduct was notified and implemented now, it would also be helpful in achieving the targets set under National Action Plan to fight terrorism and extremism.

Senator Farhatullah Babar said that the draft of the code of conduct had been hanging for past few years and if it was not implemented now, it might undermine the efforts to combat the scourge of terrorism and extremism. Secretary IB&NH, Muhammad Azam Khan told the meeting that Prime Minister, Muhammed Nawaz Sharif had formed a committee on the electronic media's code of conduct, but after unfortunate incident of December 16, last year, focus was shifted on the overall role of Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA).

Chairman PEMRA Pervaiz Rathore said that the authority was planning to launch Direct to Home (DTH) service soon and a foreign consultant was being hired who would complete study within 90 days. Moreover, he said that bidding for sale of licenses of seven satellite channels would also be done soon. The committee asked PEMRA to establish its own system of rating the private TV channels as the present system of rating was not reliable.

About the PTV MD's statement that in the past, managements of the PTV used to fudge figures to show that they were earning profit, Farhatullah Babar said that it was responsibility of the committee to investigate the matter and summon the former MDs of the PTV as it was a big crime. Managing Director PTV told that the appointment of directors was discretion of the competent authority but some people make it an issue of ego and go to courts and get stays. He said that about 100 cases were pending in the courts and most of the cases were inherited by the present management. He said that PTV's turn over in next three years would cross Rs 36 billion. The committee said that the PTV should be careful in repayment of Rs 2 billion loan, if it defaults it could prove fatal for it. About the appointment of the MD, the Secretary Information said that his name was proposed by the board and the Prime Minister appointed one, the two names given by the board. The committee said that PTV should start drama production again as senior PTV producers were earning tens of millions of rupees. The committee was informed that in the past, PTV management used to give advance payments to private production houses for

Centre asked for Rs38b for rehab of destroyed edu institutes, 98 hospitals in FATA

The Statesman, February 25, 2015

Consumers all-around taking advantage of expanded 3G, 4G offerings

The Statesman, February 25, 2015

PTI govt using GPS technology in tree plantation drive

The Statesman, February 25, 2015

purchase of dramas from the open market, but now a new policy has been adopted that first instalment would be paid after telecast of four episodes. He said that income generated by the PTV through electricity bills was spent on salaries and medical bills of the staff and the institution had no money for new purchases and up-gradation including computerization of its record. He said that the PTV was running 128 RBS and it was covering financially unviable areas like Balochistan and Federally Administered Tribal Areas as well. Director General Radio Pakistan, Imran Gardezi told that some programme section personnel were working in News and Current Affairs channel, had been transferred to programme section. The meeting was attended by Senators Farhatullah Babar, Saeed Ghani, Farha Aqil, Shirala Malik, Almas Perveen, Zafar Ali Shah, Najmul Hassan Khan and Daud Achakzai. Senior officials of the Information Ministry, PTV and Radio Pakistan were also present in the meeting. - APP

PESHAWAR: Secretary FATA Administrations and Infrastructure Syed Zaheer-ul-Islam informed the standing committee that militants have completely destroyed 613 educational institutions and 98 hospitals in the region. He told that damaged infrastructures would be completed on the priority basis and in this regard FATA secretariat has demanded Rs. 32 billions from the federal government. He told that there are 595 ongoing and 346 new development schemes for the FATA and would be completed soon.

The National Assembly's Standing Committee on States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON), held on Tuesday at the Parliament House under the chairmanship of Senator Muhammad Jamal ud Din. Minister for States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON), Abdul Qadir Baloch assured the committee that rude and aggressive attitude with IDP's would not be tolerated. He said that said that "If some one found involved in the aggressive attitude with IDP's, stern action would be taken against that official". He said that IDP's deserves special care and attention adding that it was our responsibility to address their problems.

Meanwhile, Police in the ongoing search and strike operation against criminals throughout the province and anti-social elements rounded 765 suspects and recovered huge quantity of arms and ammunition. Security inspections of 975 educational institutions were also carried out and various institutions were advised to further beef up security arrangements. As per details during the operation the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa police in the operation conducted in different parts of the province recovered 33 arms and ammunition of different kinds and 357 rounds of different bore.

During the operation 438 houses and 222 hotels were checked and 8 cases were registered against the violators. During snap checking on 124 check points, 450 suspects were held and recovered 23 arms of different kinds and 309 cartridges of different bore. During action against illegal Afghans a total of 84 persons were detained on violation and 34 cases were registered against them. Similarly 16 persons were arrested on violation of illegal use of loudspeaker. While two hate martials were seized and four cases were registered against three persons. - APP

PESHAWAR: The telecom operators in the country have added over 9.07 million 3G users till January 2015, showing a reasonable growth in modern mobile broadband services with each passing month. The operators also added 49,100 4G or Long Term Evolution (LTE) subscribers to their network till January.

Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA), in its latest updates on Tuesday revealed that all four 3G operators added some 3.3 million users on to their networks during January 2015 with Telenor leading the charts that added 472,374 users to its 3G network during the reported month. Mobilink converted 381,984 subscribers to 3G while Ufone's 301,572 subscribers and Zong added 189,023 subscribers on its 3G network during January 2015. With 2.74 million 3G subscribers, Telenor stands at number one slot with Ufone at second position with its 2.25 million 3G users. At the end of January, Mobilink had 2.18 million 3G users while Zong ended the month with 1.85 million 3G users.

This count of 3G users is likely to grow further (during weeks to come) with introduction of mobile broadband dongles, WiFi devices from telecom operators in recent weeks. The PTA said Zong almost doubled its 4G users in January 2015 to take the total count of its 4G subscriptions to 5,023 4G Users from 2242 in December last. Warid, on the other hands, recorded 44,075 LTE subscribers during the month of January to outrun Zong. With combined subscription count of both the operators, Pakistan has currently almost 50,000 4G/LTE users in the country.

Meanwhile, as expected, the rollout of 3G and 4G services has resulted in spike of demand for smartphones and tablets that support 3G, as semi-urban and rural consumers take advantage of expanded services and offerings. The experts have said implications of 3G connectivity are immense across a wide spectrum of sectors. First and foremost are enhanced communication paradigms, as families are able to engage in Skype and video calls with ease and comfort.

Free calling apps are also significantly upgraded as high-speed internet enables the usage of such software. The 3G has brought the world closer together, and Pakistan is no different. Use of data intensive apps will increase as the 3G and 4G market matures. They said in the fields of learning and knowledge, 3G is also a game-changer. With enhanced internet connectivity, students and other people wishing to gain information can use different websites which offer tutorials, courses and other knowledge-based mediums to help gain critical skills and experience. - APP

PESHAWAR: Chief Minister Pervez Khattak has said that the spring tree plantation campaign was being launched this year with new vigor wherein 350 million saplings would be planted in streamlined and scientific ways while this number would be increased to one billion by the coming three years. A salient feature of this campaign would be the use of latest GPS technology that would not only ensure proper growth of each and every sapling but its illicit cutting or missing would be immediately traced and dealt accordingly by the department, he added.

He was talking after inaugurating spring tree plantation campaign 2015 by planting a sapling of

Antibiotics may rise harmful bacteria

The Statesman, February 26, 2015

WHO calls for worldwide use of smart syringes

The Statesman, February 26, 2015

ERRA formulates policy to construct schools in KP

The Statesman, February 26, 2015

Platanus Orientalis (Chinar) during a simple but impressive ceremony at lawn of CM House Peshawar. Provincial Minister Environment Ishtiaq Khan Umar, Secretary Environment Syed Nazar Hussain Shah, Vice Chairman Board of Investment and Trade (BoI&T), Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Dr. Shehzad Bangash, Chief Security Officer Zaibullah Khan and other high ups of environment and forest department.

Chief Minister said that importance of tree plantation and forest reserves were not that crucial before than felt today in present era of science and technology. He deplored that increasing environmental degradation was continuously posing a serious threat to our globe. He regretted that ruthless harvesting of the trees and forestry plus erosion of fertile lands due to floods were the basic reasons of ever soaring pollution of air, water and soils. He said that a stringent strategy was needed to cope up with this challenge wherein PTI-led coalition govt has initiated revolutionary steps to improve this alarming situation. He said that trees and forestry were in-fact the beauty of our soil as well as it provided fresh and bulk of oxygen to all living beings in the earth. "The cutting of a tree is equal crime like that of killing a human being to me", he asserted adding that even our true religion Islam has strictly forbidden us to harm or destroy standing crops and greenery during the state of wars with enemies. He further lamented that cutting a tree was a sport of moments but growing it needed decades and that was why the massive cutting of trees and our national neglect and lethargy in this respect converted lush green valleys into barren lands. "It is quite unfortunate that forests were depleted in the past regimes without any concern for the future generations while the criminal silence and collusions of rulers surfaced and shaped into timber mafia that needed immediate attention to check it on war footings", he added and cautioned that his provincial govt has come up with comprehensive legislation and effective policies to discourage this mighty timber mafia at every cost and thus to save our green gold from devastation and destruction. Pervez Khattak said that PTI-led coalition govt was embarking upon a comprehensive planning and strategy to launch successful tree plantation campaigns and ensure drastic increase in forests reserves and areas. He said that basic and revolutionary changes have been brought about in the management and policies of environment and forestry. "Provincial govt introduced a brisk tree plantation campaign under green growth initiative and billion tree tsunami project wherein colossal funds have been released to make it a success story", he added saying that all traditional and untraditional ways were being adopted for tree plantation and increase in forests areas.

PESHAWAR: Besides treating bacterial infections, some antibiotics may also give rise to harmful new bacteria, research suggests. "For a long time we have thought that bacteria make antibiotics for the same reasons that we love them - because they kill other bacteria," said Elizabeth Shank, assistant professor of biology at University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. "However, we have also known that antibiotics can sometimes have pesky side-effects, like stimulating biofilm formation," Shank added. The researchers have now shown that this side-effect - the production of biofilms - is not a side-effect after all, suggesting that bacteria may have evolved to produce antibiotics in order to produce biofilms and not only for their killing abilities, said a study appeared in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

PESHAWAR: Use of the same syringe or needle to give injections to more than one person is driving the spread of a number of deadly infectious diseases worldwide. Millions of people could be protected from infections acquired through unsafe injections if all healthcare programmes switched to syringes that cannot be used more than once. For these reasons, WHO is launching a new policy on injection safety to help all countries tackle the pervasive issue of unsafe injections.

According to a WHO-sponsored study issued from Geneva, data estimated that in 2010, up to 1.7 million people were infected with hepatitis B virus, up to 315 000 with hepatitis C virus and as many as 33 800 with HIV through an unsafe injection. New WHO injection safety guidelines and policy released today provide detailed recommendations highlighting the value of safety features for syringes, including devices that protect health workers against accidental needle injury and consequent exposure to infection.

WHO also stresses the need to reduce the number of unnecessary injections as a critical way of reducing risk. There are 16 billion injections administered every year. Around 5% of these injections are for immunizing children and adults, and 5% are for other procedures like blood transfusions and injectable contraceptives. The remaining 90% of injections are given into muscle (intramuscular route) or skin (subcutaneous or intradermal route) to administer medicines. In many cases these injections are unnecessary or could be replaced by oral medication.

"We know the reasons why this is happening," says Dr Edward Kelley, Director of the WHO Service Delivery and Safety Department. One reason is that people in many countries expect to receive injections, believing they represent the most effective treatment. Another is that for many health workers in developing countries, giving injections in private practice supplements salaries that may be inadequate to support their families. PPI

PESHAWAR: Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Authority (ERRA) has formulated a policy to construct 1000 educational institutions in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK). The policy has been formulated in pursuance of announcement made by Prime Minister in November last year. Sources at ERRA on Wednesday said the Authority intends to complete this package in phases as during first phase 100 each educational institutions would be constructed in KP and AJK till April 30, 2015.

The sources said in second phase the Authority intends to build 150 educational institutions each in KP and AJK by July 31, 2015 and 250 institutions each in KP and AJK till October 31, 2015. They said the phase-I includes projects/schools having physical progress more than 75 per cent, phase-II includes projects/schools having physical progress 50-75 per cent and phase-III includes projects/schools less than 50 per cent physical progress. The sources said the work on

NEPRA rejects power doomsday prophecy

Pakistan Today, February 25, 2015

Pakistani, foreign universities ink 70 MoUs to explore avenues of mutual cooperation

The News, February 25, 2015

all projects will commence simultaneously and the policy will be implemented subject to timely availability and release of funds from either Federal government or AJK and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa governments. Efforts are in process for provision of funds i.e. Rs.3.5. billion in fiscal year 2014-15 and Rs.4.5. billion in first quarter of fiscal year 2015-16. The weather conditions in different areas i.e. reconstruction in snow bound/colder regions will be undertaken in subsequent phase of warmer months. - APP

A spokesperson for National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) has contradicted the news items which appeared in a section of press on February 24, enunciating continuance of power outages across the country by 2020. The spokesperson said the reports while referring to NEPRA State of Industry Report 2014 have completely failed to divulge the context in which the matter has been discussed in the NEPRA report. The relevant tables and the accompanying paragraphs provide Peak Time Statistics about installed capacity and the projected demands in NTDC and K-Electric systems. It may be noted that while the peak demand in the NTDC system stands at 23,242 MW in 2014-15, the installed capacity is almost equal to it as 23,928 MW. Over the coming years, it is planned to add new power generation capacity as indicated in the report: 593 MW 2015-16, 3380 MW 2016-17, 4261 MW 2017-18, 3561 MW 2018-19 and 3940 MW 2019-20. Resultantly, the installed capacity in the NTDC's system is expected to be 39,663 MW against a demand of 28,773 MW by 2019-20.

The spokesperson further said NEPRA report in succeeding paragraph touches upon the gap between the expected capability of the plants and the demand, only at the peak time. Even such a gap at peak time gradually reduces and it is projected to be less than 1000 MW by 2018-19, whereas in 2019-20 a complete turnaround has been projected with a surplus of more than 1100 MW at the peak time, the spokesperson added. It is also to be noted that the report in the same paragraph emphasises that timely completion of projects, performance improvements and elimination of fuel constraints will provide relief to consumers. The spokesperson said that nowhere NEPRA Report refers to load shedding as has been referred by the media reports. By not providing underlying facts and ignoring the subsequent observations, the news reports have presented a "distorted picture".

ISLAMABAD - Over 70 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) were signed among various national and international universities at the two-day Vice Chancellors Forum (VC Forum) on 'Universities in the Islamic World: Facing Global Challenges' which concluded here on Tuesday.

These MoUs will open new avenues of mutual cooperation, networking and understanding among national and international universities. The forum was jointly organised by the Comsats Institute of Information Technology (CIIT), Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Trainings, Higher Education Commission, Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, Morocco, Federation of Universities of the Islamic World, Morocco, and the Jang Media Group.

The VC Forum was the congregation of vice chancellors, rectors, presidents of universities and higher education institutions of the Islamic world. Heads of universities of Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Algeria, Cameroon, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kyrgyz Republic, Libya, Malaysia, Niger, Nigeria, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Yemen, Gambia, Jordan and other Muslim universities participated in the forum. On concluding day of the forum, multiple panel discussions were also held on different disciplines covering wide range of issues and challenges being faced by universities in the Islamic world.

The prominent topics included Fostering Links with Community, Sustainable Higher Education Systems, Sharing of Knowledge and Fostering Collaboration, Higher Education, Innovation and Entrepreneurship, International Landscape: Role of University Leadership, Higher Education: New Visions for Future, Role of Higher Education in Economic Revitalization, Mapping International Research Collaboration-Future Trends, Equality of Access and Role of Women in Higher Education and in Society, and Partnering with Industry.

While stressing on the need for community services in universities, Islamic University Uganda Vice Rector Professor Dr. Abdul Kaziba Mpaata said, "We need to incorporate community to make meaningful research." "We all share social responsibility and the problems we face are the same. If we effectively engage community then we can substantially eradicate poverty from our community," he added.

Sarhad University of Science and Information Technology Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Salim ur Rehman, while explaining the importance of community work for university students, said that terms like house job and internship relate with community work. "Universities need to extend their boundaries and infuse it with community. Last year, the Sarhad University started projects on small scale, but it received tremendous appreciation by the community. Our students worked in education, health and agriculture sectors. It is heartening to see that 52% of the universities in Pakistan engage with the community. There is tremendous contribution of universities and its students whenever there is a natural disaster in the country. People trust the academia and students that their funds would reach the deserving people. They support and help them and extend their outreach," he said.

While talking about the social responsibility of a university, Inonu University Turkey Rector Professor Cemil Celik said that their university is the first university in Turkey to start such vast projects. "Inonu University wants to make a difference in the lives of the community. This university is located in Malatya which contributes to the 85% production of dried apricots. Last year, the university has planted more than 500,000 saplings around the university. The students grow vegetables on their own. There are Children's University, Centre for Women and a rescue team in the university. The Solar Energy Centre installed at the university produces 5.3MW electricity which is one-third of energy required by the university," he said.

The panellists on the second day of VC Forum were: Professor Dr Hashim Ali Mohamed Salem,

US focussing on education in Pakistan: Brian Heath

Daily Times, February 25, 2015

Nadra says no discrimination in issuing CNICs

Daily Dawn, February 25, 2015

Relief goods for Tharparkar

Daily Dawn, February 25, 2015

Biometric SIM verification to help PTI in intra-party polls

Daily Dawn, February 24, 2015

vice chancellor of the Sudan University of Science and Technology; Professor Dr Syed Khawaja Alqama, vice chancellor of the Bahauddin Zakariya University, Pakistan; Professor Khaleda Ekram, vice chancellor of the Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology, Bangladesh; Dr Kamalain K. Shaath, president of the University of Gaza, Palestine; Professor Dr. Javed Ashraf, vice chancellor of the Quaid-i-Azam University, Pakistan; Professor Dr Md Abdu Sattar, vice chancellor of the Jessore University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh, and many others. The forum concluded with the resolution recommending maintaining a regular liaison among institutions of higher learning and facilitating scholarships for students. It also proposed establishment of virtual centres of excellence as well as promoting exchange of students and faculty among the participating institutions of higher learning.

An exhibition was also held on the sidelines of the forum which provided an excellent opportunity to universities-higher education institutions to showcase their respective areas of strength. It was third VC Forum in the federal capital which was participated by vice chancellors, rectors, presidents of the universities in the Islamic world. The earlier two VC Forums were organised one each in June 2012 and September 2013 in Islamabad. The next forum will be held in August 2016 in Islamabad.

HYDERABAD: Karachi US Consulate Council General Brian Heath has said that various packages have been launched for welfare of common man in Pakistan. He said this while speaking at a reception held in his honor by Hyderabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (HCCI), said a statement released by HCCI on Wednesday. "We are focusing on education sector and also cooperating with HESCO for development of energy sector in Pakistan," he said. He said that they were spending million rupees on Agro based industries for promoting trade and industry in Pakistan. On 50 per cent investment by industrialists, he said that USAID was providing non-refundable loans to them as packing and manufacturing of Agro based industries should be made with modern technology for enhancing the export of its related items. He said that they would extend all types of cooperation with business community to boost the economy of the country. On the occasion, Commissioner Syed Asif Hyder Shah said that infrastructure of Hyderabad had been deteriorated and they were working to reconstruct it for providing better facility to public.

HCCI President Goharullah said that there were many units of textiles, garments, assemblers of motorcycles and other industries at Hyderabad, so US government should launch some projects especially in areas of Agro-based industries. Karachi DIG Javed Alam Odho, the SSP of Hyderabad, the collector customs, MPA Dilawar Qureshi, the FPCCI vice president and other office bearers of the HCCI were present on the occasion.

QUETTA: The National Database and Registration Authority (Nadra) has confirmed that departments concerned are verifying over 42,000 applications submitted in Balochistan for obtaining CNICs (computerised national identity cards). A spokesman for Nadra said in a statement here on Monday that after verification of documents CNICs would be issued to the applicants. He rejected allegations levelled by some political parties that Nadra had a different policy for Pakhtun applicants, saying that CNICs were not issued on the bases of language, caste or creed. There was no discrimination against Pakhtuns living in Balochistan and Nadra rules were same for all Pakistani citizens, he added.

The chairman of Pakhtunkhwa Milli Awami Party (PkMAP) in a recent media talk accused Nadra of discriminating against Pakhtuns living in Balochistan. The Nadra spokesman rejected the allegations and said CNICs were issued after verification of documents attached with application forms by federal and provincial departments. He, however, said that some CNICs had been cancelled in Balochistan because the applicants had failed to submit proofs of their Pakistani nationality. As many as 1,970 CNICs had been cancelled in the province, he added.

RAWALPINDI: The second consignment of 42 tons of relief items was dispatched for drought affected people of Tharparkar from an army relief camp here on Tuesday. The six-truck consignment left for Hyderabad for onward dispatch to Chachro, Diplo, Dali, Islamkot and suburbs of Nagarparkar. According to ISPR, the relief goods include food, blankets, drinking water, medicines and bedding.

RAWALPINDI: The ongoing biometric mobile SIM verification will help the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) in holding its forthcoming intra-party elections in the country in a transparent manner. The PTI is set to hold the polls to select its office-bearers through mobile phones. "When a member would be called to cast his votes from the mobile phone number already noted in his party card, his particulars will be recognised by the software installed in the party office. He will be sent options for selection of the new office-bearers," a senior leader of the party explained. He said the party was launching a countrywide membership drive from Islamabad on February 25 after which the intra-party elections would be held. The biometric SIM verification would help the party in "We will issue cards to selective members who can participate in the intra-party elections by casting votes through their mobile phones." He said only permanent members would be eligible to participate in the intra-party elections. "The party members will be divided into two categories: ordinary and permanent," he said.

"After the membership drive, the party will develop data at its central office on the basis of which cards will be issued to the members. The permanent members will get messages from the party central office to send their preferences for their local leaders." About the criteria for the permanent members, he said there were two proposals. One, the members should manage to bring 50 or more ordinary members to the party during the membership drive and second, they should have actively participated in the sit-in and the 2013 elections. Some people should also verify their performances.

The PTI leader said mostly people did not want to waste their time by taking part in the intra-party elections. The new system would provide them an opportunity to participate in the intra-party

Millions of infants denied anti-TB vaccination

Daily Dawn, February 24, 2015

Anti-polio campaign postponed in 12 UCs of Karachi Central

The Statesman, February 24, 2015

Punjab Govt releases Rs. 50m for water supply pipelines

elections from their homes or workplaces. It will also help the party in avoiding brawls as was witnessed in March 2013 intra-party elections. "On February 26, 2013, the intra-party elections in Rawalpindi were stopped by the police after a clash between two groups. After this, the party conducted the intra-party elections at its central office in the presence of the party chief. To save the party from such a situation in future, the decision was taken to adopt a modern way to hold the polls. He said after the 2013 general elections, grouping within the party also increased. "Political leaders from other parties who joined the PTI also brought with them their supporters, so there would always be chances of clashes between different groups," he said. When contacted, PTI Punjab Vice President Raja Tariq Kayani said the party was taking a number of steps for the transparent intra-party elections and would introduce a better system for the selection of the new office-bearers. He said during the last elections, office-bearers at the union council level were held under this system.

LAHORE: Millions of infants have been denied routine immunization coverage due to country-wide shortage of the life-saving BCG (bacille Calmette-Guerin) vaccine that protects them from tuberculosis. The situation is more disturbing in Punjab which was heading to stock-out-like situation as the Federal Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) did not provide the BCG vaccine to the provinces for the month of February. The under-five children share 15.2 per cent population in Punjab, one of the most populous provinces of the country.

The Federal EPI has categorically conveyed to the provinces that it has not yet received this particular vaccine from Unicef primarily due to its non-availability in the global market. It is for the first time that the millions of kids have been denied BCG vaccine in their childhood age from the 1st of Feb. According to official figures, over 5 million children are born every year in Pakistan. The BCG vaccine is mandatory for every newborn in Pakistan for being integral part of the routine EPI programme. This vaccine is on the World Health Organization's list of essential medicines being the most important medication needed in a basic health system. A senior official who is close to the information told Dawn the Federal EPI Cell had placed order to the Unicef for the provision of the BCG vaccine to meet the country-wide need when the local companies expressed their inability to supply it in the tenders advertised thrice in the mid of 2014. Later, he said, the EPI reduced supply of the BCG vaccine to the provinces from three-month stock to a month only from the month of Nov due to its persistent shortage.

Meanwhile, the Unicef expressed its inability to ensure supply of this vaccine to Federal government before April 2015 as its manufacturing had come down globally. As the Unicef was yet to provide vaccine to Pakistan, no further supply was made to the provinces by the Federal EPI for the month of February putting health of millions of children at risk. "As every newborn needs BCG vaccine, Pakistan is in a dire need of 6.5 million doses of the vaccine to meet the country-wide need", the official said. He said keeping in view the seriousness of the issue the Federal government has exerted pressure on the Unicef to meet the requirement by the end of the current month to avoid 'outbreak' of the tuberculosis. "The country-wide shortage of the preventable vaccines emerged since the government was directed to follow the PPRA rules before its procurement", the official claimed. The federal government was facing additional financial burden of over Rs one billion annually by procuring vaccines from the companies instead of from Unicef on discounted rates, he said. "These are the WHO pre-qualified vaccines and there is no need to impose PPRA rules for their procurement", the official said adding that several countries have been getting supply of the preventable vaccines for years directly from UN.

Punjab EPI Director Dr Munir Ahmad told Dawn his department had timely informed to the Federal EPI officials about the dearth of the BCG vaccine all over the province. He said his department was in contact with the federal authorities to ensure its uninterrupted supply in the larger interest of the infants. Punjab Health Director General Dr Zahid Pervez said though the province was facing shortage of the BCG, the vaccine was being arranged from those districts where old stock was also available. He said the situation emerged when the companies concerned failed to ensure its supply to the federal requirement.

KARACHI: The five-day anti-polio campaign to commence from Tuesday in 12 high risk UCs of district central, Karachi has been postponed till March 2 due to insufficient security cover for the vaccinators. Deputy Commissioner, Karachi - Central, Dr. Syed Saif ur Rehman told APP Monday that as per schedule 1, 15,300 children, under five years of age were to be vaccinated against the crippling disease during the special campaign in selected UCs of the district. Authorities from the police department informed us only today that due to paucity of staff needed security cover could not be provided to the teams, he said in reply to a question. Similar exercise scheduled for selected UCs in districts South and West, with the exception of Orangi Town will, however, be undertaken as planned from February 24 to February 28, EPI officials said. The special campaign scheduled for district central was formally inaugurated the other day by Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan.

Addressing the event, also attended by the assistant commissioners, town health officers and representatives of UNICEF and WHO, the nuclear scientist had urged the parents to realize their responsibility towards the parents. Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan regretted that Pakistan despite being a nuclear power was yet to eradicate polio virus. Due to negligence as well as lack of knowledge of parents the virus continues to persist bringing a bad name for the country, he had commented. He on the occasion also urged for concerted efforts to remove all sorts of misconceptions regarding effectiveness of polio vaccination among many of the people. Appreciative of the extraordinary measures being taken by the Government in the larger interest of children, Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan had suggested that strict legal action needed to be taken against those who create hindrances during the polio campaigns. – APP

SIALKOT: Punjab government has released a special grant of Rs. 50 million for the early replacement of more than 50 years old rusting water supplying pipelines in Pasrur city immediately with a sole aim to provide the potable drinking water to the people of Pasrur city and its outskirts as well. MNA Zahid Hamid disclosed this while addressing an important meeting of

The Statesman, February 24, 2015

FESCO issues shutdown program

Business Recorder, February 24, 2015

Privatization of energy sector is only solution of energy crisis: ICCI

Customs Today, February, 24, 2015

Investors shying away from setting up larger LNG power plants

Dawn, February 24, 2015

the Pasrur TMA officials at Pasrur here on Monday. Zahid Hamid reviewed the pace of construction of several social and public welfare oriented development projects in the large interest of the local people. He told the meeting that as many as seven water tanks were established in various parts of Pasrur city with total cost of Rs. 70 million for providing the potable drinking water to the people but the underground water supplying lines were rusting, as they were more than 50 years old and were broken from many spots, due to which the supply of hygienic water was not possible. He directed the Pasrur TMA officials to prepare a detailed feasibility in this regard, ensuring the early start of this project. He directed the AC Pasrur Tauqeer Ilyas Cheema to check and ensure the use of quality material in the construction of all the ongoing development schemes in and around the Pasrur, besides, ensuring the cleanliness, removing the trash heaps lying there everywhere in Pasrur city for providing clean, health and pollution free atmosphere to the local people on priority, in this regard. – PPI

FAISALABAD: The Faisalabad Electric Supply Company (FESCO) has issued shutdown program for necessary repair, maintenance and expansion of electricity lines.

According to the program issued by the company here on Tuesday, power supply from Wapda City feeder emanating from 132-KV Khurarianwala grid station, Maanpur feeder originating from 220-KV Samundri Road grid station, Buchiana feeder emanating from 132-KV Jaranwala grid station, Dry Port and Ali Town feeders originating from 132-KV Chiniot Road grid station, Abdullah Pur feeder emanating from 132-KV OTP grid station, FESCO-4, FESCO-5 and FESCO-6 feeders originating from 132-KV Bandala grid station will remain suspended from 9 am to 1 pm while all feeders of 132-KV Flying and Pioneer Cement Factories Johar Abad grid stations will observe shutdown from 10 am to 2 pm on February 25.

Similarly, electricity supply from Kot Ahmad Yar, Sakhi Abdul Wahhab, Iqbal Rice and Dawar feeders emanating from 132-KV Chiniot Road grid station and F-4 feeder originating from 132-KV Bandala grid station will remain suspended from 9 am to 2 pm whereas Golaywali, Nari and New Chidro feeders emanating from 132-KV Wan Bacchran grid station will observe load shedding from 10 am to 3 pm on Wednesday.

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) has called upon the government to go for fast track privatization of energy sector to get rid of energy crisis which has badly crippled manufacturing activities and remained one of the major factors for slow growth of economy.

Muzzamil Hussain Sabri, President LCCI said that centralization of energy policymaking and the federal government's control over power generation, transmission and distribution companies are the main causes of persistent energy crisis and the best solution of this serious issue is to privatize the whole energy sector to bring competition and efficiency in the sector. He said NEPRA's recent "State of Industry" report has predicted that the prevailing energy crisis would continue till 2019 which is alarming because if not tackled on urgent basis, it would fail all efforts to revive the economy. He said that privatization and liberalization of telecommunication and banking sectors in Pakistan have produced highly beneficial results for the country as it greatly improved service delivery, gave new choices to the end consumers, brought down prices, created plenty of jobs and generated sufficient tax revenue for the government. He said privatization of energy sector would also lead to more efficient and reliable service delivery and free up government resources to spend on health and education instead of spending billions on subsidies. He said the centralized control of energy sector in Pakistan has contributed to inefficiency and lack of professionalism in energy companies as it failed to foster competition and provided no incentive to power companies to utilize more efficient technology and go for fuel optimization. However, the private sector delivers through competition as businesses utilize latest technology, compete with each other and in this process value is passed on to the consumer.

Muzzamil Sabri said that UK and many other countries have transformed their power sectors by privatizing and liberalizing this sector. He said that the privatization of K-Electric has also led to reduced load-shedding in Karachi and better service delivery as well as collection of receivables. He was of the view that privatization of energy sector would lure local and foreign direct investment in energy sector, introduce efficient, reliable, greener and sustainable new technologies. He stressed that government should go for fast track privatization of all power entities to get rid of the chronic problems of circular debts and energy deficit which would help in triggering sustainable economic growth of the country.

ISLAMABAD: The private sector investors on Monday sought policy clarifications before committing long-term investments for Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) based power plants and pressed for allowing smaller plants to facilitate putting together fresh investments.

They were attending a public hearing arranged by the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) on a petition filed by the government for upfront tariff for LNG power projects. The government seeks to set up 3,600MW of LNG power plants in Punjab in the first phase to end load-shedding by 2017. Some of the investors expressed their inability to initiate 800MW LNG power plants in Punjab. They also said it would be difficult to undertake LNG power plants without gas supply framework document. Majority of the investors also urged Nepra to review per megawatt cost, internal rate of return (IRR), interest during construction, operation and maintenance cost, encourage small power plants and ensure guaranteed fuel supply.

Raziuddin, Chief Executive of KP Oil and Gas Development Company while speaking on behalf of the KP government said the setting up of LNG power plants should not be for a specific province. He said that entire Pakistan should be opened for investors to set up LNG power plants. "It is not clear about pricing, guarantees and who will bring LNG in Pakistan".

Former Member Energy Planning Commission Shahid Sattar said that no LNG power plants would work unless and until circular debt issue was resolved. He said that assumed price of LNG at \$12 per Million British Thermal Unit (mmbtu) was higher against existing delivered price of \$7

Loadshedding to continue for four years: report

Business Recorder, February 24, 2015

per mmbtu in other countries. He said that power market should be opened and signing 30 years contracts would be against open market concept.

A representative of General Electric (GE) said that the regulator should announce three separate tariffs for 250MW, 400MW and 800MW LNG plants. He said that efficiency rate of 250MW combined cycle plant was 52 to 53 per cent, 400MW 56pc and 800MW operated at 58pc efficiency. He said that alternative fuel for LNG plants was diesel.

A representative of PakGen Power Farhan Lodhi said that the government should announce upfront tariff for small power plants with 250MW capacity. He said it would take six months for financial close and would be implemented in 12 months. He also said the 800MW power plants projects were too big to implement as few parties in Pakistan would be interested in such big projects.

Majority of the investors said the proposed per megawatt cost at \$1.1 million and 15pc rate of return were at lower side. For encouraging investors to install 3,600MW power plants in load centres of Punjab the rate of return should be set at 17pc. Some investors also asked the government to guarantee the supply of LNG for power plants. They further said that project sponsor would have to open Escrow account worth \$34 million and this amount should be treated as equity for rate of return. They said that government should sign gas supply framework first to undertake the projects.

NEPRA will decide whether the \$12 per mmbtu LNG price and the cost of Escrow account are justified. It will also assess 15pc internal rate of return and 1.35pc insurance cost of the engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contract. The petition for upfront tariff was filed by Private Power Infrastructure Board (PPIB) for setting up of proposed 3,600MW LNG power projects near load centres. The Cabinet Committee on Energy (CCoE) headed by the prime minister had decided last month to set up regasified liquefied natural gas (RLNG) power plants near Bhiki (Sheikhupura), Balloki (Kasur) and Haveli Bahadar Shah (Jhang). Exact sites and power plant capacities at each location will be finalised by NTDC considering the feasibility, supply demand requirements, power evacuation and system studies. Furthermore, the CCoE directed the NTDC to ensure investment of approximately \$38 million in providing grid connectivity to the three sites selected for RLNG based power plants.

Acting Managing Director PPIB Shah Jahan Mirza said that 3,600MW capacity power plants which will be established on imported LNG by government or government-owned public sector entity. These plants will be established by the private sector for which the government had already announced LNG policy that allowed anybody to import LNG and set up power plants in any part of the country. He said the government had done the working on three prices i.e. \$10, \$11 and \$12 per mmbtu after re-gasification, transportation losses etc. "I think even today between \$9 and \$10 per mmbtu price is reasonable if we start with the LNG landed price of \$7 to \$8 per mmbtu," Mirza added. PPIB has recommended agreement for 20 years but ministries of petroleum and water and power have recommended 15 to 20 years. He said that the life of plants will be 30 years, requesting Neptra to look into this issue. The NEPRA after listening to all gave seven more days for more comments saying it would announce upfront tariff after taking into accounts all suggestions and comments of stakeholders.

The National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) has anticipated that loadshedding will continue for the next four years. According to regulator's State of Industry Report 2014, the next four years indicate a gap of more than 5,500 MW between supply and demand; thereafter the position is expected to improve somewhere in years 2019-20.

The regulator is of the view that obviously it is not possible to completely turnaround the situation in one or two years, but hectic efforts for timely completion of projects, ensuring fuel for the already installed power plants, improving performance in terms of efficiency and availability of power plants, and removing constraints in the transmission and distribution networks for delivery of power to the load demand points, would provide relief to consumers.

NEPRA has been supporting GoP's efforts for inducing renewable and alternative energy based projects in the country. In this respect, Neptra announced an upfront tariff for wind power projects which drew considerable interest of investors and during the year 2013-14, eleven wind power projects with an installed capacity of 576.20 MW who opted for upfront tariff have been approved by NEPRA. NEPRA also approved an upfront tariff for solar power projects during the year and five projects having a total installed capacity of 48MW have been approved by NEPRA. The report further observed that although induction of renewable energy based projects would also diversify the energy mix; however, as already stated in earlier reports of NEPRA, renewable energy by itself would not provide solution to problems of the sector. Firstly at present level, the tariff is quite on the higher side at least during first ten years when the loans have to be paid back.

Secondly, the renewable energy source is not an answer to the capacity shortfall over daily load cycle. In properly designed systems it replaces expensive energy in the mid region of the load duration curve while base load power plants provide stable power to the system. In Pakistan, however, there is a shortage of capacity and energy due to expensive fuel and constraints in the fuel availability. Thirdly their operation in integrated network of Pakistan requires further assessment about their technical performance, especially during fault conditions on the network. It may be noted that NTDC system has remained prone to breakdowns as storms and foggy conditions have resulted in major blackouts during the past years. An addition of large quantum of renewable energy (solar and wind) would add to the fragility of the transmission system as due to their inherent technological limitations, renewable energy based projects would be the first ones to be disconnected from the network whereas during restoration phase they become a liability instead of contributing to the recovery of system. The role of regulator becomes extremely important in view of the above observations. It is therefore stressed that induction of renewable

PTI lawmakers threaten to besiege Wapda House over power outages

Dawn, February 24, 2015

All parties slam 'mafia' involved in load shedding in Naundero

Pakistan Today, February 24, 2015

energy in the integrated network should be backed up by specific simulation studies and a detailed analysis about the network under all operating conditions. Accordingly, NEPRA has directed NTDC for carrying out detailed technical studies for evaluating the capacity of renewable energy based projects which can safely operate in an integrated system. The regulator further stated that circular debt remained one of the major issues. Due to inefficiencies of the sector, GoP's burden in the form of Tariff Differential Subsidy (TDS) has remained very high. The gap between NEPRA determined average sale rate and GOP's notified tariff translated into Rs 149.03 billion per annum. One of the major reasons for this is the high transmission and distribution losses in the distribution network. The impact of missing Authority's set T&D losses target by the Discos resulted in a per annum figure of Rs 64.30 billion. Here it is pertinent to mention that the Authority's set T&D losses target for the FY 2013-14 pertaining to Discos at 13.19%, whereas the reported T&D losses for the same period remained at 18.60%.

Adding further to the T&D losses is the low recovery ratios of Discos. The Authority assesses recovery target of 100% while setting the consumer-end-tariff for all the Discos, whereas the actual level of recovery remained around 89% for the FY 2013-14. As on 30th June, 2014 the overall distribution sector receivables stood at Rs 512.91 billion (including Rs 28 billion pertaining to K-Electric). The Central Power Purchasing Agency's (CPPA) net payable as on 30th June, 2014 stood at Rs 256 billion. The re-emergence of circular debt is quite alarming as the Federal Government had already paid around Rs 480 billion last year to jump start the sector. The receivables of IPPs are around Rs 200 billion. According to IPPs due to non adherence to the schedules in their PPAs, IPPs are forced to service their working capital requirements from their shareholders. IPPs have not even received the capacity payments which have accumulated to around Rs 50 billion. As a result the receivables of IPPs have almost reached that level where they may take the remedies under their PPAs and any such steps would send negative signals at a time when the government is planning to initiate privatising other power sector entities.

PEPCO practically has been in control of all dealings of Discos. All the posting and transfers, appointments and induction of new work force, allocation of funds for operation and maintenance of their systems were through PEPCO. Reportedly, the Discos still have to surrender all the collected revenue to a central kitty.

PESHAWAR: The lawmakers of Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) have threatened to besiege Wapda House in Peshawar if federal government fails to ensure smooth power supply to consumers in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa till Feb 25.

Addressing a press conference here on Monday, the lawmakers and office-bearers of PTI, which rules the province, said that they would besiege Wapda House on Feb 26 if federal government failed to meet their demand. Speaking on the occasion, MPA Yaseen Khalil said that power supply remained suspended regularly for 16 to 18 hours in routine. He said that prolonged power outages had made life of people miserable. The lawmaker, who is also district president of PTI, said that trade and business activities were affected badly by prolonged power outages in various localities in Peshawar district. He said that prolonged power loadshedding had forced the owners of small factories to close down their units.

Accompanied by MPAs Arif Yousuf and Mehmood Khan, Mr Khalil asked the federal government to refrain Minister of State for Water and Power Abid Sher Ali from intervening into the affairs of Peshawar Electric Supply Company otherwise the situation would get worse. "It is the minister, who has directed Wapda officials to observe maximum loadshedding in Peshawar and other parts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to tease the Pakhtuns," he alleged. The MPA said that during the ongoing session of provincial assembly, they would present a resolution against the massive loadshedding being observed by the federal government for the last several years. "There should be equal loadshedding throughout the country.

The people of this province are subjected to prolonged and unscheduled loadshedding for the simple reasons that they had voted PTI to power," Mr Khalil said. He added that the 18-hour loadshedding, owing to which their business activities and routine life were disturbed, was beyond imagination. On the occasion, the PTI lawmakers also criticised Wapda officials in Peshawar.

They assured the provincial government several times that the issue of loadshedding would be resolved, however, no effort was made in that's regard so far, they said. The consumers, they said, have had enough of the loadshedding and had the only option to take to streets and hold protest demonstrations and sit-in outside Parliament House in Islamabad.

All Parties Conference held on Sunday at the Municipal lawn discussed the single issue of unprecedented electricity load shedding which lasts 16-hours, and is hitting people hard. The leaders decided to adopt a resistance policy and seek their basic rights through the force of the people. PPP-SB, PML-N, JSQM, Mazoor Ittehad, Sindh Graduates Association, JUI-Fazal, TNFJ, Sindhi Adabi Sangat, Awami Tehreek, Kiryana Merchants Association, Tailor Masters Association, Tehreek Insaf and others, took part in the conference.

Addressing the participants, PPP-SB leader Ghulam Hyder Narejo and others said that PPP and PML-N were busy in saving each other through reconciliation and they had left the citizens of Naundero on their own as though they were orphans. The participants expressed their final decision that they will not be part of this so-called reconciliation. They vowed to offer resistance to any move that will deprive them of their basic rights, including power supply. The leaders said that every month three to four million rupees are collected from illegal power connection holders by SEPCO officials but this money is not deposited in the government account as it is kept in the pockets of the corrupt mafia of local SEPCO authorities who have been posted here since very long. The leaders unanimously resolved to give their charter of demands to SEPCO authorities and said that if they failed to approve these demands March 2, 2015, all roads leading to Naundero and Garhi Khuda Bux will be blocked, protests will be held, strikes will be observed and sit-ins will also be stage, on all the main thoroughfares leading to these specified areas and it will

Balochistan farmers block highways in protest against loadshedding

Dawn, February 24, 2015

Impossible to end loadshedding before 2020: NEPRA

Dunya News, February 24, 2015

Mashhood determined to reform school education

Pakistan Today, February 23, 2015

Govt backs coal power but levies duty on its import

The Nation, February 23, 2015

continue till their demands are accepted. The participants included Ghulam Hussain Katpar, Javed Bhutto, Abdul Khaliq Bhutto, Sahab Khan Shaikh, Amanullah Bhutto, Manzoor Mirani, Naeem Bhutto and Maulana Qudoos Panhwar.

QUETTA: Traffic remained suspended for several hours on Monday when farmers protesting against loadshedding and withdrawal of subsidy on tariff on tube-wells blocked national highways in Balochistan at many places. The call for protest was given by the Balochistan Zamindar Action Committee.

The protesters blocked highways at Yaro, Kuchlak, Muslim Bagh, Zhob, Loralai, Lakpass, Kolpur, Mastung, Kalat, Nushki and Sibi Nari Bridge, suspending transport service between Quetta and Karachi, Jacobabad and Dera Ismail Khan. Traffic from Pakistan to Afghanistan via Chaman border and Iran via Taftan border also remained suspended from morning to evening.

At a place in Dasht, the protesters held a demonstration. Zamindar committee's president Malik Nasir Shahwani and other leaders criticised officials of Wapda and the Quetta Electric Supply Company and held them responsible for problems being faced by farmers.

They said their work had been badly affected by long hours of loadshedding and voltage fluctuation. They said QESCO delivered bills every month, but provided electricity only for two hours in a day. The speakers lashed out at the federal government for its decision to withdraw subsidy on electricity bills for tube wells. They said the Musharraf regime had not only continued subsidy on electricity bills for tube wells, but also waived farmers' outstanding dues. They warned of expanding the scope of their protest if the federal government did not withdraw its decision and normal power supply to tube wells was not restored.

ISLAMABAD: In sharp contrast to the incumbent government's claim of ending electricity loadshedding by 2017, the National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) has clarified that it is impossible to completely end power cuts before 2020. It was revealed in the State of Industry Report 2014 released by Nepra on Monday.

According to the report, the country will face a shortfall of 1200 megawatts by 2020 and the K-Electric will face a power shortage of 1132 megawatts in 2016. The report further states that average duration of loadshedding remained 2 to 18 hours per day in 2014. NEPRA claims that the power distribution companies failed to curb power theft and improve bill recoveries despite extensive reforms. The report further discloses that Nepra has averted burdening consumers with Rs136 billion to pay off loans.

Punjab Minister of Education Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan Monday chaired a meeting to review education reforms in the province. The meeting was attended by DCOs, EDOs and key officials of the Schools Education Department and affiliated agencies. The meeting was the first in a series of consultative meetings to be held with different stakeholders to get input into the future of education reforms in government schools across the province.

While addressing the participants, Mashhood reiterated that with more than 50,000 government schools, over 400,000 teachers and almost 11 million children enrolled, Punjab's school system is the largest of its kind in the world and presents a unique challenge of scale and complexity. Since the government launched its schools reforms program in 2010, the system had seen substantial progress in particular in terms of student and teacher attendance rates improving significantly as well as improvement of facilities. However, a lot of work remains to be done, particularly on education quality, he said.

Secretary Schools Education Abdul Jabbar Shaheen and Special Secretary Schools Education Department Syed Gulzar Hussain Shah outlined the department's plan for quality improvement by improving teaching quality and learning, strengthening governance, improving the learning environment and upgrade school building infrastructure. He stated that a comprehensive and ambitious reform programme was going to be put in place, coinciding with the overall strategy and provided constructive input. Several operational questions and challenges were raised in the meeting which the Schools Education Department will work on and address before the revised reform programme is launched.

LAHORE: The government, on one hand, is encouraging coal based power generation, requesting Nepra for upfront tariff for coal projects to encourage investment, but on the other hand it is escalating cost for the cement industry which has already been converted to coal by spending billions of rupees.

Instead of providing incentives to the cement industry, which is consuming over 95 percent of the total imported coal, the government has created trouble for it by imposing discriminatory tax on imported coal. All Pakistan Cement Manufacturers Association Chairman Muhammad Ali Tabba has asked the authorities to withdraw import duty on coal, as it is injustice to the cement sector which is running its plants mostly on imported coal.

Muhammad Ali Tabba, who is also CEO of Lucky Cement, talking to The Nation observed that the cement industry has spent millions of dollars in converting its plants from the expensive furnace oil to coal in order to produce cheaper cement for the consumers of Pakistan as well as making our cement prices competitive in global markets. "Our all efforts to reduce production cost faded away when the government imposed import duty on the cement industry's main source of fuel in the last budget, reducing our competitive advantage significantly," he lamented. He added that the duty on imported coal is reversing the positive initiative of the government to use coal as an alternate energy source, as several industries, including cement sector, has switched to coal and many others are also converting to coal due to unavailability of gas. The APCMA Chairman further said that the cement sector of the country is already facing many issues, including increasing royalty on mining, shortage of labour, low exports and losses on coal imports in absence of freight subsidy, therefore, this duty is just to add to the sector's woes. He said the

Substandard food at school canteens poses health risk

The Frontier Post, February 23, 2015

Four more children die of malnutrition in Thar

The Frontier Post, February 23, 2015

Women empowerment discussed at Abbottabad workshop

The Statesman, February 23, 2015

Govt to provide transport to teachers in remote areas'

Daily Dawn, February 23, 2015

imposition of duty along with landed cost of coal, transportation cost to the up country, and increase in cost of doing business, could also result in the increase of cement prices. He urged the government to remove this discriminatory anomaly and restore zero taxation on the main fuel of the cement industry. It is to be noted that cement sector has shown more resilience than other sectors of economy as it posted healthy growth in dispatches of over six percent during the first seven months of current fiscal year.

According to statistics, factories located in north showed robust growth in domestic consumption as they dispatched 12.94 million tons of cement in local markets from July 2014 to Jan 2015 against 11.7 million tons during same period of last fiscal year. The South based factories registered growth of 3.76 percent in domestic dispatches from July 2014 to Jan 2015 as their local sales recorded in this period were 2.53 million tons against 2.44 million tons during same period last year.

ISLAMABAD (APP): Substandard food being sold at the canteens of educational institutions working under Federal Directorate of Education (FDE) is posing serious risk to health of the students. Many students studying in FDE's run schools and colleges are suffering from throat infections and stomach problems these days due to substandard and non-branded edible items being sold without having expiry dates at canteens. Talking to APP, Shahid Saeed, a parent said "most of the time we give money to the children to buy something for lunch due to the low gas pressure at homes".

He said, "My children usually face stomach problem due to the unhealthy food being sold at the college canteen and they find no option except eating something from the school canteen." It is a common scene at the cafeterias and canteens of schools and colleges that flies and mice are found inside their kitchens. Tables of the canteens are full of germs which contaminate forks, knives and spoons that are placed on the table" said Imran, a college student. Mostly burgers, samosas, chaat, soft drinks and tea are served to thousands of students at cafeterias of schools and colleges which are contaminated, he said.

Prof Tahir Mehmood, a lecturer said cafeteria staffs are careless and do not take responsibility so students get sick. There are noticeable cases of food borne illness in some of city's schools, he added. As the food is cooked off site so no one can check and inspect the preparation of food, he said while urging the college administration to have a perfect inspection criteria of their canteens. An official of FDE said the authorities have issued directions to management of the colleges and schools to ensure quality food at canteens. He said the management has been directed to keep vigilance on whatever food is being sold in the canteens.

MITHI (NNI): As many as four more children died in drought-stricken Tharparkar on Sunday. The sufferings of Thar denizens continue to spiral due to lack of medical and health facilities. The latest deaths are reported due to malnutrition and drought in the desert region of Sindh. The death toll has reached 117 in February. Of the four children died today, two of them belonged to Chachro, while one each from Mithi and Islamkot. All the children were admitted at the Civil Hospital Mithi. The Thar desert, straddling the Indian border and one of Pakistan's poorest areas, has seen an alarming number of children suffering pneumonia or diarrhoea due to a dangerous mix of drought, poverty and poor health infrastructure. The deaths have prompted criticism for the Pakistan People's Party (PPP), which governs in the southern province of Sindh where part of the desert is located.

ABBOTTABAD: Women empowerment needed in all segment of the society for which higher education is to be used as powerful weapon to change the society. This was said by the Dr. Noor Jehan, Vice Chancellor, Swabi University while addressing as key speaker on the opening day of two days International Workshop on "Women Leadership in Higher Education" here at COMSATS Institute of Information Technology. Workshop which is being organized by the department of management sciences of COMSATS with the collaboration of Duzce University of Turkey in which more than 50 participants from the academia of KP universities are taking part. The basic objectives of the workshop are to discuss the leadership issues in higher education in general and the poor representation of women in decision making positions in specific.

Dr. Noor Jehan, the first female vice chancellor of KPK in his thoughtful speech demanded the drastic changes in the policy for women and said that women who are more than 53 % in the national population are never given due rights for which she presented the countless examples of discrimination faced by the women from home to the fields either it is education or any other segment of the society and working women are doing their jobs in "deep fear" which badly affect the capabilities of the women who can perform much better if they are provided safe and free friendly environment. She said that study has shown that female teachers are the best one due to their polite nature with sympathetic behavior with the students and society but they had to take major portion of responsibilities at home especially the house wives and due to overburden, they lag behind their male counterparts to complete higher education and such type of hurdles kept them slow to fulfill the academia needs required to get higher positions in faculty and otherwise. - PPI

KARAK: Provincial Minister of Revenue Ali Ameen Khan Gandapur has said that government will provide transport facility to the teachers, posted in remote areas. He said that demand of upgradation by the management cadre officers in education department was genuine and he would take up the issue with Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf chief Imran Khan and Chief Minister Pervaz Khattak. Addressing a ceremony organised by the management cadre officers in his honour here on Sunday, the minister said that he came to know about their demands for the first time.

Minister vows to take up issue of upgradation of management cadre with Imran Khan, Pervaz Khattak. He said that efficient management could deliver in a better way. He said that education and health were top priorities of the provincial government. Mr Gandapur said that government would provide transport facility to the teachers working in remote areas. He said that government

Supply to gas plant cut as pipeline blown up

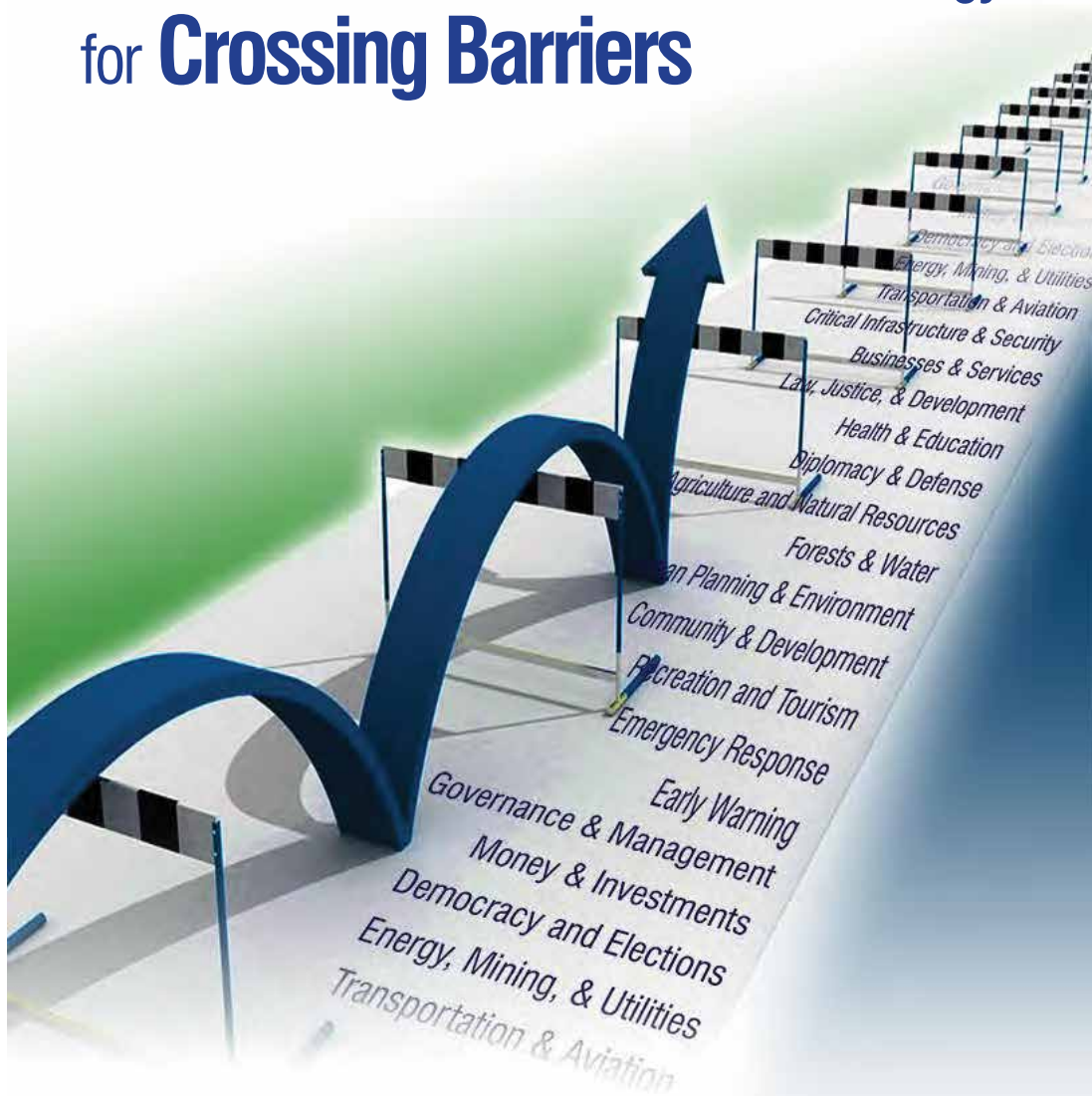
Daily Dawn, February 23, 2015

was negotiating with a non-governmental organisation in that regard.

The minister said that all basic facilities would be provided to the schools. He added that government earmarked billions of rupees to achieve different targets in education sector. He said that change would come only through education. The management cadre officers including Hamayun Khattak, Qadeer Shah, Abdur Rasheed Baloch, Nazeer Khan, Ghulam Fatima and Nargis also spoke on the occasion.

DERA MURAD JAMALI: Gas supply to the Pir Koh purification plant was suspended after militants blew up a pipeline on Sunday. According to police, militants planted explosives under the pipeline that supplies gas to the plant from well numbers 21-22, and detonated it by remote control in Nokhani area. Soon after the blast, technicians from the Oil and Gas Development Company cut off supply to the pipeline. "A big portion of the pipeline was smashed into pieces in the blast," police said, adding that repair work would start on Monday after security clearance.

Information & Communication Technology for **Crossing Barriers**



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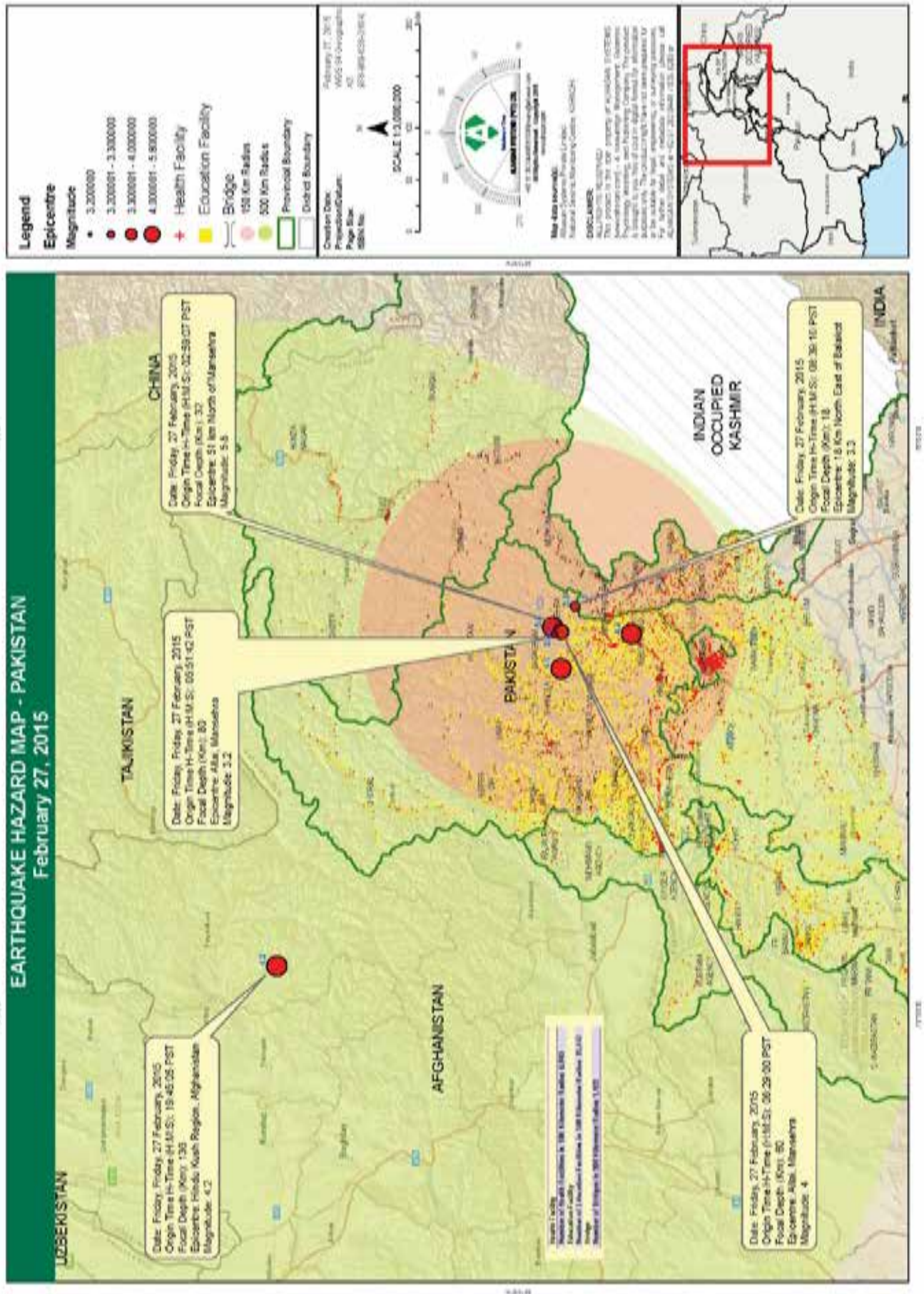
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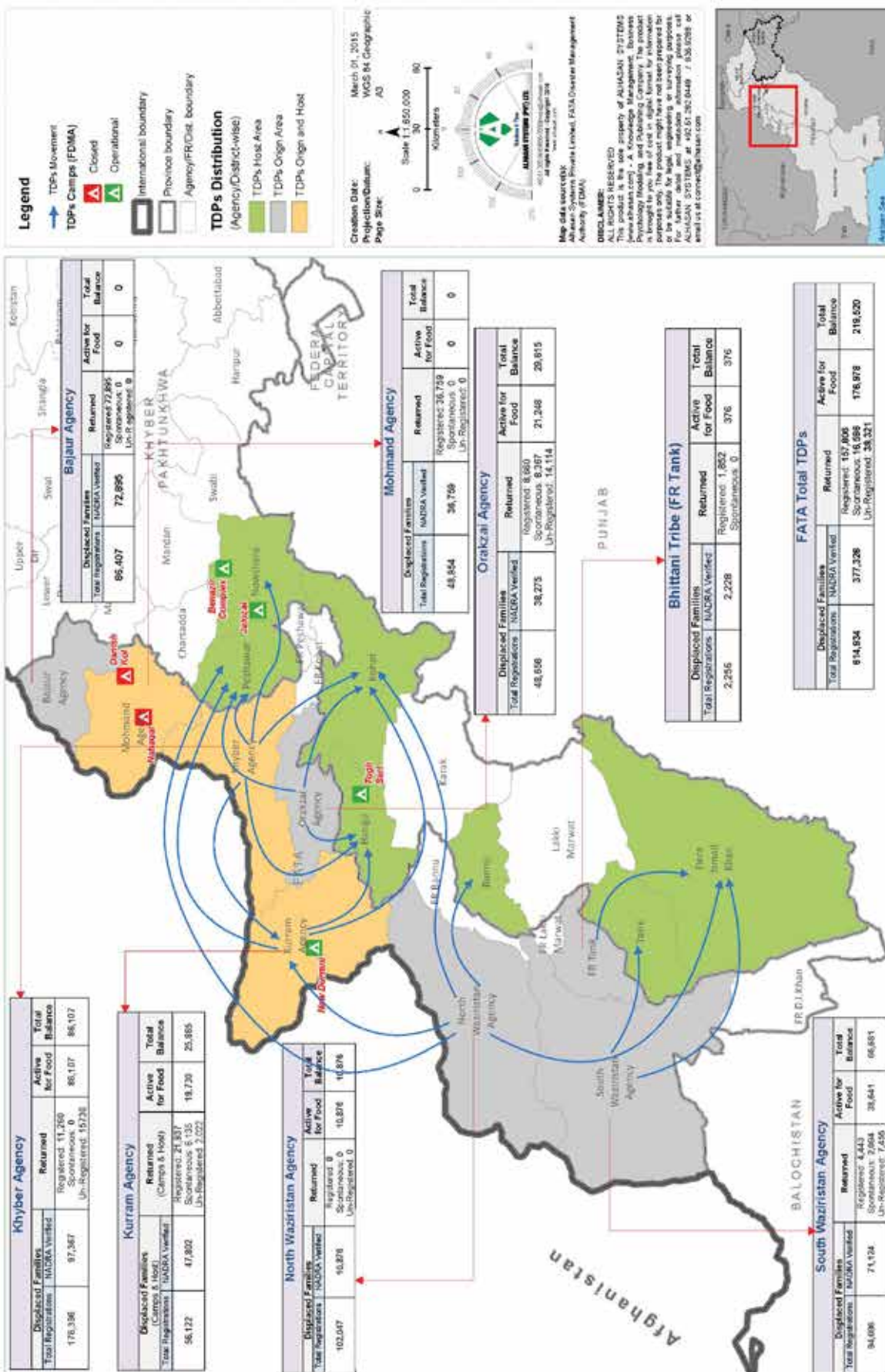
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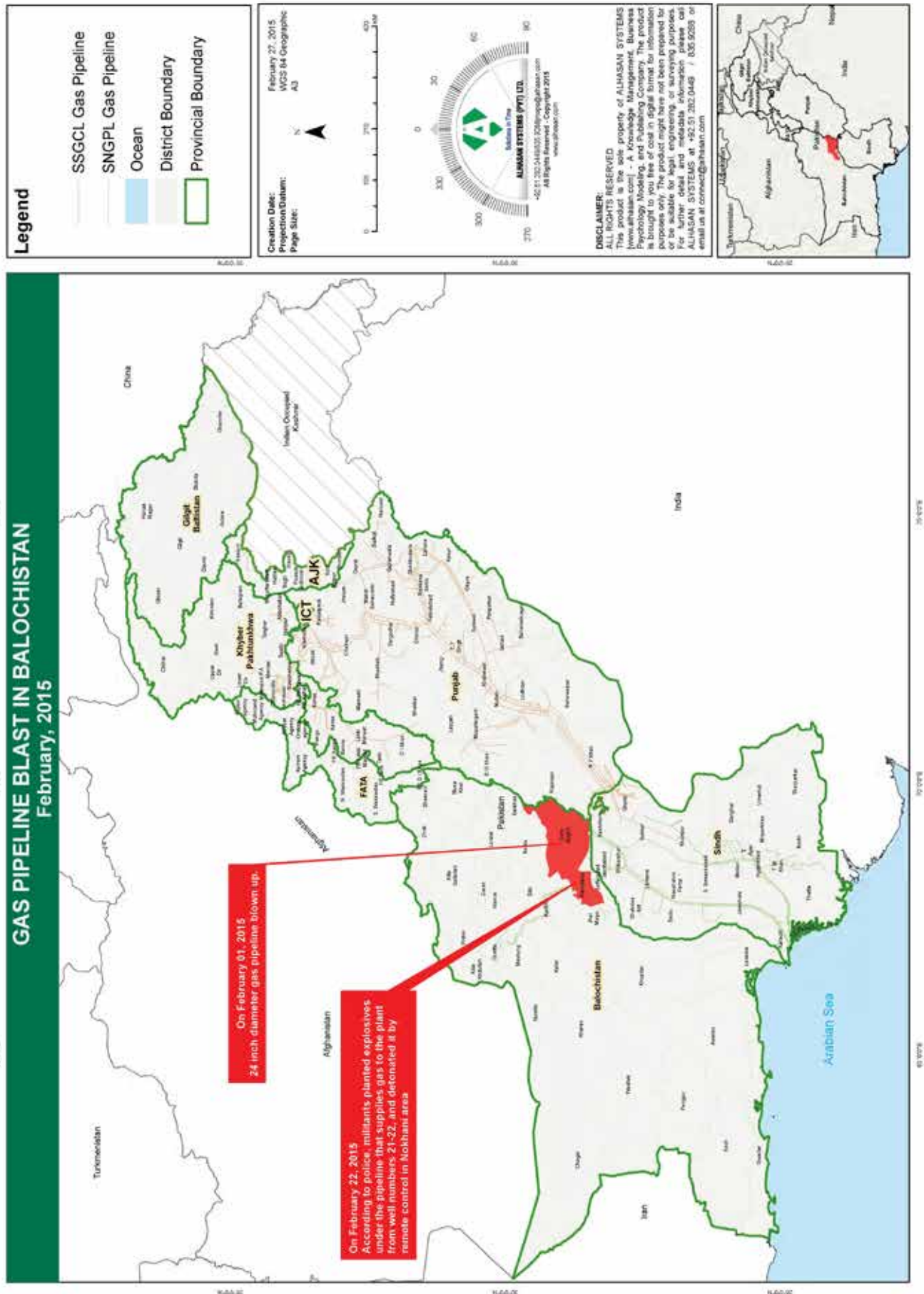






Temporarily Dislocated Persons [TDP] as of February 26, 2015





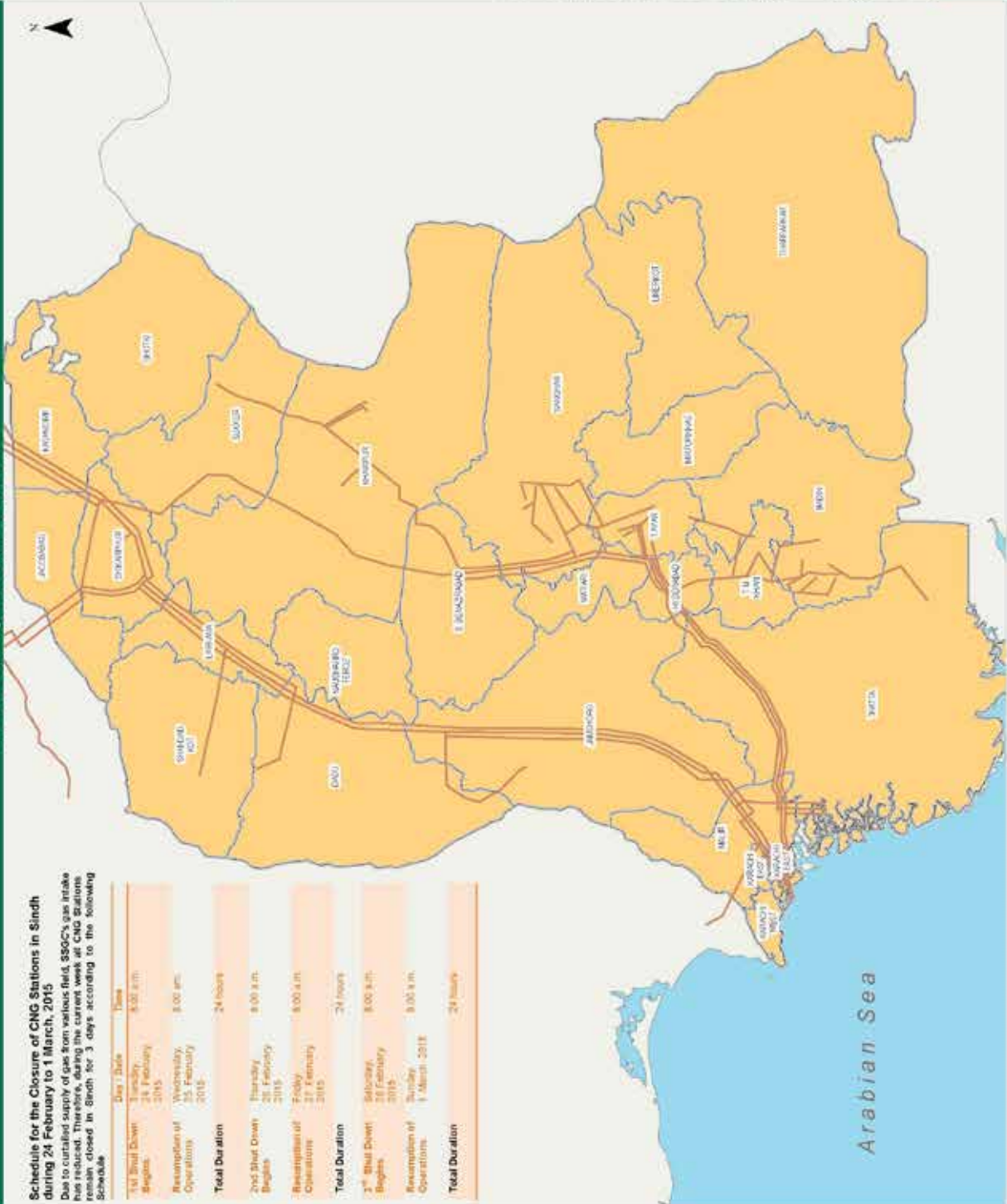
CNG Sector Gas Load Management Plan-Sindh

As of February 24 to March 1, 2015

Schedule for the Closure of CNG Stations in Sindh during 24 February to 1 March, 2015

Due to curtailed supply of gas from various field, SSGC's gas intake from the various fields will be reduced for 3 days according to the following Schedule.

Day / Date	Time
1st Shut Down Begins	Thursday, 24 February 2015 8:00 a.m.
Resumption of Operations	Wednesday, 25 February 2015 8:00 a.m.
Total Duration	24 hours
2nd Shut Down Begins	Thursday, 26 February 2015 8:00 a.m.
Resumption of Operations	Friday, 27 February 2015 8:00 a.m.
Total Duration	24 hours
3rd Shut Down Begins	Saturday, 28 February 2015 8:00 a.m.
Resumption of Operations	Sunday, 1 March 2015 8:00 a.m.
Total Duration	24 hours



Legend

- SSGC Gas Pipeline
- District Boundary
- Provincial Boundary

Creation Date: February 27, 2015
Projection Datum: WGS 84 Geographic
Page Size: A3
Scale: 1:390,000

0 25 50 100 KM



Map data source(s):
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Vegetation Analysis Map of Pakistan

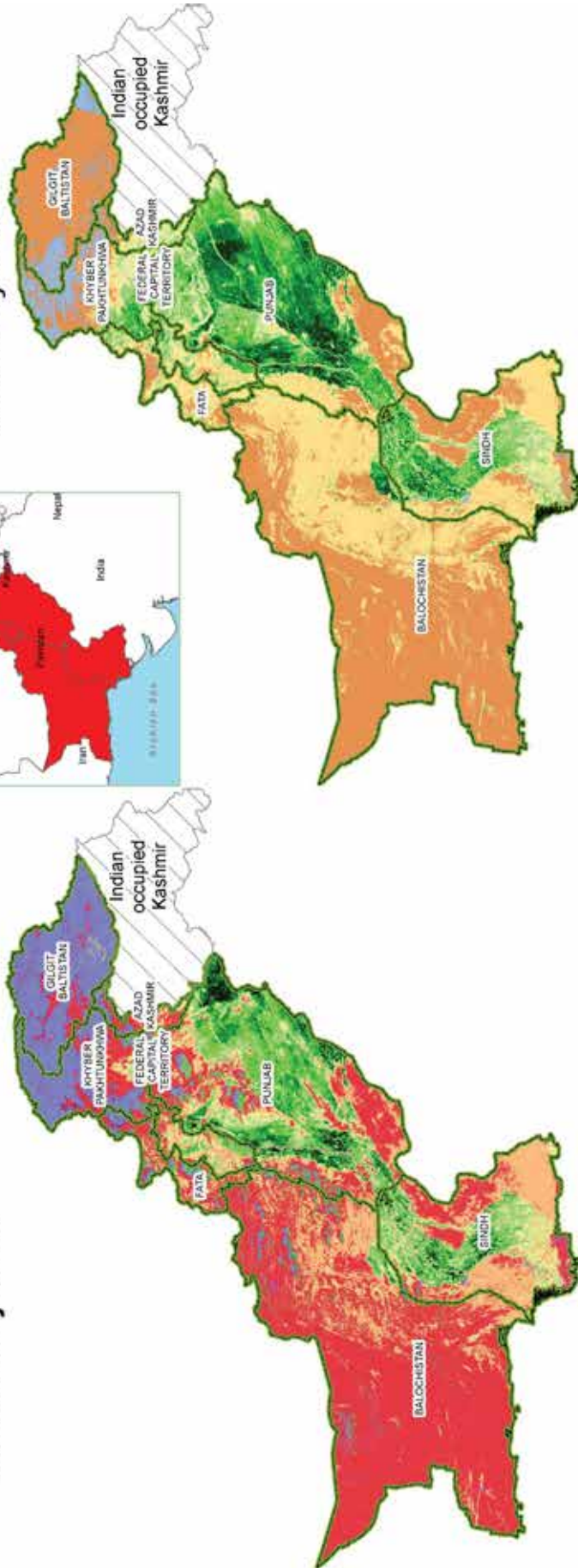
26 FEBRUARY 2015



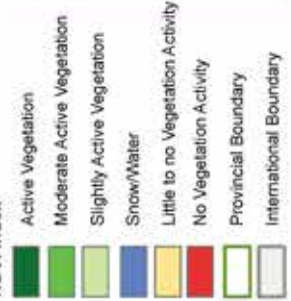
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26 February 2014



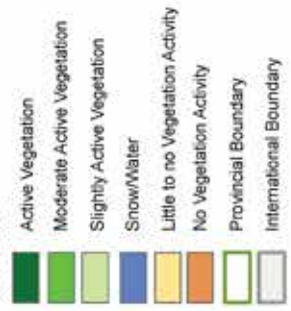
Date:
26 February 2015



Legend
NDVI Index

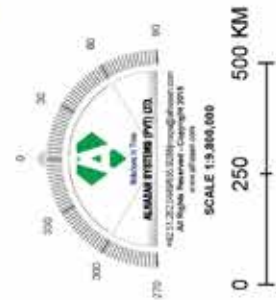


Legend
NDVI Index



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ایس ای کی آسامیاں اسلئے خالی رکھی گئی ہیں کہ یہاں پر تعیناتی زیادہ تر سیاسی اثر و رسوخ یا دیگر معاملات طے کر کے ہوئی ہیں۔ تمام آسامیاں پر کشش ہیں اسلئے جب تک تمام معاملات حل نہ ہوں ان کو خالی رکھا جاتا ہے۔

اسلام آباد (راجہ عابد پرویز / خبر نگار) تیل و گیس کی تلاش کے دوران خشک پائے جانے والے سیکڑوں کنوئوں پر جیو میگنا ٹیکنالوجی استعمال کر کے بجلی پیدا کرنے کے لئے کام شروع کر دیا گیا ہے۔ اوجی ڈی سی نے 80 کنوئوں کی نشاندہی کر دی ہے۔ ہر کنویں سے 10 میگا واٹ صاف ستھری بجلی پیدا کی جاسکے گی جبکہ دیگر کمپنیوں سے ایسے تمام کنوئوں کی تفصیلات طلب کر لی گئی ہیں جہاں زیر زمین درجہ حرارت 110 ڈگری سے زیادہ پایا جاتا ہے۔ ذرائع کے مطابق دنیا میں تھرمل انرجی کو استعمال کر کے پہلے ہی بجلی پیدا کی جا رہی ہے مگر اب اس مقصد کے لئے میگنا ٹیکنالوجی کا استعمال شروع کر دیا گیا ہے۔ جس کے ذریعے ایسے گہرے کنوئوں کو استعمال کیا جاتا ہے جہاں درجہ حرارت 110 ڈگری سے زیادہ پایا جاتا ہے۔ میگنا ٹیکنالوجی استعمال کر کے ایک کنویں پر خرچ آنے والی رقم اڑھائی سے تین سال میں پوری ہو جاتی ہے، جبکہ میگنا ٹیک ٹیوب کی زندگی کا اندازہ 25 سال تک لگایا گیا ہے۔

اسلام آباد (جاوید صدیق) پاکستان میں آذربائیجان کے سفیر دانشگن شکر وف نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان اور آذربائیجان کے درمیان براہ راست پروازیں شروع کرنے سے دونوں ملکوں میں تجارت میں کئی گنا اضافہ ہو سکتا ہے۔ وقت نیوز کے پروگرام انٹیمیسی روڈ میں انٹرویو دیتے ہوئے انہوں نے کہا کہ صدر ممنون حسین کے اگلے ماہ دورہ آذربائیجان سے پاکستان اور آذربائیجان کے درمیان دوستانہ اور تعاون پر مبنی تعلقات مزید مستحکم ہوں گے۔ آذربائیجان کو تیل اور گیس کی تلاش میں وسیع تجربہ ہے ہمارے ماہرین سائبریا سمیت کئی مشکل خطوں میں تیل تلاش کر رہے ہیں، پاکستان میں بھی آذربائیجان کی کمپنیاں تیل تلاش کرنے میں اہم کردار ادا کر سکتی ہیں۔ پاکستان میں توانائی کے بحران کے بارے میں ایک سوال کے جواب میں انہوں نے کہا کہ آذربائیجان ایران کے راستے پاکستان کو بجلی کی فراہمی کے لئے تیار ہے۔ آذربائیجان کے پاس بجلی وافر مقدار میں موجود ہے ہم یہ بجلی ایران تک پہنچا سکتے ہیں اور ایران سے پاکستان بجلی اسے گڑ میں شامل کر سکتا ہے۔ تجارت میں توسیع کے امکانات کے بارے میں انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان اور آذربائیجان کے درمیان موجودہ تجارت کا حجم بہت کم ہے، پاکستان آذربائیجان تجارت میں کئی گنا اضافہ ہو سکتا ہے۔ ٹیکسٹائل، ذرائع، فارماسیو ٹیکل اور سیاحت کے شعبے میں دونوں ممالک میں تجارت میں بے پناہ وسعت پیدا ہو سکتی ہے۔ گورنوکاراباخ کے مسئلہ پر انہوں نے کہا کہ آرمینیا نے ہمارے علاقہ کاراباخ پر زبردستی قبضہ کر رکھا ہے۔ اقوام متحدہ، او آئی سی اور یورپی سکیورٹی کونسل نے آرمینیا کے قبضے کے خاتمے کی قراردادیں منظور کی ہیں مگر آرمینیا ہمارے علاقے پر زبردستی قابض ہے جس کے باعث کشیدگی پیدا ہو رہی ہے۔ پاکستان نے ہمیشہ کاراباخ کے مسئلہ پر آذربائیجان کی حمایت کی ہے جس پر ہم پاکستان کے شکر گزار ہیں۔

جیو میگنا ٹیکنالوجی، سیکڑوں خشک کنوئوں سے بجلی پیدا کرنے کیلئے کام شروع

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

23 فروری 2015

ایران کے راستے پاکستان کو بجلی کی فراہمی کیلئے تیار ہیں: سفیر آذربائیجان

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

23 فروری 2015

لوڈشیڈنگ کے حوالے سے منسوب ریمارکس کو قطعی طور پر گرہا کن قرار دیتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ وزارت پانی و بجلی کو وزیراعظم نے 2017 تک ملک سے لوڈشیڈنگ کے خاتمہ کا ہدف دیا ہوا ہے ملک سے توانائی بحران کے خاتمہ کے لئے بہت سے بڑے منصوبوں پر تیزی سے کام جاری ہے 2017 تک ملک سے لوڈشیڈنگ کے خاتمہ کا ہدف حاصل کیا جائے گا۔

دینی: حالیہ دور میں سوشل میڈیا کی اہمیت اور مقبولیت کسی سے ڈھکی چھپی نہیں لیکن سماجی رابطوں کی تمام ویب سائٹس پر مغربی ممالک کی اجارہ داری سمجھی جاتی ہے اس لئے چند مسلم تاجروں نے ”مسلم فیس“ کے نام سے سماجی رابطوں کی متبادل ویب سائٹ تیار کی ہے جسے جلد ہی لانچ کر دیا جائے گا۔ العربیہ ڈاٹ نیٹ کے مطابق ”مسلم فیس“ کے بانی ارکان کا کہنا ہے کہ وہ ایک ایسا سوشل نیٹ ورکنگ فورم متعارف کرارہے ہیں جس میں سچائی اور حقائق پر مبنی مواد کی اشاعت کے ساتھ ساتھ اسلام کے ضابطہ اخلاق اور اسلامی اقدار کی بھی پابندی کی جائے گی اور اس ویب سائٹ پر صارفین کو ایسا مواد پوسٹ پبلش کرنے کی اجازت نہیں ہوگی جس سے مسلمانوں یا کسی بھی دوسرے مذہب سے تعلق رکھنے والوں کی دل آزاری کا اندیشہ ہو، اس سوشل نیٹ ورکنگ ویب سائٹ کو مکمل طور پر تیار ہونے کے بعد ابتدائی اور تجرباتی طور پر ایک ہزار صارفین کے لئے پیش کیا جائے گا تاکہ باضابطہ طور پر عالمی سطح پر پھیلانے سے قبل اس کی فنی رکاوٹوں کو دور کیا جاسکے۔ بانی ارکان کا کہنا تھا کہ ویب سائٹ دنیا بھر کے مسلمانوں کے درمیان سماجی رابطے کو مضبوط بنانے کے لئے بنائی جارہی ہے لیکن اس سے غیر مسلم برادری سے بھی روابط بڑھانے میں مدد ملے گی اور اسے مسلمانوں کے علاوہ غیر مسلم صارفین بھی بآسانی استعمال کر سکیں گے جب کہ اسے انگریزی، فارسی، عربی اور اردو کے ساتھ بیک وقت کئی زبانوں میں لانچ کیا جائے گا۔

ٹنڈو محمد خان (نامہ نگار) حبیبکو چیف ایگزیکٹو آفیسر حیدر آباد سلیم جاٹ اور ایگزیکٹو انجینئر ڈویژن ٹنڈو محمد خان عمر شاہین کی ہدایت پر بجلی چوروں، ناہنگان، کنڈا سسٹم اور ایک لاکھ سے زائد بقایا جات والے صارفین کے خلاف سب ڈویژن 1 کے علاقوں میں کریک ڈاؤن، 70 دیہات کی بجلی منقطع جبکہ ایک لاکھ روپے واجبات والے 1560 کنکشن سمیت 250 کنڈے ہٹا دیئے گئے۔ یہ بات سب ڈویژن (دن) کے ایس ڈی او عبدالستار لغاری نے جنگ سے بات چیت کرتے ہوئے کہی۔ انہوں نے بتایا کہ سب ڈویژن 1 کے علاقوں میں حبیبکو کے صارفین پر 2 کروڑ 25 لاکھ روپے بقایا جات کی وصولی کے لئے کریک ڈاؤن کیا جا رہا ہے اس دوران مختلف 70 دیہات کے صارفین کی جانب سے بجلی کا بل جمع نہ کرانے اور ایک لاکھ سے زائد واجبات والے 1560 ناہنگان کی جانب سے واجبات کی عدم ادائیگی پر بجلی منقطع کر دی گئی۔ شہری علاقوں میں 250 کنڈوں کو کاٹ دیا گیا ہے اس موقع پر ایگزیکٹو انجینئر حبیبکو ڈویژن ٹنڈو محمد خان عمر شاہین نے جنگ کو بتایا کہ حبیبکو کے صارفین سے واجبات کی وصولی کے لئے ایک سو فیصد ریکوری کے لئے جنگی بنیادوں پر گریڈ آپریشن جاری ہے جو بقایا جات کی وصولی کے لئے قائم کی جانے والی ٹیمیں دن رات کام کر رہی ہیں اور حبیبکو ڈویژن کے چاروں سب ڈویژنوں ٹنڈو محمد خان 1، ٹو، بلڑی شاہ کریم اور ماتلی کے تمام صارفین سے اپیل کرتے ہیں کہ وہ ادارے کے بقایا جات کی وصولی میں بھرپور ساتھ دیں اور حبیبکو انتظامیہ بھی ان کے ہر جائز مسئلہ کو حل کرنے کے لئے ہر وقت تیار ہے۔

لاہور (نیوز رپورٹر) بجلی اور گیس کی غیر اعلانیہ لوڈشیڈنگ کا سلسلہ جاری رہا، لاہور میں لمبکونے غیر اعلانیہ لوڈشیڈنگ کے تحت مختلف علاقوں میں 16 گھنٹے تک بجلی بند کی جس کے باعث صارفین کی چھٹی کا دن انتہائی برا گزارا نوائے وقت کے آفس میں صارفین نے فون کر کے کہا کہ بجلی کی بار بار ٹرپنگ اور لوڈشیڈنگ سے ورلڈ کپ کا کوئی بھی میچ پورا نہیں دیکھا جا رہا۔ 45 منٹ کیلئے بجلی آتی ہے جبکہ 2 سے ڈھائی گھنٹے کیلئے مسلسل بجلی بند رہتی ہے۔ حکومت اس سلسلے میں کچھ بھی نہیں کرتی دوسری طرف گیس کی لوڈشیڈنگ کا دورانیہ بھی 8 سے 10 گھنٹے تک رہا۔

لاہور (ندیم بسرا) محکمہ آبپاشی پنجاب میں اہم اور ذمہ دار سیٹوں پر عرصہ دراز سے مستقل تعیناتی نہ ہونے سے ترقیاتی کام رک گئے، پانی چوری میں اضافہ ہو گیا اور پانی بڑے پیمانے پر ضائع ہونے لگا۔ بتایا گیا ہے صوبائی وزیر آبپاشی پنجاب میاں یاور زمان اور سیکرٹری اری گیشن سیف انجم کی بہتر مینجمنٹ نہ ہونے سے چیف انجینئر ایس پی آر یو اور 16 ایس ای (سپر ٹنڈنٹ انجینئر) فیلڈ کی آسمائیں عرصہ دراز سے خالی ہیں۔ چیف انجینئر اسرار الحق ایس پی آر یو کی سیٹ سے 26 اگست 2013 کو ریٹائر ہوئے تاحال اس آسامی کو پُر نہیں کیا گیا۔ سٹریٹجک پلاننگ اینڈ ریفارم یونٹ کی یہ آسامی خالی ہونے سے منصوبہ بندی کے بے شمار پراجیکٹ تاخیر کا شکار ہوئے۔ بہاولپور، بہاولنگر، رحیم یار خان، لاہور میں ڈی اینڈ ایف (ڈریج اینڈ فلڈ) کی آسمائیں خالی ہیں۔ بتایا گیا ہے ایک برس سے محکمہ ترقی کمیٹی (ڈی پی سی) کا اجلاس بھی نہیں ہو سکا جس کی وجہ سے ترقی کے انتظار میں بے شمار افسر ریٹائر ہو چکے ہیں۔ صوبائی وزیر آبپاشی یاور زمان نے تمام خالی آسامیوں پر مستقل تعیناتی اور کنٹ چارج دینے کی بجائے صرف عارضی چارج پر ایس ای کو لگایا ہے۔ دسمبر 2014ء میں 13 ایکسپن کا باقاعدہ انٹرویو کیا گیا مگر دو ماہ سے زیادہ عرصہ گزر گیا، انکی فائل محکمہ کے اندر ہی چکر کاٹ رہی ہے۔ اس صورتحال میں محکمہ کے افسروں میں بے چینی بڑھ گئی ہے۔ انکا کہنا ہے ترقی ان کا حق ہے انہیں اس سے دور کر دیا گیا ہے۔ عارضی چارج کے ایس ای نے انسپشن (وزٹ) بھی نہیں کی جس سے مسائل میں اضافہ ہو گیا ہے۔ محکمہ آبپاشی کے ذرائع سے رابطہ کرنے پر معلوم ہوا تمام

مسلم صارفین کیلئے سماجی رابطے کی متبادل ویب سائٹ ”مسلم فیس“ تیار

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

24 فروری 2015

ٹنڈو محمد خان، حبیبکو کا ناہنگان کے خلاف کریک ڈاؤن، 70 دیہات کی بجلی منقطع

روزنامہ جنگ

24 فروری 2015

غیر اعلانیہ لوڈشیڈنگ جاری، لاہور میں 16 گھنٹے تک بجلی بند

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

23 فروری 2015

محکمہ آبپاشی میں اہم سیٹوں پر عارضی افسر تعینات، ترقیاتی کام رک گئے، پانی چوری میں اضافہ

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

23 فروری 2015

اسکولز ایجوکیشن (پرائمری) میرپور خاص، ایڈیشنل ڈائریکٹر اسکولز ایجوکیشن میرپور خاص نیاز احمد لغاری کو ڈائریکٹر اسکولز ایلیمنٹری، سیکنڈری، اینڈ ہائر سیکنڈری میرپور خاص، تقرری کے منتظر غلام فاروق لغاری کو ڈائریکٹر اسکولز ایجوکیشن (ایلیمنٹری، سیکنڈری، اینڈ ہائر سیکنڈری) میرپور خاص، ڈسٹرکٹ ایجوکیشن افسر حیدر آباد نادر حسین کو ایڈیشنل ڈائریکٹر (پرائمری) میرپور خاص، ڈائریکٹر اسکولز شہید بینظیر آباد (نواب شاہ) شیر احمد کو ڈائریکٹر اسکولز ایجوکیشن (پرائمری) نواب شاہ، کمشنر نوابشاہ جمال مصطفیٰ کو ڈائریکٹر اسکولز ایلیمنٹری، سیکنڈری، اینڈ ہائر سیکنڈری نواب شاہ کا اضافی چارج دیا گیا ہے، ڈسٹرکٹ ایجوکیشن افسر ساگھڑ محفوظ علی کو ایڈیشنل ڈائریکٹر اسکولز ایجوکیشن (ایلیمنٹری، سیکنڈری، اینڈ ہائر سیکنڈری) نوابشاہ، ڈسٹرکٹ ایجوکیشن افسر ٹھٹھہ غلام قادر کو ایڈیشنل ڈائریکٹر اسکولز ایجوکیشن (پرائمری) نوابشاہ ڈائریکٹر اسکولز ایجوکیشن (پرائمری) سکھر، ڈسٹرکٹ ایجوکیشن افسر سکھر نذرت بخاری کو ایڈیشنل ڈائریکٹر اسکولز ایجوکیشن (پرائمری) سکھر، ڈسٹرکٹ ایجوکیشن افسر خیرپور مہرالنسا کو ڈائریکٹر اسکولز ایجوکیشن (ایلیمنٹری، سیکنڈری، اینڈ ہائر سیکنڈری) سکھر، ڈسٹرکٹ ایجوکیشن افسر لاڈکانہ انور علی کو ڈائریکٹر اسکولز ایجوکیشن (پرائمری) لاڈکانہ، ایڈیشنل ڈائریکٹر اسکولز لاڈکانہ رضیہ پٹھان کو ڈائریکٹر اسکولز ایجوکیشن (ایلیمنٹری، سیکنڈری، اینڈ ہائر سیکنڈری) لاڈکانہ اور ڈسٹرکٹ ایجوکیشن افسر ٹنڈو محمد خان شفیع محمد پٹھان کو ایڈیشنل ڈائریکٹر اسکولز ایجوکیشن (پرائمری) لاڈکانہ مقرر کر دیا گیا ہے۔

کراچی (آن لائن) خام تیل کی عالمی قیمتوں میں کمی دیکھی گئی، امریکی آئل کی قیمت ایک بار پھر 50 ڈالر کی حد سے گر گئی۔ منگل کی سہ پہر تک لندن میں برینٹ تیل کی قیمت 59.41 ڈالر فی بیرل ہو گئی جبکہ امریکی آئل ڈبلیو ٹی آئی کے اپریل میں ترسیل کیلئے نرخ 1.44 ڈالر گھٹ کر 49.37 ڈالر فی بیرل پر آگئے۔ واضح رہے کہ گزشتہ ہفتے پیر سے اب تک خام تیل کی عالمی قیمتوں میں 4.50 فیصد تک کمی ہو چکی ہے۔

خام تیل کی عالمی قیمتوں میں کمی

روزنامہ جنگ

25 فروری 2015

کچھرو (نامہ نگار) حسیکو سب ڈویژن میں بجلی کے نادہندگان اور بجلی چوروں کے خلاف کارروائی کے دوران سرکاری اداروں سمیت پندرہ سے زائد دیہات کی بجلی منقطع کر دی گئی ہے۔ یہ بات ایس ڈی او حسیکو سب ڈویژن کچھرو رانا بن یا مین راجپوت نے جنگ کو ایک ملاقات میں بتائی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ حسیکو چیف کی ہدایت پر بجلی کے نادہندگان اور بجلی چوروں کے خلاف آپریشن شروع کر دیا گیا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ کچھرو سب ڈویژن میں سرکاری اور نجی اداروں سمیت بجلی کے صارفین پر تین کروڑ روپے کے بقایا جات واجب الادا ہیں۔ جن کی وصولی کے لئے خصوصی مہم شروع کی گئی۔ اس مہم کے دوران پندرہ سے زائد دیہات اور سرکاری اداروں میں ٹاؤن کمیٹی، سرکاری اسپتال، پولیس اسٹیشن، مختار کار آفس، تعلیمی ادارے، سبزی مارکیٹ، گوشت مارکیٹ، اسسٹنٹ کمشنر آفس اور دیگر سرکاری اداروں کی بجلی کے کنکشن کاٹ دیئے ہیں۔ ایس ڈی او حسیکو نے کہا کہ بجلی کے بقایا جات کی ادائیگی تک بجلی کے کنکشن بحال نہیں کئے جائیں گے۔

کچھرو: بجلی نادہندگان مختلف مہم

شروع، 15 سے زائد دیہات کی بجلی منقطع

روزنامہ جنگ

24 فروری 2015

نوڈیرو (نامہ نگار) سیکیو کی جانب سے نوڈیرو میں 12 گھنٹے کی لوڈ شیڈنگ میں اضافہ کر دیا گیا ہے جس میں پھلپوٹ، پنجوڈیرو، پیر گٹھ، عزت جی وانڈ، کریمہ وانڈ صیدو دیرو، گڑھی خدا بخش بھٹو سمیت 32 دیہات کے رہائشیوں کے لئے لوڈ شیڈنگ کر کے گرمی کی آمد سے پہلے ہی پریشانی میں مبتلا کر دیا ہے اس موقع پر صحافیوں سے بات کرتے ہوئے پی پی پی پی سی نوڈیرو کے صدر خالد احمد میمن نے کہا کہ شہر کے تمام سیاسی، سماجی اور مذہبی تنظیموں کی جانب سے میونسپل کمیٹی کی مینٹنگ ہال میں سب پارٹی کے رہنماؤں نے مل کے سیکیورٹیز کے ساتھ بات چیت کرنے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے۔

نوڈیرو: گرمی کی آمد سے پہلے ہی

لوڈ شیڈنگ میں اضافہ، 32 دیہات کی بجلی بند

روزنامہ جنگ

24 فروری 2015

اسلام آباد (آئی این پی) بجلی اور توانائی کے شعبے کے ریگولیٹری ادارے نیپرا نے کہا ہے کہ 2020 تک بھی ملک سے لوڈ شیڈنگ ختم ہونے کا کوئی امکان نہیں، 480 ارب روپے کی ادائیگی کے باوجود عوام کو ریلیف نہیں ملا، نیپرا حکومت کے سستی بجلی پیدا کرنے کے اقدامات کو سپورٹ کرتا ہے، صنعتوں کو براہ راست بجلی فروخت کرنے کی جلد اجازت دے دی جائے گی۔ یہ بات نیپرا کی اسٹیٹ آف انڈسٹری رپورٹ 2014 میں کہی گئی ہے دوسری طرف وزارت پانی و بجلی نے نیپرا کی طرف سے اپنی رپورٹ میں 2020 سے قبل لوڈ شیڈنگ ختم نہ ہونے کو گمراہ کن قرار دیتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ 2017 تک لوڈ شیڈنگ کے خاتمے کے ہدف حاصل کریں گے۔ نیپرا نے اپنی رپورٹ میں انکشاف کیا ہے کہ 480 ارب روپے کی ادائیگی کے باوجود عوام کو ریلیف نہیں ملا، حالانکہ نیپرا نے 136 ارب روپے کا بوجھ صارفین پر ڈالنے سے انکار کیا۔ نیپرا کے مطابق کراچی میں بجلی کی تقسیم کار کمپنی کے۔ الیکٹرک کو بھی آئندہ سال 1132 میگا واٹ شارٹ فال کا سامنا ہے گا۔ نیپرا رپورٹ میں کہا گیا ہے کہ تقسیم کار کمپنیاں بجلی چوری روکنے اور وصولیاں بہتر بنانے میں ناکام رہیں اور پاور سیکٹر کو متعدد سنگین چیلنجز کا سامنا ہے جبکہ اضافی بنگلہ پر تقسیم کار کمپنیوں اور الیکٹرک کو جرمانے بھی کیے گئے۔ نیپرا کے مطابق مشترکہ مفادات کونسل، الیکٹرک کو 300 میگا واٹ بجلی کم کرنے کی منظوری دے چکی ہے لیکن الیکٹرک نے کونسل کے فیصلے کے خلاف سندھ ہائیکورٹ سے حکم امتناع حاصل کر رکھا ہے۔ رپورٹ میں کہا گیا ہے کہ نیپرا کو بھی مختلف مقدمات کا سامنا ہے تاہم ادارے کی جانب سے کسی قسم کا ایکو لائزیشن سرچارج کبھی عائد نہیں کیا گیا۔ وزارت پانی و بجلی کے ترجمان نے نیپرا کی رپورٹ میں

گزشتہ برس صارفین کو کوئی بڑا ریلیف

نہیں ملا، 2020 تک بجلی کی لوڈ شیڈنگ ختم نہیں ہو سکتی، نیپرا

روزنامہ جنگ

24 فروری 2015

2015 فروری 25

نی نی سی اردو

25 فروری 2015

لسبیلہ چوک، پانی و بجلی کی عدم فراہمی
کیخلاف علاقہ مکینوں کا احتجاج، سڑک
بند ہونے سے گاڑیوں کی لمبی قطاریں
لگ گئیں

روزنامه جنگ

25 فروری 2015

پنجاب حکومت کا سرکاری اسکولوں میں
وائی فائی سہولت فراہم کرنے کا فیصلہ

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

25 فروری 2015

سندھ کے پانچ بڑے اضلاع میں
ڈائریکٹر اسکولز کی اسامی ختم، کراچی

میں پر قرار

روزنامہ جنگ

25 فروری 2015

کراچی (امداد سومرو) صوبائی وزیر تعلیم ٹارکھوڑنے محکمہ تعلیم کے ریفارم سپورٹ یونٹ میں 13 اعشاریہ 53 ارب روپے کے فنڈز کے غلط استعمال اور بے قاعدگیوں کے حوالے سے جنگ / دی نیوز کی خبر کا نوٹس لے لیا ہے اور سیکریٹری تعلیم ڈاکٹر فضل بیجو کو دیا مندرجہ اراچی ساکھ کے حامل غیر جانبدار افسر سے انکوائری کرنے کی ہدایت کی ہے۔ سرکاری خط میں صوبائی وزیر تعلیم نے سیکریٹری تعلیم کو ہدایت کی کہ تحقیقات کر اکر ذمہ دار افسران کے خلاف کارروائی کی جائے۔ خط کی تفصیلات کے مطابق وزیر تعلیم نے مطلوبہ نتائج حاصل کئے بغیر ریفارم سپورٹ یونٹ کی جانب سے کروڑوں روپے خرچ کرنے پر عدم اطمینان کا اظہار کیا۔ ٹارکھوڑنے خط میں لکھا ہے کہ یونٹ کے افسران کی نااہلیت کے باعث عالمی بینک کے حکام نے بھی ناخوشی کا اظہار کیا ہے اس کی وجہ سے ضروری نتائج حاصل کرنا مشکل ہو گیا ہے۔ واضح رہے کہ آڈٹ ڈیپارٹمنٹ نے محکمہ تعلیم کے شعبہ ریفارم سپورٹ یونٹ کی جانب سے مالی سال 2013-14ء میں 13 اعشاریہ 53 ارب روپے کی بے قاعدگیوں اور غلط استعمال کی نشاندہی کی تھی اور اس سے محکمہ تعلیم کے اعلیٰ افسران اور عالمی بینک کو آگاہ کیا تھا ڈائریکٹر جنرل آڈٹ نے اپنی خط و کتابت میں اربوں روپے کے فنڈز استعمال کئے جانے کے باوجود سندھ میں تعلیم اور اسکولوں کی انتہائی خراب صورتحال پر ناخوشی ظاہر کی تھی۔ اس خط و کتابت و جائزے کے مطابق آڈٹ ڈیپارٹمنٹ نے نشاندہی کی تھی کہ صوبے میں 6207 اسکول بند پڑے ہیں۔ 2012ء میں ٹوٹا ٹھنڈا نہیں، Z04723 میں پینے کا پانی میسر نہیں، 23242 بجلی سے محروم، 18938 کی چار دیواری نہیں اور 7461 عمارتوں کے بغیر ہیں۔

کوئٹہ (آن لائن) کوئٹہ کے علاقے دکی میں شدت پسندوں نے بجلی کے ٹرانسمیشن کے ٹاور پر 2 راکٹ فائر کئے، متعدد علاقے اندھروں میں ڈوب گئے۔ میڈیا رپورٹس کے مطابق بدھ کو دکی کے علاقے ”سرائی تک“ کے مقام پر نامعلوم شدت پسندوں نے 2 راکٹ فائر کئے جس سے بجلی کے دو ٹاور تباہ ہو گئے جس سے متعدد علاقے اندھروں میں ڈوب گئے، امدادی ٹیموں نے بجلی کی ترسیل کی بحالی کے لئے مرمت کا کام شروع کر دیا ہے۔

ٹھٹھہ، گھارو (نامہ نگاران) قوموں اور ملکوں کی ترقی کا انحصار تعلیم پر ہے آج وہی ممالک ترقی کے معیار پر سر فہرست ہیں جہاں خواندگی کا تناسب سو فیصد ہے بین الاقوامی طور پر یو این او نے جو تعلیم کا کم از کم معیار قومی مجموعی آمدنی کا چار فیصد رکھا ہے جبکہ ہمارے ملک میں تعلیم کے شعبے کے لیے قومی مجموعی آمدنی کا دو فیصد مختص کیے جاتے ہیں یوں تو ملک بھر میں تعلیمی صورتحال تسلی بخش نہیں مگر سندھ میں یہ صورتحال انتہائی مایوس کن ہے سندھ میں تعلیمی بجٹ کے لیے 134 ارب روپے سالانہ مختص ہیں جس میں سے ایک 125 ارب روپے تنخواہوں کی مد میں چلے جاتے ہیں بقیہ سات فیصد کا بڑا حصہ کرپشن کی نذر اور دیگر اخراجات پر خرچ ہوتے ہیں سندھ میں تعلیم کے زوال پذیر ہونے کی وجہ تعلیمی بجٹ کی کمی کرپشن سیاسی مداخلت اور استاتذہ کی بھرتیوں میں میرٹ کو نظر انداز کر کے سیاسی بنیادوں پر انتخاب ہے حالیہ ایک تعلیمی سیمینار میں سندھ کی تعلیمی صورتحال کی جو تصویر پیش کی گئی ہے وہ ہمارے سونے ہوئے حکمرانوں کو چوکنا دینے والی ہے سندھ میں 49500 اسکولوں میں سے 44500 پر انٹری اور 4900 مڈل اور سیکنڈری اسکول ہیں جن میں 22 ہزار اسکولوں میں پینے کا پانی اور 24 ہزار اسکولوں میں بجلی کی سہولت موجود نہیں 18 ہزار اسکول غیر فعال ہیں جن میں اکثریت گوداموں اور وڈیروں کی اوطاقوں کے طور پر استعمال ہوتی ہیں حکومتی اعداد و شمار کے مطابق سندھ میں خواندگی کا تناسب شہری علاقوں میں 55 فیصد اور دیہی میں 42 فیصد ہے جبکہ حقیقت یہ ہے کہ سندھ بھر میں 11 ملین بچوں میں سے صرف 4 ملین بچے اسکولوں میں داخل ہیں پانچ سے سولہ سال تک کے 39 فیصد بچے گورنمنٹ اسکولوں میں جاتے ہیں بیکلی سے میٹرک تک نہ پہنچنے پانے والے بچوں کا تناسب 67 فیصد ہے 66 فیصد بچے اپنی مادری زبان میں دس جملے نہیں لکھ سکتے 78 فیصد کو سادہ جمع ضرب نہیں آتی 75 فیصد انگریزی کا ایک جملہ نہیں لکھ سکتے جبکہ 62 فیصد اسکول نہیں جاتے سندھ میں استاتذہ کی تعداد ایک لاکھ 46 ہزار ہے جن میں 50 ہزار اسکول نہیں جاتے اور متعلقہ افسران کی ملی بھگت سے گھر بیٹھے تنخواہیں وصول کر رہے ہیں 80 فیصد استادا انگلش نہیں لکھ سکتے 36 فیصد کو انگریزی سندھی اور ریاضی نہیں آتی سندھ میں ضلع ٹھٹھہ تعلیمی لحاظ سے ملک کے 144 اضلاع میں 140 نمبر پر اور سندھ کے 23 اضلاع میں سے 22 نمبر پر ہے سیمینار میں جو تعلیم کی صورتحال کو بہتر بنانے کے لیے مفید تجاویز بھی دیں کہ سندھ میں تعلیمی شعبے میں پانچ سے دس سال کے لیے ایمر جنسی نافذ کر کے حکومت اور معاشرے کے ہر فرد کا فوکس تعلیم کا فروغ ہو سندھ کا تعلیمی بجٹ میں 40 فیصد انتظامی اور 60 فیصد تعلیم کے فروغ کے اخراجات پر ہوسیاسی بنیادوں پر استاتذہ کی بھرتیوں کا سلسلہ بند کیا جائے اور پہلے سے بھرتی استاتذہ کے کورس تیار کر کے چھ ماہ کی تربیت دی جائے اور چھ ماہ بعد ٹیسٹ لیا جائے ٹیسٹ پاس کرنے والوں کو الاؤنس دیا جائے اور ناکام رہ جانے والوں کو نوکریوں سے فارغ کیا جائے اور تعلیم کے شعبے سے کرپشن کا خاتمہ کر کے باقاعدہ مانیٹرنگ کا نظام قائم کیا جائے اس کے بعد ہی اس شعبے میں بہتری کی امید کی جاسکتی ہے۔

کراچی: ملک بھر میں انسداد پولیو مہم چلانے کے لیے پاک فوج کی مدد لینے کا فیصلہ کیا گیا ہے۔ ایکسپریس نیوز کے مطابق سیوریٹی خدشات کے پیش نظر ملک بھر میں پولیو مہم کے دوران پاک فوج کی مدد لینے کا فیصلہ کیا گیا ہے جس کے تحت پاک فوج پولیو مہم کے سیوریٹی معاملات براہ راست دیکھے گی جب کہ مہم کے دوران سیوریٹی کے لیے پولیس اہلکاروں کی تعیناتی کا عمل بھی فوج کی نگرانی میں ہی ہوگی۔ ذرائع کا کہنا ہے کہ پاک فوج اور متحدہ عرب

وزیر تعلیم سندھ نے ریفارم سپورٹ یونٹ میں 13 اعشاریہ 53 ارب کی بے قاعدگیوں کا نوٹس لے لیا

روزنامہ جنگ

26 فروری 2015

کوئٹہ، شدت پسندوں نے بجلی کے 2

ٹاور تباہ کر دیئے

روزنامہ جنگ

26 فروری 2015

سندھ میں 22 ہزار اسکولوں میں پینے کا پانی اور 24 ہزار میں بجلی موجود نہیں، تعلیمی سیمینار کی رپورٹ

روزنامہ جنگ

26 فروری 2015

ملک میں انسداد پولیو مہم کے لیے پاک فوج کی مدد لینے کا فیصلہ

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

کراچی (اسٹاف رپورٹر) صوبائی اینٹی کرپشن کورٹ کی جج گلشن آرا چانڈیو نے کرپشن میں ملوث ملزمان ڈائریکٹر اسکولز ایجوکیشن عبد الوہاب عباسی اور محکمہ تعلیم کے اسسٹنٹ سید صغیر واسطی کو عدالتی ریمانڈ پر جیل بھیجے ہوئے ایس پی جیل کو ہدایت کی ہے کہ ملزمان کو 5 مارچ کو لازمی پیش کیا جائے۔ استغاثہ کے مطابق مقدمے کے تفتیشی افسر نے تفتیش کی غرض سے ملزمان کے 14 روزہ جسمانی ریمانڈ کی استدعا کی تھی جسے عدالت نے مسترد کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ اس ضمن میں مناسب وجوہات بیان نہیں کی گئیں۔ ملزمان پر الزام ہے کہ وہ جعلی تعلیمی دستاویزات بنا کر اساتذہ کا تقرر اور ترقی کراتے تھے اور غیر قانونی بل بنا کر رقم ایٹھ لیتے تھے۔ سرکار کی طرف سے پبلک پراسیکیوٹر محمد عارف سیتانی نے پیروی کی۔

پڑ عیدین (نامہ نگار) سیکیو پڈ عیدین کا نادر ہند گان کے خلاف آپریشن، 30 سے زائد دیہات کی بجلی منقطع، 40 لاکھ روپے سے زائد بقایا جات، بجلی بل ادا نہ کرنے والے صارفین کے خلاف سخت کارروائی کی جائیگی، تفصیلات کے مطابق سیکیو سب ڈویژن پڑ عیدین کی جانب سے بجلی بلوں کی عدم ادائیگی کے خلاف سیکیو پڈ عیدین کے ایس ڈی اوندیم جو کھیو، لائنیں سپرنٹنڈنٹ طالب منگرو، شاہد آرائیں، یونس راجہ کی قیادت میں سیکیو ٹیم نے آپریشن کر کے گوٹھ بچل ڈہر، گوٹھ خان محمد آریجو، گوٹھ علی بخش لاشاری، گوٹھ میر اپنور، گوٹھ صدیق راجہ، گوٹھ حاجی راجہ، گوٹھ حاجی نور محمد راجہ، گوٹھ برکت سیالکوٹی، گوٹھ بران مری، گوٹھ باغ علی خالصیلی، گوٹھ جٹوٹی، گوٹھ جلالہی، گوٹھ دلاور شر، گوٹھ قمر آباد سمیت 30 سے زائد دیہات کی بجلی منقطع کر دی۔ سیکیو پڈ عیدین ایس ڈی اوندیم جو کھیو نے بتایا کہ بجلی بلوں کی مد میں 40 لاکھ روپے سے زائد واجب الادا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ سیکیو نے نادر ہند گان کے خلاف سخت آپریشن شروع کیا ہے۔ ایس ڈی اوندیم جو کھیو نے بجلی صارفین کو متنبہ کیا ہے کہ وہ بجلی بل فوری طور پر ادا کریں بصورت دیگر نادر ہند گان کے خلاف سخت کارروائی عمل میں لاتے ہوئے انہیں بجلی کی فراہمی معطل کر دی جائیگی اور ان کے خلاف قانونی چارہ جوئی کی جائیگی۔

کراچی (امداد سومرو) صوبائی وزیر تعلیم ثار کھوڑو نے محکمہ تعلیم کے ریفارم سپورٹ یونٹ میں 13 اعشاریہ 53 ارب روپے کے فنڈز کے غلط استعمال اور بے قاعدگیوں کے حوالے سے جنگ / دی نیوز کی خبر کا نوٹس لے لیا ہے اور سیکریٹری تعلیم ڈاکٹر فضل چیمپو کو دیانندہ راجھی ساکھ کے حامل غیر جانبدار افسر سے انکوائری کرنے کی ہدایت کی ہے۔ سرکاری خط میں صوبائی وزیر تعلیم نے سیکریٹری تعلیم کو ہدایت کی کہ تحقیقات کر کے ذمہ دار افسران کے خلاف کارروائی کی جائے۔ خط کی تفصیلات کے مطابق وزیر تعلیم نے مطلوبہ نتائج حاصل کئے بغیر ریفارم سپورٹ یونٹ کی جانب سے کروڑوں روپے خرچ کرنے پر عدم اطمینان کا اظہار کیا۔ ثار کھوڑو نے خط میں لکھا ہے کہ یونٹ کے افسران کی نااہلیت کے باعث عالمی بینک کے حکام نے بھی ناخوشی کا اظہار کیا ہے اس کی وجہ سے ضروری نتائج حاصل کرنا مشکل ہو گیا ہے۔ واضح رہے کہ آڈٹ ڈیپارٹمنٹ نے محکمہ تعلیم کے شعبہ ریفارم سپورٹ یونٹ کی جانب سے مالی سال 2013-14ء میں 13 اعشاریہ 53 ارب روپے کے بے قاعدگیوں اور غلط استعمال کی نشاندہی کی تھی اور اس سے محکمہ تعلیم کے اعلیٰ افسران اور عالمی بینک کو آگاہ کیا تھا ڈائریکٹر جنرل آڈٹ نے اپنی خط و کتابت میں اربوں روپے کے فنڈز استعمال کئے جانے کے باوجود سندھ میں تعلیم اور اسکولوں کی انتہائی خراب صورتحال پر ناخوشی ظاہر کی تھی۔ اس خط و کتابت کے جائزے کے مطابق آڈٹ ڈیپارٹمنٹ نے نشاندہی کی تھی کہ صوبے میں 6207 اسکول بند پڑے ہیں۔ 2012ء میں ٹوئینٹس نہیں، 23 Z047 میں پینے کا پانی میسر نہیں، 23242 بجلی سے محروم، 18938 کی چار دیواری نہیں اور 7461 عمارتوں کے بغیر ہیں۔

اسلام آباد (آن لائن) سپریم کورٹ میں جسٹس ثاقب ثار کی سربراہی میں قائم تین رکنی بنچ نے کراچی الیکٹرک کو واپڈا سے ملنے والی 650 میگا واٹ بجلی اور بقایا جات کی تفصیلات طلب کرتے ہوئے سماعت 2 ہفتے کے لئے ملتوی کر دی۔ سپریم کورٹ میں کراچی وائر اینڈ سیوریج بورڈ اور کراچی الیکٹرک (کے ای) کے واجبات سے متعلق مقدمے کی سماعت ہوئی۔ عدالت میں سیکریٹری پانی و بجلی اور سیکریٹری فنانس بھی پیش ہوئے۔ انارنی جنرل آف پاکستان سلمان بٹ نے عدالت کو بتایا کہ جب سے کراچی الیکٹرک (کے ای) کی نجکاری کی گئی ہے وفاقی حکومت کی ہدایت پر واپڈا کراچی الیکٹرک کو 650 میگا واٹ بجلی فراہم کر رہا ہے جس کے بقایا جات کراچی الیکٹرک (کے ای) نے ادا کر لئے ہیں۔ عدالت نے انارنی جنرل کو ہدایت کی کہ آئندہ سماعت پر کراچی الیکٹرک (کے ای) کو وفاق کی جانب سے ملنے والی بجلی اور واپڈا کے کراچی الیکٹرک پر بقایا جات کی مکمل تفصیلات عدالت میں جمع کرائی جائیں۔ عدالت نے سماعت دو ہفتے کے لئے ملتوی کر دی۔

بولان - بختیار آباد میں شریپندوں نے 24 انچ قطر کی گیس پائپ لائن کو دھماکے سے تباہ کر دیا جس کے نتیجے میں کوئٹہ سمیت متعدد علاقوں میں گیس کی سپلائی منقطع ہو گئی۔ ایکسپریس نیوز کے مطابق بولان کے علاقے بختیار آباد میں شریپندوں نے کوئٹہ کو گیس فراہم کرنے والی 24 انچ قطر کی پائپ لائن کو ٹائم ڈیوائس کے ذریعے نشانہ بنایا۔ دھماکے کے نتیجے میں پائپ لائن میں آگ لگ گئی، واقعے کی اطلاع ملنے ہی امدادی ٹیمیں موقع پر پہنچ گئیں جنہوں نے آگ پر قابو پا لیا۔ گیس پائپ لائن کی تباہی کے نتیجے میں کوئٹہ سمیت کئی علاقوں کو گیس کی سپلائی معطل ہو گئی جسے بحال کرنے کے لئے آپریشن جاری ہے جب کہ سیوریج اداروں نے واقعے میں ملوث شریپندوں کی گرفتاری کے لئے سرچ آپریشن شروع کر دیا ہے۔

کرپشن میں ملوث ڈائریکٹر اسکولز ایجوکیشن اور اسسٹنٹ کار میانڈ روزنامہ جنگ 27 فروری 2015

پڑ عیدین، سیکیو نادر ہند گان کے خلاف آپریشن، 30 دیہات کی بجلی منقطع روزنامہ جنگ 27 فروری 2015

وزیر تعلیم سندھ نے ریفارم سپورٹ یونٹ میں 13 اعشاریہ 53 ارب کی بے قاعدگیوں کا نوٹس لے لیا روزنامہ جنگ 26 فروری 2015

سپریم کورٹ، کراچی کو 650 میگا واٹ بجلی اور بقایا جات کی تفصیلات طلب روزنامہ جنگ 26 فروری 2015

بولان کے قریب شریپندوں نے گیس پائپ لائن بارودی مواد سے تباہ دی روزنامہ ایکسپریس 26 فروری 2015

مٹھی تھر میں سندھ حکومت کی نااہلی کے باعث مزید 3 نھیں کلیاں غذائی قلت اور بنیادی صحت کی سہولیات کی عدم فراہمی کا شکار ہو کر بن کھلے مر جھا گئیں۔ ایکسپریس نیوز کے مطابق تھر کے ڈسٹرکٹ ہیڈ کوارٹر مٹھی کے سول اسپتال میں 3 نومولود انتقال کر گئے، زندگی کی بازی ہارنے والے بچوں کا تعلق اسلام کوٹ، ڈیپلو اور مٹھی سے ہے۔ گزشتہ 29 روز میں غذائی قلت اور بنیادی صحت کی سہولیات کی عدم فراہمی کے باعث انتقال کرنے والے بچوں کی تعداد 48 ہو گئی ہے۔ واضح رہے کہ گزشتہ 3 برسوں سے تھر میں قحط، غربت اور بنیادی صحت کے سہولیات کی عدم فراہمی کے باعث اب تک سیکڑوں افراد لقمہ اجل بن چکے ہیں۔

لکشی چوک کے قریب واقعہ ناز تھیر میں اچانک آگ بھڑک اٹھی جس نے دیکھتے ہی دیکھتے تھیر کے بیشتر حصوں کو اپنی لپیٹ میں لے لیا۔ ریسکو ٹیموں نے موقع پر پہنچ کر فائر فائٹنگ شروع کر دی اور ایک گھنٹے کی کوشش کے بعد آگ پر قابو پالیا گیا۔ ریسکو حکام کے مطابق آگ لگنے کی وجہ ابتدائی طور پر شارٹ سرکٹ لگتی ہے جبکہ حتمی طور پر آتشزدگی کی وجہ تحقیقات میں سامنے آئے گی، آگ لگنے کی وجہ سے تھیر میں موجود ہزاروں روپے مالیت سامان جل کر خاکستر ہو گیا۔

اسلام آباد (نمائندہ جنگ) بجلی چوری روکنے کے لئے ملک بھر میں سمارٹ میٹرز لگانے کا فیصلہ کیا گیا ہے۔ پہلے مرحلے میں اسلام آباد، لاہور، پشاور اور ملتان میں سمارٹ بجلی میٹرز نصب ہوں گے، سمارٹ میٹرز کی تنصیب کا سب سے بڑا فائدہ صارفین کو ہو گا کہ ان میٹرز کی مدد سے لوڈ کم کیا جاسکے گا اور بجلی مکمل بند نہیں ہوگی، البتہ لوڈ کم کر کے صارفین کو اسے سی وغیرہ چلانے سے روکا جاسکے گا۔ ابتدائی طور پر چار ڈسٹریکشن کمپنیوں، پیسکو، لیسکو، میسکو اور آئیسکو میں پری پیڈ میٹرز کی تنصیب کا کام جلد شروع ہو گا، جمعہ کو پبلک اکاؤنٹس کی ذیلی کمیٹی کا اجلاس کمیٹی کے کنوینیر سردار عاشق حسین گوپانگ کی زیر صدارت ہوا، اجلاس میں کمیٹی کے ارکان شیخ راجیل اصغر اور ڈاکٹر عذرا فضل چیمپو سمیت سیکرٹری پانی و بجلی یونس ڈھاگا سمیت دیگر افسران نے شرکت کی، اجلاس میں واپڈ 2007-08 کی آڈٹ رپورٹ کا جائزہ لیا گیا، پی اے سی نے واپڈ میں ٹرانسفارمرز کنڈکٹرز اور دیگر سامان کی چوری کے معاملے کا نوٹس لیتے ہوئے وزارت پانی و بجلی کو ہدایت کی کہ اس حوالے سے معاملے کی تحقیقات کر کے ذمہ داروں کے خلاف کارروائی عمل میں لائی جائے، کمیٹی کے رکن شیخ راجیل اصغر نے کہا کہ واپڈ کے جن ملازمین کو مفت بجلی ملتی ہیں اس کا ناجائز استعمال ہوتا ہے، ارکان کے سوالوں کے جواب میں سیکرٹری پانی و بجلی یونس ڈھاگا نے کہا کہ ہماری کوشش ہے کہ رواں سال جون یا جولائی تک ملک بھر میں سمارٹ میٹرز کی تنصیب کا کام آگے بڑھایا جائے، ابتدائی طور پر چار ڈسٹریکشن کمپنیوں، پیسکو، لیسکو اور آئیسکو میں یو ایس ایڈ کی امداد اور انشورنس ڈیولپمنٹ بینک کے نرم شرائط پر قرضے کی مدد سے سمارٹ میٹرز کی تنصیب کا کام جلد شروع ہو گا، ملتان اور پشاور میں تمام صنعتی یونٹس میں سمارٹ میٹرز کی تنصیب کا کام مکمل کر لیا گیا ہے، انہوں نے کہا کہ پری پیڈ میٹرز کی تنصیب کا کام وسیع پیمانے کا ہے، انہوں نے بتایا کہ ہر فیڈر پر سمارٹ میٹرز لگادینے گئے ہیں، لیسکو میں پری پیڈ میٹرز کی تنصیب کے لئے 300 ملین روپے کی سی وائیون تیار ہے، انہوں نے کہا کہ سمارٹ میٹرز کی تنصیب کا سب سے بڑا فائدہ صارفین کو ہو گا کہ ان میٹرز کی مدد سے لوڈ کم کیا جاسکے گا اور بجلی مکمل بند نہیں ہوگی، البتہ لوڈ کم کر کے صارفین کو اسے سی وغیرہ چلانے سے روکا جاسکے گا۔

نصرپور (نامہ نگار) نصرپور فیڈر پر بجلی کے طویل عرصے تک بریک ڈاؤن کے سبب ہزاروں شہری سراپا احتجاج ہیں جبکہ دوسری جانب واپڈ انتظامیہ نصرپور اور ٹنڈوالیار نے خاموشی اختیار کی ہوئی ہے۔

نصرپور: بجلی کا 20 گھنٹے طویل بریک ڈاؤن

روزنامہ جنگ

28 فروری 2015

مٹھی میں غذائی کمی کے باعث مزید 5 بچے دم توڑ گئے

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

28 فروری 2015

تھرپارکر تحصیل مٹھی میں غذائی کمی کے باعث مزید 5 بچے دم توڑ گئے جس کے بعد رواں ماہ بلاکتوں کی تعداد 36 ہو گئی۔ ایکسپریس نیوز کے مطابق سندھ حکومت کی لاپرواہی اور عدم دلچسپی کے باعث ضلع تھرپارکر میں غذائی کمی کے باعث بچوں کی بلاکتوں کو روکا نہ جاسکا اور مزید 5 بچے سول اسپتال مٹھی میں انتقال کر گئے۔ ضلع بھر میں رواں ماہ غذائی کمی اور مختلف بیماریوں سے ہلاک بچوں کی تعداد 36 ہو گئی۔ واضح رہے کہ گزشتہ سال تھرپارکر کی چاروں تحصیلوں مٹھی، چھاچھرو، ڈیپلو اور ننگر پارکر میں سینکڑوں بچے غذائی کمی کے باعث موت کے منہ میں چلے گئے تھے اور رواں سال بھی یہ سلسلہ جاری ہے۔

سکھر (یورپورٹ) سکھر الیکٹرک پاور کمپنی سیسکو کی جانب سے جاری کردہ اعلان کے مطابق 2 مارچ سے 15 مارچ تک مختلف علاقوں میں 6 گھنٹے بجلی بند رہے گی، مرمتی کام کے حوالے سے 132 کے وی گرڈ اسٹیشن دادو 11 کے وی فیڈرز کے علاقے سٹی II اور سٹی III میں بجلی کی فراہمی صبح 8:30 بجے سے 2:30 تک بند رہے گی۔

سکھر: مختلف علاقوں میں 2 سے 15 مارچ تک بجلی کی فراہمی بند رہے گی

روزنامہ جنگ

28 فروری 2015

اور انہوں نے مخصوص کمیسز میں ایسا کیا بھی ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ وہ غدر کو ایک مثال بنانا چاہتے ہیں جہاں 100 فیصد بچے اسکول جائے، اور اس کے لیے انہیں حکومت کی حمایت اور فنڈنگ کی اشد ضرورت ہے۔

اسلام آباد (نوائے وقت رپورٹ) آج یکم مارچ سے پٹرولیم مصنوعات کی قیمتوں سے متعلق نوٹیفکیشن جاری کر دیا گیا۔ اگر نوٹیفکیشن کے مطابق پٹرولیم مصنوعات کی قیمتیں برقرار رکھی گئی ہیں۔

پٹرولیم مصنوعات کی قیمتیں برقرار رکھنے کا نوٹیفکیشن جاری

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

01 مارچ 2015

ڈیرہ بگٹی: نامعلوم افراد نے آٹھ انچ قطر کی گیس پائپ لائن دھماکے سے اڑا دی

روزنامہ دنیا

01 مارچ 2015

پاور سیکٹر کیلئے 40 ارب قرض کی گارنٹی منظور: یوٹیلیٹی سٹورز کو چینی پر سبسڈی نہیں دیگے: اسحاق ڈار

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

01 مارچ 2015

ڈیرہ بگٹی (دنیا نیوز) ڈیرہ بگٹی اور پیر کوہ میں نامعلوم افراد نے گیس پلانٹ کو جانے والی دو پائپ لائنوں کو دھماکہ خیز مواد سے اڑا دیا۔ ڈیرہ بگٹی اور پیر کوہ میں گیس پائپ لائن کو دھماکے سے اڑا دیا گیا۔ لیویز ذرائع کے مطابق ڈیرہ بگٹی اور پیر کوہ کے علاقے میں نامعلوم شریکین نے آٹھ، آٹھ انچ قطر کی دو پائپ لائنوں کو دھماکہ خیز مواد سے اڑا دیا۔ دونوں پائپ لائنوں کو دس منٹ کے وقفے سے اڑا دیا گیا جس سے گیس پلانٹ کو گیس کی سپلائی معطل ہو گئی۔ دھماکے کے بعد لیویز اور ایف سی کے اہلکاروں نے علاقے کو گھیرے میں لے لیا۔ گزشتہ روز بھی پیر کوہ میں گیس پائپ لائن کو اڑانے کے لیے دھماکہ خیز مواد نصب کیا گیا تھا جسے ایف سی نے ناکارہ بنا دیا۔

اسلام آباد (نمائندہ خصوصی) اقتصادی رابطہ کمیٹی نے پاکستان سٹیل ملز کے ملازمین کیلئے 2 ماہ کی تنخواہ بھگائی بنیادوں پر جاری کرنے کی منظوری دیتے ہوئے ایک خصوصی کمشن تشکیل دیا ہے جو ملز کے معاملات کا جائزہ لے گی۔ کمیٹی میں سیکرٹری فنانس، چیئر مین نجکاری کمشن، سیکرٹری صنعت شامل ہوں گے جبکہ ای سی پی کے چیئر مین کمیٹی کے سربراہ ہوں گے۔ ای سی سی نے نجکاری کمشن کو ہدایت کی آئندہ اجلاس میں پاکستان سٹیل ملز کی تشکیل نو کیلئے تجویز پیش کرے۔ ای سی سی کا اجلاس وزیر خزانہ سینیٹر اسحاق ڈار کی صدارت میں ہوا۔ پاکستان سٹیل ملز کے چیئر مین نے ملز کی صورتحال کے بارے میں بتایا اور کہا کہ گیس اور بجلی کی کمی کی وجہ سے پیداوار میں مشکلات ہیں۔ انہوں نے ملازمین کی تنخواہوں کے لئے رقم جاری کرنے کی درخواست کی اور کہا کہ مارچ میں سٹیل ملز کی پیداواری صلاحیت کو 70 فیصد پر لایا جائیگا۔ وزارت تجارت کی تجویز پر ٹی سی پی کے پاس موجود 28 ہزار 999 میٹرک ٹن چینی یوٹیلیٹی سٹورز کو فروخت کرنے کی منظوری دیدی گئی۔ وزیر خزانہ نے کہا ہے کہ یوٹیلیٹی سٹورز مناسب نرخ پر چینی فروخت کرے تاہم کوئی سبسڈی نہیں دی جائیگی۔ وزیر خزانہ نے ہدایت کی کہ ملک کے اندر چینی اور گندم کی طلب و رسد پر نظر رکھی جائے۔ وزارت پانی و بجلی کے تجویز پر پاور سیکٹر کے 40 ارب روپے کی ”سادرن گارنٹی“ دینے کی بھی منظوری دیدی۔ اجلاس میں ایس این جی بی ایل کیلئے مزید 12 ایم ایم وی ایف ڈی گیس مختص کرنے کی منظوری دیدی۔ یہ گیس میانوائٹ گیس فیلڈ سے سوئی نادرن کو دی جائیگی جو بعد ازاں ایس این جی بی ایل کو دیگی۔ اینگرو فریلاز کو 3 ایم ایم سی ایف ڈی گیس دینے کی منظوری بھی دیدی گئی۔ اجلاس میں جانٹ سیکرٹری (کمیٹی) ثناء اللہ کیلئے تعریفی قرارداد بھی منظوری کی گئی۔

لاہور (خصوصی رپورٹر) وزیر اعلیٰ شہباز شریف کی زیر صدارت توانائی کے منصوبوں پر پیش رفت کا جائزہ لینے سے متعلق اجلاس میں وفاقی وزیر پانی و بجلی خواجہ محمد آصف اور وزیر پٹرولیم شاہد خاقان عباسی نے خصوصی شرکت کی۔ اجلاس میں توانائی کے منصوبوں کی جلد تکمیل کیلئے تمام ضروری اقدامات پر تیز رفتاری سے پیش رفت پر اتفاق کیا گیا۔ شہباز شریف نے کہا کہ توانائی بحران میں کیلئے ہر ممکن اقدامات اٹھائے جا رہے ہیں۔ پنجاب میں روایتی ذرائع کے ساتھ قابل تجدید ذرائع سے توانائی کے منصوبے لگائے جا رہے ہیں۔ پنجاب حکومت نے شیخوپورہ کے نزدیک ایل این جی پاور پلانٹ لگانے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے۔ اس پلانٹ سے ایک ہزار میگا واٹ سے زائد بجلی پیدا ہوگی۔ وفاقی کابینہ پنجاب میں 3 مختلف مقامات پر ایل این جی سے توانائی کے منصوبے لگانے کی منظوری دے چکی ہے جن سے مجموعی طور پر 3600 میگا واٹ بجلی پیدا ہوگی تو بحران میں کیلا کر عوام کو ریلیف فراہم کریں گے۔ قائد اعظم سولر پارک بہاولپور میں سو میگا واٹ کا سولر منصوبہ 6 ماہ کی ریکارڈ مدت میں مکمل کیا گیا ہے۔ علاوہ ازیں توانائی کے منصوبوں میں پیشرفت سے متعلق اجلاس میں شہباز شریف نے کہا ہے کہ ملک کی تیز رفتاری سے ترقی کیلئے توانائی بحران کا خاتمہ ہمارا عزم اور توانائی کے منصوبوں کو برق رفتاری سے پایہ تکمیل تک پہنچانا ہمارا مشن ہے۔ توانائی بحران سے نمٹنے کیلئے سنجیدگی سے آگے بڑھ رہے ہیں۔ اجلاس میں پنجاب انرجی پراجیکٹس ڈویلپمنٹ فنڈ کے قیام کیلئے مختلف تجاویز کا جائزہ لیا گیا۔ وزیر اعلیٰ نے پنجاب اور وفاقی حکومت کے متعلقہ حکام کو ہدایت کی کہ تمام ادارے باہمی مشاورت اور مربوط کوآرڈینیشن کے تحت توانائی کے منصوبوں کو آگے بڑھائیں۔ کام، کام اور صرف کام کر کے توانائی بحران میں کمی لانا ہے۔ شہباز شریف سے چین کے توانائی کے شعبہ سے وابستہ سرمایہ کاروں کے وفد نے ملاقات کی۔ ملاقات میں پنجاب میں توانائی کے شعبہ میں سرمایہ کاری کے امکانات پر بات چیت ہوئی۔ شہباز شریف نے کہا کہ پنجاب میں توانائی کے شعبہ میں سرمایہ کاری کی بڑی گنجائش موجود ہے۔

شیخوپورہ کے نزدیک ایل این جی پاور پلانٹ لگانے کا فیصلہ، عوام کو ریلیف دیگے: شہباز شریف

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

01 مارچ 2015

پبلک سروسز

تفصیلات

سرخیاء

گلگت بلتستان، 10 ہزار بچوں کو اسکول بھیجنے کیلئے ڈھائی کروڑ روپے درکار، حکومت کا انکار

روزنامہ جنگ

01 مارچ 2015

اسلام آباد (انصار عباسی) گلگت بلتستان کے ضلع غدر میں 10 ہزار بچوں کو اسکول بھیجنے کیلئے ڈھائی کروڑ روپے درکار ہیں، تاہم حکومت ان فنڈز کو فراہم کرنے سے انکار کر رہی ہے۔ ایک جانب تو اربوں روپے ملک کے حکمران طبقے کی مراعات اور پروٹوکول پر خرچ کیے جا رہے ہیں، تو دوسری جانب حکام گلگت بلتستان کے ایک ضلع میں اسکول نہ جانے والے 10 ہزار بچوں کے چند ہفتوں میں داخلے کے لیے درکار 2 کروڑ 50 لاکھ روپے فراہم کرنے کو تیار نہیں ہے۔ گلگت بلتستان کا ایک ضلع غدر ہی ملک کا ایک ایسا علاقہ ہے، جہاں انتظامیہ کے پاس اسکول نہ جانے والے بچوں کے مکمل اعداد و شمار موجود ہیں۔ یہ اعداد و شمار ضلعی انتظامیہ نے حکومت سے اضافی فنڈنگ کے بغیر خود جمع کیے۔ گلگت بلتستان کے ضلع غدر کے ڈپٹی کمشنر رائے منظور ناصر نے دی نیوز سے ہفتے کے روز بذریعہ فون بات کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ انہوں نے گلگت بلتستان حکومت سے 2 کروڑ 50 لاکھ روپے مانگے لیکن محکمہ خزانہ نے انکی درخواست یہ کہہ کر رد کر دی کہ اس کے لیے بجٹ میں کوئی رقم مختص نہیں کی گئی تھی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ انہیں اس کے لیے آئندہ بجٹ تک انتظار کرنے کا کہا گیا ہے، انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ اگر انہیں 2 کروڑ 50 لاکھ روپے فراہم کر دیے جائیں تو وہ اس ضلع کو پورے پاکستان میں ایک ایسا مثالی صوبہ بنادیں گے، جہاں 100 فیصد بچوں کا اندراج ہوگا، اور وہ اسکول جاسکیں گے۔ رائے ناصر نے کہا کہ ان کا ضلع اسکول نہ جانے والے بچوں کے اعداد و شمار جمع کرنے والا واحد ضلع ہے، جہاں ایسے بچوں کی تعداد 10 ہزار ہے۔ گلگت بلتستان کے محکمہ خزانہ کی جانب سے بہت زیادہ حوصلہ افزاء رد عمل سامنے نہ آنے کے بعد ان کا کہنا ہے کہ انہوں نے ذاتی طور پر وفاقی وزارت تعلیم کے عہدیدار سے رابطہ کر کے اسکول نہ جانے والے بچوں کے لیے دستیاب بین الاقوامی امداد میں سے اپنے لیے درکار رقم کی فراہمی کی درخواست کی۔ رائے ناصر کا تعلق پنجاب سول سروس سے ہے جنہیں گلگت بلتستان میں تعینات کر دیا گیا ہے، ان کا کہنا ہے کہ مطلوبہ رقم کی فراہمی کے 2 ہفتے کے اندر وہ اپنے ضلع کے تمام بچوں کا اسکول میں داخلہ یقینی بنائیں گے۔ رائے انور نے بتایا کہ انہوں نے تمام والدین پر اپنے بچوں کو لازمی طور پر اسکول بھیجنے کے لیے قانون سازی کی بھی سفارش کی ہے۔ انہوں نے آئین کا حوالہ دیتے ہوئے کہا کہ 5 سے 16 سال تک کے تمام بچوں کو مفت اور لازمی تعلیم کی فراہمی ریاست کی ذمہ داری ہے۔ افسوس کی بات ہے کہ پاکستان میں کسی حکومت نے بچوں کے اسکولوں میں 100 فیصد داخلے کا ہدف حاصل کرنے کے لیے مطلوبہ کوششیں نہیں کیں۔ حتیٰ کہ تمام حکومتوں نے اس ضمن میں درکار قانون سازی بھی نہیں کی۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ اس کے نتیجے میں آج بھی پاکستان میں 2 کروڑ 50 لاکھ بچے اسکول نہیں جاتے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ جولائی 2014 میں گلگت بلتستان کے ضلع غدر میں بطور ڈپٹی کمشنر تعیناتی کے بعد انہوں نے محکمہ تعلیم غدر سے اسکول نہ جانے والے بچوں کے اعداد و شمار حاصل کیے۔ محکمہ تعلیم کے اعداد و شمار کے مطابق ایسے بچوں کی تعداد 2431 تھی۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ بعد ازاں انہوں نے ان اعداد و شمار کی تصدیق کے لیے اپنے دفتر میں ایک ایجوکیشن سیل قائم کیا۔ مختلف ذرائع سے اعداد و شمار کی تصدیق کے دوران (4 سے 12) اعداد و شمار میں ناقابل یقین تضادات سامنے آئے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ 'مطلوبہ تفصیلات اور باوثوق اعداد و شمار کے حصول کے لیے مختلف ٹیمیں گھر گھر گئیں، اب ہم پورے ضلع میں 5 سے 16 سال تک کی عمر کے اسکول نہ جانے والے ہر بچے یا بچی کے نام، عمریں، والد کے نام، مکمل پتے اور اسکی وجوہات (غربت، والد کے گھر پر اسکول، اساتذہ کی سختی، اساتذہ کی عدم دستیابی، طبی یا ذہنی معذوری وغیرہ) سے آگاہ ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ حتیٰ اعداد و شمار کے مطابق ضلع غدر میں 5 سے 16 سال تک کی عمر کے اسکول نہ جانے والے بچوں کی تعداد 10 ہزار سے زائد ہے۔ غدر پاکستان کا واحد صوبہ ہے جس کے پاس اسکول نہ جانے والے بچوں کے درست اور قابل بھروسہ کوائف موجود ہیں، جن کے حصول کے لیے سرکاری خزانے سے ایک پیسہ بھی نہیں لیا گیا۔ انہوں نے افسوس کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ 'میں والدین پر بچوں کو اسکول بھیجنے کے لیے زور دیتا ہوں لیکن ان میں سے زیادہ تر والدین مجھ سے کہتے ہیں کہ ان کے پاس کتابیں، اسکول کے بستے اور جوتے وغیرہ خریدنے کے پیسے نہیں ہیں۔ حالانکہ میری کوششوں سے 876 بچے اسکولوں میں داخل ہو چکے ہیں لیکن اب بھی ان میں سے اکثر بچے غربت کے باعث اسکول نہیں جاتے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ان کے پاس اس منصوبے کے لیے فنڈز نہیں ہیں، ان کے پاس اعداد و شمار جمع کرنے کے لیے بھی پیسے نہیں تھے، لیکن وہ ذاتی طور پر 1 لاکھ روپے اور ایک این جی او کی جانب سے 2 لاکھ روپے کے عطیے سے یہ کام سرانجام دیا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ جس ضلع کی انتظام کاری وہ انجام دے رہے ہیں وہ غریب ضلع ہے اور اس میں صنعتیں نہ ہونے کے باعث مقامی افراد سے وہ عطیات جمع نہیں کر سکتے۔ انہوں نے غدر میں اسکول نہ جانے والے بچوں کو اسکول بھیجنے کے لیے 2 کروڑ 50 لاکھ روپے کی درخواست کی، انہوں نے کہا کہ وہ رقم سے بچوں کے پہلے روز اسکول جانے کے لیے کتابیں، یونیفارم، اسکول کے بستے، جوتے وغیرہ خریدنا چاہتے ہیں۔ اگر یہ رقم فراہم کر دی جائے تو بچوں کو 2 ہفتے کے اندر اسکول میں داخل کرایا جاسکتا ہے۔ ایک سوال کے جواب میں انہوں نے کہا کہ ضلعی اسکولوں میں جگہ کی کمی کے مسئلہ کو عارضی انتظامات کے ذریعے حل کیا جاسکتا ہے،

صرف بھارت کے پسندیدہ موضوعات پر غور ہو۔ پاکستان بات چیت کے روایتی موضوعات کے علاوہ ملک کے اندر ہونے والی دہشت گردی میں بھارت کے ملوث ہونے، پاکستان کے داخلی امور میں بھارت کی مداخلت، سانحہ سمجھوتہ ایکسپریس کی تحقیقات کی تکمیل اور اس میں ملوث ملزموں کو سزائیں دلانے کے معاملات اٹھائے گا، یہ بھی غور کیا جا رہا ہے کہ دہشت گردوں، بطور خاص کالعدم تحریک طالبان پاکستان کو بھارت سے ملنے والی مدد کے جو شواہد امریکہ اور دوست ملکوں سے شیئر کئے گئے ہیں وہ بھارت کے حوالے بھی کئے جائیں، بھارت سے مطالبہ کیا جائے گا کہ وہ دہشت گردوں کی سرپرستی اور مدد روک دے۔ ملاقات میں دونوں ملکوں کے درمیان مذاکراتی عمل کی بحالی، مذاکراتی کیلنڈر کی تیاری، مسئلہ کشمیر کے حل، آبی تنازعات، انسداد دہشت گردی کے موضوعات پر بھی بات ہوگی۔

کابل (آئی این پی): افغانستان میں نیٹو فورسز کے فضائی حملے اور نیشنل سیکورٹی فورسز کے آپریشن میں 4 پاکستانی طالبان سمیت 24 عسکریت پسند ہلاک اور 17 زخمی ہو گئے جبکہ 7 کو گرفتار کر لیا گیا۔ اتوار کو افغان میڈیا کے مطابق صوبہ نورستان میں نیٹو فورسز کے فضائی حملے میں 4 پاکستانی طالبان ہلاک ہو گئے۔ نیٹو فورسز کے طیاروں نے ضلع کادش کے بازار کے مضافات میں عسکریت پسندوں کے خفیہ ٹھکانوں کو نشانہ بنایا۔ افغان سرحدی پولیس کے ایک کمانڈر نے بتایا کہ طیاروں نے عسکریت پسندوں کو اس وقت نشانہ بنایا جب وہ دہشتگرد حملوں کی منصوبہ بندی کر رہے تھے، فضائی حملے میں شہریوں کا کوئی جانی نقصان نہیں ہوا۔ ادھر افغان وزارت داخلہ کی طرف سے جاری بیان میں کہا گیا ہے کہ گزشتہ 24 گھنٹوں میں افغان نیشنل سیکورٹی فورسز کے آپریشن میں 20 طالبان جنگجو ہلاک اور 2 زخمی ہو گئے جبکہ سات کو گرفتار کر لیا گیا۔ آپریشن صوبہ کنڑ، تخار، قندوز، بدخشان، سرانے پل، لوگر، پکتیا اور بلخ میں کیا گیا جبکہ افغان نیشنل پولیس نے گزشتہ 24 گھنٹوں میں ہی صوبہ کنڑ، قندھار، ارزگان، غزنی اور خوست میں آپریشن کے دوران 12 دیہی ساختہ بم ڈیو انسز برآمد کر کے ناکارہ بنادیں۔ وزارت داخلہ نے آپریشن کے دوران جانی نقصان کے بارے میں کوئی معلومات فراہم نہیں کیں۔

لاہور (خبرنگار): پیپلز پارٹی کے رہنما محمد اشرف بھٹی نے کہا ہے کہ دہشت گرد خود کش حملے کر کے جبکہ حکمران غریب کش اقدامات سے اپنے اپنے ایجنڈے پر کام کر رہے ہیں۔ ہمارا ملک اور ہمارے عوام حالت جنگ میں جبکہ حکمران مدہوش ہیں۔ برسرِ اقتدار بحران لیگ نے معیشت اور صنعت کا بھرکس بنادیا۔ سیاسی اور معاشی پنڈت آئیو اے دنوں میں بجلی اور گیس بحران میں مزید شدت آنے کا عندیہ دے رہے ہیں۔

افغانستان: نیٹو کی بمباری، فورسز کا آپریشن چار مہینہ پاکستانیوں سمیت چوبیس طالبان ہلاک سترہ زخمی

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

23 فروری 2015

دہشتگرد اور حکمران غریب کش ایجنڈے پر کام کر رہے ہیں: اشرف بھٹی

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

23 فروری 2015

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

25 فروری 2015

دوران سابق وفاقی وزیر داخلہ آفتاب شیرپاؤ اور سابق صوبائی وزیر داخلہ شعیب نوشیروانی عدالت میں پیش ہوئے تاہم سابق صدر پرویز مشرف ایک مرتبہ پھر عدالت میں حاضر نہیں ہوئے۔ سماعت کے دوران ڈی جی صحت بلوچستان ڈاکٹر فاروق اعظم نے عدالت کو بتایا کہ پرویز مشرف کے طبی معائنے کے لئے میڈیکل بورڈ تشکیل دے دیا گیا ہے۔ پرویز مشرف کے وکیل اختر شاہ نے اپنے موکل کی عدالت میں حاضری سے استثنیٰ کی درخواست کی، درخواست پر عدالت نے سابق صدر کے وکیل سے استفسار کیا کہ وہ اپنے موکل کو عدالت میں کب پیش کریں گے۔ جس پر اختر شاہ ایڈووکیٹ نے جواب دیا کہ میڈیکل بورڈ کی رپورٹ کی روشنی میں عدالت کے حکم پر ان کے موکل پیش ہو جائیں گے۔ اس موقع پر انہوں نے عدالت سے اپیل کی کہ پرویز مشرف کو میڈیکل بورڈ کے سامنے پیش ہونے کے لئے سیکورٹی فراہم کی جائے، عدالت نے پرویز مشرف کو حاضری سے ایک روز کا استثنیٰ دیتے ہوئے سندھ حکومت کو انہیں میڈیکل بورڈ کے سامنے پیش ہونے کے لئے سیکورٹی فراہم کرنے کا حکم دے دیا۔

لاہور: وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب شہباز شریف نے دہشت گردی کے خدشے کے پیش نظر صوبے کے تمام داخلی اور خارجی راستوں پر سیکورٹی بڑھانے کا حکم دے دیا ہے۔ لاہور میں وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب کی سربراہی میں اعلیٰ سطح کا اجلاس ہوا جس میں امن و امان کی صورت حال اور دہشت گردی سے نمٹنے کے لئے صوبائی حکومت کی جانب سے اٹھائے گئے اقدامات کا جائزہ لیا گیا۔ اجلاس میں صوبائی وزیر داخلہ، آئی جی پنجاب اور دیگر متعلقہ اعلیٰ حکام نے شرکت کی۔ اجلاس کے دوران وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب کا کہنا تھا کہ عوام کے جان و مال کا تحفظ ریاست کی ذمہ داری ہے۔ صوبائی حکومت امن و امان کی صورت حال کو بہتر بنانے کے لئے ہر ممکن اقدامات کر رہی ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پولیس عوام کی جان و مال کے تحفظ کی ذمہ داری کو پورا کرے، انہوں نے متعلقہ حکام کو ہدایت کی کہ صوبے کے تمام داخلی اور خارجی راستوں پر سیکورٹی بڑھادی جائے۔

اسلام آباد: وزیر اعظم نواز شریف نے صوبوں پر زور دیتے ہوئے نیشنل ایکشن پلان پر عملدرآمد کو تیز بنانے کی ہدایت کی ہے۔ سرکاری خبر رساں ادارے کے مطابق وزیر اعظم نواز شریف کی زیر صدارت وفاقی کابینہ کا اجلاس ہوا جس میں اقتصادی اور امن و امان کی مجموعی صورت حال سمیت دہشت گردی کے تذکرے کے لیے بنائے جانے والے نیشنل ایکشن پلان پر عملدرآمد کا بھی جائزہ لیا گیا جب کہ اس موقع پر ملک میں بجلی اور گیس کے نئے منصوبے بھی زیر غور آئے۔ دوسری جانب وزیر اعظم نواز شریف کی سربراہی میں قومی نیشنل ایکشن پلان سے متعلق اعلیٰ سطح کا اجلاس ہوا جس میں وزیر اعظم نے ایکشن پلان پر عملدرآمد کے لیے پنجاب حکومت کی اقدامات کی تعریف کی جب کہ اس موقع پر انہوں نے دیگر صوبوں پر بھی زور دیتے ہوئے کہا کہ وہ دہشت گردی کے خاتمے کے لیے قومی نیشنل ایکشن پلان پر عملدرآمد تیز کریں۔

راولپنڈی (نمائندہ جنگ): پنجاب حکومت نے میڈیا ہائوسز کو دہشت گردی کے خطرے کے پیش نظر ایمر جنسی موبائل بٹن کے دائرے میں لانے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے۔ اس مقصد کیلئے میڈیا ہائوسز کو ایمر جنسی کی صورت حال میں مخصوص طریقے سے 55 کے ہندسے ڈائل کرنے کی سہولت دی جائے گی۔ 124 میڈیا ہائوسز کی سیکورٹی کے انتظامات کا جائزہ لینے کیلئے ایک اعلیٰ سطح کا اجلاس انٹرنل سیکورٹی کے حکام کی زیر صدارت ہوا ہے۔ جس کے بعد تمام اضلاع کو خصوصی ہدایت جاری کی گئی ہیں۔ جن میں کہا گیا ہے کہ تمام ضلعی حکومتیں اپنے علاقوں میں واقع میڈیا ہائوسز کی سیکورٹی برائے دو بارہ سرکینگ کر لیں۔ میڈیا کے دفاتر میں ایمر جنسی نمبرز خاص طور پر متعلقہ ایس ایچ او، سول ڈیفنس، فائر بریگیڈ اور دیگر محکموں کے ٹیلی فون نمایاں طور پر لگے ہونے چاہئیں۔ اس سلسلے میں متعلقہ اضلاع اپنے طور پر اجلاس منعقد کریں اور حفاظتی انتظامات کو یقینی بنائیں۔

لاہور (ایجنسیاں): وزیر اعظم محمد نواز شریف نے وفاقی کابینہ کا اہم اجلاس آج طلب کر لیا۔ اجلاس میں آپریشن ضرب عضب اور نیشنل ایکشن پلان پر عملدرآمد کی رپورٹ بھی پیش کی جائیگی۔ حکومتی ترجمان کے مطابق وزیر اعظم کی زیر صدارت ہونے والے کابینہ کے اہم اجلاس میں امن و امان کی مجموعی صورت حال کا جائزہ اور توانائی کے منصوبوں پر پیشرفت پر بھی غور کیا جائیگا۔ اس کے علاوہ کابینہ اجلاس میں اقتصادی صورت حال پر بریفنگ دی جائیگی۔

اسلام آباد (سمیل عبدالناصر): بھارت نے پاکستان کے ساتھ دو طرفہ مذاکرات کی ہیئت اور ساخت تبدیل کرنے کی خواہش کا اظہار کیا ہے تاکہ یہ مذاکرات جامع ہوں اور نہ ہی مربوط۔ بی جے پی سیاسی فائدہ اٹھانا چاہتی ہے اور اس امر کی بھی خواہاں ہے کہ بات چیت کے دوران کشمیر جیسے دیرینہ مسائل کی مرکزی اہمیت کم کی جائے۔ بھارتی سیکرٹری خارجہ کے مجوزہ دورہ پاکستان کے بعد ہی مذاکرات کے بارے میں بھارتی حکمت عملی کے اصلی خدوخال سامنے آئیں گے جس کے بعد پاکستان موقف واضح کرے گا۔ پاکستان اور بھارت کے درمیان تازہ روابط سے آگاہ ایک شخصیت کے مطابق پاکستان محض بامقصد، بامعنی اور پائیدار مذاکراتی عمل کا متمنی ہے چاہے اس مذاکراتی عمل کا نام کچھ بھی رکھا جائے۔ جہاں تک کشمیر اور آبی تنازعات کو پس پشت ڈالنے کی بھارتی کوشش کا تعلق ہے تو ایسی کوئی بھی کوشش کامیاب نہیں ہو سکتی۔ مسئلہ کشمیر حل ہونے کی صورت میں دونوں ملکوں کے درمیان اکثر دو طرفہ تنازعات کا خود بخود خاتمہ ہو جائے گا۔ اس ذریعہ کے مطابق دونوں ملک سفارتی ذرائع سے رابطے میں ہیں، بھارتی خارجہ سیکرٹری کے دورہ پاکستان کی تاریخوں کا جلد تعین ہو جائے گا۔ پاکستان ایجنڈا کو بھارت کا غیر غماں نہیں بننے دے گا، ایسا نہیں کہ بات چیت میں

وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب کا صوبے کے داخلی اور خارجی راستوں پر سیکورٹی بڑھانے کا حکم

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

24 فروری 2015

صوبے نیشنل ایکشن پلان پر عملدرآمد تیز کریں، وزیر اعظم نواز شریف

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

23 فروری 2015

دہشت گردی کا خطرہ، پنجاب حکومت کا میڈیا ہائوسز کو ایمر جنسی موبائل بٹن کے دائرے میں لانے کا فیصلہ

روزنامہ جنگ

23 فروری 2015

نیشنل ایکشن پلان کا جائزہ وفاقی کابینہ کا اجلاس آج ہو گا

روزنامہ جنگ

23 فروری 2015

خارجہ سیکرٹری مذاکرات: پاکستان دہشت گردوں کو بھارت سے ملنے والی مدد کے ثبوت دے گا

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

23 فروری 2015

سیکیورٹی اور سیکورٹی

تفصیلات

جنوبی وزیرستان (آئل): جنوبی وزیرستان میں آپریشن راہ نجات کے متاثرین کی واپسی کا اعلان کر دیا گیا۔ واپسی کا عمل 16 مارچ سے شروع کیا جائے گا۔ واپسی کیلئے 8 مارچ سے پولیٹیکل کمپاؤنڈ جنوبی وزیرستان ٹانک میں رجسٹریشن شروع کی جائیگی جو 11 مارچ تک جاری رہے گی۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار جنوبی وزیرستان کے پولیٹیکل آفیسر نواب خان صافی نے پولیٹیکل کمپاؤنڈ جنوبی وزیرستان ٹانک میں منعقدہ محسود قبائل کے جرگہ سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کیا۔

پاکستان کے صوبہ بلوچستان کے دارالحکومت کوئٹہ کے قریب سیکورٹی فورسز نے ایک سرچ آپریشن میں کالعدم تنظیم کے کمانڈر کو گرفتار کرنے کا دعویٰ کیا ہے۔ سیکورٹی فورسز کے مطابق سینچر کو سرچ آپریشن کوئٹہ شہر کے قریب لک پاس کے علاقے میں کیا گیا۔ حکام کے مطابق ایک شخص کو گرفتار کرنے کے علاوہ دھاکہ خیز مواد بھی برآمد کیا گیا ہے۔ حکام کے مطابق گرفتار ہونے کا شخص کالعدم شدت پسند تنظیم جند اللہ کا کمانڈر ہے جو کہ مبینہ طور پر ایران میں شدت پسندی کے واقعات میں ملوث ہے۔

محکمہ داخلہ حکومت بلوچستان کے ایک سینئر افسر نے آپریشن میں اس علاقے سے ایک شخص کی گرفتاری کی تصدیق کی تاہم انہوں نے بتایا کہ تاحال وہ اس بات کی تصدیق نہیں کر سکتے کہ گرفتار شخص کا تعلق کس کالعدم تنظیم سے ہے۔ کوئٹہ میں ہی چند دن پہلے سرچ آپریشن کے دوران کالعدم تنظیم کے اہم کمانڈر عثمان عرف سیف اللہ سمیت دو افراد ہلاک ہو گئے تھے۔ حکام کے مطابق شدت پسند عثمان پر کوئٹہ اور بلوچستان کے دیگر علاقوں میں فرقہ وارانہ قتل اور اقدام قتل کے درجنوں مقدمات درج تھے۔

بلوچستان میں شدت پسندی کے واقعات کئی سالوں سے جاری ہیں اور ان میں شیعہ ہزارہ برادری کو متعدد بار نشانہ بنایا گیا ہے۔ گزشتہ ماہ جنوری میں سندھ کے شہر شکارپور کی امام بارگاہ میں خودکش بم حملے کی ذمہ داری شدت پسند تنظیم جند اللہ نے قبول کرنے کا اعلان کیا تھا تاہم حکام کی جانب سے بم حملے میں شدت پسند تنظیم لشکر جھنگوی کے ملوث ہونے کا شبہ ظاہر کیا جا رہا ہے۔ دونوں تنظیمیں پاکستان میں شیعہ برادری کو متعدد بار نشانہ بنانے کی ہیں۔

سکھر: ڈرون ٹیکنالوجی کا استعمال دور جدید کی ضرورت بنتا جا رہا ہے اور پاکستان میں میڈیا ہاؤسز جلے جلوسوں کی کوریج کے لیے اس سے استفادہ کرتے ہیں لیکن اب سندھ میں پولیس ڈاکوؤں کو پکڑنے کے لیے ڈرون ٹیکنالوجی سے مدد حاصل کرے گی۔ برطانوی نشریاتی ادارے کو دیئے گئے انٹرویو میں ایس پی سکھر تنویر حسین تنیو کا کہنا تھا کہ ان کی حدود میں زیادہ تر کارروائیاں کچے علاقے میں کی جاتی ہیں جہاں ڈاکوؤں نے اپنی محفوظ پناہ گاہیں بنا رکھی ہیں اور پولیس کی ان مقامات تک رسائی کے وقت فائرنگ کا سلسلہ شروع ہو جاتا ہے جس سے فائرنگ کی سمت کا اندازہ لگانا بھی مشکل ہوتا ہے اور ایسے میں ڈرون ٹیکنالوجی سمیت کے تعین میں کافی مددگار ثابت ہو سکتی ہے۔ ایس ایس پی نے کہا کہ ہدف کی نشاندہی کے لیے ڈرون سب سے بہترین ٹیکنالوجی ہے اس کی مدد سے ڈاکوؤں کے فرار کو ناصرف ممکن بنایا جاسکتا ہے بلکہ غیر ضروری نقصان سے بھی بچا جاسکتا ہے جب کہ اس دوران ڈرون کیمرے کو فائرنگ سے بھی محفوظ رکھنا ضروری ہو گا۔ ایس ایس پی تنویر حسین کا کہنا تھا کہ پولیس نے اپنے تحت ڈرونز کی خریداری کی ہے اور ان کے استعمال اور نگرانی کے لیے ایک خصوصی گاڑی بھی تیار کرائی جا رہی ہے۔

لاہور: عدالت نے 10 افراد کے قتل میں ملوث 4 دہشت گردوں کو سزائے موت کا حکم سنایا۔ ایکسپریس نیوز کے مطابق انسداد دہشت گردی کی خصوصی عدالت نے جیل وارڈنز قتل کیس میں 4 دہشت گردوں کو سزائے موت کا حکم سنایا ہے۔ سزائے موت پانے والے مجرموں کا تعلق کالعدم تحریک طالبان پنجاب سے ہے جنہوں نے سال 2009 میں اچھرہ کے رسول پارک سمن آباد میں زیر تربیت جیل وارڈنز پر حملہ کیا تھا جس کے نتیجے میں 10 وارڈنز جاں بحق اور 28 زخمی ہو گئے تھے۔ انسداد دہشت گردی کی خصوصی عدالت نے قتل میں ملوث چاروں مجرموں کو 21، 21، 21 بار سزائے موت کا حکم سنایا ہے۔

کوئٹہ: انسداد دہشت گردی کی خصوصی عدالت نے پرویز مشرف کو میڈیکل بورڈ کے سامنے پیش ہونے کے لئے سندھ حکومت کو سیکورٹی فراہم کرنے کا حکم دے دیا۔ کوئٹہ میں انسداد دہشت گردی کی عدالت کے جج آفتاب احمد لون نے نواب اکبر بگٹی قتل کیس کی سماعت کی، سماعت کے

سرخیال

جنوبی وزیرستان: آپریشن راہ نجات کے متاثرین کی واپسی 16 مارچ سے شروع کر دیا اعلان

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

01 مارچ 2015

کوئٹہ: سرچ آپریشن میں شدت پسند کمانڈر گرفتار

جی پی سی اردو

28 فروری 2015

سندھ پولیس ڈاکوؤں کو پکڑنے کے لیے اب ڈرون ٹیکنالوجی کا استعمال کرے گی

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

27 فروری 2015

عدالت کا 4 دہشت گردوں کو 21، 21 بار سزائے موت کا حکم

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

25 فروری 2015

سندھ حکومت پرویز مشرف کو سیکورٹی فراہم کرے، عدالت کا حکم

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

27 فروری 2015

ملک میں متوازن غذا کی قلت، بچوں کی شرح اموات میں اضافہ ہو گیا: وائس چانسلر

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

24 فروری 2015

ملتان (نمائندہ روزنامہ نوائے وقت): ملک میں متوازن غذا کی قلت خطرناک حد تک بڑھ چکی ہے، جس کے باعث بچوں کی شرح اموات میں اضافہ ہو رہا ہے۔ فوڈ کانفرنس جنوبی ایشیا میں غذائی بحران کے حل میں معاون ثابت ہو گی۔ ان خیالات کا اظہار بہاء الدین زکریا یونیورسٹی کے وائس چانسلر پروفیسر ڈاکٹر خواجہ علقمہ نے زکریا یونیورسٹی ملتان کے شعبہ فوڈ سائنس و ٹیکنالوجی، دوآبہ فاؤنڈیشن انڈس کنسورشیئم، آکسفیم ڈیولوپمنٹ اینڈ ایجوکیشن کے اشتراک سے جنوبی ایشیا میں غذائی بحران کے حل کے لئے منعقدہ روزانہ انٹرنیشنل کانفرنس فوڈ ایکسیو کے افتتاحی سیشن سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کیا۔ ڈاکٹر خواجہ علقمہ نے کہا کہ ہمارے ملک میں اس وقت متوازن غذا کی قلت خطرناک حد تک بڑھ چکی ہے جس کی موجودہ مثال تھر (سندھ) میں ہونے والی نومولود بچوں کی شرح اموات ہے۔ زراعت کی ترقی ہی میں ہمارا حقیقی راز ہے۔ زراعت پاکستانی معیشت میں ریڑھ کی ہڈی کی حیثیت رکھتی ہے۔ وقت آگیا ہے کہ اہل دانش اپنی علمی اور تحقیقی سرگرمیوں کو باہم مربوط کر کے مسائل کے حل کے لئے درست فکری سمت کا تعین کریں۔ چیئرمین پاکستان سائنس فاؤنڈیشن چوہدری محمد اشرف نے کہا کہ غذا، قلت ایک بڑا مسئلہ ہے جس کے حل کے لئے یہ کانفرنس کارآمد ثابت ہو گی، صحت بخش خوراک ہر بچے کا حق ہے مگر جنوبی ایشیا کا پورا خطہ غذائی بحران کا شکار ہے۔ کانفرنس کے چیف آگنائزر ڈاکٹر سعید اختر نے کہا کہ جنوبی ایشیا کے بہت سے ممالک غذائی قلت کا شکار ہیں، جن میں بنگلہ دیش، پاکستان، انڈیا، نیپال شامل ہیں۔ جنوبی پنجاب کے دیہی علاقوں میں صنفی امتیازی سلوک کا رجحان بہت زیادہ ہے اس لئے غذائی قلت اور تدارک بارے انٹرنیشنل کانفرنس تاریخی اہمیت کی حامل ہے اس موقع پر ایڈیوٹیو سٹی راولپنڈی کے پروفیسر ڈاکٹر انوار احمد نے کہا کہ متوازن غذا نہ ہونے کی وجہ سے لوگوں میں آئرن، زنک اور آئیوڈین کی کمی واقع ہو رہی ہے، جس کی وجہ سے خواتین میں لہمیائی بیماری میں اضافہ ہو رہا ہے آئرن کی کمی سے نوزائیدہ بچوں کا قد چھوٹا رہ جاتا ہے انہوں نے کہا کہ ملک میں پیدا ہونے والی خوردنی اجناس میں آئرن کی کمی زیادہ ریکارڈ کی جا رہی ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ خوراک کے اندرونی مائن اور نمکیات کا استعمال ضروری بنایا جائے، جبکہ متناسب خوراک کے لئے دودھ دہی لسی گوشت پھل، پانی کا روزانہ استعمال ضروری ہے۔ کانفرنس میں پرکاش چندر جوشی نیپال، محمد سراج الاسلام مولانا بنگلہ دیش، ڈاکٹر فقیر محمد جی سی یونیورسٹی فیصل آباد، جاوید اقبال، طاہرہ اعظم، دیپاشائین، پروفیسر ڈاکٹر ذوالفقار اے بھٹہ آغاز خان یونیورسٹی و شعبہ فوڈ سائنس کے طلباء و طالبات بھی موجود ہیں۔

زلزلے بھی آچکے ہیں۔

دو سال قبل بلوچستان میں 7.7 شدت کے زلزلے سے کم از کم 370 افراد ہلاک اور ہزاروں بے گھر ہو گئے تھے۔ پاکستان کی حالیہ تاریخ کا سب سے ہلاکت خیز زلزلہ آٹھ اکتوبر 2005ء میں آیا تھا جس میں 74 ہزار کے لگ بھگ افراد ہلاک اور لاکھوں بے گھر ہو گئے تھے۔ اس زلزلے کی شدت 7.6 تھی اور یہ پاکستان کے زیر انتظام کشمیر سے ملک کے شمالی علاقوں تک محسوس کیا گیا۔ اس زلزلے سے بڑے پیمانے پر بنیادی ڈھانچے کو بھی نقصان پہنچا تھا۔

کوئٹہ: محکمہ صحت کے ذرائع کے مطابق انسداد پولیو مہم کے پہلے مرحلے میں شہر کے 18 زونز میں 16 ہزار 815 بچوں کو انسداد پولیو کے قطرے پلائے گئے جبکہ دوسرا مرحلہ دو مارچ سے شروع کیا جائے گا جس میں باقی 17 زونز میں دوا کا 28 ہزار 209 بچوں کو انسداد پولیو کے قطرے پلائے جائیں گے اور یہ مہم پانچ مارچ تک جاری رہے گا۔ مقامی انتظامیہ نے دعویٰ کیا ہے کہ انسداد پولیو مہم کے دوران پولیو بیسوں کی حفاظت کے لئے سیکورٹی کے بہتر انتظامات کئے جائیں گے۔

لاہور (نیوز رپورٹر): بھارت میں پولیو کیس کے رپورٹ ہونے پر پاکستان نے پولیو کی مہم مزید موثر طریقے سے چلانے کے احکامات جاری کر دیئے ہیں۔ بین الصوبائی چیک پوائنٹس پر نگرانی تیز کرنے اور گنجان علاقوں پشتون آبادیوں اور پوش علاقوں میں پولیو مہم کو کامیاب بنانے کا کہا ہے۔ اس حوالے سے ڈائریکٹر جنرل ہیلتھ پنجاب ڈاکٹر زاہد پرویز نے روزنامہ نوائے وقت کو بتایا کہ بہتر منصوبہ بندی، موثر مہم اور چیک اینڈ بیلنس کے باعث پنجاب میں 2015ء میں کوئی بھی پولیو کیس رپورٹ نہیں ہوا جبکہ دیگر تین صوبوں میں پولیو کے 13 کیسز رپورٹ ہو چکے ہیں۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا پنجاب میں ہر ماہ ایک پولیو مہم چلائی جاتی ہے جبکہ 2015ء میں 6 پولیو مہم چلائی جا چکی ہیں۔ اس کے علاوہ مزید یہ کہ ہمارے پاس پولیو مہم کے دوران 69 ایسے واقعات رپورٹ ہوئے تھے جس میں والدین نے بچوں کو پولیو قطرے پلانے سے انکار کیا تھا مگر اب اس مہم کے ذریعے 100 فیصد ٹارگٹ پنجاب میں پورا کیا گیا ہے۔ اس کے ساتھ ساتھ بس اڈوں، بین الصوبائی راستوں، بس اڈوں، ریلوے سٹیشن اور دیگر نقل و حمل کی جگہوں پر مانیٹرنگ سخت کی جا رہی ہے۔ پنجاب میں کیس ختم ہو چکے ہیں، خیبر پٹی، سندھ اور بلوچستان کی ذمہ داری ہے کہ وہ پولیو کے خاتمے کی 100 فیصد اور اپنا حصہ ادا کریں۔ ایک کمزوری جو سامنے آرہی ہے وہ سیوریج کے سیکل میں لاہور، راولپنڈی اور اسلام آباد میں سیوریج سیکل بائو آئیو آتے ہیں اس کیلئے ہم نے یہ منصوبہ بنایا ہے کہ پختون آبادیوں میں پختون بولنے والے پختون ورکرز کو بھرتی کیا گیا ہے کہ ان آبادیوں میں جا کر پولیو مہم چلا رہی ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا مانیٹرنگیشن خیبر پٹی کے علاوہ سندھ سے بھی ہو رہی ہے اور ساری مانیٹرنگیشن پختونوں کی ہے۔

کراچی (آئی این پی): کراچی کی 49 یونین کونسلوں میں 3 روزہ انسداد پولیو مہم کا دوسرا روز، سیوریج کے سخت اقدامات کئے گئے۔ ای پی آئی کے صوبائی منیجر ڈاکٹر مظہر خیسانی کے مطابق مہم کے دوران 5 سال کے 6 لاکھ 85 ہزار بچوں کو حفاظتی قطرے پلائے جائیں گے۔

پشاور (دیپانور): خیبر پختونخوا کے علاقوں سوات اور گردونواح میں آج بھی زلزلے کے شدید جھکے محسوس کئے گئے ہیں۔ زلزلہ پیامرز کے مطابق ریکٹر سکیل پر زلزلے کی شدت 4.2 ریکارڈ کی گئی۔ زلزلے کا مرکز کوئٹہ ہندوکش تھا جبکہ اس کی گہرائی 13.6 کلومیٹر زیر زمین تھی۔ زلزلے کے جھکے اتنے شدید تھے کہ لوگ اپنے گھروں سے خوف کے مارے کلمہ طیبہ کا ورد کرتے نکل آئے۔ واضح ہے کہ گزشتہ روز بھی سوات، مینگورہ اور گردونواح میں زلزلے کے شدید جھکے محسوس کئے گئے تھے۔ زلزلہ پیامرز کے مطابق ریکٹر سکیل پر زلزلے کی شدت 5.6 ریکارڈ کی گئی تھی۔ جبکہ گزشتہ رات اسلام آباد، راولپنڈی اور خیبر پختونخوا سمیت ملک کے بالائی علاقوں میں بھی زلزلے کے جھکے محسوس کئے گئے۔ ریکٹر سکیل پر زلزلے کی شدت 5.8 ریکارڈ کی گئی۔ زلزلے کا مرکز اسلام آباد سے شمال کی جانب 92 کلومیٹر تھا۔

لاہور (خبر نگار): کمشنر لاہور ڈویژن عبداللہ خان سنبل نے کہا ہے کہ اسمال انسداد ڈیٹنگی اقدامات کے لیے نئی بھرتی اور بجٹ کے لیے سمری حکومت کو بھیج دی گئی ہے۔ انہوں نے ہدایت کی کہ پچھلے سال کے دوران اقدامات میں رہ جانے والے معمولی سے خلا کو اس سال ہر صورت پر کر کے پیشگی طور پر تمام انتظامات کیے جائیں۔ کمشنر لاہور نے کہا کہ اینڈرائیڈ فونز کی انسپکشن کا کام پی آئی ٹی کی ٹیمیں پورے ضلع لاہور کی تمام یونین کونسلوں تک مارچ تک مکمل کریں گی۔

اسلام آباد (روزنامہ نوائے وقت رپورٹر): یونیسیف کی طرف سے ٹی بی ویکسین بی سی جی کی 40 لاکھ خوراکیں منگل کی رات پاکستان پہنچیں۔ ویکسین نو مولود کو ٹی بی سے بچانے کیلئے لگائی جاتی ہے۔ صوبوں کو ہنگامی بنیادوں پر ویکسین فراہم کر دی گئی۔

ضلع کوئٹہ میں انسداد پولیو مہم کا پہلا مرحلہ مکمل ہو گیا

روزنامہ جنگ

27 فروری 2015

بھارت میں پولیو کیس سامنے آنے پر پاکستان میں مہم مزید موثر بنانے کا حکم

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

27 فروری 2015

کراچی، 49 یونین کونسلوں میں انسداد پولیو مہم کا دوسرا روز، سیوریج سخت

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

27 فروری 2015

سوات اور گردونواح میں زلزلے کے شدید جھکے، لوگوں میں خوف و ہراس

اردو ابر

27 فروری 2015

انسداد ڈیٹنگی اقدامات کیلئے نئی بھرتی اور بجٹ کیلئے سمری حکومت کو بھیج دی گئی: کمشنر لاہور

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

27 فروری 2015

یونیسیف کی طرف سے ٹی بی ویکسین کی بھاری مقدار پاکستان پہنچ گئی

قدرتی آفات

تفصیلات

تھرپارکر: تھرپارکر میں مختلف امراض اور غذائیت کی کمی کے باعث آج 5 بچے جان کی بازی ہار گئے ہیں۔ فروری میں جاں بحق بچوں کی تعداد 36 ہو گئی ہے۔ تھرپارکر میں بیماری اور غذائیت کی کمی کے باعث بچوں کی اموات کا سلسلہ نہ ختم ہو سکا ہے۔ سول اسپتال مٹھی میں غذائیت کی کمی کے باعث 5 بچے انتقال کر گئے ہیں۔ انتقال کرنے والے بچوں کی عمریں ایک دن سے تین سال کے درمیان ہیں۔ ماہ رواں کے دوران جاں بحق بچوں کی تعداد 36 ہو گئی ہے۔

کراچی: کراچی میں موسلا دھار بارش کے بعد سڑکوں پر پانی کھڑا ہو گیا۔ وزیر اطلاعات شرجیل میمن نے شہر کا ہنگامی دورہ کیا اور نکاسی آب اور امدادی کاموں کی نگرانی کی۔ کراچی میں تیز بارش کے باعث سڑکوں پر پانی جمع ہو گیا۔ سندھ کے وزیر اطلاعات کی ہدایت پر سڑکوں پر جمع پانی کو نکالنے کے لیے مشینری حرکت میں آگئی۔ وزیر اطلاعات شرجیل میمن نے شہر کا ہنگامی دورہ کیا اور نکاسی آب اور امدادی کاموں کا جائزہ لیا۔ آج نیوز سے بات کرتے ہوئے شرجیل میمن نے بتایا کہ کراچی میں جہاں جہاں پانی کھڑا ہے اسے فوری طور پر نکالنے کا کام شروع کر دیا گیا ہے۔ شرجیل انعام میمن کا کہنا تھا کہ پورے کراچی میں موجود برساتی نالوں کی صفائی کا کام بھی جاری ہے۔

کراچی: ماحول میں بڑھتی ہوئی آلودگی کے خاتمے کے لئے کراچی کے صنعتی علاقوں میں ڈبلیو ڈبلیو ایف کی جانب سے شجرکاری مہم کا آغاز کیا گیا، جس میں صنعتی ملازمین نے بھی بڑھ چڑھ کر حصہ لیا۔ کورنگی انڈسٹریل ایریا میں بڑھتی ہوئی آلودگی سے سانس کی بیماریوں میں بھی اضافہ ہو رہا ہے جس کے باعث ڈبلیو ڈبلیو ایف کی جانب سے صنعتی علاقوں میں شجرکاری مہم کا آغاز کیا گیا۔ کورنگی صنعتی علاقے میں قائم مختلف فیکٹری ملازمین نے بھی مہم میں حصہ لیتے ہوئے نیم کے پودے لگائے۔ شہر میں بڑھتی ہوئی آلودگی پر درختوں کی کٹائی کے بجائے نئے پودے لگانے سے نہ صرف ماحول کو خوبصورت بنایا جاسکتا ہے بلکہ کئی بیماریوں سے بھی بچا جاسکتا ہے۔ شہر میں بڑھتی ہوئی آلودگی کے پیش نظر شجرکاری کی یہ مہم خوش آئند ہے۔ اگر تمام شہری ماحول دوست ہونے کا ثبوت دیتے ہوئے ایک ایک پودا بھی لگائیں تو آلودگی پر قابو پایا جاسکتا ہے۔

تحصیل مٹھی: مٹھی میں غذائی کمی کے باعث مزید 5 بچے دم توڑ گئے جس کے بعد رواں ماہ ہلاکتوں کی تعداد 36 ہو گئی۔ روزنامہ ایکسپریس نیوز کے: تھرپارکر مطابق سندھ حکومت کی لاپرواہی اور عدم دلچسپی کے باعث ضلع تھرپارکر میں غذائی کمی کے باعث بچوں کی ہلاکتوں کو روکا نہ جاسکا اور مزید 5 بچے سول اسپتال مٹھی میں انتقال کر گئے۔ ضلع بھر میں رواں ماہ غذائی کمی اور مختلف بیماریوں سے ہلاک بچوں کی تعداد 36 ہو گئی۔ واضح رہے کہ گزشتہ سال تھرپارکر کی چاروں تحصیلوں مٹھی، چھاچھر، ڈیپلو اور ننگر پارکر میں سینکڑوں بچے غذائی کمی کے باعث موت کے منہ میں چلے گئے تھے اور رواں سال بھی یہ سلسلہ جاری ہے۔

کراچی: وزیر مملکت برائے صحت سائرہ افضل تارڑ نے ناقص حکمت عملی کا اعتراف کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ کراچی سمیت سندھ کے مختلف علاقوں میں، پولیو مہم مشکلات سے دوچار ہے اور سندھ حکومت کی جانب سے پولیو ریزرو کرز کو مطلوبہ سیکورٹی فراہم نہیں کی گئی۔ وزیر مملکت برائے صحت سائرہ افضل کی زیر صدارت صوبہ سندھ بالخصوص کراچی میں انسداد پولیو مہم، حفاظتی ٹیکہ جات کے پروگرام اور مختلف امور زیر بحث آئے۔ اجلاس کے بعد میڈیا سے بات کرتے ہوئے سائرہ افضل نے اعتراف کیا کہ ناقص حکمت عملی کے باعث ملینیم ڈیو پینٹ گول حاصل نہیں کر سکے، گزشتہ سال پولیو کے قطرے نہ پینے والوں کی تعداد 17 لاکھ رہی۔ سائرہ افضل کا کہنا تھا کہ کراچی کے علاقے گڈاپ، قمبر، باڑا کی تحصیل پیر اور کچے کے علاقے میں انسداد پولیو مہم مشکلات سے دوچار ہے اور صوبائی حکومت کی جانب سے پولیو ٹیموں کو مطلوبہ سیکورٹی فراہم نہیں کی جاتی ہے۔ اجلاس میں وزیر صحت سندھ جام مہتاب ڈہر اور وفاقی اور صوبائی سیکریٹریز نے شرکت کی۔

پاکستان کے شمال مغرب میں جمعہ کو علی الصبح درمیانے شدت کے زلزلے کے جھٹکے محسوس کیے گئے جن کی شدت 5.8 بتائی گئی ہے۔ پاکستانی محکمہ موسمیات کے مطابق زلزلے کا مرکز مانسہرہ سے 51 کلومیٹر دور الائے کے مقام پر تقریباً 32 کلومیٹر زیر زمین تھا۔ زلزلے کے جھٹکے خیمہ پختونخواہ کے مختلف علاقوں کے علاوہ وفاقی دارالحکومت اسلام آباد اور راولپنڈی میں بھی محسوس کیے گئے۔ سرکاری طور پر تاحال ان میں کسی جانی مالی نقصان کی اطلاع نہیں دی گئی ہے لیکن فرانسیسی خبر رساں ایجنسی "اے ایف پی" کے مطابق مانسہرہ کے قریبی ضلع بگرام میں کم از کم پانچ افراد زخمی ہوئے اور دو گھروں کو نقصان پہنچا ہے۔ پاکستان کے شمال اور جنوب مغرب میں زلزلے کوئی غیر معمولی بات نہیں لیکن حالیہ برسوں میں یہاں کئی ایک ہلاکت خیز

سُرخیاں

تھر غذائی قلت، فروری میں جاں بحق بچوں کی تعداد 36 ہو گئی

روزنامہ جنگ

28 فروری 2015

کراچی: بارش کا پانی سڑکوں پر، شرجیل میمن کا ہنگامی دورہ

اردو واہ

28 فروری 2015

ڈبلیو ڈبلیو ایف کے تحت کراچی کے صنعتی علاقوں میں شجرکاری مہم

روزنامہ جنگ

28 فروری 2015

مٹھی میں غذائی کمی کے باعث مزید 5 بچے دم توڑ گئے

روزنامہ ایکسپریس

28 فروری 2015

وزیر مملکت کا سندھ میں انسداد پولیو مہم میں ناقص حکمت عملی کا اعتراف

روزنامہ جنگ

28 فروری 2015

پاکستان میں 5.8 شدت کا زلزلہ

اردو واہ

27 فروری 2015



سُرخیاں

- 53 تھر غذائی قلت، فروری میں جان بحق بچوں کی تعداد ۳۶ ہو گئی
53 ڈبلیو ڈبلیو ایف کے تحت کراچی کے صنعتی علاقوں میں شجرکاری مہم
52 یونیسف کی طرف سے ٹی بی ویکسین کی بھاری مقدار پاکستان پہنچ گئی
50 جنوبی وزیرستان: آپریشن راہ نجات کے متاثرین کی واپسی ۱۶ مارچ سے شروع
کرنیکا فیصلہ
49 وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب کا صوبے کے داخلی اور خارجی راستوں پر سیکورٹی پڑھانے کا حکم
47 گلگت بلتستان، ۱۰ ہزار بچوں کو سکول بھیجنے کیلئے ڈھائی کروڑ روپے درکار،
حکومت کا انکار
46 پٹرولیم مصنوعات کی قیمتیں برقرار رکھنے کا نوٹیفکیشن جاری
45 سکھر: مختلف علاقوں میں ۲ سے ۱۵ مارچ تک بجلی کی فراہمی بند رہے گی
44 بولان کے قریب شریسنڈوں نے گیس پائپ لائن بارودی مواد سے تباہ کر دی

بلیٹن میں شامل

- 53-39 اردو کی خبریں
53-51 قدرتی آفات سے متعلق اردو کی خبریں
50-48 سیٹنی اور سیکورٹی سے متعلق اردو کی خبریں
47-39 پبلک سروسز سے متعلق اردو کی خبریں
31-38 نقشہ جات
2-30 انگریزی کی خبریں
2-6 قدرتی آفات سے متعلق انگریزی کی خبریں
7-13 سیٹنی اور سیکورٹی سے متعلق انگریزی کی خبریں
14-30 پبلک سروسز سے متعلق انگریزی کی خبریں

