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IN THIS BULLETIN

English News 03-27

Natural Calamities Section 03-07

Safety and Security Section 08-22

Public Services Section 23-27

Maps 28-29

Urdu News 41-30

Natural Calamities Section 41-40

Safety and Security section 39-36

Public Service Section 35-30

HIGHLIGHTS:

Water reservoirs may reach dead level in two months 03

Dense fog causes closure of motorway, delays flights 04

UNHCR supports free health services to mothers and children in Quetta 06

Pakistan 7th most 'climate change venerable country' 07

Thank you Raheel Sharif: From 3rd most dangerous city in the world, Karachi falls to 31st place in 3 years 08

Pakistan faces India sponsored terrorism: FO 09

Military courts head towards completion of term 10

Crime rate decreased significantly in 2016 15

3500 'terrorists' killed in 2016, says army report 15

US sanctions seven Pakistani entities 18

Over 450,000 fake CNICs blocked in three years: Ch Nisar 19

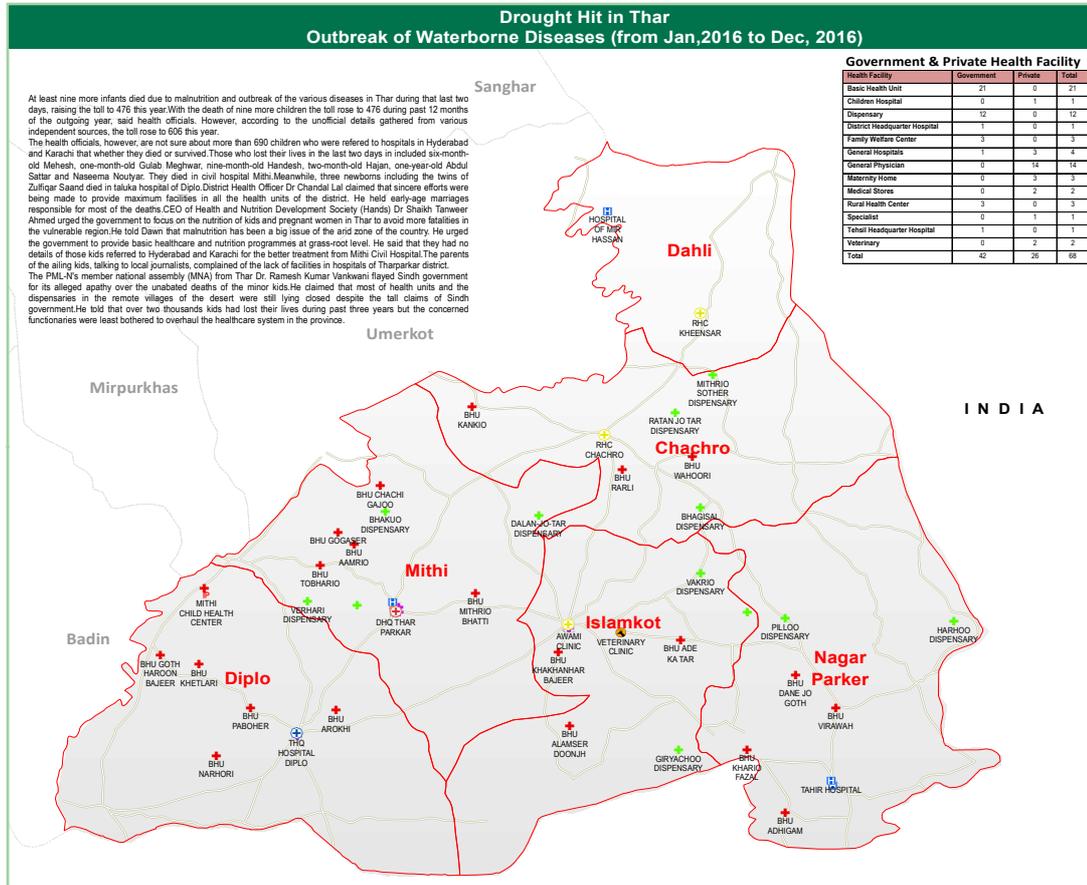
Army to facilitate local population in health, edu sectors: Brig Tahir 23

HEC decides to launch online system for degree verification 23

'WAPDA registered 5.7% rise in hydropower generation' 24

MAPS

- DROUGHT SITUATION MAP - PAKISTAN
- DROUGHT HIT IN THAR



Legend

- Basic Health Unit
- Children Hospital
- Dispensary
- District Headquarter Hospital
- Family Welfare Centre
- General Hospital
- General Physician
- Medical Stores
- Rural Health Centre
- Specialist
- Tehsil Headquarter Hospital
- Veterinary
- Road
- Tehsil Boundary

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NATURAL CALAMITIES

NEWS HEADLINES

Water reservoirs may reach dead level in two months

Daily Times, January 2, 2017

Rising death toll in Thar

Daily Times, January 2, 2017

Pakistan bore full brunt of El Niño

Express Tribune, January 2, 2017

DETAILS

ISLAMABAD: The Tarbela and Mangla dams are estimated to reach their dead level in the next two months if dry weather persists, as the water level in both the dams has dropped to 1.3 million acre hectare feet. According to sources in the Water and Power Ministry, if the rainy season does not start by February, water in dams will reach their dead level due to severe scarcity of rains. They said that water table beneath the earth was also plunging down with a great pace, and cultivation of crops in the months of March and April could also be affected by virtue of acute shortage of water in the country. Experts have also expressed fear that the country may face severe type of water disaster in the absence of new dams. Due to increasing global warming, it is anticipated that the glaciers will melt down in next two decades, and if the glaciers situated at north of Pakistan - a main source of Indus River - melts down, problem for the country will reach the point of no return. They said that instead of spending billion of rupees, including foreign grants, for reconstruction of destroyed infrastructure and rehabilitation of affected people due to floods in Pakistan almost every five years or so, the government should build big dams to cut down the potential threat of flooding.

According to the Indus River System Authority (IRSA), some 1.2 MAF of water was wasted last year due to shortage of major reservoirs. An official in the ministry, seeking anonymity, said that whenever any meeting is held to formulate water policy, a petty issue is turned into a giant question and the meeting is postponed. "As a matter of fact, the bureaucracy is the main hurdle in it," he said. "As the population of the country is constantly rising and the water crisis is deepening with the passage of every single day, the rulers of the country are yet to formulate any water policy," he regretted.

The year 2016 ended on a sad note about the plight of ill-fated children in Thar, one of the most neglected parts of Pakistan in Sindh, where death toll of infants has crossed the figure of 476 during the past 12 months of the outgoing year. Tragically, independent accounts and estimates put the toll at around 606. Reportedly, at least nine more infants died in the previous week due to malnutrition and outbreak of various diseases in Thar. The deaths are being blamed on the prevailing drought that has led to food shortage and malnutrition. Other factors include malnourishment in mothers and children, lack of immunisation and access to antenatal care and health facilities. Early-age marriages are also held responsible for most of the deaths. The most troubling aspect of this crisis is that the situation has not changed in the desert region for the last three decades. Unfortunately, Thar has the highest under five years mortality rate in Pakistan. Moreover, the lack of medical facilities and potable water have exacerbated the situation in Thar. Mainly the provincial and federal governments are held responsible for the tragedy as they have failed to take required measures to improve maternal and newborn health over the years.

It is not so that the situation of calamity-hit Thar is beyond human control. Measures can be taken to reduce the child mortality rate by initiating nutrition and awareness programmes in drought hit areas. In this regard, the concerned authorities can seek international expertise such as from World Health Organisation (WHO) to investigate the infants' deaths on scientific grounds and take measures accordingly. It has become evident that poor social conditions and lack of government interest are causing the increased mortality rate of infants. There should be proper awareness among people especially in Thar. Public as well as, the government should stand together to get rid of this issue and to save lives of the innocent ones. More official attention is needed as life in the desert is entirely dependent on seasonal rains that cause droughts and food shortage. Mainly, it is the responsibility of the Sindh government to come to the rescue of these poor souls. It is also an issue for the federal health ministry that it should wake up and fix it at the earliest. Government needs to focus on the nutrition of kids and pregnant women in Thar to avoid more fatalities in the vulnerable region. *

ISLAMABAD: In 2016, Pakistan failed to prepare itself to deal with extreme weather events mainly because of shortage of funds and lack of interest on part of the government.

Despite knowing the country's vulnerability to climate change, the federal government has not yet released Rs19 billion to the Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD). The amount was promised to the Met Department in June of 2016 for procuring modern weather radars to upgrade the domestic weather forecast system. Meanwhile, the National Flood Protection Plan was also not approved because of the paucity of funds.

2016 Weather review

Pakistan reeled under the full impact of El Niño, experiencing some unusual extreme weather events which claimed as many as 500 lives. The severe El Niño of 2015-16 also resulted in marking 2016 as the hottest year on record across the world. "Although El Niño ... ended in April of 2016, but Pakistan suffered its effects throughout the year," said chief of Met office, Dr Ghulam Rasul. He said under its impact, snowfall occurred as late as February and March in 2016. Between March 9 and 29, heavy rains claimed 141 lives and damaged 1,058 houses across the country, according to the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).

In April and May, temperatures started rising and in May and June snow started melting in the northern regions because of which the water flow in Tarbela and Mangla dams was recorded 17-20 percent above normal, he said. The country experienced heavy rains in April too which claimed 127 lives and damaged 1,948 houses between April 2 and 25.

Highest number of deaths were reported from Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa where 97 people were killed,

Int'l conference on water security, climate change

Pak Observer, December 31, 2016

Marriyum for practical efforts to meet challenges of climate change

Radio Pakistan, December 31, 2016

Dense fog causes closure of motorway, delays flights

Geo News, December 31, 2016

European Union Supports Livelihoods And Nutrition In Drought-Stricken Sindh

World Food Programme, December 29, 2016

followed by Gilgit-Baltistan with 18 deaths and Azad Kashmir where 11 people had died. On June 1, major cities across the country were hit by strong windstorms in which 15 lives were lost in Islamabad Rawalpindi as well as in parts of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa.

In the same month, Pakistan experienced an intense heatwave which lasted till the start of the monsoon season. "During the summer of 2016, temperatures in rural Sindh continuously remained above 50° Celcius for 23 days while in Jacobabad, the mercury level touched 54°C in 2016," said Dr Rasul. The monsoon season in the country was also suppressed by the impact of El-Nino. "The monsoon season was shortened by 30 days and lasted just 63 days instead of 90 days which is its normal duration," he said.

In July, extreme flood events were reported from northern areas, especially from Chitral. On July 2, 29 deaths occurred after a flash flood hit Ursoon Valley in District Chitral. Also in July, rainfall across the country was 13 percent below average and the same pattern was observed in August as well. The month of September was almost dry. However, the Met office claimed that Pakistan received 25 percent above average rain since the onset of the monsoon season.

In early September, heavy monsoon floods triggered by rains swamped vast areas in Punjab and Azad Kashmir, killing at least 139 people. "Insufficient rainfall in the last month of monsoon followed by a dry spell, which lasted till December, has caused a drought-like situation in the country," said Dr Rasul.

Due to the dry spell, Pakistan also experience another extreme weather event known as smog which persisted over Lahore for a few days before dissipating, creating a negative impact on public health, he said.

Fog, which usually starts in December, also occurred in November, he said. According to the Motorway Police, between January and November 2016, at least 15 major road accidents were reported on the Motorway and GT Road between Peshawar and Rahim Yar Khan due to fog. At least 19 lives were lost in these accidents.

HYDERABAD: The US-Pakistan Center for Advanced Studies in Water (USPCAS-W) at Mehran University of Engineering and Technology (MUET) Jamshoro will host international conference on 'Water Security and Climate Change in Pakistan: A System Approach.'

It was informed in the agenda meeting of the conference held at USPCAS-W, MUET on Friday 30th dec, 2016, the University spokesman informed and added that the conference would be organized in the month of August 2017 at Islamabad or Karachi. The dates and venue of the conference would be decided later on. The Participants of the meeting were of the view that Pakistan is among the top ten most affected countries on the Global Climate Risk Index (CRI, 2016) and currently faces a number of climate related challenges including rising temperatures, unpredictable changes in precipitation patterns, increased frequency and intensity of extreme weathers events, recurring droughts and floods, groundwater pollution, rising sea levels, increased health risks, environmental degradation, declining of agricultural productivity and governance issues associate with these stresses.

The Assistant Professor at USPCAS-W Ghulam Hussain Dars informed that the objective of the proposed conference is to undertake a professional assessment of the expert literature on the various elements of this challenge especially projected climate change impacts, impact of glaciers, variability of precipitation. He said that call for submission of research papers will be announced soon whereas the compilation of the expert papers will achieves number of primary and ancillary objectives. The PhD student at The University of Utah (UU), USA, Jewell Lund while shared presentation of her ongoing research studies on Himalayan Glaciers through Skype.—APP

Minister of State for Information Marriyum Aurangzeb says government is focusing on improvement in social sector including health, education and climate change.

In an interview with PTV on Saturday, she said that realization of sharing responsibility is pre-requisite for solution of all social problems. She said as Pakistan has entered into the 70th year, we will have to make pragmatic endeavors to cope with the prevailing issue of climate change and imminent threat of declining water resources. The minister stressed the need for a vibrant role of media to create awareness among people about issues of climate change.

LAHORE: Dense fog continued to disrupt the movement of traffic in Punjab, prompting the closure of several sections of the motorway on 31st Dec 2016, officials said. The M3 motorway, leading to Faisalabad from Pindi Bhattian, was also closed completely due to zero visibility. Meanwhile fog in Karachi reduced visibility at the airport to 30 meters. Several domestic and international flights were delayed due to fog, causing inconvenience to passengers.

Dense fog engulfed airports at Faisalabad, Karachi and Abu Dhabi. PK-744 from Medina to Karachi made a forced landing at Muscat airport. PK-763 from Faisalabad to Jeddah was also delayed. PK-788 from London to Karachi faced delay. Flights from Karachi to Peshawar, Dubai, Panjgur, Lahore, Islamabad and Gwadar were also delayed.

SINDH: The European Union has contributed critical funds to enable livelihoods and nutrition programmes, run by the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), to continue in the hardest-hit drought areas of Sindh province in Pakistan.

The contribution of nearly US\$4.5 million from the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (ECHO) is being used to assist the recovery and stabilization of people affected by food insecurity and drought. The funds will also help provide nutrition support, thus preventing further deterioration, as well as develop households' capacity to strengthen their economic recovery.

"The most vulnerable households, in terms of malnutrition and livestock/yields losses, are being prioritized," said WFP Country Director Finbarr Curran. "We know that in some areas 37 percent of

At least 9 more infants die in Thar in two days

DAWN News, December 29, 2016

El Nino and wheat crop 2016-2017

Express Tribune, December 29, 2016

deaths recorded were children; 100 percent of households experienced moderate drought; 83.8 percent faced extreme water scarcity; and 27.7 percent do not have access to safe water sources.”

Life-saving nutrition-specific activities in Sindh focus on Community Management for Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) and Infant Young Child Feeding (IYCF) using specialized nutritious products. Treatment is provided to around 19,000 moderate acute malnourished children of 6-59 months and 18,000 acutely malnourished pregnant and nursing women. Activities also include improving the behaviour and practices of those caring for young children.

WFP Pakistan is working in partnership with the Government of Sindh health department in food insecure districts, implementing CMAM in cooperation with partner NGOs and UNICEF. The activities aim to improve the overall nutritional status, health and well-being of the population, particularly for children under five, who are at a crucial stage of their development, in addition to malnourished pregnant and nursing women, when their condition can adversely affect births as well as the physical and cognitive growth and development of their children, if not addressed in time.

Through livelihoods cash-assistance activities, WFP is helping disaster-affected communities to develop resilience and cope better with disasters and shocks. With greater awareness about best practices for food handling and preparation, and focusing on the use of local nutritious foods to gain dietary diversity, people react better to changing circumstances, using affordable and available resources.

WFP’s main aim is to improve the food security of drought-affected vulnerable communities by providing cash support. These interventions have a dual advantage of simultaneously developing skills and meeting the immediate cash needs at a time when most families have suffered the loss of their livelihoods through drought.

WFP closely collaborates and coordinates livelihood activities with the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA), respective District Disaster Management Authorities (DDMA) and the Food Security Working Groups. Nutrition activities are coordinated closely with the Provincial Department of Health and UN Agencies including UNICEF and WHO, through the provincial nutrition cluster in Sindh.

At least nine more infants died due to malnutrition and outbreak of the various diseases in Thar during that last two days, raising the toll to 476 this year.

With the death of nine more children the toll rose to 476 during past 12 months of the outgoing year, said health officials. However, according to the unofficial details gathered from various independent sources, the toll rose to 606 this year.

The health officials, however, are not sure about more than 690 children who were referred to hospitals in Hyderabad and Karachi that whether they died or survived. Those who lost their lives in the last two days in included six-month-old Mehesh, one-month-old Gulab Meghwar, nine-month-old Handesh, two-month-old Hajan, one-year-old Abdul Sattar and Naseema Noutyar. They died in civil hospital Mithi.

Meanwhile, three newborns including the twins of Zulfiqar Saand died in taluka hospital of Diplo. District Health Officer Dr Chandal Lal claimed that sincere efforts were being made to provide maximum facilities in all the health units of the district. He held early-age marriages responsible for most of the deaths.

CEO of Health and Nutrition Development Society (Hands) Dr Shaikh Tanweer Ahmed urged the government to focus on the nutrition of kids and pregnant women in Thar to avoid more fatalities in the vulnerable region. He told Dawn that malnutrition has been a big issue of the arid zone of the country. He urged the government to provide basic healthcare and nutrition programmes at grass-root level. He said that they had no details of those kids referred to Hyderabad and Karachi for the better treatment from Mithi Civil Hospital.

The parents of the ailing kids, talking to local journalists, complained of the lack of facilities in hospitals of Tharparkar district. The PML-N’s member national assembly (MNA) from Thar Dr. Ramesh Kumar Vankwani flayed Sindh government for its alleged apathy over the unabated deaths of the minor kids. He claimed that most of health units and the dispensaries in the remote villages of the desert were still lying closed despite the tall claims of Sindh government. He told that over two thousands kids had lost their lives during past three years but the concerned functionaries were least bothered to overhaul the healthcare system in the province.

HAYATABAD: According to media reports, there is a significant correlation of winter in the northwestern region of Pakistan with El Nino that is causing excessive precipitation in northern and northwestern parts of the country in the winter. Based on an analysis of global meteorological data, a recent study has also suggested that El Nino may cause excessive precipitation in the Middle East. The recent cold conditions in the northern parts of the country may be attributed to El Nino, but it can also manifest itself in the form of drought-like conditions in the summer. To cope with the possibility of drought-like conditions, authorities should have a contingency plan to combat negative impacts, especially for rain-fed crops. So, from floods to longer-than-usual dry spells and more heatwaves, a variety of weather conditions is expected in the country due to presence of the enormous El Nino confronting this region, including Pakistan.

The changing weather pattern seems to be taking a toll on winter crops as there were no rains during the past two-and-half months and high temperatures are hindering timely sowing of wheat crop, the country’s main staple food. Only around one-third of the targeted area could be sown before November 20, which is considered an optimum time for completing wheat sowing in most parts of Punjab, which is the food basket of the country and accounts for 80 per cent of the total wheat production in the country. The government has set the wheat output target at 26 million tonnes for the 2016-2017 Rabi season. Last year, wheat production was recorded at 25.4 million

Comprehensive plan demanded to reduce road mishaps

Daily Times, December 29, 2016

UNHCR supports free health services to mothers and children in Quetta

UNHCR, December 28, 2016

Pakistan Red Crescent fosters community ownership of risk reduction programme

IFRC, December 28, 2016

tonnes as against the target of 25.8 million tonnes. The prevailing dry weather is also likely to affect crop output. Also, there has already been a decrease in wheat acreage in the province's arid zone. The meteorological department has already forecast less-than-average rains for December and January. Surface and groundwater resources are also expected to experience further depletion due to low precipitation. The availability of canal water is also becoming a problem.

The authorities concerned should give thorough consideration to the matter and take effective measures for correcting the situation on a war-footing basis.

HYDERABAD: Increase in fatal road accidents on the Hyderabad-Karachi Motorway has prompted academia and researchers on Wednesday to call upon the government to design a comprehensive plan to reduce these disastrous mishaps. Fast Rural Development Program (FRDP) had organised a consultation meeting in collaboration with the National Humanitarian Network (NHN) and ActionAid to review the highway matters. Representatives of different organisations like Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA), National Highway Authority (NHA), researchers from academia, civil society and communities participated in the meeting. The participants discussed the causes and proposed suggestions on how to stop disastrous accidents and save precious human lives. The speakers discussed the violation of traffic laws, unchecked reckless driving and poor diversions on the Super Highway, and suggested the authorities, including PDMA, to take a note of road accidents on a priority basis and design a strategy to save human lives. The meeting reviewed these points while, putting pack of allegations on the motorway construction company and traffic control agencies, who were responsible for saving human lives on the road. "We are very much concerned that there is no check by the NHA and the traffic agencies on leading roads, where reckless driving is sending shocking messages to families on daily basis and there is no compensation for the victims' families," said Muhammad Achar Bozdar, chairman of FRDP. NHN Provincial Manager Sorath Shah said that the mishaps reported during the closing of year 2016 include head-on collisions, ramming in to other vehicles, fire incidents in oil tanker on highway.

QUETTA: The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) has completed the refurbishment and upgrading of a maternal and child health facilities in Quetta to provide uninterrupted, quality health services to women and children.

Provincial Minister for Health, Rahmat Saleh Baloch presided over the ceremony of the only basic maternal and child health care unit in Union Council Qambrani, located in the southern part of Quetta city, catering the needs of over 42,000 people. UNHCR provided 11.5 million Pakistani rupees USD 110,000 for the improvement of the reproductive health-care unit at where about 40 percent of the patients are Afghan refugees.

UNHCR's partner agency, the Islamic Helping Hands organisation implemented the project, which included major renovation of the building and providing essential clinical equipment and furniture. The project is expected to benefit over 1,200 women and 2,000 children (under two years of age) each year by providing ante-natal, natal and post-natal health care services to both Pakistani and Afghan refugee communities.

Minister Rahmat Saleh Baloch appreciated the work of UNHCR for undertaking this life-saving initiative and equipping a facility capable of providing mother and child healthcare service on 24/7 basis for the entire population of Qambrani. He expressed his gratitude to UNHCR for their continued support to the Government's primary, secondary and tertiary health institutions where a significant number of Afghan patients are also receiving the services.

Speaking at the occasion, Dinesh Shrestha, Head of UNHCR's office in Quetta said: "that UNHCR is pleased to extend assistance to local communities who have shown tremendous generosity to Afghan refugees."

Upgrading of maternal and child health facilities comes under the Refugee Affected and Hosting Area (RAHA) programme, which was initiated in 2009 by UNHCR to strengthen government-run institutions. To date, in Balochistan, UNHCR has implemented 239 projects in the areas of health, education, water, livelihood and social protection costing US\$ 24 million.

At the crack of dawn, Ghulam Haider and several of his neighbours from Gulhatra village in Mansehra District, climb a steep hill to repair a broken pipeline after a landslide damaged their water source. Ghulam and the other community members have been trained by Pakistan Red Crescent as part of an Integrated Community Based Risk Reduction (ICBRR) programme, supported by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the Norwegian Red Cross.

Under the programme, two water supply schemes in Mansehra district have been rehabilitated, ensuring access to clean water for about 2,800 people in the community. As Joint Secretary of the Community Based Organisation of his village, which was created with the Red Crescent's assistance, Ghulam manages the repairs of two of the four-kilometre long pipeline.

"With help from other community members, we usually do the labour work ourselves to maintain the water supply scheme instead of hiring professionals for the job, which proves economical," Ghulam explains.

For Marina Bibi and the villagers of Takia Bela in Neelum District, living near the river means facing annual flooding and the threat of losing their homes during the monsoon season. Through the programme, the Red Crescent has helped to build an 80-feet-long stone wall as an extension of an existing 500-feet wall that protects the poor, minority community from the surging river. "My relatives and I used to provide meals for the labourers," Marina says. "It feels good to be able to help in any small way, and we look forward to the completion of this wall. I spent many sleepless nights with my family, fearing that the overflowing river would wash away our home."

Apart from encouraging community ownership, the ICBRR programme incorporates disaster risk

Pakistan 7th most 'climate change vulnerable country'
Daily Times, December 27, 2016

management, health, water and sanitation and first aid. It also helps to build the capacity of the National Society's local branches and inspires them to liaise with local stakeholders to build stronger, better-prepared communities in the face of disasters and other hazards.

For Kausar, a shy teenager from Bagh district in the state of Pakistan Administered Kashmir, going to school was once an arduous task. Located on top of a hill, the track leading to her school would become slippery after the rain, and was often dangerous to traverse.

Now, thanks to the programme, the Red Crescent constructed a cemented foot track on the winding paths of her village to enable everyone, especially the children and elderly, to access the school and other facilities around the village. The projects, which cost five to ten thousand US Dollars each, cover a range of initiatives such as the construction and rehabilitation of water supply schemes, the construction of a suspension bridge, foot tracks, a stone wall, latrines, the installation of hand pumps and solar pumps, and the rehabilitation of hand pumps and a dispensary. The three districts have been chosen for the programme based on a set of multi-sectoral criteria, comprising the country's Human Development Index, health profile, and a listing of prioritised districts by the country's National Disaster Management Authority. The selection was made after analysing the country's National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and Pakistan Red Crescent's existing infrastructure. The ICBRR programme also gives high priority to the most vulnerable communities, and promotes the integration of gender considerations to ensure that aid reaches even those who are marginalized.

PESHAWAR: According to the Ministry of Climate Change Secretary Syed Abu Ahmad Akif, Pakistan is ranked at 7th in the list of 'most climate change vulnerable country in the world.'

"We have very little media attention in this regard," he said while handing over AGAHI award to an environmental journalist from Lahore to Syed Muhammad Abubakar, who clinched his third AGAHI award for his contribution in highlighting environment related issues through media. He said that the environment change issue is as important as politics, terrorism or law and it is vital that the media propagates it.

Commenting on Abubakar's achievement, he said, "I am pleased to know that he has won three AGAHI Awards by writing in the SDGs, Water Diplomacy and Disasters and Catastrophe categories. His stories shed light on the important environmental issues Pakistan faces and the solutions that lie within. In fact, it is the success of environmental journalism, which is strengthening its presence in Pakistan."

Syed Muhammad Abubakar regularly contributes stories on climate change, global warming, deforestation, water and food security, sustainable development, pollution, urban resilience and biodiversity conservation in Pakistan's leading dailies.

Last year, he won the SEC-Toyota Young Environmental Journalist of the Year 2015 award at the Asian Environment Journalism Awards (AEJA), hosted by Singapore Environment Council.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

NEWS HEADLINES

Sindh CM orders shifting of ATCs to Karachi Central Jail

Pakistan Today, January 02, 2017

Thank you Raheel Sharif: From 3rd most dangerous city in the world, Karachi falls to 31st place in 3 years

Daily Pakistan, January 02, 2017

Co-operation for elimination of terror to continue: FO

Business Recorder, January 02, 2017

DETAILS

Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah here on Monday directed the provincial Home secretary to shift the anti-terrorism courts (ATCs) from Clifton to Central Jail in Karachi. Chairing the 18th meeting of the Sindh Apex Committee which discussed the law and order situation in the province, he observed that it was difficult to spare 600 policemen every time a criminal had to be presented before the ATC. The meeting among others was also attended by Sindh Rangers Director General Maj-Gen Muhammad Saeed. Sindh Home Secretary Shakeel Mangnejo briefing the committee members mentioned that no less than 19 cases were being currently heard by military courts and that nine more cases have been cleared to be sent to these courts. Sindh Chief Minister on the occasion also directed Sindh Inspector General Police AD Khwaja to ensure elimination of street crime from Karachi.

Expressing his concern about such criminal incidents in the metropolis, Syed Murad Ali Shah sought close coordination between Police Department and Rangers to address the issue. Complaints registered by citizens via helpline with regard to street crimes must be promptly responded, said the Sindh CM. Syed Murad Ali Shah also sought joint operation against drug mafias and said progress made in this regard must be communicated to him on daily basis. It was also decided on the occasion that Apex Committee meetings would be held on monthly basis.

KARACHI – Pakistani is definitely winning its war on terror and the whole world acknowledging this fact.

In a recent report, a British magazine found the violence has significantly dropped in Karachi, a city of more than 20 million on the Arabian Sea. Just three years ago, Karachi was the sixth most dangerous city in the world. Today it stands at number 31 – and falling, thanks to former army chief General (r) Raheel Sharif who launched the Rangers Operation in the port city under the command of Maj. Gen. Bilal Akbar.

According to the report released by The Spectator, in 2013 there were 2,789 killings in Karachi. In the first 11 months of 2016 there were 592. In 2013 there were 51 terrorist bomb blasts. Up to late November this year, there were two.

Three years ago, Karachi suffered from an orgy of kidnapping for ransom. There were 78 cases in 2013, rising to 110 the following year. This year, there have been 19. Some 533 extortion cases were reported in 2013; in 2016, only 133. Sectarian killing is sharply down: while 38 members of the Shia minority (who are brutally targeted in Pakistan) were killed in 2013, that figure was down by two thirds in 2016.

In June 2014, General Raheel Sharif (now a national hero, and no relation of prime minister Sharif) took charge of a massive military offensive, Zarb-e-Azb. Terrorist groups responded with a series of atrocities of which the most grotesque was the attack on the Army Public School in Peshawar, in which a reported 140 children were killed. That stimulated the National Action Plan in January 2015, hailed by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif as the defining moment in the fight against terrorism. It established special military courts and outlawed terror groups which had previously been given latitude by the state. The PM also called a special cabinet meeting in Karachi in September 2013. At this meeting Sharif called an end to 'Pakistan's culture of violence'. There is no doubt that the Karachi operation has brought considerable improvement in the security situation of the city. It contained the ever-increasing trend of targeted killing, extortion, and terrorism to a noteworthy extent. However, there has been no significant impact on street crime activities. In fact, according to statistics, the city has observed an increment in street crimes. Still a lot is needed to be done, especially by the civil authorities mainly the Sindh Police.

Without revamping the police department, long-term tranquility cannot be achieved. Corruption, being the mother of all evils, should be curtailed on an immediate basis. For that matter, other institutions such as the National Accountability Bureau and the Federal Board of Revenue should start functioning in full spirit. Only combined efforts of all law-enforcement institutions guarantee long-term peace in Karachi.

Being the economic hub of Pakistan, Karachi contributes around 70 per cent to the national economy. It houses the country's significant industrial areas such as SITE, Korangi, Landhi and Port Qasim. The city is the location of the Port of Karachi and Port Bin Qasim, one of the region's largest and busiest ports. It is the 20th largest city in the world in terms of metropolitan population and is the 3rd largest city in the world by population.

Pakistan has reiterated its commitment to continue close co-operation with international community in its collective endeavours for elimination of terrorism. In response to queries regarding media reports on failure of the Indian move in the Security Council's 1267 Sanctions Committee, Foreign Office Spokesman Nafees Zakaria said Pakistan has made significant contribution and rendered enormous sacrifices in success of international community's efforts against terrorism. He said that the 1267 Sanctions Committee related to ISIS/al Qaeda has rejected a politically motivated proposal by India. He said that replete with frivolous information and baseless allegations, the Indian proposal had no merit and was primarily aimed at advancing its narrow national agenda. He said that the dismissal of this proposal is also a rejection of the Indian attempts to politicise and undermine the work of this important Committee of the Security Council.

While claiming to denounce terrorism, Zakaria said in a statement that India has in fact deployed terrorism as an instrument of state policy, and has itself been involved in perpetrating, sponsoring, supporting, and financing terrorism. He said that the arrest of Kulbhushan Jadhav, a RAW agent

Indian troops martyred 303 Kashmiris in 2016

The Nation, January 02, 2017

and serving officer of Indian navy, and his confession about involvement in terrorist activities aimed at destabilising Pakistan and killing or maiming of Pakistani citizens, is yet another proof of Indian sponsored terrorism in Pakistan.

ISLAMABAD - Indian troops in their unabated acts of State terrorism martyred 303 innocent Kashmiris including 9 women and 42 teenagers during the year 2016.

According to Kashmir Media Service (KMS) on Sunday, 39 of those martyred were killed in custody. The killings by the troops rendered 25 women widowed and 58 children orphaned. Indian paramilitary and police personnel during house raids, crackdowns, firing, pellet and PAVA and teargas shelling subjected 19,011 civilians to torture, while 12,604 persons including Hurriyet leaders, activists, students, young boys and women leaders were arrested. Two Kashmiris went missing in custody after they were kidnapped by Indian police, while 658 women were disgraced or molested by the men in uniform during the year.

Most of the killings and other incidents of human rights violations took place in the backdrop of killing of renowned commander Burhan Muzaffar Wani by Indian forces on July 8, last year. Tens of thousands of people came out on streets to protest against the killing. More than 200,000 people took part in his funeral prayers at Tral in South Kashmir. This began a tumultuous phase in the recent history of Kashmir when forces used excessive force to quell the uprising. The troops killed over 115 innocent people since the killing of Commander Burhan Wani. Over 150 were rendered completely blinded by the pellets fired by Indian forces since July 8.

In the last month of December, the troops martyred 8 Kashmiris including three in custody. A woman is also among the dead. The killings rendered three women widowed and nine children orphaned in December. As many as 233 people were injured due to use of brute force, bullets and pellets by Indian troops and police personnel against peaceful protesters while three hundred civilians including Hurriyet leaders and activists were arrested in the month.

Indian forces personnel destroyed 29 residential houses and disgraced 17 women during the period.

Pak forces killed 3,500 'terrorists' in 2016

Security forces have killed 3,500 in 2016 during the major operation "Zarb-e-Azb" or sharp strike, the military has said in an annual report released on the eve of New Year. A total of 583 civilians lost lives while 2108 were injured in terrorist acts during the outgoing year, the report released by the Army spokesman Major General Asif Ghafoor said. The security forces have destroyed 992 hideouts, 253 tonnes of explosives, while dismantled 7599 IEDs and ammunition factories. Besides, forces also recovered 18087 weapons. Pakistan Air Force targeted strikes on terrorists hideouts in Support of Zarb-e-Azb. The military courts awarded sentenced 274 people in terrorism-related offences including death penalty to 161 while 113 were imprisoned. Twelve have been executed.

About the cross-border exchange of firing with India, the Army report claimed that Indian forces have committed 379 ceasefire violations, killing 46 civilians. Pakistani forces in retaliation have killed 40 Indian soldiers, it was claimed in the report. The security forces and other law-enforcement agencies have carried out a total of 25620 intelligence-based and combing operations across Pakistan.

"Defence of the country is impregnable. Pakistan successfully tested enhanced version of Babur cruise missile and indigenously produced air launched Ra'ad missile," the military spokesman said while releasing the report. He said that a Special Security Division has been raised for the security of the CPEC, besides taking arrangements for actualisation and security of the CPEC.

Pakistan Navy successful test launched of Shore-based Anti-ship Missile "Zarb" & Surface to Surface Anti-ship Missile Firing in the North Arabian Sea from Sword Class Frigate PNS ASLAT, he added. "Pakistan Navy proved its vigilance and operational preparedness by "detecting and blocking Indian Submarine from entering in Pakistani waters at south of Pakistani coast," he said.

ISLAMABAD: Accusing India of using terrorism as an instrument of state policy, Pakistan on Sunday slammed a 'politically motivated' move by New Delhi to have Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) chief Maulana Masood Azhar designated as global terrorist by the UN Security Council.

Islamabad's angry reaction came two days after New Delhi pushed for banning Azhar at the UN Security Council's 1267 Sanctions Committee — a move blocked by China. India blames the JeM chief for masterminding the January 2015 bloody siege at an airbase in Pathankot, though it has failed to substantiate the allegation with incriminating evidence.

UN Security Council rejects India's anti-Pakistan proposal

"The 1267 Sanctions Committee related to ISIS/al Qaeda has rejected a politically motivated proposal by India. Replete with frivolous information and baseless allegations, the Indian proposal had no merit and was primarily aimed at advancing its narrow national agenda," Foreign Office spokesman Nafees Zakaria said in a statement. Pakistan will share with the United Nations and members of the international community additional evidence of India's involvement in terrorism in Pakistan, he said. "India has in fact deployed terrorism as an instrument of state policy, and has itself been involved in perpetrating, sponsoring, supporting, and financing terrorism. Pakistan has been a direct victim of this state sponsored terrorism by India. The dismissal of this proposal is also a rejection of the Indian attempts to politicise and undermine the work of this important committee of the Security Council," he said. The arrest of RAW agent Kulbhushan Yadav and his confession of involvement in terrorist activities aimed at destabilising Pakistan is yet another proof of India-sponsored terrorism in Pakistan, Zakaria said. "With such duplicitous behaviour and blood on its hands, India has little credibility on counterterrorism."

India's unfounded allegations against Pakistan are aimed at "masking its own terrorist activities in

Pakistan faces India-sponsored terrorism: FO

Express Tribune, January 02, 2017

Military courts head towards completion of term

Daily Dawn, January 02, 2017

Pakistan, as well as diverting the attention of the international community from the grave violations of human rights and state-sponsored terrorism perpetrated by the Indian occupying forces in the Indian Occupied Kashmir (IOK)," he said.

Speaking to The Express Tribune, chief of the Pakistan chapter of APHC Syed Yousaf Naseem said India's efforts for having the JeM chief banned were aimed at diverting world's attention from rampant rights violations in IOK.

India will set dangerous precedent by violating IWT: Chaudhry

"India has unleashed a reign of terror in IOK for the last six months in an attempt to quell an indigenous uprising against its rule," he said. "The Indian plan also has much to do with the arrival of the new UN secretary-general, who is strongly opposed to the use of force against civilians." The new UN chief, António Guterres, issued a statement on New Year Eve in which he denounced violence against civilians. Naseem said Guterres has firsthand experience of working with refugees and looking into their plight when he was UN's High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

As the military courts set up for trying militants are heading towards completion of their constitutional term of two years, a former spokesman for Swat-based Taliban, Muslim Khan, and some other commanders are among the last batch of militants convicted by these courts. These courts were established after the passage of Constitution (Twenty-first Amendment) Act, 2015, for trying terrorists attached with militant outfits using the name of religion or sect. The said Act was published in the official Gazette on Jan 8, 2015. Under Section 1 (3) of the Act, the provisions of this Act should remain in force for two years from the date of its commencement.

According to Inter Services Public Relations, the military courts have so far convicted 274 hard core militants of which 161 were sentenced to death whereas 113 others were awarded prison terms, mostly life imprisonment. However, the information provided by ISPR did not mention whether any of the accused facing court-martial was acquitted or not.

On Dec 28, 2016, the ISPR announced the confirmation by Chief of Army Staff of death sentences awarded to eight terrorists, including Muslim Khan, involved in high-profile cases. Three other militants were also convicted and sentenced to different prison terms. The convicts also included Mehmood Khan, once a key leader of Swat-based Taliban who was assigned the duty of overseeing implementation of peace deals signed between the government and militants in 2008 and 2009. It was in Sept 2009 when the ISPR announced the arrest of Muslim Khan, Mehmood Khan and three other militant commanders. Following their arrest, Muslim Khan and Mehmood Khan remained incommunicado for years and very little was heard about them. Both were carrying head money of Rs10 million each. In 2015, some media reports claimed that both Muslim Khan and Mehmood Khan had died in custody. Question still remains that when these high-profile militant leaders were arrested in 2009 why their trials were delayed for over six years.

An expert dealing with terrorism-related cases said that perhaps the security agencies did not trust the anti-terrorism courts functioning in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and they might be apprehending their acquittal.

Muslim Khan was tried by field general court martial (FGCM) on multiple charges. The ISPR said that he was involved in killing of innocent civilians, attacking armed forces and law enforcement agencies, which resulted in death of 31 persons, including police inspector Sher Ali. He was also involved in kidnapping of two Chinese engineers for ransom and killing of four army officers named Captain Najam Riaz Raja, Capt Juniad Khan, Naik Shahid Rasool and Lance Naik Shakeel Ahmed. About Mehmood Khan, the ISPR claims that he was involved in kidnapping a Chinese engineer for ransom. He was awarded rigorous imprisonment of 20 years. Soon after the coalition government of Awami National Party and Pakistan Peoples Party was set up in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (then NWFP) in 2008, it had entered into negotiations with the Swat Taliban that resulted in a peace deal on May 21, 2008. On behalf of the government the peace deal was signed by ANP leader Afrasiab Khattak, senior ministers Bashir Ahmad Bilour and Raheem Dad Khan, provincial minister Wajid Ali Khan and MPA Shamsheer Ali. The signatories of Taliban were Maulana Mohammad Ameen, Ali Bakht, Muslim Khan, Mehmood Khan and Nisar Khan. Both Muslim Khan and Mehmood were members of the committee constituted for implementation of the peace deal. However, within few weeks the deal collapsed as the militants had blown up around two dozen government buildings mostly schools in only two days.

While the military courts have sentenced to death 161 convicts, so far 12 of them have been executed, as cases of several of the convicts have been pending before different courts, including the Supreme Court and Peshawar High Court. Four of these convicts identified as Hazrat Ali, Mujeebur Rehman, Sabeel and Maulvi Abdus Salam were hanged on Dec 2, 2015. Subsequently, on Dec 29, 2015, four other convicts named Noor Saeed, Murad Khan, Inayatullah and Israruddin were also executed. They were charged with multiple offences related to terrorism.

The Constitution (Twenty-First Amendment) Act was enacted by the Parliament after the Army Public School's carnage of Dec 16, 2014. The parliament had also amended the Pakistan Army Act, 1952 allowing creation of military courts for trying terrorists using the name of religion. Subsequently, the Supreme Court had on Aug 3, 2015 validated the Constitution (21st Amendment) Act by dismissing several constitutional petitions challenging its validity. The court in its judgment had also explained the situation wherein the high courts could exercise powers of judicial review in cases of convicts of the military courts. Several of the convicts and their relatives had challenged their convictions by military courts before the superior courts, but in none of these cases the courts have so far overturned any of the convictions. The Supreme Court on Aug 29, 2016 dismissed appeals of 16 convicts of military courts. Review petitions of those petitioners have now been pending before the apex court. Most of the appeals before the apex court had originated out of judgments of the Peshawar High Court, which had dismissed many writ petitions while conducting in-camera hearings. Over a dozen writ petitions have now been pending before the high court. Rejecting all the 16 Leave to Appeal Petitions, the Supreme Court bench ruled about

CTD plans to deradicalise around 300 militants held in Sindh's prisons

Daily Dawn, January 02, 2017

each of the cases that the examination of the record reveals that the FGCM was constituted and convened in accordance with the provisions of the Pakistan Army Act and the conviction and sentence did not appear to be coram non judice. It ruled that the Law and the Rules, more particularly those protecting the rights of the accused, were adhered to.

KARACHI: Sindh police's Counter-Terrorism Department is planning to deradicalise and rehabilitate an estimated 300 militants held in different jails of the province with the help of qualified psychologists, it emerged on Sunday.

Under the proposed initiative, the CTD would conduct psychological profiling of the arrested militants to ascertain the possible factors, leading to militancy as a move to rehabilitate them. "The CTD Sindh has taken an initiative to create psychological profiles of arrested militants in the province," said additional inspector general of the CTD, Sindh police, Dr Sanaullah Abbasi on Sunday. He said a unit of the CTD Sindh had been deputed to go to jails to create such profiles along the lines of a proforma created by the National Counter Terrorism Authority to better identify the factors that lead to radicalisation of young men. The CTD chief said the unit concerned had around 15 police personnel, who would collect data about the imprisoned militants in Karachi and other parts of Sindh. Dr Abbasi said that there were 250 to 300 militants in different prisons of the province. The CTD police were also planning to sign a memorandum of understanding preferably with the University of Karachi or another educational institution to seek help of qualified psychiatrists who could examine and profile high-value suspects in the future. This exercise would be aimed at identifying the issues in psychological make-up of the militants and also to use these profiles as a first step to create the basis for a rehabilitation programme in Sindh.

Subsequently, a deradicalisation or rehabilitation centre or complex would be established preferably at the Razzaqabad police training centre in Karachi, where an antiterrorism university was also being planned to be established for a similar purpose. The held militants would be asked several questions to ascertain the possible factors which might lead to militancy such as whether they suffered physical abuse by family members or other persons, bullying, victimisation by others, personal loss, financial problems etc, according to some of the questions contained in the proforma.

Earlier in January 2016, the CTD with the help of family members and psychiatrists had helped 'deradicalise and rehabilitate' two Islamic State-inspired militants in Karachi. Those two young IS-inspired militants of Karachi were caught in Iran while travelling illegally to Syria to join the militant group before being arrested and repatriated to Pakistan. The officials claimed that the two youngsters had turned away from 'armed struggle' after being 'rehabilitated' with the support of their families and security administration. Although still under surveillance, the men in their early 20s have no more militant tendencies, according to the psychiatrists who evaluated their condition, said official in charge of the Counter-Terrorism Department Raja Umer Khattab. They belonged to the middle- and upper-middle class families of the city who were handed over to the Federal Investigation Agency by the Iranian authorities before being given into the custody of the Quetta police, who later on handed them over to the CTD Karachi. The youngsters whose identity had been withheld had no jihadi background and they came into contact with the IS through social media.

RIP National Action Plan

The Nation, January 02, 2017

Just in the past couple of weeks I have come across a slew of Punjabi clerics of various sects committing hate speech and incitement to violence in full public view. I was staggered by the sheer number of such incidences, but did not see any reports of these gents being apprehended to face the law. Most of these incidents happened in Punjab. What is even more shocking than their freedom to openly carry on thus when government and military establishment do not tire of telling us how effectively they are fighting the war on terror in this country through the implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP), is that they are either receiving peace awards from obscure and mysterious but government run bodies, or actually threatening and persecuting peaceful citizens with help of government machinery. These occurrences have come thick and fast on the heels of the damning Quetta Commission Report of last month investigating the attack in August 2016 on Quetta's Civil Hospital wiping out almost the entire senior cadre of lawyers belonging to the Quetta bar and injuring scores of others. The Punjab incidents of hate speech and incitement to violence more than validate those areas of the Quetta Commission Report that hold the government criminally derelict in its duty to implement the NAP plan to target the nurturing and propagation of violent ideologies.

In one recent clip, one Khadim Hussain Rizvi, a Punjabi Barelvi cleric who travels all over Punjab addressing gatherings, is opening glorifying Mumtaz Qadri, killer of governor Salman Taseer and inciting violence against all those who still speak against the killing, or salute the slain governor, and or call for the release of the alleged blasphemer (Christian woman, Asia Bibi) the governor tried to rescue from the predatory and unfair blasphemy laws of the country. The governor's fifth death anniversary is merely two days away. Obviously, at such a time not only is he remembered, but calls to free Asia Bibi are renewed together with calls on putting fetters on these hate mongers. In another clip Rizvi is seen openly violating the government ban on the use of loud speakers to arouse religiously motivated hate. The icing is that he is using the loudspeaker to curse government in the most violent terms for the very restriction on loudspeakers, portraying the ban as against loud praise of the Prophet Mohammed (PBUH). He adds 'Pakistan belongs to the Prophet' (PBUH) to bolster his defiant use of the loudspeaker. However, there is no word on him being apprehended.

Another video to have surfaced is that of one Maulvi Sabir addressing a crowd in a mosque, abusing both slain Governor Salman Taseer and his son Shaan who had issued a video statement on Facebook wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and bidding everyone to keep in their thoughts at this time 'especially those unfortunate people who had become victim of religious extremism and Pakistan's inhuman blasphemy laws'. The vitriol of Sabir flays Shaan in the most violent and abusive terms. Shortly thereafter, video evidence emerged of a large crowd of clerics from the

Sunni Tehreek (ST) led by Maulana Mujahid Abdul Rasool Khan, President ST Lahore Division, having surrounded the Station House Officer (SHO) of a local police station in Mughalpura, Lahore to have a case registered against Shaan Taseer for his Christmas video message. The video of this occurrence is eye opening. Punjab Police known for its arrogance and rudeness towards ordinary citizens, has its SHO standing respectfully and listening meekly to this large crowd of clerics, murmuring his agreement with all they say and promising to revert soon to meet their demands. The application the Sunni Tehreek submitted for registering a case against Shaan Taseer is instructive: it 'accuses' Taseer of calling Section 295(c) (of the blasphemy law) inhuman; of praying for Asia Bibi and other 'gustakhan-e-rasool' (blasphemers, but literally means those who disrespect the Prophet); of Shaan being a 'gustakh' (blasphemer) for having prayed for a blasphemer and having sympathy for a blasphemer; of having hurt Muslims' religious sentiments by calling 295 (c) inhuman. Before I move forward, it is important to understand the cunning of the Sunni Tehreek. The Blasphemy Law consists of four sections. Section 295, deals with defiling places of worship with a two year sentence, Section 295 (a) deals with malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings with 10 year imprisonment, Section 295 (b) deals with defiling etc. of the Quran with life imprisonment, and Section 295 (c) deals with disrespect of the Prophet Mohammed and a mandatory death sentence. Shaan had only referred to 'the inhuman law', not to any specific section of the law. But Sunni Tehreek's complaint deliberately and falsely focused on 295 (c) so as to have a case registered against Shaan Taseer under Section 295 (c) that mandates death, not just by the state but also by the lynch crowds.

Barely twenty four hours had passed during which this video of Sunni Tehreek clerics pressuring the police was making the rounds of social media, invoking outrage at the audacity of the terror tactics of the Sunni Tehreek, that the bombshell came of a case actually having been registered against Shaan for hate speech under Section 295 (a). The fact that the police managed section (a) instead of section (c) is a small mercy in these dark times. But in the mind of the ordinary man on the street who does not know the technicalities, this would hardly matter. For the multitudes, Shaan is now a blasphemer, a 'gustakh-e-Rasool'.

Human rights activists are reeling in disbelief. Far from arresting and prosecuting the violent extremists, the state has registered a case against a peace monger. This is the not the only reason the civil society says the National Action Plan (NAP) is napping. However, the best is yet to come.

Only a few days ago a photo emerged on Social Media of the Federal Minister for Religious Affairs presenting a 'peace award' to Masroor Nawaz Jhangvi at a gathering of the National Peace Council. Masroor Nawaz Jhangvi is son of Haq Nawaz Jhangvi, the anti-Shia cleric who founded the Sipah-e-Sahaba, and Masroor is himself a virulent anti-Shia hate spewing cleric who happens to be on the fourth schedule of the Anti Terrorism Act. The dysfunctionality of the NAP is further demonstrated by the fact that he was cleared by the Election Commission of Pakistan to contest elections for the Punjab Assembly from Jhang. He went on to contest and won the seat on 1st December 2016, backed by the banned Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamat (ASWJ), another sectarian terror organization. In just one of the ASWJ rallies at Rahim Yaar Khan, Masroor Nawaz Jhangvi is on record as having said that Sunnis were allowed to declare Shias as non Muslim, before glorifying Malik Ishaq and Ghulam Rasool Shah of Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ) and vowing to continue their mission of killing Shia Muslims and threatening the DPO of Rahim Yaar Khan and the entire Police Department to never oppose ASWJ and never support the local Shia population.

When I checked to see what the National Peace Council was (the organisation that awarded Jhangvi the peace award), what were its mission and activities and for what exactly it had given the award to Masroor Jhangvi, I found its full name to include in smaller script 'for interfaith harmony of Pakistan'. Its website is npc.gov.pk i.e., having a government domain name, with absolutely no information on its activities or how it promotes interfaith harmony. The 'news', 'events' and 'gallery' tabs contain nothing. One of the two tabs that contain anything is the 'our team' tab which provides pictures and names of large central and provincial teams. The other 'Broshar' (brochure) tab also contains several names and pictures. But the first page of the brochure has only two pictures, with Quaid-e-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah on top, and ex-COAS General Ashfaq Pervaiz Kyani beneath. I have yet to discover the services Mr. Jhangvi was awarded for.

Rest in pieces National Action Plan.

ISLAMABAD - Chief of Army Staff Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa, who has been invited by the Afghan leadership after he telephoned them at the beginning of the New Year, will discuss with them a host of issues including the growing foothold of the Islamic State (Daesh) in the war-ravaged country. Gen Bajwa has been invited by the Afghan leaders to visit Kabul to find common grounds for sustained cooperation for peace in the region. Although there is no official comment about the army chief's visit, analysts believe that the likely stopover would primarily focus on finding common grounds for future cooperation between the two countries.

Bilateral relations between Kabul and Islamabad have been in a downward spiral for the last more than a year after the Afghanistan government failed to fulfil its commitment to enter into an agreement with Pakistan on intelligence-sharing to tackle the menace of terrorism. The bilateral relations further dipped owing to a lack of tangible progress to help restore peace through the agreed quadrilateral mechanism. As a policy, Islamabad strongly believes that peace in Afghanistan was in the national interest of Pakistan and has been advocating that any initiative for peace and reconciliation has to be Afghan-led and Afghan-owned. "I think Gen Bajwa's visit to Kabul would largely focus on border management," Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad Director Research Najam Rafique told The Nation on Sunday.

Rafique was of the view that the growing presence of Daesh in Afghanistan would also figure high for the two countries to enhance cooperation about how to secure the Pak-Afghan border. "The growing presence and activities of Daesh in Afghanistan pose a serious threat to the regional

Gen Bajwa to focus on fight against Daesh
The Nation, January 02, 2017

Cyber security and Pakistan

Pakistan Observer, January 02, 2017

peace and stability,” he said. At the secretary level trilateral meeting held in Moscow on December 27, Pakistan, Russia and China also expressed their concern over the growing influence of Daesh in Afghanistan. Rafique said that the army chief may also take up the issue of the proscribed TTP leaders activities from Afghan soil to destabilise Pakistan. Former army chief Gen Raheel Sharif had also visited Kabul shortly after his appointment in order to build sustained cooperation between the two countries. But despite agreements on key issues to deepen bilateral cooperation with the Afghan government no progress could be achieved.

According to defence analysts, India played dirty game and spoiled the cooperative environment between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

NO PLAN FOR MEDIATION IN AFGHAN TALKS: RUSSIA

INP adds: Although Russia, China, and Pakistan recently held a session to assess the situation in Afghanistan, but a senior Russian diplomat states that the three countries have no programme for mediation in Afghan peace negotiations. Zamir Kabulov, the special envoy of Russia in Afghanistan has said that Moscow, Beijing and Islamabad have no plan for peace negotiations, because they have received no request in that regard. He made clear that Moscow session has been held to widen regional cooperation regarding improvement of situation in Afghanistan.

According to the Russian special envoy, the three countries that participated in Moscow session believe there is a need for a more comprehensive regional formation in Afghanistan in cooperation with the country to set up new objectives. One of the matters agreed upon in tripartite session was carrying efforts for removal the names of Taliban’s leaders from the UN black list.

According to Afghan politicians, Moscow session is a clear message for Western countries, US, and the Gulf countries that indicates the participants of Moscow conference use Taliban against their objectives and interests in the region. Meanwhile, the Afghan political experts have said that although Russia and China are the permanent members of UN Security Council, but other members of the Security Council such as US, France and UK stand against them and will not let Russia and China achieve their goals. Therefore, the endeavours of Russia, China and Pakistan for removing the names of Taliban’s leaders from UN black list would be in vain. On the other hand, other countries like India that considers security and stability in Afghanistan effective for ensuring security and stability in its own country is not pleased with Moscow session and the decisions made by the authorities of Russia, China and Pakistan, because, Taliban during their rule and during the last 14 years have attacked Indians interests in Afghanistan.

GIVEN the constantly evolving security dynamics globally and regionally, the threat spectrum continues to grow with every passing day. The nature of threat has transformed from traditional to advanced non-conventional and strategic levels. The sphere of traditional security is quite precise and ardently guarded while no such accord or specific definition exists as to what is non-traditional security and part of its sphere.

In the similar regard, the new battlefield of cyberspace involves instruments and tactics more detrimental to national interests than traditional warfare posing a huge threat across the globe. Primarily, cyberspace has become a critical area of concern for its virtual and undetectable nature as it follows no geographical boundaries or limitations. However, the concept of cybersecurity and its mechanisms to regulate the cyber space have become an important feature of national security these days as government; military, corporate, financial, and medical organizations collect, process, and store unprecedented amount of data on computers and other devices. It is predicted that global annual cybercrime costs will grow from \$3 trillion in 2015 to \$6 trillion annually by 2021. However, reports suggest that the world-wide cybersecurity market have already topped with \$75 billion spendings in the year 2015. And it is further estimated that these security spendings will soar upto \$101 billion in 2018, and hit \$170 billion by 2020. The developed economies including the US, European countries, Australia and even the countries in Middle East, Gulf and Pacific regions have been allocating bigger chunks of the economies to ensure continuous upgradation of their cybersecurity system. Moreover, these countries have legislated conventions and directives to ensure cybersecurity such as the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime, Network and Information Security (NIS) Directive and EU General Data Protection Regulation. But the challenge remains to be the vastness of cyberspace, its issues of ownership and identification of threat and its origin. In the very specific case of Pakistan, the efforts for a unified cybersecurity policy or strategy are underway. However, there are certain impeding factors halting the overall process such as level of awareness and knowledge regarding malicious happenings in cyberspace, lack of cyber-readiness and proportion of national spendings in the field. Moreover, there is a dire need to consider the concerns related to cyberspace outside the domestic structure and subject of strategic and global importance. On cyber laws, the scope needs to be extended beyond recognition of electronic documents and communications; electronic forgery or fraud, website and digital signatures certificate providers, unauthorized access to code, crimes such as defamation and hate speech to suggesting jurisdictions and offences, rather it must cater the growing threat of cyber crimes and terrorism.

Pakistan has a long way ahead in this field when it comes to formulation and implementation of a cybersecurity strategy and relevant infrastructure. Another important aspect in the subsequent implementation of cyber security policy is the realization of the fact that it is to be kept updated continuously due to the constantly evolving nature of cyber space. In way to formulate a consolidated cyber security strategy, Pakistan must first consider cybersecurity as very integral part of national security. It must further be based on the very principle of proportionality while taking into account the existing and potential risks and resources. Cyber security must be ensured in a coordinated manner through cooperation between the public, private and other sectors, taking into account the inter-connectedness and interdependence of existing infrastructure and services in cyberspace. Moreover, to achieve the status of Cyber Readiness, Pakistan needs to address areas such as state’s cyber security strategic plan and incident response to counter the threat on

PM calls for joint efforts against terrorism

Pakistan Observer, January 02, 2017

Premier to decide fate of military courts this week

Daily Times, January 01, 2017

Cyber Crime Bill: bloggers arrested for posting fake images online

Pakistan Today, January 01, 2017

immediate basis, and the law enforcement concerning e-crimes, information sharing on national and regional level alongside greater investment in cyber Research & Development, education, and capacity building. On regional level, Pakistan must need to come out of a dormant phase, with a need to upgrade its cyber security mechanisms on immediate basis alongside keeping a check on unrestricted hactivism such as that of between various cyber groups of Pakistan and India. Pakistan needs to focus on the development of a national as well as an international cyber security strategy. Pakistan must establish its foothold in cyberspace and formulate its state policy, before the world further enhances its capabilities in this field.

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on Sunday strongly condemned the terror attack at Istanbul, Turkey on New Year's eve, and called for joint anti-terror fight.

Officials in Turkey said a lone gunman sprayed bullets at the people celebrating new year at Istanbul's famous Reina nightclub late Saturday after killing a police officer. They said at least 39 people are confirmed dead, including both Turkish and foreign nationals. Scores were injured, with several in critical condition.

"Pakistani people share the grief of Turkish people and stand by them, in this most painful time," Nawaz Sharif said in a statement. "Terrorism is our common enemy and the world needs to put up a joint fight against this menace," the Pakistani Prime Minister said. He said that Pakistan itself has suffered great losses of lives and property by terrorism and would continue to ensure all measures for its eradication. The Foreign Ministry in a separate statement said Pakistan is "deeply anguished as terror and tragedy" have struck brotherly Turkey again. "Pakistan condemns in the strongest possible terms the heinous terrorist attack that took place at a night club in Ortakoy area of Besiktas district in Istanbul," the statement said. "We reaffirm our strong and unwavering solidarity with the Government and people of Turkey in its resolute fight against terrorism and reiterate our belief that such heinous acts aimed at undermining Turkey's peace, stability, progress and internal harmony would never succeed," it further said. The statement said the Government and the people of Pakistan express their heartfelt grief and sorrow at this despicable act of terrorism against defenseless people gathered for New Year and extend their profound sympathies and condolences to the bereaved families and to the leadership.

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif will take important decisions in the current week regarding the future of military courts, keeping in mind that the military establishment and the Interior Ministry still favoured these courts.

Sources told Daily Times that the premier would chair an important meeting that will be attended by the military leadership as well. Reports of different agencies will be presented in the meeting regarding the situation of law and order in the country, while Adviser to the PM on National Security Nasir Janjua will brief the participants on the implementation of the National Action Plan. Sources said that the Interior Ministry and military establishment wanted the government to let the military courts function, since the courts ensured quick results in terrorism-related cases. This was the prime reason the Interior Ministry was still sending such cases to military courts.

According to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), military courts had sentenced 274 terrorists during the past two years. Of those convicted, 161 were awarded death penalty, while 113 were imprisoned. Military sources said that surprisingly only 12 terrorists were sent to the gallows, while more than 150 death penalty cases were in courts because the military courts' decisions were challenged in the higher courts. Sources said that Nawaz Sharif was not under any pressure, so he would make a political decision regarding military courts because two main allies of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) – The Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) and Pakhtunkhwa Milli Awami Party (PkMAP) – were not in favour of giving extension to military courts.

Sources said that the Interior Ministry has prepared some alternative recommendations as well, while two bills passed in the Senate will also be discussed in that high-level meeting.

Few bloggers are reportedly missing for more than 12 hours now as they are not responding to their mobile numbers after appearing before FIA Cyber Crime Wing Islamabad yesterday morning, sources have told online media publication. At least three bloggers had been asked by FIA Cyber Crime Wing Islamabad to present themselves before investigation officer on (Dec 31st, 2016) for posting images of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif with a PML(N) leader while wrongly attributing him as Justice Saqib Nisar. The bloggers, while they had removed the images, made themselves available at FIA office Islamabad but only to get arrested.

Families of these bloggers, when contacted, were clueless and had no idea on whereabouts of their kids. These part time bloggers, hailing from Multan, had posted images in question online and FIA was able to track them down through WHOIS information available on their website. Not to mention, these three bloggers were among few thousand other online users who had shared the images in question on Whatsapp, Facebook and through other social media channels. Through sources we know that these bloggers are now detained by the FIA, however, nothing has been said officially on the matter as of yet. It must be mentioned here that Ch Nisar, Interior Minister, had ordered the FIA to investigate the culprits behind spreading a fake image of Nawaz Sharif with the chief justice. As it is clear to everyone, instead of catching the original posters, the FIA will nab easy targets only.

While we aren't certain about the section of cyber crime bill that's being investigated, but from the looks, it appears that these bloggers might be charged with "Cyber Terrorism." Section 7 of Cyber Crime Law deals with Cyber Terrorism and it says: "the use of threat is designed to coerce, intimidate, overawe or create a sense of fear, panic or insecurity in the government or the public or a section of the public or community or sector in the society" Since we don't have information on what section are they going to get charged with, its early to comment about any consequences they will face. But just to give you an idea, under this section, if proven guilty, these bloggers could face up to 14 years in prison or/and up to Rs 50 million in fine. It must be mentioned that there are

Crime rate decreased significantly in 2016

Pakistan Today, January 01, 2017

more bloggers, and a hosting provider who were also sent these notices but they are out of Pakistan as of now.

The crime rate in the provincial capital decreased in 2016 as compared to 2015, according to the reported cases. A police spokesman said on Sunday that 82,871 crime incidents were reported in 2016, while 83,372 crime cases were reported in 2015. He said that incidents of dacoity, abduction for ransom, motor vehicle theft, terrorism and others had been significantly decreased in 2016. Similarly, 371 murder cases, 28 cases of dacoity-cum-murder, nine of abduction for ransom, 4 terrorism incidents were registered in 2015, whereas 369 murder cases, 17 cases of dacoity-cum-murder and five cases of abduction for ransom were registered in 2016. Whereas no terrorism incident was reported in 2016, he added. Similarly, 371 murder cases, 28 cases of dacoity-cum-murder, nine of abduction for ransom, whereas 369 murder cases, 17 cases of dacoity-cum-murder and five cases of abduction for ransom were registered in 2016. Whereas no terrorism incident was reported in 2016, he added. Incidents of dacoity also decreased to more than 50 percent in 2016 as compared to 2015 as 100 cases of dacoity were reported in 2015 and only 46 registered in 2016. However, 3,679 robbery cases registered in 2015 and 3,028 reported in 2016, 52 percent decreased rate was also observed in car snatching cases during the same period as 47 car snatching, 588 motorcycle and 31 other vehicles' snatching incidents were reported in 2015, whereas 19 car snatching, 478 motorcycle and 23 other vehicles snatching cases were registered in 2016, he informed. Likewise, 1,055 incidents related to car theft, 4,594

However, 3,679 robbery cases registered in 2015 and 3,028 reported in 2016, 52 percent decreased rate was also observed in car snatching cases during the same period as 47 car snatching, 588 motorcycle and 31 other vehicles' snatching incidents were reported in 2015, whereas 19 car snatching, 478 motorcycle and 23 other vehicles snatching cases were registered in 2016, he informed. Likewise, 1,055 incidents related to car theft, 4,594 motorcycle theft and 439 other vehicles theft incidents were registered in 2015, while 748 cases of car theft, 4027 motorcycle theft and 410 other vehicles theft cases were reported in 2016.

Capital City Police Officer (CCPO) Amin Wains said that the capital city police had put in place the efficient security measures on Muharram, 12th Rabi-ul-Awal, New Year night and other occasions to maintain law and order in the city. Special security arrangements had also been made during the protests and public gatherings organised by various organisations including political parties, to avoid any untoward incident, the CCPO said. He said the city police by utilising all energies, arrested the accused of the murder case of five people during dacoity in Millat Park police station limits, the murderer of deceased actress Qismat Baig and resolved Sammia murder case, Chamba House.

3500 'terrorists' killed in 2016, says army report

The Nation, January 01, 2017

ISLAMABAD: Security forces have killed 3500 'terrorists' in 2016 during the major operation Zarb-e-Azab or sharp strike, the military has said in an annual report released on the eve of New Year.

A total of 583 civilians lost lives while 2108 were injured in terrorist acts during the outgoing year, said the report released by the Director General (DG) Inter-Service Public Relations (ISPR) Major General Asif Ghafoor. The security forces have destroyed 992 hideouts, 253 tons of explosives, while dismantled 7599 IEDs and ammunition factories. Besides, forces also recovered 18087 weapons. Pakistan Air Force (PAF) targeted strikes on terrorist's hideouts in support of Zarb-e-Azb. The military courts awarded sentenced to 274 people in terrorism-related offences including death penalty to 161 while 113 were imprisoned. 12 have been executed. About the cross-border exchange of firing with India, the army report claimed that Indian forces have committed 379 ceasefire violations, killing 46 civilians. Pakistani forces in retaliation have killed 40 Indian soldiers; it was claimed in the report. The security forces and other Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) have carried out a total of 25620 intelligence-based and combing operations across Pakistan.

"Defence of the country impregnable. Pakistan successfully tested enhanced version of Babur cruise missile and indigenously produced air launched Ra'ad missile," the military spokesman said while releasing the report. He said a Special Security division has been raised for the security of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), besides taking arrangements for actualisation and security of the CPEC. Pakistan Navy successful test launched of Shore-based Anti-ship Missile "Zarb" & Surface to Surface Anti-ship Missile Firing in the North Arabian Sea from Sword Class Frigate PNS ASLAT. Pakistan Navy proved its vigilance and operational preparedness by "detecting and blocking Indian Submarine from entering in Pakistani waters at south of Pakistani coast."

Branchless Banking And Terrorism

The Nation, January 01, 2017

Branchless banking is a boon to the urban and rural poor, allowing the delivery of financial services outside at minimum cost. Mobicash (Mobilink) and Easypaisa (Telenor) are offering these services across the country including in remote areas. Consequently, branchless banking can increase access to financial services for the poor who do not have access to debit cards or ATMs. It is a promising step towards the financial inclusion of the unbanked belonging to the lower-income groups. However, it has become a recurring practice for government agencies to link technological progression and freedom of information as analogous to 'suspect-terrorist-activity', thereby validating a draconian imposition of surveillance and authority. The Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) of Sindh police has expressed concern regarding the use of branchless banking facilities, suggesting that criminal and militant groups might misuse the facility for terror financing, particularly in remote areas. While there is no existing evidence of any criminal activity or terrorism being carried out by militant groups under this service, the CTD Sindh prescribes that the National Counter Terrorism Authority (Nacta) and the State Bank of Pakistan ensure that franchise facilities (especially in remote areas) should be made to maintain extremely accurate and comprehensive records of all individuals who avail this facility.

For now, the measures taken seem fair. Individuals receiving or sending amounts larger than Rs, 50,000 would be subject to investigation and their personal information (CISP or BISP cards)

SSU remained proactive to protect Karachiites

The Nation, January 01, 2017

would be recorded and regulated by the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) and service providers. The CTD also recommended that the SBP should implicate any account used by a person listed on the Fourth Schedule of the Anti-Terrorism Act (ATA). It is good that the CTD is being vigilant, however, we have seen such concerns turn into laws that clamp down on the rights of the common citizens, while ostensibly being security measures against terrorist entities. The Cybercrime Bill was one of these examples. The risk is that much like the Cybercrime Bill, organisations like the PTA, FIA and law enforcement agencies would be granted omnipotence with no checks on their actions and would be able to criminalise any activity that comes under the ephemeral definition of 'terrorism'. Such prescriptions and legislations ultimately morph into a chokehold that discourages technological progress, awareness, and inhibits the transfer of information.

KARACHI - Special Security Unit (SSU) of Sindh Police played a key role in making security arrangements in the city during 2016.

According to SSU spokesperson, the officers, including commandos of the Unit, actively participated in eight raids against terrorists side by side with other law-enforcement agencies, and as a result two terrorists were killed, while 15 were arrested, including two women. Two SMGs, two pistols, two hand grenades, and explosive material/devices were recovered from those arrested, while a huge quantity of ammunition was also seized. The accused were affiliated with Al-Qaida Barre-Saghir Group, which was reportedly involved in attacking personnel of the law-enforcement agencies. Over 5000 Commandos of SSU provided foolproof security to the health workers/teams during 44 anti-polio campaigns launched in the city.

During the inaugural ceremony of Yadgar-e-Nishan-Pakistan, over 123 SSU Commandos provided security to the participants. Similarly, on the occasion of Ramzan-ul-Mubarak, 1355 commandos of Special Security Unit provided adequate security to citizens at a number of shopping centers in Karachi. On the eve of Eid-ul-Azha, 834 commandos patrolled the city's streets, performed duties at different points to ensure law and order. Besides, the commandos also provided security to the members of political and religious organisations, who had been assigned the duty to collect hides so that no clash could erupt between them. In the light of threat alert issued by the intelligence agencies, the SSU officers and commandos performed their duties in different educational institutions. Besides, the Special Security Unit has also conducted flag march in the city on different occasions. The SSU commandos also provided the cover during processions and gatherings, organised by various political parties/organizations, to avoid any untoward incident. On different occasions, the SSU commandos performed security duties as IGP's Reserve Force.

During religious gatherings like those held in Muharram-ul-Haram, Youm-e-Ali, Chehlum Imam-Hussain (AS), 12 Rabi-ul-Awal, the officers and commandos of the Unit took effective measures to ensure foolproof security. The commandos also provided effective security to general public on the occasion of local bodies elections/by-elections. They (the commandos) also guarded the city during the VIP/VVIPs visits to Karachi. Apart from this, the Special Security Unit also made adequate security arrangements during the visits of foreign dignitaries, including Prince Karim Agha Khan, Sayedna Mufdil Bora Pir, delegation of Turkey and Sultan of UAE. SSU also made efforts to create awareness among people about the measures to be adopted in case of any emergency under the programme, Hostile Environment Awareness Training (HEAT) at the Karachi University, Hamdard University, Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University, Federal Urdu University, Jinnah University, which were attended by both boys and girls and teachers of the institutions.

US Consul General Brien G. Heath, DG Rangers Major General Bilal Akbar, COS 5 Corps Brigadier Ahsan Gulrez, 52 senior government officers attending Senior Management Course at the National Institute of Management, 40 under-training ASPs, CPLC Chief Zubair Habib and AD Khawaja have visited the Special Security Unit Headquarters and commended the professional policing standards maintained in the SSU with reference to course of work in management, administration and counter-terrorism operations. They also observed that the SSU was a world class law-enforcing unit of the Sindh Police. It is pertinent to mention here that SSU commandos have successfully participated and acquired professional training courses at different training institutions of Pakistan Army and Navy. The training centers, where advanced professional training is imparted, are NCTC Pabbi Kharian, ATTC Simly Dam, Malir Cant and Nathia Gali.

Over 200 officers and Commandos including lady commandos of Special Security Unit donated blood for the needy patients suffering from different diseases including thalassemia or suffered due to accidents at the blood donation camp setup in Special Security Unit Headquarters. Besides, the officers and commandos of Special Security Unit have donated blood voluntarily at Civil Hospital for the victims of bomb blast at Dargah Shah Noorani in Khuzdar district of Balochistan. SSU Commando Khan Saeed Afridi won two gold medals and became World Champion by defeating Indian and American players at the World Martial Arts Summit held in Thailand.

South Asia's regional security environment is in a flux mainly due to deteriorated relations between India and Pakistan and partly due to the security situation in Afghanistan. New momentum in Kashmiri freedom struggle, the arrest of an Indian spy in Pakistan, violation of Pakistan's maritime boundary, claims of surgical strikes, unprovoked aggression on LOC and working boundary, all these developments have given rise to new tensions. Irresponsible rhetoric has been a hallmark of Indian political leadership since assuming of power by Modi government. The real challenge in bilateral dialogue process has been the priorities of issues for both states. For Pakistan, Kashmir is the core issue, while for India terrorism is the most important issue. Despite lacking evidence, India has been setting preconditions regarding the investigation of terrorist attacks like Mumbai, Pathankot and Uri attacks. Modi government has been pursuing an aggressive policy without declaring war against Pakistan. It is trying to isolate Pakistan at regional as well as global level but has achieved limited success in this regard. Chinese and Russian representatives at BRICS did not fulfil Indian desire to isolate or single out Pakistan by referring to terrorism. Similarly, at General Assembly session, Prime Minister of Pakistan highlighted grave human rights violations in

Harnessing regional security challenges

Daily Times, January 01, 2017

Baldia factory fire: Rauf Siddiqui gets pre-arrest bail

Pakistan Today, December 31, 2016

Civil-military leadership vows to make Pakistan terror free

Daily Times, December 31, 2016

Pakistan prepared to give evidence on India's involvement to UN

The Nation, December 31, 2016

Indian-held Kashmir.

At the regional level, the postponement of SAARC summit shows the dominant attitude of India regarding its smaller neighbours. Geographically, South Asian region is the Indo-centric region with India having borders with all the states except Afghanistan. This geographical leverage gives India power to dominate regional politics. It remained successful in influencing the smaller states to postpone their participation in the SAARC summit that was scheduled to be held in Pakistan.

Another event where India was able to prevail upon other states in condemning Pakistan was Heart of Asia summit held in India. Heart of Asia, Istanbul Process has been an initiative of Turkey where three countries Pakistan, Afghanistan and Turkey have worked to institutionalise the arrangements to foster regional cooperation and connectivity.

Heart of Asia initiative was Afghan-centered process exclusively focused on Afghanistan. The biggest strength of this process has been that it was an Afghan-led process that was to ensure peace and economic progress. The complexity of the Afghan situation, insufficient organisational support and funding have been the major challenges that Heart of Asia process had been facing. It is due to the fact that makes the role of neighbouring regional countries important. Pakistan had stakes in the stability of Afghanistan and attended the Heart of Asia Conference in India. Both Mr Modi and Mr Ashraf Ghani joined hands in criticising Pakistan for its alleged support of terrorism. It is ironical that states instead of dealing with their own issues are blaming others for their problems. India while ignoring Kashmiri people's demand for their right of self-determination has been using violent means to crush the Kashmiri freedom movement. While Afghanistan has been ignoring the internal political dynamics of its state and has been blaming other countries for its problems. States to resolve bilateral conflicts need to resort to dialogue process without setting preconditions and showing an attitude of accommodating other's sensitivities.

The introduction of new technologies, new weapons systems, and new alliances have been contributing to further destabilise already volatile region. India's Defence and security cooperation with extra-regional powers have repercussions for regional strategic stability. The cooperation with extra-regional powers for safeguarding mutual interests should not be at the cost of regional peace and stability.

Apart from traditional security challenges, South Asian states have been simmering in poverty, underdevelopment, unemployment and low-intensity conflicts. Low socio-economic indicators, bad governance and corruption, have been the main reasons for creating non-traditional security challenges. These challenges have been further exacerbated by extremism and radicalism in the societies of South Asian states. Good governance, promoting participatory culture and socio-economic uplift of the people can address these internal security problems. Addressing internal challenges and their results would ultimately lead to realising the benefits of addressing external challenges as well.

An Anti-Terrorism Court-II (ATC-II) on Saturday granted an interim pre-arrest bail to Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P) leader and MPA Rauf Siddiqui in Baldia factory inferno case.

After the revelations made by Abdul Rehman alias Bhola, the main suspect in the Baldia factory fire case, Siddiqui had approached ATC administrative judge to avoid his possible arrest, but he was directed to approach the trial court. The applicant through his counsel, Shaukat Hayat, submitted in ATC-II that Bhola in his confession named him for allegedly lodging a case against the factory owners. Hayat contended that his client was neither nominated in the FIR nor named in the charge sheets or any joint investigation report, adding that the factory owners had also not named Siddiqui in the case. The counsel added: "Siddiqui is ready to join the investigation, but he would be arrested as the detained suspect named him during his confession on the basis of hearsay." After a preliminary hearing, the in-charge judge of ATC-II granted him pre-arrest bail against a surety bond of Rs 100,000 till January 12, 2017.

According to a report, 259 people were burnt alive when a private factory located in Karachi's Baldia area was set ablaze in September 2012.

ISLAMABAD: Civil and military leadership pledged on the New Year eve that all steps would be taken to make Pakistan terror-free.

Sources told Daily Times that civil-military leadership sat together in Presidency on Saturday and discussed internal security. President Mamnoon Hussain, after awarding the Nishan-e-Imtiaz (Military) to Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee General Zubair Mehmood Hayat and Chief of Army Staff General Qamar Bajwa, invited Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and services chiefs over tea. The president and PM congratulated General Zubair and General Bajwa for earning military awards and hailed their professionalism. Sources said a complete harmony was seen between the civil-military leadership on the issues related to national importance. Nawaz was of the view that security and law and order was better in 2016 and it will be far more better in 2017 as the government was committed to eliminating terrorism from Pakistan. They also discussed the outcome of Operation Zarb-e-Azb and National Action Plan and it was agreed that all steps would be taken to consolidate the successes against terrorism. They praised the exemplary coordination among the three services and said joint efforts were vital to counter the challenges.

Earlier, Mamnoon Hussain awarded Nishan-e-Imtiaz (Military) to General Zubair and General Bajwa. The ceremony was attended by chairman senate, National Assembly speaker, members of the federal cabinet and services chiefs.

Evidences on captured Indian spy Kulbhushan Yadav and Indian involvement, for promoting unrest in Pakistan, would be handed over to the United Nations by Dr Maleeha Lodhi Pakistan's permanent representative at the UN headquarters in New York.

Officials confirmed that Dr Lodhi would hand over the dossier to the incoming UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres in the second week of January after he assumes his office next year.

US sanctions seven Pakistani entities

Daily Dawn, December 31, 2016

Two injured in blast outside Rahim Yar Khan mosque

Pakistan Observer, December 31, 2016

The dossier included a statement of Yadav and evidence of attempted violation of maritime boundary by an Indian submarine with its images and video, they added. Yadav, a serving Indian navy officer and an operative of India's intelligence agency Research and Analysis Wing (RAW), was caught by security forces earlier this year but his capture was announced in March as proof of Indian interference and state-sponsored terrorism. In his confessional statement, Yadav accepted that he had been assigned by RAW to promote turbulence in Balochistan and Karachi and had been working with the Baloch student organisations and insurgents and terrorist groups for the purpose.

Pakistan Navy while announcing its success in thwarting an Indian submarine's infiltration bid had said that Indian Navy had "deceitfully deployed its submarines against Pakistan with ulterior motives". The submarine incident last month coincided with the fourth Pak-China joint naval exercise for improving maritime security and stability in the region and the start of shipping activity under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) from Gwadar.

Pakistan Foreign Office on Wednesday would also brief ambassadors of the UN Security Council member states. Earlier in December, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's Adviser on Foreign Affairs Sartaj Aziz had announced the submission of a dossier about Indian involvement in subversive activities in Pakistan at the UN after completion of investigation from Yadav.

WASHINGTON: The US government has announced sanctions against seven Pakistani entities allegedly associated with the country's missile programme, says an official notification. The notification by the US Department of Commerce said that the entities added to the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) list "have been determined by the US government to be acting contrary to the national security or foreign policy interests of the United States".

All seven have been placed on the entity list under the destination of Pakistan. They are identified as:

- (1) Ahad International Suite 5-6, 2nd Floor, Empress Tower, Empress Road, Lahore, and 2nd Floor, Nomro Centre, Badami Bagh, Lahore.
- (2) Air Weapons Complex (AWC) AWC: E-5, Officers Colony, Wah Cantonment.
- (3) Engineering Solutions Pvt. Ltd. 726, G-11/2, Ibne-Sina Road, Islamabad.
- (4) Maritime Technology Complex (MTC) Plot 94, Karachi, and MTC System Division, PN Dockyard, Karachi.
- (5) National Engineering and Scientific Commission (NESCOM) NESCOM Headquarter, Plot 94, Sector H-11/4, Islamabad.
- (6) New Auto Engineering (NAE) NAE: 72, Industrial Area, Peshawar Road, Rawalpindi.
- (7) Universal Tooling Services, a.k.a., the following three aliases: Forward Design and Manufacturing, MSM Enterprises and Technopak Engineering Deen Plaza, 68/62, Adamjee Road, Saddar P.O. Box 1640, GPO Rawalpindi; G-7, Nimra Centre 7, Badami Bagh, Lahore; 31/B Faisal Town, Lahore, Punjab; and Model Town, HMC Road, Taxila. Pakistan has always denied any wrongdoing in connection with its nuclear or missile programme, and Dawn was unable to verify if the names and addresses given were correct or in any way linked to the country's missile programme.

According to the notification, the US government determined that there was reasonable cause to believe, based on specific and articulable facts, that these "government, parastatal, and private entities in Pakistan are determined to be involved in activities that are contrary to the national security and/or foreign policy of the United States". The conduct of these seven entities "raises sufficient concern that prior review of exports, re-exports or transfers (in-country) of items subject to the EAR involving these persons, and the possible imposition of licence conditions or licence denials on shipments to the persons, will enhance (the department's) ability to prevent violations of the EAR". The placement on the list imposes a licence requirement for all items subject to the EAR and a licence review policy of presumption of denial. The licence requirements apply to any transaction in which items are to be exported, re-exported, or transferred (in-country) to any of the entities or in which such entities act as purchaser, intermediate consignee, ultimate consignee, or end-user. In addition, no licence exceptions are available for exports, re-exports, or transfers (in-country) to the persons being added to the entity list in this rule. The restrictions will also apply to acronym used by these entities to help exporters, re-exporters and transferors. The notification does not specify the violations these entities are supposed to have committed and does not give details of the items they are supposed to have exported, imported or re-exported.

At least two people were injured in a blast occurred outside the Counter-terrorism department office at Police Lines in Rahim Yar Khan on Friday.

According to media reports Rescue officials claimed there were two attackers, a man and a burqa-clad individual. The burqa-clad attacker allegedly blew themselves up while the other fled, according to rescue officials. Local police sources told the burqa-clad attacker was a man who succumbed to his injuries after attempting to carry out a suicide attack. Deputy Superintendent Police Chaudhry Ashraf also said the explosion was a suicide attack. He said two police officials were injured in the attack. Local police sources claimed two Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) officials were targeted by the attackers as they come out of the mosque after Friday prayers. The mosque is situated close to a Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) office.

Punjab Law Minister Rana Sanaullah while speaking to private Tv said it was a suicide attack targeting CTD and police officials "but thankfully there was no loss." "Some people were injured. We are still receiving details about the attack." "The CTD is conducting operations all over Punjab. Threats do exist. This has happened before, when a CTD officer was targeted. CTD officers are aware of the threat alert," Sanaullah said. The law minister added that officials have not been been

Over 450,000 fake CNICs blocked in three years: Ch Nisar

Pakistan Today, December 30, 2016

able to verify the number of attackers and the nature of the attack as yet. The wounded were shifted to Sheikh Zayed Medical College and Hospital and rescue officials said the two were in stable condition. Rescue officials reached the site of the blast and police cordoned off the area, eyewitnesses told. A search operation was launched in the aftermath of the attack.

Interior Minister Chaudhry Nisar Ali Khan on Friday said around 450,000 fake computerised national identity cards (CNICs) had been blocked during the last three and a half years. Over 32,000 passports were also revoked during the period, he said while addressing a press conference here at NADRA headquarters.

Giving a comparison of present and previous regimes regarding blocked CNICs, the minister claimed that no action was taken against bogus identity cards before 2011, however, the present government realised the issue and started national re-verification campaign of CNICs. The verification process of CNICs was branded 'impossible' by a section of media, however, the government proved them wrong and successfully completed the task, he said. He admitted that the National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA) had issues; however, the government was bringing reforms and introducing solutions with the passage of time. Nisar said the recovery of Pakistani identity cards from terrorists had damaged the country on different levels and added only 26 fake CNICs were cancelled in 2011, 493 in 2012, 6,000 in 2013, 22,000 in 2014, 96,000 in 2015 and around 223,512 in 2016. He said no concrete steps were taken in the past, and during the tenure of the last government only 517 CNICs and a few passports were blocked. There was no example of verification before 2011, he added. The national documents, he said, were issued to foreigners and were used in human trafficking, terrorism and other illegal activities, which led to defame Pakistan in the world. He appreciated officers and officials of NADRA and also media for their effective and praiseworthy role in the six-month verification process, and said the officials of NADRA involved in issuing illegal national documents would be brought to justice. The minister said SIM cards were also verified through the biometric system, and after completion of the process, millions of SIMs were blocked. He said during the campaign, NADRA sent 101 million SMS to family heads asking them to verify their family members. Around 86,380 intruders were found during the six-month drive, he added. Nisar said proactive efforts were being made to restore the CNICs of those who had valid documents. He announced to form an 18-member parliamentary committee to oversee the verification process of CNICs, and NADRA would brief the committee every month and decisions would be taken on a fast-track basis.

Answering a question, he said everyone was equal in the eyes of the law, and indiscriminate actions were being taken against all the criminal cases. He said the committee probing the news leak issue had been given a one-month extension to submit its report which would be made public. All cases against corruption would be taken to a logical conclusion according to the law, he replied to another query.

Answering another query about money laundering allegedly carried out by Khanani and Kalia, he said the majority of record had been destroyed in the case to hide facts, and announced to constitute a committee next month to further investigate the matter.

Answering a question, he said his ministry was in contact with the management of social media sites to get information related to the release of incorrect posts about the designated Chief Justice of Pakistan. "We are in contact with Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp and other social media sites to expose elements and their hidden motives for launching a negative campaign to damage the credibility of state institutions," he said.

Replying to another query, the minister said he would move the Supreme Court to defend himself on the Quetta Commission report. Former attorney general Makhdoom Ali Khan would be his lawyer. About General (Retd) Pervez Musharraf's recent claim, Nisar said his ministry had put the name of the former president on the Exit Control List (ECL) for two and a half years. The trial court, high court and then the Supreme Court allowed Musharraf to travel abroad, he added.

The Sindh High Court ordered on Thursday the release of three alleged facilitators of the Safoora bus attack on bail, but, when required, the three must appear for the trial in an anti-terrorism court. The order came at a hearing of petitions seeking the transfer of the case files from a military court to the anti-terrorism court.

At least 45 people were killed and 13 others wounded on May 13, 2015, when gunmen opened fire on a bus carrying members of the Ismaili community near Safoora Chowk. The families of Naeem Sajid, Sultan Qamar Siddiqui and Hussain Umar Siddiqui, who are charged with facilitating the horrific attack, submitted that the custody of their relatives had been shifted to the central prison, but the record of the proceedings of the case was still lying with the military court. They said that the detainees were being incarcerated without any trial proceedings, and requested the court to direct the military court to shift the trial proceedings of the case to anti-terrorism court. The petitioners' counsel said the military authorities concerned were not complying with the court orders, and requested release the detainees on bail, subject to furnishing of surety amounts, on the grounds that they were being incarcerated without any trial proceedings. The court was earlier informed by the jail authorities that the alleged facilitators had been again remanded back to the anti-terrorism court for speedy disposal of the trial on a request of the military authorities. They said the custody of the co-accused, who had been sent to the military authorities for trial, was remanded back as they could not be tried by the military court because the requisite nexus of their alleged offences based on religion or sect was not established to bring them under the Pakistan Army Act. They said that the military authorities had sent back their cases with the request to conduct their speedy trial under the anti-terrorism law. It was submitted that the chief justice of the SHC acceded to the request made by the assistant judge advocate general, 5 corps, and the cases were transferred to the ATC, from where it was sent to the special military court for its speedy trial and disposal in accordance with the law. The court, at a previous hearing, had directed the judge assistant advocate general to return the record of the trial proceedings to anti-terrorism

Three Safoora bus attack 'facilitators' released on bail

The News, December 30, 2016

Pakistan has won its war on terror

The News, December 30, 2016

court.

Sindh Prosecutor General Shahadat Awan had placed before the court a compliance report along with a letter of the assistant judge advocate general, which reflected that the case files had been handed over to representatives of ATC-VI. The petitioners' counsel, Khawaja Shamsul Islam, submitted that the letter of JAG was just eyewash for the reason that while the detainees were tried by the military court, the files sent did not contain the record of the proceedings, diaries or the judgment of the military court. The court had directed the registrar to convey to the ATC judge a directive to examine the case files which it had received and if they were found in accordance with the law to direct the retention of the detainees' custody and issue a their appearance order for the next date of the hearing. The ATC judge submitted in a report that no order or any judicial proceedings or even the case diaries were available in the files related to the proceedings that had taken place before the military court; however, efforts were being made to obtain the final order of the military court passed in the above matters for further proceedings. The ATC judge further submitted that no further order as to the issuance of the production order for the accused persons or any other order could be passed unless the judgment of the military court was obtained.

A division bench, headed by Chief Justice Sajjad Ali Shah, observed that when there was no order of the military court to show that after a full-dressed trial and convictions of some of the accused and as per the letter of the judge assistant advocate general where the latter after recording evidence arrived at the conclusion that neither the three accused were claimed/known to belong to any terrorist group or organisation using the name of religion or a sect nor their nexus or link with the Safoora bus attack case could be established, they could be retired for the same incident by any other court. The court observed that unless any contrary judgment of the military court was produced before the anti-terrorism court or the ATC itself came to the conclusion that it preferred to take cognizance by issuing an appearance order, the detainees could not be denied their constitutional right of freedom by retaining them in prison. The court observed that presently the case of detainees was neither before the anti-terrorism court nor any other proceedings requiring their detention in jail were pending; therefore, they be released on bail subject to furnishing a surety of Rs1 million each till their presence was required by the anti-terrorism court. The court directed the detainees to deposit their passports to the Nazir and ordered releasing them if they were not required in any other cases.

On apprehension of the petitioners' counsel that the detainees may be taken away by some other agencies after their release, the court directed the authorities to release the detainees in the presence of the Nazir of the court. The military court had handed down death sentences to five men for involvement in the Safoora bus attack case on May 12, 2016.

LONDON: Until a few years ago, Pakistan was one of the most dangerous countries on earth. But now the country has won its war against terrorism, normalising the war-like situation in parts of the country, a British journal reported on Thursday.

The tribal areas in the north were infested by the Taliban, whose bases stretched to within 100 miles of the capital, Islamabad. Western intelligence agencies feared that the Taliban could seize one of the country's nuclear installations, then hold the world to ransom. Large parts of the country elsewhere were lawless or terrorised by armed groups, says a report published on Spectator.co.UK. It would be foolish to claim that Pakistan's security problems are over. But something extraordinary and unexpected has certainly happened. Since it fails to fit the established narrative of Pakistan as a dangerous nation, it's gone unacknowledged in the West. Violence has not just dropped a bit. It is down by three quarters in the last two years. The country is safer than at any point since George W. Bush launched his war on terror 15 years ago. The change can be dated to a special cabinet meeting called by Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif in Karachi in September 2013. At this meeting Sharif called an end to Pakistan's culture of violence. Parts of Karachi, a teeming city of more than 20 million on the Arabian Sea, had been a war zone for decades. All the main political parties employed paramilitary wings and some formed alliances with terror groups including al-Qaeda. The Taliban had long treasured a secure basis in Karachi, as had religious terror groups. That was a conventional crime industry specialising in kidnap, drug smuggling and extortion (every business had to pay protection money to gangs).

Pakistan's politicians tolerated this. Pervez Musharraf, the army chief and president, was often accused of allowing the armed wing of Karachi's largest political party, MQM, to operate with complete impunity. This policy continued under Musharraf's civilian successor, Asif Zardari, whose Pakistan's People's Party governed Karachi in coalition with MQM from 2008 to 2012. Five years ago we walked around gangster-infested Liyari town in Karachi's port area with the local mafia don, Uzair Baloch. Baloch (now in jail) told us he could speak to Zardari whenever he wanted. The violence just rose and rose, until Zardari's replacement Nawaz Sharif ordered his cabinet to Karachi and gave the state's paramilitary arm, the Rangers, unlimited powers. This was the moment when political tolerance of violence ended.

We interviewed Major-General Bilal Akbar, director-general of Sindh Rangers for the past two-and-a-half years, at his HQ in the south of the city; he has since transferred to be the Pakistani army's chief of general staff. After asking us to pass on his regards to Nick Carter, head of the British army (with whom he used to play bridge every Friday night when they were both stationed in Kabul), he explained the security situation.

In 2013 there were 2,789 killings in Karachi. In the first 11 months of 2016 there were 592. In 2013 there were 51 terrorist bomb blasts. Up to late November this year, there were two. Three years ago, Karachi suffered from an orgy of kidnapping for ransom. There were 78 cases in 2013, rising to 110 the following year. This year, there have been 19. Some 533 extortion cases were reported in 2013; in 2016, only 133. Sectarian killing is sharply down: while 38 members of the Shia minority were killed in 2013, that figure was down by two thirds in 2016.

Major-General Bilal told us: "We have apprehended 919 target killers from the militant wings of

political parties since September 2013. They confessed to over 7,300 killings. The daily homicide rate in the city is less than two now. It used to be ten or 15, and during ethnic clashes we could lose 100 lives a day.” Just three years ago, according to the Numbeo international crime index, Karachi was the sixth most dangerous city in the world. Today it stands at number 31 — and falling. Six months after he ordered the Rangers into Karachi, Nawaz Sharif took an even more momentous decision. The prime minister, whose initial instinct had been to negotiate with the Taliban and oppose the use of force, yielded to advice from his generals. He sent the army into North Waziristan, the Taliban stronghold on the Afghan border. North Waziristan had not just provided a base for the Taliban leadership. It was a centre for the manufacture of explosives, suicide vests and military equipment, and for training camps, as well as drawing in foreign fighters from al-Qaeda. It was the epicentre of terrorism in Pakistan, which is why this intractable and remote area had been left alone by the army for so long.

In June 2014, General Raheel Sharif (now a national hero, and no relation of prime minister Sharif) took charge of a massive military offensive, Zarb-e-Azb. Taliban groups responded with a series of atrocities of which the most grotesque was the attack on the Army Public School in Peshawar, in which a reported 140 children were killed. That stimulated the National Action Plan in January 2015, hailed by Prime Minister Sharif as the defining moment in the fight against terrorism. It established special military courts and outlawed terror groups which had previously been given latitude by the state. At the same time, the army stepped up its operations. According to official figures, it has killed about 3,500 Taliban fighters, destroyed 992 hideouts and cleared 3,600 square kilometres of territory. Nearly 500 soldiers have died. The Taliban have been gravely weakened. According to Bakhtiar Mohamed, Director of the National Counter Terrorism Authority. “The army has gone very deeply into every nook and corner of the tribal areas. There is no possibility of any revival of extremism.” Some of the methods have been brutal. There is very little testimony from the tribal areas, but one expert says Miranshah, capital of North Waziristan, has been turned into a ‘car park’. The MQM complains that some 150 of its activists have been ‘disappeared’ (a complaint which takes a bit of cheek, considering MQM’s own ruthless methods). The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan protests that more than 430 people have been executed since the moratorium on the death penalty (which was imposed by Zardari in 2008) was ended in 2014. The Human Rights Commission is also alarmed about the new military courts. This is understandable — yet what else should the state have done? Witnesses simply refuse to come forward in the civil system. The same applies to lawyers and judges.

Take the case of Malik Ishaq, founder of the terror group Lashkar-e-Jhangvi and responsible for thousands of murders. Mindful of their safety, more than 70 judges and lawyers refused either to hear or to prosecute the case. Finally Ishaq died, say the police, in an ‘encounter killing’. Then there is Omar Sheikh, the alleged murderer of Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl in 2001. Now, 15 years on, the Pearl case has still not been resolved, and Sheikh rots in jail in Hyderabad, 100 miles up the Indus from Karachi. Not all of Pakistan has benefited from the new security environment, as the south-western province of Balochistan shows. In this mountainous region riven by insurgency and sectarian hatred, terror groups have continued to operate freely. Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, which some say has support from Saudi citizens, has carried out unspeakable attacks on the Hazara Shia minority. The leadership of the Haqqani network — part of the so-called Afghan Taliban — has migrated from the tribal areas to Quetta, the provincial capital. ISIS is on the rise. There have been three major incidents this year, including a terrible attack on lawyers in Quetta. Many of the young lawyers of the city had assembled at a hospital to mourn a murdered colleague, when a suicide bomber struck. The Pakistan state has long been accused of tolerating and even abetting groups like Lashkar-e-Jhangvi because they serve its strategic interests. Some local people in Balochistan believe that LEJ is little more than an enforcement arm of the state, licensed to carry out brutality which cannot be meted out legally. But even here there are hopeful signs. Sartaj Aziz, adviser to Nawaz Sharif, told us that LEJ is the next target. There are other cheering developments. The Sindh Assembly has just passed a bill to prevent forced conversions of Pakistan’s remaining Hindus. But there is a long way to go, and the progress could easily be reversed. There is the possibility that the Taliban has simply fragmented, making it more unpredictable, dangerous and erratic. Some of the successes are merely tactical: structural reform to the police and the judiciary are essential to enforce the other measures.

Meanwhile, Britain continues to harbour the MQM leader Altaf Hussain in lodgings in west London, to the fury and bafflement of Karachi police. He and his organisation both deny claims of terrorism and extremism, declaring that they ‘always act within peaceful political structures’. But one high-ranking law enforcement official told us: “I calculate there have been 7,540 violent days in Karachi in the last 30 years. On 99 per cent of those days that violence has been incited by Altaf Hussain. I calculate he has been responsible for 35,000 deaths. Just sitting in London. Imagine the reverse scenario — if Gerry Adams had been masterminding IRA terror from Karachi.”

Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) Chief and a close ally of the ruling Pakistan Muslim League (PML-N) Chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman has castigated the proposed extension in the military courts and giving them permanent status saying his party would take it as failure of the Federal Government. “A draft of a new law is being mulled to give permanent status to military courts and integrate the Protection of Pakistan Act and Anti-Terrorism Act. The extension in the period of military courts, which were set up for two years after December 2014 attacks on schoolchildren in Peshawar, would be considered as failure of the government,” the JUI Supremo declared while talking to newsmen in Peshawar on Thursday. He said the impression was being created as if the judges of the civil courts were coward and helpless. “Forming military courts is an insult to civil judges,” Fazl remarked and added that instead of forming military courts, the government should address the issues confronting the judges in civil courts. “Why can’t we give security to civil judges?” he asked and suggested that instead the judges should be provided security by the Army.

“What is the point of such courts where the accused are produced in a state of fear? This is against basic justice,” the JUI chief apprehended claiming that a number of innocent people have

Fazl unhappy over possible extension of military courts

Pakistan Observer, December 30, 2016

Law & order improved substantially in the wake of Karachi operation

Business Recorder, December 29, 2016

Eight terrorists death sentences confirmed by Qamer Bajwa

Pak Tribune, December 29, 2016

been hanged on the orders of military courts. The military courts are to expire on January 7 and all under-trial cases will be transferred to the anti-terrorism courts. At present 120 cases are being heard in military courts, which had received 300 cases in all. The JUI-F chief rapped the forces offering opposition to China-Pakistan Economic Corridor adding that CPEC was being made controversial for personnel benefits. He said the JUI-F cannot be party to such opposition. He accused Pakistan People Party of changing its political stance on China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). He, however, welcomed Asif Ali Zardari back home and hoping that the former president will play an active role in national politics. Talking about the merger of FATA into KP, the JUI-F Chief said that he sticks to his approach that referendum should be conducted to whether tribal belt wants to merge with KP. In the meanwhile the Chairman Kashmir Committee and Ameer JUI (F) Maulana Fazlur Rehman called on the Governor Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Engr. Iqbal Zafar Jhagra here at the Governor's House, Peshawar on Thursday. He remained with the Governor for some time and discussed matters of mutual interest especially related to the well-being of the people of the province and FATA.

KARACHI: The law and order in the metropolis has improved substantially in the wake of the launched of the Karachi Operation. This was pointed out in a report for the years 2016 issued by the Pakistan Rangers, Sindh, here on Thursday.

It may be recalled that the Karachi Operation was initiated in the year 2013. The report pointed out that there was a reduction of 72 percent incidents of terrorism. These were 57 in the year 2013 while 66 in 2014 while 18 in 2015 and 16 in the current year. The decline in target killing was to the tune of 91 percent and 93 in cases of extortion. Kidnapping cases reduced by 86 percent. Weapons recovered included 10 rocket launchers, 50 heavy/light machine guns and 358 Kalashnikovs/sub machine guns. As many as 90 shot guns, 112 repeaters, 315 rifles and 910 pistols/revolvers. As many as 100 grenades/crackers and 12 kg of explosive material also recovered. The report further pointed out that from January 1 this year to date 2,847 arrests were made in 1,992 operations in the metropolis. These included 360 alleged terrorists, 446 target killers.

ISLAMABAD: Chief of Army Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa on Wednesday confirmed death sentences for another eight terrorists, who were involved in offences related to terrorism, including killing of innocent civilians, slaughtering soldiers of Law Enforcement Agencies and Armed Forces of Pakistan. One other terrorist has been awarded life imprisonment.

According to an ISPR spokesman, these terrorists include those who planned and executed an attack on persons of the Ismaili Community at Safoora Chowrangi Karachi, wherein 45 persons died at the spot and 6 others got injured. They also include those who killed social worker Sabeen Mehmood, kidnapped two Chinese Engineers and a civilian for ransom. On the whole, they were involved in killing of 90 persons and injuring 99 others. Explosives were also recovered from their possession. These convicts were tried by military courts and all terrorists admitted their offences before the magistrate and the trial court.

Terrorists who were awarded death sentence are Hafiz Muhammad Umar alias Jawad S/O Afzal Ahmed, Ali Rehman alias Pano/Tona S/O Asif ur Rehman, Abdul Salam alias Tayyab/Rizwan Azeem S/O Muhammad Nazar ul Islam and Khurram Shafique alias Abdullah Mansoor/Abdullah Mansuri S/O Muhammad Shafiq. These four convicts were members of proscribed organisations. They were involved in attacking persons of Ismaili community travelling in a bus at Safoora Chorangi Karachi which resulted in death of 45 passengers and caused injuries to 6 others. They were also involved in killing of a social worker Mst Sabeen Mehmood at Karachi.

Muslim Khan S/O Abdul Rasheed: The convict was a spokesman of a proscribed organisation. He was involved in killing innocent civilians, attacking Armed Forces and Law Enforcement Agencies of Pakistan, which resulted in death of 31 persons including Inspector Sher Ali of police and injuries to 69 others. He was involved in the killing of Capt Najam Riaz Raja, Capt Junaid Khan, Naik Shahid Rasool and Lance Naik Shakeel Ahmed. He was also involved in kidnapping two Chinese Engineers and a local civilian for ransom.

Muhammad Yousaf S/O Khalid Khan: The convict was a member of a proscribed organisation. He was involved in attacking Armed Forces and Law Enforcement Agencies of Pakistan, which resulted in the death of 4 soldiers including Sepoy Raj Wali of Frontier Constabulary.

Saif Ullah S/O Naseeb Hussain: The convict was a member of a proscribed organisation. He was involved in the killing of innocent civilians and attacking Law Enforcement Agencies of Pakistan, which resulted in death of Assistant Sub Inspector Fareed Khan and a police constable. He also caused injuries to another police constable and was found in possession of explosives.

Bilal Mehmood S/O Qari Mehmood Ul Hassan: The convict was a member of a proscribed organisation. He was involved in attacking Law Enforcement Agencies of Pakistan, which resulted in death of two police constables and injuries to four others. He was also found in possession of explosives.

Sartaj Ali s/o Bakht Afsar: The convict was a member of a proscribed organisation. He was involved in providing funds to the terrorists for terrorist activities. He admitted his offence before the magistrate and the trial court. He was awarded imprisonment for life.

Mehmood Khan s/o Bakht Buland: The convict was a member of a proscribed organisation. He was involved in kidnapping a Chinese engineer for ransom. The convict admitted his offence before the magistrate and the trial court. He was awarded rigorous imprisonment for twenty years.

Fazal e Ghaffar s/o Aqil Khan: The convict was a member of a proscribed organisation. He was involved in attacking Police Station Shamoza during which police officials and Frontier Constabulary soldiers were abducted from the said police station. The convict admitted his offence before the magistrate and the trial court. He was awarded rigorous imprisonment for twenty years.

PUBLIC SERVICES

NEWS HEADLINES

SIUT volunteer training programme for students concludes

The News International, January 1, 2017

Army to facilitate local population in health, edu sectors: Brig Tahir

Pakistan Observer, January 1, 2017

HEC decides to launch online system for degree verification

Pakistan Today, December 31, 2016

More than 402 awareness sessions conducted to control tobacco use

Daily Times, December 31, 2016

DETAILS

The 45th batch of volunteers comprising 250 students trained by the Sindh Institute of Urology and Transplantation (SIUT) in the field of community services and medical care concluded here on Saturday. Speaking on the occasion, Professor Anwar Naqvi said that the programme is designed to help the students to learn and understand the problems and sufferings of fellow human beings, which not only brought a positive change in their outlook in life, but was also beneficial to the entire society. Expressing his view at the concluding ceremony in which certificates were also awarded, Prof Adibul Hasan Rizvi, director of the SIUT, said that for the past 10 years the SIUT had been organizing student volunteer programmes, which were a regular feature of the institute that attracted students from high school and college level educational institutions of Karachi, who came to acquire training in the field of community services first aid and basic medical care. He said that during the training the students were informed about the guidelines of patient medical care in the field of radiology, clinical laboratory, nephrology, urology, dialysis, transplantation, lithotripsy and other medical surgical and allied services. Prof Rizvi stated that the programme was geared to give an insight to the young generation into the plight of the underprivileged population of the country and to equip them with the skills to provide them relief and solace. He said that the program has gained an immense popularity and to date more than 5,300 students had successfully completed the training. Prof Rizvi was confident that parents and educational institutions would continue to support the volunteer programme of the SIUT. The ceremony was attended by a large number of teachers, students and their parents.

ZHOB: Station Commander 29 Brigade Brigadier Tahir Gulzar Malik has said that Pak Army is committed to continue its support in facilitating local population not only in health but also in education sector. He was talking to media at the inaugural ceremony of a free medical camp set up by Medical Corps of the Pakistan Army at Combined Military Hospital (CMH) here. Grison Commander further said that free medical camp was being set-up to facilitate the local population.

"Keeping in mind efforts are underway to ensure provision of health and education facilities to the people in the backward areas and all possible measures would be taken for the purpose, he added. Commissioner Zhob division Ghulam Farid inaugurated the camp. He was flanked by Brigadier Tahir Gulzar Malik, Deputy Commissioner Zhob Muhammad Azeem Kakar, Commanding Officer CMH Col Shahamad Ali and Assistant Commissioner Jamil Ahmed Rind.

They visited the medical camp, inspected the health facilities and enquired from patients about the facilities. Talking to journalists, Commissioner Ghulam Farid said that the free medical camp in an area that lacks basic facility would not only ensure standard health care to the area people at their doorstep but would also overcome health issues and control several chronic and seasonal diseases. Commissioner said. Meanwhile, hundreds of poor and deserving patients hailing from far-flung areas received medical treatment and medicines at the camp. Medical team, comprising male, female specialist doctors, gynecologist and pediatrician examined one thousand poor and needy patients including women and children suffering from various diseases hailing from the remote mountainous areas of the district. Para medical staff carried out clinical examination of patients and provided them medicines free of cost. Children were also vaccinated at a daylong camp.

Residents of the area highly appreciated endeavours of Pak Army to mitigate sufferings of patients living in the distant areas and suggested more camps in future.

Higher Education Commission (HEC) has decided to introduce the online system for degree verification. In a notification issued to the government and private universities, HEC's executive director Dr Arshad Ali has directed that the degrees, certificates and diplomas will be verified only by HEC whereby the universities will not be authorised to do so. The purpose of the new system is to ease the matters regarding verification of degrees. According to the current system of HEC, the degrees are being verified from the Karachi, Quetta and Lahore's regional offices whereas it will soon be made online all around Pakistan. Students will upload their degrees after scanning it in HEC's online system which will be linked to National Database and Regulation Authority (NADRA). In the first step, the student's identity will be verified. HEC is also making a Pakistan qualification register where the degree programme details of all government and private universities will be present. Moreover, HEC will also give the access of the database to the controller examination of all universities so that the scanned degree is also checked by them.

ISLAMABAD: The Tobacco Control Cell (TCC) of the Ministry of National Health Services has conducted more than 402 awareness and capacity building sessions for law enforcement agencies (LEAs), authorised persons and general public in which about 12,000 persons have been sensitized and trained. The cell is taking demand and supply reduction measures to control epidemic of tobacco use in the country. Tobacco use is a single largest preventable cause of death in the world and in Pakistan, tobacco kills 1,645 men and 442 women every week, which is about 298 deaths per day, 2,087 per week and 108,800 per year. Highlighting the measures adopted by the cell to control tobacco epidemic in the country, official sources on Sunday said these included policy and legislation level interventions, ban on import of Sheesha (tobacco and non-tobacco) and related substances, introduction of pictorial health warning on cigarette packs and outers, ban on tobacco products advertisement in print, electronic and outdoor media and ban on free samples, cash rebates, discounts and sponsorship of events.

The other steps included ban on manufacturing and sale of cigarettes packs having less than 20 cigarette sticks, illegalization of 'designated smoking areas', and increase in FED on cigarette packs (40.33% increase in FED in last two financial years-44.77% on lower slab and 35.89% on upper

'WAPDA registered 5.7% rise in hydropower generation'

Daily times, December 31, 2016

LDA seals 10 buildings for violating bylaws

Daily times, December 31, 2016

LPG rate up by Rs10 per kg

The Nation, December 30, 2016

Water scarcity may harm crops: Asif

Pakistan Today, December 30, 2016

slab). Under infrastructure development and institutionalization, the sources said Tobacco Control Cells have been established in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) and Balochistan while Punjab and Sindh have committed the same. Some other steps included formation of National Technical Advisory Group (TAG), formation of technical working group on tobacco taxation, formation and activation of provincial implementation committees/task forces for tobacco control in provinces, formation and activation of district implementation and monitoring committees on tobacco control in model districts and formation of district enforcement teams in model districts. Moreover, under awareness interventions, the sources said, the cell conducted provincial and district implementation committees meetings, launching of two national mass media campaigns – Sponge (2016) and Tobacco is Hollowing You Out (2015), dissemination of information materials on hazards of tobacco use, second hand tobacco smoke and tobacco control laws (1,157,000 units have been disseminated), installation of plates/posters carrying "Smoking is an Offense" message in ministries, schools/universities, hotels, public service vehicles and other public places and also installation of 200 boards with tobacco control messages at public places in Islamabad. Similarly, under multifarious awareness interventions, the sources said cell's endeavours included radio and TV programmes, newspaper ads, production and airing of two documentary films in national and regional languages, incorporation of tobacco control messages in curriculum and branding of buses with tobacco control messages in Islamabad/Rawalpindi. The sources said under enforcement measures, the cell ensured capacity building of law enforcement officers/authorized persons, raids by law enforcement teams and as a result 963 cases have been registered across the country under various sections of the 2002 ordinance.

LAHORE: The hydropower stations of the Pakistan Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) produced 33,658 million units of electricity in 2016 compared to 31,840 million units in 2015, registering an increase of 1,818 million units (5.7 %). At present, WAPDA owns 19 hydropower stations with cumulative generation capacity of 6,902MW, which is about one-third of the total installed capacity in Pakistan. "This additional contribution of hydel electricity to the national grid helped minimise load shedding in the country. The main contributing factors behind this hydel generation include water release from the reservoirs on the indent of the Indus River System Authority (IRSA) and effective operation and consistent maintenance of the hydropower stations by the WAPDA," said Rana Muhammad Abid, director public relations WAPDA. It is worth mentioning that hydropower is the cheapest, cleanest and environment-friendly source of electricity, which plays a significant role in stabilising electricity tariff in the country. According to the data of the Pakistan Electric Power Company (PEPCO) regarding per unit cost of electricity generated from various sources during fiscal year 2015-16, it is Rs.2.15 for hydel, which is far less than per unit cost of electricity generated from all other sources. In comparison to hydel electricity, it is Rs 9.07 per unit for gas, Rs 11.05 for residual furnace oil (RFO), Rs 17.96 for high speed diesel (HSD), Rs 12.08 for coal, Rs 6.86 for nuclear, Rs 16.63 for wind, Rs 11.95 for bagasse, Rs 16.95 for solar, Rs 11.27 for re-gasified liquefied natural gas (RLNG), and Rs 10.55 per unit for electricity imported from Iran. It may be mentioned that hydroelectric plants, the world over, have average life span of 30 to 35 years, but the WAPDA is still operating its hydropower stations, a majority of which are far older than their average life. "Despite ageing factor, the hydropower stations are still capable to be run at their maximum generation capacities, added Muhammad Abid.

LAHORE: The Town Planning Wing and Recovery Directorate of the Lahore Development Authority (LDA) Saturday demolished a marriage hall and sealed 10 residential properties for violating building bylaws. A marriage hall, located along Manawan Canal Road, was demolished by the LDA Town Planning Wing. According to details, building plan for construction of the marriage hall was not approved by the LDA. Earlier, the LDA had demolished the building of the marriage hall twice but the building was built again by owners. Separately, LDA Recovery Directorate sealed 10 residential properties in different localities of the city, which were being used for commercial purposes without prior approval by the competent authority. These residential buildings were situated in the area of Faisal Town, New Garden Town, Guberg and Muslim Town.

LAHORE: The marketing companies have increased the price of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) by Rs10 per kg; Rs100 for domestic cylinder and Rs400 for commercial cylinder. "The new prices will be effective from today," said LPG Distribution Association Pakistan Chairman Irfan Khokhar. He said that rise in the rates was due to increase in LPG rates in international markets. "The price in the international market increased by \$67 per ton and now it stands at \$467 per ton from \$400 per metric ton," he informed. Khokhar demanded the prime minister and minister for petroleum to make feasible policies for LPG import. According to new rates, LPG will be sold in Lahore, Kasur, Gujranwala, Faisalabad, Jehlum, Sahiwal, Sialkot, Daska, Peshawar at Rs95 kg, Rs1090 per domestic cylinder. In Rahim Yar Khan, Sadiqabad, Hyderabad, Attock, Gujrat, Mirpur (AJK) at Rs.110kg and at Rs1270 per domestic cylinder. In Rawalpindi, Islamabad, Abbotabad (KP), Muzaffarabad, Bagh, Kotli (AJK), Fata, Tando Mohammad Khan, Mirpurkhas, Umarkot, Nawabshah, Thatta, Dado, Jamshoro, Shikrpur at Rs115kg and Rs1330 per domestic cylinder while the price will be Rs120 per kg and 1390 per domestic cylinder in Gilgit Baltistan, Murre and Nathiagali. Khokhar said that there was a breakthrough in imports this year as more than 600,000 tonnes of LPG was imported in 2016, breaking all previous records. He said more than 1.2 million tonnes of gas was consumed in Pakistan in this year.

Minister for Water and Power Khawaja Asif has said the water supply for crops could be affected if the country does not receive any rainfall in January. In an interview to a private news channel, Asif said the water being used at the moment is from reservoirs. "The situation is critical. We are totally dependent on rain at the moment", he said. The minister said that Indus River System Authority (IRSA) would not release water which might affect the hydropower generation. He, however, said that the power supply situation would not take a grave turn due to low demand during the winter season. Asif further said that 1000 or 1200 megawatt electricity was generated from water during the winter season. "No major load-shedding is expected due to water shortage", he added.

PFA seals Gourmet foods production unit over unhygienic milk

Pakistan Today, December 30, 2016

Punjab Food Authority (PFA) on Friday sealed production unit of Gourmet foods in Daska over adulterated milk and poor cleanliness and hygiene parameters. Gourmet Milk failed even to hold against standards set by its own laboratory. Deputy Director Badar Munir told that there was no system maintained in a laboratory to check adulteration in milk. He further revealed that material used in milk packing was malformed and hazardous for health. The action was taken two days after the Supreme Court ordered PFA to initiate action against unhealthy milk sellers throughout Punjab and submit a report in the next hearing. The next hearing is scheduled in the first week of January 2017. Justice Saqib Nisar directed the PFA DG to visit all the districts in Punjab and collect milk samples. He further said that this case is of great importance; we will conclude the case of unhealthy milk as clean water and pure milk are basic necessities of all residents.

Matari-Lahore: China to invest \$1.5b in HVDC transmission line

Pakistan Today, December 30, 2016

China will invest 1.5 billion dollars in High Voltage, Direct Current (HVDC) Transmission Line between Matiari and Lahore. The transmission line will link north-south National Grid with a capacity to transmit 4,000MWs. An agreement to this connection was signed in Beijing in the State Guest House Beijing the other day between Secretary Water and Power Mohammad Younus Dagha and Chairman State Grid of China. The HVDC will be the first such high capacity transmission line in Pakistan.

Young doctors beat up patient in Lahore

Geo News, December 29, 2016

LAHORE: Young doctors beat up a patient after he protested that he was not being given satisfactory treatment. According to details, the patient complained of being delayed treatment when the doctors beat him up. Policemen reached the spot and saved the patient from the clutches of the doctors. Earlier this year, young doctors staged a strike in Lahore blocking Mall Road for traffic and creating nuisance for citizens. The doctors were protesting against the central induction policy by the government which allowed authorities to transfer them for duties not just in Lahore, but all over Punjab.

Woman killed in Islamabad hotel fire

Geo News, December 29, 2016

ISLAMABAD: A woman sleeping in a hotel room was killed when fire broke out in a building near Rawal Chowk, rescue services said. Fire broke out in a hotel room next to where the woman was sleeping. The smoke killed her, and suffocated 12 others who were shifted to a hospital. Two fire brigade engines took part in dousing the fire. The fire also damaged five doors of the hotel. On December 5, this year 12 people were killed and more than 110 injured when a fire broke out at private hotel in Karachi.

Crackdown on liquor in major cities of Punjab

Dunya News, December 29, 2016

LAHORE: With the arrival of New Year night, the police have increased their activities against alcohol vendors. They have carried out major crackdowns throughout Punjab after toxic liquor killed 42 in Toba Tek Singh, reported Dunya News. The police are also active against the selling of dangerous drugs. The most recent crackdown was made by Lahore police in Kot Lakhpat area where one thousand liters of alcohol was found hidden in a house as told by a secret informant. The police arrested two criminals and seized the dangerous chemicals from them. The police in provincial capital of Punjab also made a crackdown in the area of Cantt. 13 cartons of alcohol were seized after the police raided a house and took five criminals into custody. Moreover, 100 liters of toxic liquor was sized from the area Baghbanpura in Gujranwala where police arrested seven criminals. In Bhakkar, a whole truck containing toxic liquor was caught. The police seized over 12,000 bottles of alcohol. The driver and conductor of this truck were also arrested.

Plastic factory catches fire in Karachi

Dunya News, December 29, 2016

KARACHI: A plastic factory in Korangi's Murtaza Chowrangi area has caught fire on Thursday. According to details, two fire tenders reached the spot and are working to extinguish the fire while no human loss has been reported so far. Sources told that the reason behind the blaze is yet to be ascertained. On the other hand, one woman was died while five other sustained injuries as fire erupted at a private hotel in Islamabad. According to police officers, the woman identified as Almas lost life due to suffocation in the corridors whereas fire brigade doused the fire immediately. Moreover, the injured have been shifted to Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) or further medical assistance.

CNG prices increased in Sindh, transporters consider strike

Dunya News, December 29, 2016

KARACHI: CNG prices have been increased in Sindh province while the transporters are weighing going on strike in view of the recent price surge. The station-owners are setting the prices at will as the government deregulated the CNG sector, reported Dunya News. CNG price throughout Sindh, including Karachi, has been raised to Rs 71 per kilogram. Every CNG station-owner is setting the price of his choice. After an increase of around three rupees per kilogram on CNG, the gas is now being sold at Rs 70 to 71 per kg in the province. There are hardly any CNG stations in entire Karachi where the prices are written on the boards. Sindh CNG Association President Shabbir Suleman has said that the station-owners are in deficit despite the rise in price. He added that the CNG price in Sindh was still lower than that in the other provinces. People said that the decision to deregulate CNG sector was incomprehensible and it is the people only, as always, who will have to bear the brunt of the government's decision.

5 killed, 15 injured as coach overturns in at National Highway in Sukkur

Pakistan Today, December 28, 2016

Five passengers died and 15 others were injured as a speeding coach overturned at the National Highway near Sangi area in Sukkur on Tuesday night. The ill-fated bus was going to Karachi from Punjab. The women and a minor girl are among the dead. Police and rescue teams reached the spot after the accident and shifted the injured to hospitals in Sukkur and Panu Aqil. Rescue sources said that condition of several injured is very critical.

Pakistani-American doctor wins NATO's Scientific Achievement Award 2016

Geo News, December 28, 2016

WASHINGTON: A Pakistani American doctor has won the Scientific Achievement Award 2016 from the NATO Science and Technology Organization (STO) for his extra ordinary performance in research on medical countermeasures against biological agents. NATO's STO, the largest NATO organization for defense science and technology, honored Dr. Rashid Chotani with the prestigious distinction as part of the Research Task Group (RTG) for State of the Art research on Medical countermeasures against Biological Agents. Dr. Chotani has worked in the healthcare industry, government and academia in areas like advanced development of vaccines therapeutic and

LHC declares auction of DTH licenses illegal

Geo News, December 28, 2016

PM inaugurates 340MW Chashma-III Nuclear Power Plant

Geo News, December 28, 2016

Death toll from toxic liquor rises to 34 in Toba Tek Singh

Geo News, December 28, 2016

CM Shehbaz launches e-stamp papers

Pakistan Today, December 27, 2016

diagnostic countermeasures bio surveillance etc. As a senior scientist, Dr. Chotani has spent more than 20 years in providing bio security and public health expertise to both public agencies and private industry. He is a recognised expert in the identification, surveillance and diagnosis of human and zoonotic infectious diseases. His success in the academic field includes establishing & directing the Global Infectious Disease Surveillance and Alert System (GIDSAS) at John Hopkins University. At the John Hopkins applied Physics Laboratories, he was part of the team that designed the first Early Detection of Bio terrorism system that became operational as ESSENCE at DOD. In Pakistan, Dr. Chotani helped in upgrading the Early Warning system at the National Institute of Health (NIH) re-developed and refurbished the Epidemic Investigation Cell (EIC) with basic infrastructural needs as well as housed six qualified epidemiologists to assist in disease surveillance. He has also played a very important role as the Consultant Advisor to the Ministry of Health (MOH) in developing Pakistan's Influenza Preparedness Plan. The NATO Achievement Award recognizes the outstanding contributions made to NATO STO s sponsored activities that continue to widen STO s technological mandate.

LAHORE: A full member bench of Lahore High Court on Wednesday declared the auction of Direct-to-Home service (DTH) licenses 'illegal' in its ruling. The bench, headed by Justice Aisha A. Malik, ruled sub-Article 3 of Article 13 of Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA) as illegal and said that a broadcaster can also become a distributor. In November, PEMRA auctioned three DTH licenses for Rs 14.69 billion. The highest bid was raised by Mag Entertainment for Rs 4.91 billion, followed by M/s. Shahzad Sky for Rs 4.90 billion and M/s. Star time for Rs 4.89 billion, respectively. Licenses to the bid winners were to be awarded after clearance from the interior ministry and law enforcement agencies. The auction process had been started after conditional permission from the Supreme Court.

MIANWALI: Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif inaugurated the Chashma Nuclear Project – III, having a capacity of generating 340 megawatts of electricity. The 340MW power plant is a joint collaboration of Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) and China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC), read a press statement issued on Tuesday. This is the third project after successful operation of Chashma-I and Chashma-II projects. Minister of Defence and Water and Power Khawaja Asif and Advisor to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs Sartaj Aziz accompanied the Prime Minister. Chashma – IV Nuclear Power Project is to be completed in 2017, whereas Karachi Nuclear Power Projects K-2 and K-3 will add a total of 8,800MW electricity to the National Grid by 2030 as mid-term target for Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission. All nuclear power projects, including Chashma-III, have been approved by Pakistan Nuclear Regulatory Authority for Nuclear Safeguards as per International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) agreements thereby maintaining highest safety standards. The project will provide clean and affordable energy to the people of Pakistan, in line with the incumbent government's vision to control energy crisis. It will also contribute to the overall economic development of the country through power supply to industrial and commercial sectors. Addressing the inauguration ceremony, Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said the Chashma Nuclear Project-III is a concrete example of nuclear cooperation between Pakistan and China and brings Pakistan closer to its goal of eliminating loadshedding. The Prime Minister thanked the Chinese government and the Chinese atomic authority for their collaboration over the 340 MW Chashma Nuclear Project-III. "Ending loadshedding tops the priority list of the government and it will be eliminated by 2018," the Prime Minister said.

The premier pledged that the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission would be given full support to meet the country's growing energy demands and urged the commission to start new projects to overcome energy shortage. He added that the K-II and K-III power projects will be completed by 2030. The Prime Minister further vowed that electricity in the country will be made cheaper for the masses. 'CPEC to strengthen Pakistan-China friendship' The Prime Minister, in his address, invited Chinese firms to invest in nuclear power projects in Pakistan. "The government will fully facilitate Chinese companies who invest in these projects," he said. Pakistan and China are close friends and are working on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) together, the Prime Minister said. CPEC will strengthen Pakistan-China friendship, which is already "sweeter than honey", the Prime Minister added. Taking aim at the opposition, the Prime Minister said politics of protest, sit-ins will not help anyone. "Things are getting better. There's no need for protests, sit-ins, they won't get anyone anywhere," he said. "Don't risk Pakistan's betterment just for your politics," the Prime Minister said, addressing his opponents. "Don't hinder progress now that we are on the right path." The Prime Minister said economic progress will put an end to terrorism, poverty and illiteracy.

TOBA TEK SINGH: Two more people died after consuming toxic moonshine in Toba Tek Singh, taking the death toll to 34. Dozens are still under treatment at different hospitals, a police spokesperson said on Tuesday. Police have arrested four suspects for brewing and selling toxic liquor during the event. A case has been registered against the suspects. Dozens were hospitalised after consuming toxic liquor on Christmas in Muhalla Mubarakabad and Christian Colony areas of Toba Tek Singh, police said. Around 36 other affectees still remain under treatment at DHQ Toba Tek Singh and Allied Hospital Faisalabad. Meanwhile, authorities have formed an inquiry committee under DSP Atif Imran to probe the matter.

Punjab Chief Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif on Monday said the government was speedily moving towards e-governance and after land record management information system, e-stamp papers system had been launched in 144 tehsils of the province. "The new system is a revolutionary step of the Punjab government for the elimination of corruption and forgery," he said adding that 70-years old system of judicial and non-judicial stamp papers had been replaced with the new system in the province. The chief minister stated this while addressing a ceremony with regard to the launching of e-stamp papers at Arfa Karim Software Technology Park, here. He said the new system would result in the elimination of forgery and fraud and ensure easy access to data. He said e-stamp papers would also put an end to the practice of issuance of stamp papers in back dates and the problems of the people regarding the correct evaluation of their properties would be resolved. Shahbaz Sharif said the modern technology would also be introduced in education, health,

SC orders to test milk throughout Punjab

Dunya News, December 27, 2016

police and other sectors. He said modern information system would also be implemented in hospitals which would ensure attendance of doctors and paramedical staff as well as control misappropriation of medicines. He said under the new system, people would be able to obtain stamp papers within 15 minutes instead of three days and they would not have to pay frequent visits to offices and banks. The chief minister said media was discharging its responsibilities efficiently but a handful of blackmailers were presenting a wrong picture of the country. He said plea bargain of NAB was a fraud and it had been introduced by dictator Musharraf who toppled democracy. Shahbaz Sharif said that no society could progress without justice but unfortunately justice was sold in police stations and butcheries. He expressed the hope that time would come when the destiny of Pakistan would change and the country would achieve a respectable status in the comity of nations. Provincial Ministers Dr Ayesha Ghaus Pasha, Ata Manika, Advisor Dr Umer Saif, Senior Member Board of Revenue and Deputy Governor of the State Bank also addressed the ceremony.

LAHORE: A hearing was held in Supreme Court Lahore registry on Tuesday against selling of unhealthy milk in Punjab, reported Dunya News. The case was heard by Justice Saqib Nisar, the nominated Chief Justice of Pakistan, and Justice Sheikh Azmat Syed. Punjab Food Authority (PFA) had also submitted documents in the court. Director General (DG) of PFA said that the license of company selling unhealthy milk was cancelled while we are raiding shops to take action against those responsible. The nominated CJ gave remarks that we will conclude the case of unhealthy milk. PFA DG told that only 5 districts come under the authority which restricts us to carrying out any action outside. Justice Saqib Nisar stated that we are allowing the PFA to carry out its acting throughout Punjab. He asked the PFA DG to visit all districts in Punjab and take samples for test as a representative of the court. Moreover, he further said that this case is of great importance, we will conclude the case of unhealthy milk as clean water and pure milk are basic necessities of all residents. The court ordered PFA to take action against unhealthy milk vendors throughout Punjab and submit a report in the coming hearing. The next hearing is scheduled in first week of January, 2017.

Lahore: Cylinder blast in restaurant's kitchen injures 18

Dunya News, December 27, 2016

LAHORE: Cylinder blast in kitchen of a restaurant on Wahdat Road left 18 injured on Tuesday as an adjacent shop also bore affects. According to the details, a shop caught fire after a cylinder blast in a restaurant's kitchen causing 18 persons to sustain burns. Rescue teams reached the blast site however, the locals had started shifting the injured to nearby hospitals long before the personnel began the operation. The personnel put out the fire without much issue in the incident. Locals use LPG cylinders for various domestic purposes in winters which lead to numerous untoward incidents across the country during the season.

Chikungunya patients suffer due to closure of government hospital's OPDs

Dunya News, December 27, 2016

KARACHI: Chikungunya patients in Karachi Malir were in a worrisome state as the Outdoor Patient Departments (OPDs) of government hospitals were shut due to holidays announced by the provincial government. In the wake of the disease outbreak, emergency was imposed in all the government hospitals however; a public holiday was still announced. Saudabad's Sindh government hospital is closed due to the death anniversary of Benazir Bhutto. OPDs and laboratories are locked whereas doctors, paramedical staff and laboratory technicians are at home due to holiday. Patients coming from far flung areas suffered adversely due to the situation. A huge number of patients have gathered in the emergency section however; a few doctors are present there. Patients were also not able to get their blood tested as the laboratory was closed.

NEPRA reduces electricity price by 3.60 rupees per unit

Dunya News, December 27, 2016

ISLAMABAD: National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) has reduced electricity price by 3.60 rupees per unit. The decision has been taken in respect of November's fuel adjustment. Fuel cost reference for November was 7.30 rupees per unit but actual cost remained 3.70 rupees per unit. Eight billion and ninety crore rupees have been saved due to reduction in oil prices, and fifteen billion rupees have been saved due to improvement in generation mix. On the other hand, it has been decided to increase 0.60 rupees per unit for K-Electric.

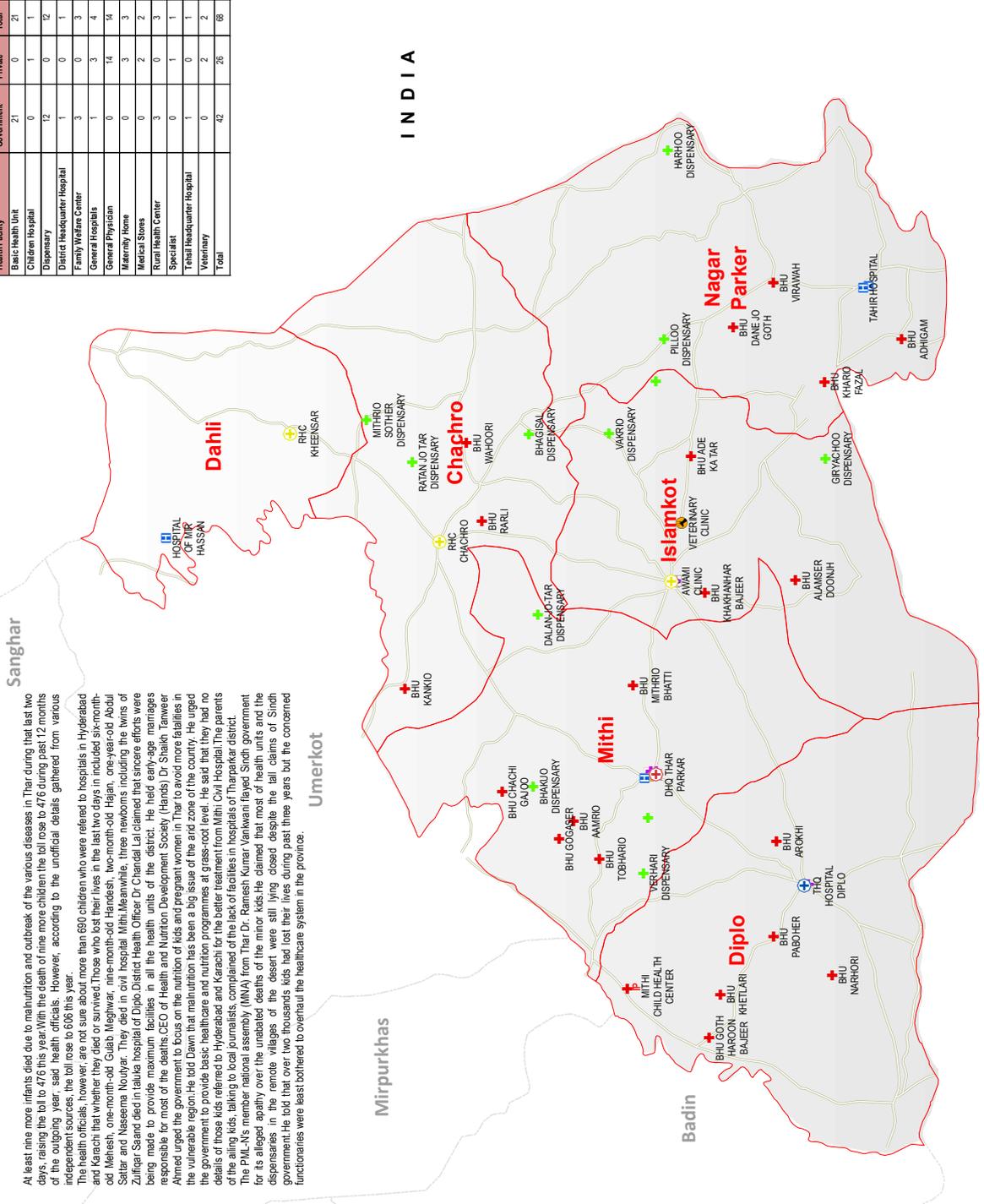
Drought Hit in Thar Outbreak of Waterborne Diseases (from Jan,2016 to Dec, 2016)

At least nine more infants died due to malnutrition and outbreak of the various diseases in Thar during that last two days, raising the toll to 476 this year. With the death of nine more children the toll rose to 476 during past 12 months of the outgoing year, said health officials. However, according to the unofficial details gathered from various independent sources, the toll rose to 608 this year.

The health officials, however, are not sure about more than 600 children who were referred to hospitals in Hyderabad and Karachi that whether they died or survived. Those who lost their lives in the last two days included six-month-old Mehesh, one-month-old Gulab Meghwar, nine-month-old Handesh, two-month-old Hajan, one-year-old Abdul Saitar and Naseema Noutyar. They died in civil hospital Mithi. Meanwhile, three newborns including the twins of Zulfiqar Saad died in taluka hospital of Diplo District Health Officer Dr. Chandul Lai claimed that sincere efforts were being made to provide maximum facilities in all the health units of the district. He held early-age marriages responsible for most of the deaths. CEO of Health and Nutrition Development Society (Hands) Dr. Shaikh Tanweer Ahmed urged the government to focus on the nutrition of kids and pregnant women in Thar to avoid more fatalities in the vulnerable region. He told Dawm that malnutrition has been a big issue of the arid zone of the country. He urged the government to provide basic healthcare and nutrition programmes at grass-root level. He said that they had no details of those kids referred to Hyderabad and Karachi for the better treatment from Mithi Civil Hospital. The parents of the ailing kids, talking to local journalists, complained of the lack of facilities in hospitals of Tharparkar district.

The P.M.'s member national assembly (MNA) from Thar Dr. Ramesh Kumar Vanikwani lashed Sindh government for its alleged apathy over the unabated deaths of the minor kids. He claimed that most of health units and the dispensaries in the remote villages of the desert were still lying closed despite the tall claims of Sindh government. He told that over two thousands kids had lost their lives during past three years but the concerned functionalities were least bothered to overhaul the healthcare system in the province.

Health Facility	Government	Private	Total
Basic Health Unit	21	0	21
Children Hospital	0	1	1
Dispensary	12	0	12
District Headquarter Hospital	1	0	1
Family Welfare Center	3	0	3
General Hospitals	1	3	4
Maternity Home	0	14	14
Medical Stores	0	3	3
Rural Health Center	3	0	3
Specialist	1	0	1
Tehsil Headquarter Hospital	0	2	2
Veterinary	0	2	2
Total	42	26	68



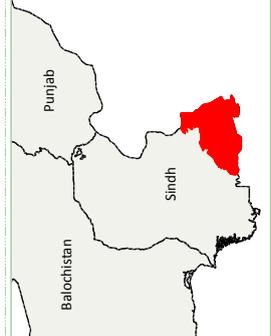
Legend

- + Basic Health Unit
- + Children Hospital
- + Dispensary
- + District Headquarter Hospital
- + Family Welfare Centre
- + General Hospital
- + General Physician
- + Medical Stores
- + Rural Health Centre
- + Specialist
- + Tehsil Headquarter Hospital
- + Veterinary
- Road
- Tehsil Boundary

Creation Date: Jan 01, 2017
 Projection: WGS 84 Geographic
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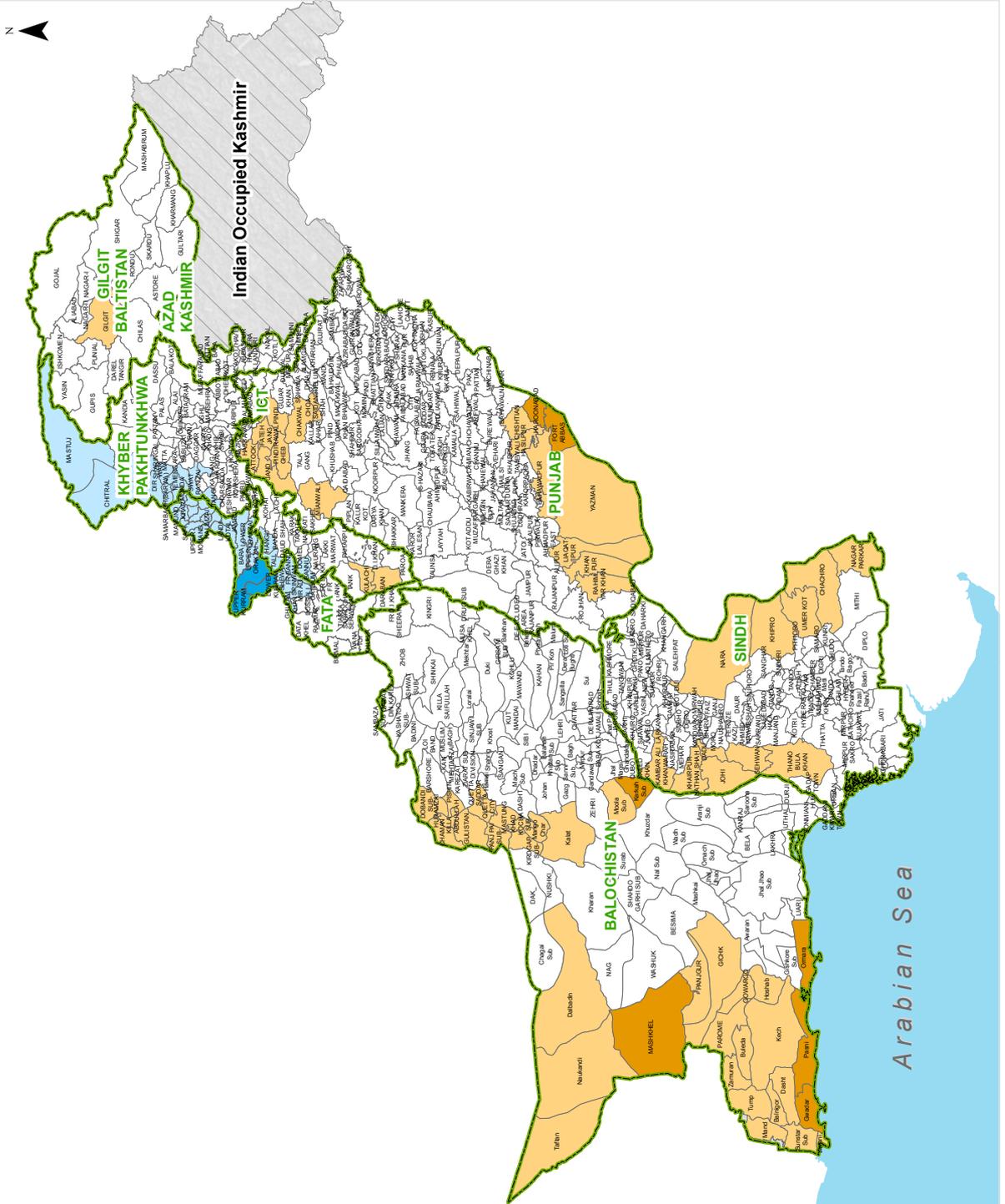
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Drought Situation Map of Pakistan

As of 16 December to 31 December, 2016

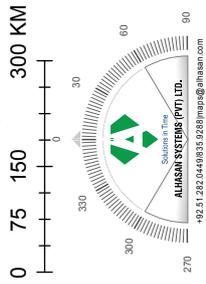


Legend

- Mild Drought
- Moderate Drought
- Normal
- Slightly Wet
- Moderately Wet
- Provincial Boundary

Creation Date: January 2, 2017
 Projection/ datum: WGS 84 Geographic AS
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Map data source(s):
 Pakistan Meteorological Department

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ہنگامی حالات میں آنکھوں سے بہنے والے آنسوؤں سے بھی بجلی پیدا کر سکتی ہے۔

کراچی: سپریم کورٹ نے کراچی سمیت سندھ بھر میں پینے کے صاف پانی کی فراہمی اور تقسیم سے متعلق کمیشن بنانے کا حکم دے دیا۔ سپریم کورٹ کراچی رجسٹری میں سندھ بھر میں پینے کے صاف پانی کی فراہمی سے متعلق درخواست کی سماعت ہوئی۔ درخواست گزار سماجی رہنما شہاب اوسٹو ایڈووکیٹ نے موقف اختیار کیا کہ صوبے بھر کو کھارا اور پینے کا گند پانی دیا جا رہا ہے۔ دوران سماعت جسٹس امیر ہانی مسلم نے کہا کہ کراچی بھی پاکستان کا حصہ ہے اسے صاف پانی ملنا چاہیے۔ سماعت کے بعد 2 رکنی بینچ نے سندھ ہائی کورٹ کے حاضر سروس جج پر مشتمل کمیشن بنانے کا حکم دیا اور کمیشن کو 6 ہفتوں میں سپریم کورٹ میں جمع کرانے کا کہا گیا ہے۔

سپریم کورٹ کا سندھ بھر میں صاف پانی
کی فراہمی کیلئے کمیشن بنانے کا حکم

ایکسپریس نیوز

27 دسمبر 2016

میاں محمد رفیق کے ہمراہ کر سچین کالونی کا دورہ کیا اور غمزہ خاندانوں کے ساتھ اظہار تعزیت کیا۔ جنید انوار چودھری نے متاثرہ مسیحی خاندانوں کو حکومت کی طرف سے بھرپور امداد اور سرکاری ملازمتوں میں متاثرہ خاندانوں کے افراد کو ملازمتیں دلوانے کی یقین دہانی کرائی۔ علاوہ ازیں زہریلی شراب سپلائی کرنے والے چار ملزمان کو گرفتار کر لیا گیا ہے۔ ڈی پی او ٹوبہ ٹیک سنگھ عثمان اکرم نے ایک پریس کانفرنس کے دوران بتایا کہ شراب فروش ساون، جان مسیح، شاہد، قاسم اور عدیل کو گرفتار کر لیا گیا ہے، جن سے تفتیش جاری ہے، ڈی پی او نے بتایا کہ ملزمان شاہد اور قاسم بھائی ہیں، جبکہ ملزم شاہد ہیر ڈیسر زکی دکانات پر آفٹر شیو کیمیکل سپلائی کا کام کرتا ہے، ملزمان نے کرسمس کے موقع پر فروخت کی جانے والی شراب کی مقدار کو بڑھانے کیلئے شاہد سے آفٹر شیو کیمیکل خرید کر اس میں مکس کر دیا اور وہ شراب کرسمس کے تہوار پر مسیحی برادری کو فروخت کر دی جس سے 47 انسانی جانوں کا ضیاع ہوا، جبکہ 20 سے زائد لوگ ہسپتال میں زیر علاج ہیں، جن میں سے پانچ کی حالت انتہائی تشویش ناک بنائی جا رہی ہے، ڈی پی او نے کہا کہ ملازموں کے خلاف قانون کے مطابق کارروائی عمل میں لائی جائے گی، جبکہ دوسری طرف ہلاک ہونے والے افراد کے ورثاء نے میڈیا کو بتایا ہے کہ تھانہ چٹیانہ میں بطور خاکروب تعینات ساون مسیح تھانہ کے مال خانہ سے 20 لیٹر شراب کا کین لیکر آیا اور شراب کو دو آتشہ کرنے کیلئے اس میں کیمیکل ملا دیا، واضح رہے کہ زہریلی شراب پینے سے پولیس لائن میں تعینات خاکروب ساجد بھی ہلاک ہو چکا ہے۔ صبح نیوز + آئی این پی کے مطابق سرکار کی مددیت میں نامعلوم افراد کیخلاف درج کر لیا گیا۔ پولیس کی جانب سے شراب فروخت کرنے میں ملوث ملزمان کی گرفتاری کیلئے چھاپوں کا سلسلہ تیز کر دیا گیا۔ مرکزی ملزم ساون مسیح اور عدیل کو بھی گرفتار کر لیا گیا۔ صوبائی وزیر اقلیتی امور و انسانی امور خلیل طاہر سندھو نے زہریلی شراب پینے کے نتیجے میں ہونے والی ہلاکتوں پر گہرے دکھ اور افسوس کا اظہار کیا ہے اور کہا ہے کہ واقعہ میں ملوث افراد کو کیفر کردار تک پہنچایا جائیگا۔ ڈی پی او ٹوبہ ٹیک سنگھ کے مطابق اموات زہریلی شراب سے نہیں آفٹر شیو لوشن پینے سے ہوئیں ملازموں نے آفٹر شیو لوشن کو شراب بنا کر فروخت کیا۔ علاوہ ازیں زہریلی شراب پینے سے ہلاک ہونے والوں کی تعداد اب تک 47 ہو گئی ہے، جبکہ زہریلی شراب سے ہلاکتوں کی تحقیقات کیلئے وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب شہباز شریف کی طرف سے بنائی جانے والی کمیٹی کے ایک رکن کو کب ندیم، آر پی او فیصل آباد بلال صدیق کیانہ اور ڈی پی او ٹوبہ عثمان اکرم کی آمد پر مسیحی برادری کے ایک گروپ جس کا تعلق سیاسی طور پر پاکستان تحریک انصاف سے ہے نے شور کوٹ روڈ پر شدید احتجاج کرتے ہوئے ٹریفک ہلاک کر دی، جس کے باعث آدھے گھنٹے تک ٹریفک رکی رہی، جبکہ مسیحی برادری نے پنجاب پولیس اور ضلعی انتظامیہ سمیت وزیر اعلیٰ کی اختیاراتی کمیٹی کے ارکان کے خلاف شدید نعرے بازی کی، مسیحی برادری کا کہنا تھا کہ ڈی پی او عثمان اکرم اصل ملزمان کو سامنے لانے کی بجائے حقائق چھپانے جارہے ہیں، جبکہ دوسری طرف مسلم لیگ ان کے اقلیتی رہنما سکندر سموئیل نے میڈیا کے نمائندوں سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے بتایا کہ انہیں ضلعی انتظامیہ سے کوئی شکوہ نہیں ہے۔ این این آئی کے مطابق ڈسٹرکٹ پولیس آفیسر عثمان اکرم کے مطابق زہریلی شراب بنانے والوں میں اقبال، کامران اور عدیل نامی 3 ملزمان شامل تھے جنہوں نے 20 لیٹر آفٹر شیو لوشن شور کوٹ سے خرید اور اس میں کیمیکل ملا کر زہریلی شراب بنائی گئی۔ آفٹر شیو لوشن میں اسپرٹ موجود تھا جو نشہ آور ہوتا ہے۔ دوسری جانب ایم ایس ڈی ایچ کیو ڈاکٹر آصف کا کہنا ہے کہ زہریلی شراب سے متاثرہ 119 مریض ہسپتال لائے گئے تھے لیکن جب مریض ہسپتال پہنچے تو ان کے خون میں شراب شامل ہو چکی تھی۔

میانوالی: وزیر اعظم نواز شریف نے نیو کلیئر پاور پلانٹ کا افتتاح کر دیا ہے جس سے 340 میگا واٹ بجلی حاصل ہوگی۔ ایکسپریس نیوز کے مطابق وزیر اعظم نواز شریف نے چشمہ تھری نیو کلیئر پاور پلانٹ کا افتتاح کر دیا ہے۔ افتتاحی تقریب میں وزیر اعظم نواز شریف کے ہمراہ وفاقی وزیر برائے پانی و بجلی خواجہ آصف اور مشیر خارجہ سرتاج بھی تھے۔ چشمہ تھری نیو کلیئر پاور پلانٹ سے قومی گرڈ میں 340 میگا واٹ بجلی شامل ہوگی ہے اور یہ پاکستان اٹامک انرجی کمیشن اور چائنا نیشنل نیو کلیئر کارپوریشن کا مشترکہ منصوبہ ہے جو پاک چین مشن کے تعاون کا ایک اور سنگ میل ہے۔ چشمہ فور نیو کلیئر پاور پراجیکٹ 2017 میں مکمل ہو گا جبکہ کراچی نیو کلیئر پاور پراجیکٹ کے 2 اور کے 3 کی 2030 تک تکمیل سے نیشنل گرڈ میں 8 ہزار 800 میگا واٹ بجلی شامل ہوگی۔

نیویارک: امریکی سائنسدانوں نے ایک ایسی کم خرچ کاغذی بیٹری بنائی ہے جسے نہ صرف تہہ کیا جاسکتا ہے بلکہ وہ گندے پانی میں موجود جراثیموں سے بجلی بنانے کی صلاحیت بھی رکھتی ہے۔ کاغذی بیٹریوں کا خیال کوئی نیا نہیں لیکن اب تک بنائی جانے والی تجرباتی کاغذی بیٹریاں بھی بہت مہنگی ثابت ہوئی ہیں اور اسی وجہ سے اب تک ان کا تجارتی پیمانے پر استعمال شروع نہیں ہو سکا ہے لیکن اس اچھوتی بیٹری کی تفصیل کے مطابق اسے پسماندہ علاقوں میں طبی سینسرز کو بجلی فراہم کرنے کے لیے استعمال کیا جاسکتا ہے تاہم مزید امکانات پر بھی غور کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ یہ نئی کاغذی بیٹری جو کسی موٹے سیاہ کاغذ کی طرح دکھائی دیتی ہے، نیویارک میں واقع بیچ ہیمپٹن یونیورسٹی کے چینی نژاد سائنسدان نے ایجاد کی ہے اور ان کا کہنا ہے کہ اگرچہ اس بیٹری کا ہر خانہ معمولی سی بجلی پیدا کرتا ہے لیکن ایسے درجنوں خانوں کو آپس میں جوڑ کر خاصی مناسب بجلی بنائی جاسکتی ہے جو طبی تشخيص میں استعمال ہونے والے سینسرز کے لئے کافی رہے گی۔ سائنسدان کے مطابق دوسری کاغذی بیٹریوں کے برعکس یہ نہ صرف گندے پانی میں موجود جراثیموں (بیکٹیریا) سے بلکہ

چشمہ 3 نیو کلیئر پاور پلانٹ آپریشن،

340 میگا واٹ بجلی قومی گرڈ میں شامل

ایکسپریس نیوز

28 دسمبر 2016

گندے پانی سے بجلی بنانے والی کاغذی

بیٹری

ایکسپریس نیوز

28 دسمبر 2016

منصوبے سے سندھ کے پسماندہ علاقوں کی ترقی ممکن ہو سکے گی، سی پیک سے صحیح معنوں میں مستفید ہونے کیلئے تمام وسائل بروئے کار لائے جائیں گے، اداروں اور سی پیک کی صورت میں شراکت داری اور تعاون کا عالمی فورم میسر آیا ہے، اس کی مدد سے کولے کے ان وسیع ذخائر سے استفادہ کیا جاسکتا ہے، پیک کو کامیابی سے ہمکنار کرنے کے لیے چاروں صوبوں کا ساتھ چلنا بے حد ضروری ہے۔ پروین خٹک نے خمیر پی کے میں صوبائی حکومت کی جانب سے چینی سرمایہ کاروں کو سازگار ماحول فراہم کرنے کی یقین دہانی کرائی۔ انہوں نے کہا نوجوانوں کو تعلیم کی فراہمی اور ہنرمند افرادی قوت کے حوالے سے چین کے اداروں کے ساتھ باہمی تعاون کے معاہدے طے پائے ہیں، سی پیک منصوبہ خمیر پی کے کی تعمیر و ترقی کے لیے انتہائی اہمیت کا حامل ہے، سی پیک کے تحت صوبے میں صنعتی معاشی سرگرمیوں کو فروغ حاصل ہو گا۔ وزیر اعلیٰ گلگت بلتستان حافظ حفیظ الرحمن نے کہا سی پیک منصوبے سے گلگت بلتستان میں تعمیر و ترقی کے نئے باب کا آغاز ہو گا، اس کے تحت سرگرمیوں کے آغاز سے خطے میں سیاحت کے شعبے کو نمایاں فروغ ملے گا، حالیہ عرصے میں 10 لاکھ سیاحوں نے یہاں کا رخ کیا، سی پیک منصوبے سے خطے کی مقامی مصنوعات معدنیات، جیمز اینڈ جیولری کی چین اور دیگر عالمی منڈیوں تک رسائی ممکن ہو سکے گی۔

وفاقی وزیر ریلوے خواجہ سعد رفیق نے کہا سی پیک منصوبے میں ریلوے کا کلیدی کردار ہے، اس وقت ریلوے کی بہتری، بحالی اور اسے جدید خطوط پر استوار کرنے کیلئے اقدامات کیے جا رہے ہیں، ریلوے کے ذریعے سفر کرنے والے مسافروں کی تعداد ساڑھے 5 کروڑ تک پہنچ چکی ہے، مستقبل میں گلگت بلتستان کو چین کے خود اختیار علاقے سکیانگ اور پاکستان کے قبائلی علاقہ جات کو بھی ملک کے دیگر حصوں اور افغانستان سے منسلک کرنے کے منصوبے زیر غور ہیں۔ جے سی سی کے اجلاس میں وزیر اعلیٰ سندھ مراد علی شاہ نے اپنی سرکلر ریلوے کی بھرپور وکالت کی۔ مراد علی شاہ نے جے سی سی کو بتایا کہ کینٹی بندر منصوبہ ایسے مقام پر ہے کہ وہ تھر کول پر و جیکٹ کے لیے پاور پارک کا کردار ادا کر سکتا ہے۔ یہ کولے کی کان اور کراچی سے بھی قریب ہے۔ انہوں نے بتایا کہ کینٹی بندر کراچی سے 160 کلومیٹر دور ہے اور بذریعہ سڑک منسلک ہے، کراچی لاہور موٹروے سے اس کو منسلک کرنا آسان ہے، نئی جیٹی کی تعمیر سے تھر کے کولے کا زیادہ سے زیادہ فائدہ اٹھانا ممکن ہو جائے گا، بجلی پیدا کرنے کی لاگت کم ہوگی اور مناسب قیمتوں پر بجلی کی فراہمی سے ملک کی مقابلہ کرنے کی صلاحیت میں اضافہ ہو گا۔ وزیر اعلیٰ سندھ نے کہا ٹھٹھہ میں دھاتی پٹی اور کینٹی بندر سٹیٹس اکنامک زون قائم کیے جائیں۔ جے سی سی نے فیصلہ کیا کہ ہر صوبے میں ایک خصوصی اقتصادی زون ہو گا اور سندھ میں دھاتی پٹی سٹیٹس اکنامک زون قائم کیا جائے گا۔ صوبائی وزیر برائے انڈسٹریز منظور وسان نے جے سی سی پر زور دیا کہ پورے سٹیٹس اکنامک زون کو بھی سی پیک میں شامل کیا جائے تاہم یہ فیصلہ کیا گیا کہ سندھ میں صرف ایک اقتصادی زون تعمیر کیا جائے گا۔

اسلام آباد: ممتاز جوہری سائنسدان ڈاکٹر شرم مبارک مند نے کہا ہے کہ جوہری طریقہ کار سے بجلی کا حصول صاف شفاف، سستا اور آلودگی سے پاک ہے۔ ریڈیو پاکستان سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے انہوں نے کہا کہ گزشتہ روز وزیر اعظم محمد نواز شریف کی جانب سے میانوالی میں چشمہ تھری کا افتتاح کیا گیا ہے۔ جس سے 340 میگا واٹ بجلی حاصل کی جاسکے گی جس کی تکمیل سے ملک سے لوڈ شیڈنگ کی لعنت کے خاتمے کے لیے سفر کا سنگ میل ثابت ہو گا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ یہ منصوبہ سائنس اور ٹیکنالوجی کے میدان میں پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان سول نیوکلیئر ٹیکنالوجی میں قریبی تعاون کا عکاس ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ چین اس حوالے سے 1992-93 سے پاکستان کے ساتھ تعاون کر رہا ہے اور ہمارے سائنسدان چین سے تربیت حاصل کر کے آئے ہیں۔ جس کی بدولت ہم اس ٹیکنالوجی میں کافی مہارت حاصل کر چکے ہیں وہی وجہ ہے کہ چشمہ ون، ٹو کی نسبت چشمہ تھری میں چین کی مہارت کا کام استفادہ کیا گیا ہے۔ ڈاکٹر شرم مند نے کہا کہ چشمہ تھری کا آغاز 2016 میں کیا گیا ہے اور یہ 2017 کے ماہ جون تک کام شروع کر دے گا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان جوہری توانائی کے میدان میں بتدریج آگے بڑھتا جا رہا ہے اور انشا اللہ بہت جلد توانائی بحران پر قابو پانے میں کامیاب ہو جائے گا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ آنے والے دنوں میں کراچی میں دو جوہری چینل لگائے جائیں گے جن سے 11 گیارہ سو میگا واٹ بجلی حاصل کی جاسکے گی اور ان میں سے ایک چینل کی پیداوار چشمہ ون، ٹو، تھری اور فور کی مجموعی پیداوار سے بھی زیادہ ہوگی بجلی کی قیمت کے حوالے سے پوچھے گئے سوال کا جواب دیتے ہوئے انہوں نے کہا کہ جوہری طریقہ کار سے بجلی کا حصول صاف شفاف، سستا اور آلودگی سے پاک ہوتا ہے اور اس سے پیدا ہونے والی بجلی قومی گڑھ کو 3 سے 4 روپے فی یونٹ تک ملے گی جبکہ تھرمل طریقہ سے پیدا ہونے والی بجلی مہنگی پڑتی ہے کیونکہ ایک تھرمل پاور پلانٹ لگانے کے لئے ٹیکنالوجی درآمد کرنا پڑتی ہے اور پلانٹ پر 3-4 ملین ڈالر فی میگا واٹ خرچہ آتا ہے۔

ٹوبہ ٹیک سنگھ (نامہ نگار + بی بی سی اردو) کرسمس کے موقع پر زہریلی شراب پینے کے باعث مرنے والوں کی تعداد 47 ہو گئی ہے جبکہ زہریلی شراب سپلائی کرنے والے 5 ملزموں کو گرفتار کر لیا گیا۔ جن میں 2 مرکزی ملزم سارن اور عدیل بھی شامل ہیں۔ زہریلی شراب پینے کے باعث ہلاک ہونے والے 30 سے زائد افراد کی آخری رسومات ادا کر کے انہیں حملہ گٹھالہ میں مسٹی قبرستان میں سپرد خاک کر دیا گیا، 5 افراد کی حالت نازک بتائی جاتی ہے جبکہ دوسری مسلم لیگ (ن) کے رکن قومی اسمبلی و چیئر مین استحقاق کمیٹی محمد جنید انوار چودھری نے ارکان صوبائی اسمبلی چودھری امجد علی جاوید اور

جوہری طریقہ کار سے بجلی کا حصول
صاف شفاف، سستا اور آلودگی سے پاک
ہے: ڈاکٹر شرم مبارک مند

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

29 دسمبر 2016

زہریلی شراب، مرنے والے 47 ہو گئے
ہلاکتیں آفریشیو ملانے سے ہوئیں: ڈی

پی او ٹوبہ

نوائے وقت

قومی گڑ کو منسک کیا جائیگا، جس سے 4 ہزار میگا واٹ بجلی کی فراہمی آئندہ ڈیڑھ سال میں ممکن بنائی جائے گی۔ یہ ٹرانسمیشن لائن پاکستان میں پرائیویٹ سیکٹر میں بچھائی جانے والی پہلی ٹرانسمیشن لائن ہوگی۔ 4.6 بلین ڈالر مالیت کا سی پیک منصوبہ کئی دیگر منصوبوں کی شمولیت سے 51 ارب ڈالر مالیت تک پہنچ چکا ہے۔ بیجنگ میں ہونے والی مشترکہ رابطہ کمیٹی کی میٹنگ میں صوبوں کی منتخب قیادت کی بھرپور شرکت سے مزید کئی اہم منصوبوں کو سی پیک میں شامل کئے جانے کا امکان ہے۔

بیجنگ (آئی این پی + این این آئی) چین پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری کی مشترکہ تعاون کمیٹی نے گوادرنہدر گاہ کو اپ گریڈ اور گوادرماسٹر پلان پر ایک سال میں عملدرآمد کرنے، پشاور تا کراچی ریلوے ٹریک کی اپ گریڈیشن کو تیز کرنے، چاروں صوبائی دارالحکومتوں میں ریل ماس ٹرانزٹ منصوبے لگانے اور جنوب تا شمال ٹرانسمیشن لائن منصوبے لگانے کی منظوری دیدی، شاہراہ قراقرم کے قابل مرمت حصے کی تعمیر شروع کرنے اور ڈیرہ اسماعیل خان سے ٹوب تک سڑک کی تعمیر کے منصوبے کی بھی منظوری دی گئی۔ وزیر اعلیٰ سندھ کے دفتر سے جاری ہونے والے بیان کے مطابق چینی حکام نے سندھ کے 3 ترقیاتی منصوبوں، کراچی سرکلر ریلوے، کمیٹی بندر اور خصوصی اقتصادی زونز کے پروجیکٹس کو سی پیک میں شامل کرنے کی منظوری دے دی ہے۔ وفاقی وزیر منصوبہ بندی و ترقی احسن اقبال نے کہا ہے کہ دونوں ملکوں کے تعاون سے راہداری منصوبہ تیزی سے آگے بڑھ رہا ہے، دس ہزار میگا واٹ بجلی پیدا کرنے کے منصوبے جاری ہیں، چین کا انرجی گروپ فروری میں پاکستان کا دورہ کرے گا، کشمیر، گلگت بلتستان اور فانا میں بھی اقتصادی زونز تعمیر ہوں گے، کونینڈ واٹر سپلائی منصوبے اور چینیوٹ میں سیٹیل ملز کی بھی منظوری دی گئی۔

جوائنٹ آرڈی نیشن کمیٹی کا چین کے دارالحکومت بیجنگ میں چھٹا اجلاس ہوا جس میں متعدد اہم منصوبوں کی منظوری دی گئی، اجلاس کے بعد بریفنگ دیتے ہوئے احسن اقبال نے کہا کہ دونوں ملکوں کے تعاون سے راہداری منصوبہ تیزی سے آگے بڑھ رہا ہے، دس ہزار میگا واٹ بجلی پیدا کرنے کے منصوبے پر عملدرآمد جاری ہے۔ وزیر منصوبہ بندی و ترقی نے کہا کہ چین کا انرجی گروپ فروری میں پاکستان کا دورہ کرے گا، ملتان تا سکھر موٹروے اور قراقرم ہائی وے کی اپ گریڈیشن پر تیزی سے کام جاری ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ شاہراہ قراقرم کے قابل مرمت حصے کی تعمیر بھی شروع کرنے کی منظوری دی گئی ہے، ڈیرہ اسماعیل خان سے ٹوب تک سڑک کی تعمیر کی بھی منظوری دی گئی، گوادرنہدر سے سوراب تک شاہراہ مکمل ہو چکی ہے۔ احسن اقبال نے کہا کہ پاکستان اور چین پانچ شعبوں میں ایک دوسرے کے تجربات سے استفادہ کریں گے، چینی قیادت نے پاکستان سے قابل اعتماد دوستی کو ثابت کیا، پاکستان میں خطیر سرمایہ کاری پر چین کی حکومت اور عوام کے مشکور ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ حکومت نے گوادرنہدر میں 300 میگا واٹ بجلی منصوبے کی منظوری دی ہے، گوادرنہدر اسپتال اور ووکیشنل ٹریڈنگ انسٹی ٹیوٹ سنٹر کی تعمیر کا کام تیز کیا جائے گا، چاروں صوبوں، اسلام آباد اور شمالی علاقوں میں بھی اقتصادی زونز بنائے جائیں گے۔ ریڈیو پاکستان کی رپورٹ کے مطابق پاک چین مشترکہ تعاون کمیٹی کے بیجنگ میں ہونے والے اجلاس میں سی پیک کے تحت زیر تعمیر منصوبوں پر ہونے والی پیشرفت کا جائزہ لیا گیا۔ وفاقی وزیر برائے ترقی و منصوبہ بندی وزیر احسن اقبال نے پاکستانی وفد کی قیادت کی جبکہ وفد کے دیگر ارکان میں وزیر ریلوے خواجہ سعد رفیق، وزیر اعظم کے معاون خصوصی طارق فاطمی، وزیر اعلیٰ سندھ سید مراد علی شاہ، وزیر اعلیٰ خیبر پٹی کے پرویز خٹک، وزیر اعلیٰ بلوچستان نواب ثناء اللہ زہری، گلگت بلتستان کے وزیر اعلیٰ حفیظ الرحمان شامل ہیں جبکہ صوبائی وزیر صنعت شیخ علاؤ الدین پنجاب کی نمائندگی کر رہے ہیں۔ چین کے ترقی اور اصلاحات کے قومی کمیشن کے نائب چیئرمین چینی وفد کی قیادت کر رہے ہیں۔ اجلاس میں وزیر اعلیٰ سندھ کی جانب سے پیش کی جانے والی تفصیلات کے بعد جے سی سی نے مذکورہ منصوبوں کو سی پیک میں شامل کرنے کا فیصلہ کیا اور سندھ حکومت کو ہدایت کی کہ آئندہ تین ماہ میں ان منصوبوں کی فیوربلٹی رپورٹ پیش کی جائے۔ وزیر اعلیٰ سندھ مراد علی شاہ نے صوبائی وزیر تجارت ناصر شاہ کو ہدایت کی وہ مقررہ وقت میں ان پروجیکٹس کی فیوربلٹی رپورٹس تیار کریں۔

یہ توقع ظاہر کی جا رہی ہے کہ چینی حکومت سی پیک کے تحت ان تینوں منصوبوں کی تکمیل کے لیے ایک ارب ڈالر کی سرمایہ کاری کا اعلان کرے گی۔ سرکاری عہدیداروں کے مطابق یہ رقم سی پیک کے مغربی روٹس سے منسک تین اضافی سڑکوں کی تعمیر پر خرچ کی جانی تھی۔ روزنامہ نوائے وقت رپورٹ کے مطابق بیجنگ میں سی پیک کی جوائنٹ کوآرڈی نیشن کمیٹی کے اجلاس میں سندھ میں توانائی کے 3 منصوبے منظور کر لئے گئے۔ طارق فاطمی نے کہا پاک چین اقتصادی راہداری سے خطے کے امن میں اضافہ ہوگا۔ وفاقی وزیر برائے منصوبہ بندی احسن اقبال نے کہا یورپ کے کئی ملکوں نے سی پیک میں شمولیت کی خواہش ظاہر کی ہے۔ ترجمان وزیر اعلیٰ سندھ کے مطابق سندھ میں توانائی کے تین منصوبے مشترکہ رابطہ کمیٹی کے چھٹے اجلاس میں منظور ہوئے۔ ان منصوبوں میں حب 330 میگا واٹ، قنبل نووا 330 میگا واٹ اور 1320 میگا واٹ کولنے کا منصوبہ بھی شامل ہے۔ منصوبوں پر کام نئے سال میں شروع ہوگا۔ وزیر اعلیٰ کے ترجمان نے کہا کراچی سرکلر ریلوے سی پیک کے ایجنڈے پر آگیا ہے۔ سندھ حکومت کو تین ماہ میں منصوبے کی فیوربلٹی جمع کرانے کا وقت دیا گیا ہے۔ ترجمان کے مطابق کمیٹی بندر منصوبے کی فیوربلٹی کرانے کا فیصلہ کیا گیا ہے۔ سندھ کیلئے دھائی بیج سیشنل انکامک زون منظور کیا گیا ہے۔ آئی این پی کے مطابق چائین ریڈیو انٹرنیشنل کی اردو سروس سے گفتگو کرتے ہوئے وزیر اعلیٰ سندھ نے کہا چین پاک اقتصادی راہداری

سی پیک، سندھ کے 3 منصوبے شامل،
صوبوں میں ریل ماس ٹرانزٹ کی
منظوری، گوادرنہدر گاہ، پشاور، کراچی
ریلوے ٹریک کی اپ گریڈیشن

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

30 دسمبر 2016

فٹ ریکارڈ کی گئی ہے۔ فلڈ فور کاسٹنگ ڈویژن کے مطابق تریلا میں پانی کی سطح ایک ہزار 419 اعشاریہ 22 فٹ ہے، جو انتہائی کم سطح سے 39 فٹ اوپر ریکارڈ کی گئی۔ ڈیم کا ڈیڈ ویول ایک ہزار 380 فٹ ہے، تریلا میں قابل استعمال پانی کا ذخیرہ 6 لاکھ 91 ہزار ایکڑ فٹ رہ گیا۔ اسی طرح منگلا ڈیم میں پانی کی سطح ایک ہزار 102 فٹ ہے، جو انتہائی کم سطح سے 62 فٹ اوپر دیکھی جا رہی ہے، ڈیم میں قابل استعمال پانی کا ذخیرہ 6 لاکھ 55 ہزار ایکڑ فٹ ریکارڈ کیا گیا ہے۔ فلڈ فور کاسٹنگ ڈویژن کے مطابق خشک موسم اور بارشیں نہ ہونے کے سبب پچھلے سال کے مقابلے میں دونوں ڈیموں میں قابل استعمال پانی کے ذخائر میں بڑی کمی آئی ہے۔ تریلا میں پچھلے سال 31 دسمبر کے مقابلے میں آج کے دن پانی کی سطح میں 70 فٹ کا بڑا فرق ریکارڈ کیا گیا۔ اسی طرح منگلا میں 2015 کے مقابلے میں 31 دسمبر 2016 کو پانی کی سطح 77 فٹ ریکارڈ کی گئی۔

لاہور (نیوز رپورٹر) ایل بی جی مارکیٹنگ کمپنیوں نے ایل بی جی کی قیمت میں 10 روپے فی کلو اضافہ کر دیا جس کے بعد گھریلو سلنڈر کی قیمت میں 100 روپے اور کمرشل سلنڈر کی قیمت میں 400 روپے کا اضافہ ہو گیا۔ نئی قیمت کے بعد کراچی 90 روپے فی کلو لاہور، گوجرانوالہ، فیصل آباد، جہلم، قصور، ساہیوال، سیالکوٹ، ڈسکہ، پشاور 95 روپے فی کلو، رحیم یار خان، صادق آباد، حیدر آباد، انک، گجرات، میرپور آزاد کشمیر 110 روپے فی کلو، راولپنڈی، اسلام آباد، ایبٹ آباد، مظفر آباد، باغ، فانا، کوٹلی، آزاد کشمیر، ٹنڈو محمد خان، ٹنڈو اللہ یار، میرپور خاص، عمرکوٹ، نوابشاہ، منباری، ٹھٹھہ، دادو، جام شورو، شکار پور 115 روپے فی کلو، گلگت بلتستان، مری، ننھیال، بالا کوٹ میں 120 روپے کلو ہو گئی۔ ایل بی جی ڈسٹری بیوٹرز ایسوسی ایشن پاکستان کے چیئرمین عرفان کھوکھر نے کہا ہے کہ پاکستان میں سال 2016ء میں 553216 میٹرک ٹن سے زائد ایل بی جی درآمد کی گئی۔ قیمتوں میں ردوبدل کا انحصار ایل بی جی کی اپورٹ پر ہے۔

وزیر خزانہ اسحاق ڈار کو امریکی وزیر خارجہ جان کیری نے شام ٹیلی فون کیا۔ وزارت خزانہ کے جاری کردہ اعلامیہ کے مطابق جان کیری نے پاکستانی معیشت میں بہتری کو سراہا جبکہ اسحاق ڈار نے امریکی وزیر خارجہ کو پاکستانی معیشت میں مثبت تبدیلیوں سے آگاہ کیا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ چھوٹے اہداف کے حصول کے بعد مستحکم معیشت کی طرف بڑھ رہے ہیں۔ اس موقع پر جان کیری نے کہا کہ پاکستان اور بھارت کے درمیان پانی کے مسئلے کا پر امن حل چاہتے ہیں۔

پنجاب کابینہ نے وزیر اعلیٰ میاں شہباز شریف کی صدارت میں سول ایڈمنسٹریشن آرڈیننس 2016ء کی منظوری دے دی۔ تاہم سیکشن 14 کو حذف کر دیا گیا ہے جس کے بعد اب پولیس حکام ڈپٹی کمشنر کو جو ابده نہیں ہونگے۔ کابینہ کے اجلاس میں فیصلہ کیا گیا کہ بلدیاتی ادارے 2 جنوری سے مالی اور انتظامی طور پر کام شروع کر دیں گے۔ اجلاس میں وزیر اعلیٰ شہباز شریف نے بتایا کہ صوبائی مالیاتی کمشنر ایوارڈ 2016ء کے تحت بلدیاتی حکومتوں کو 391 ارب روپے ملیں گے۔ ماڈل ٹاؤن میں ہونے والا وزیر اعلیٰ شہباز شریف کی صدارت میں کابینہ کا اجلاس اس برس کا آخری اجلاس تھا۔ سول ایڈمنسٹریشن آرڈیننس کی منظوری سے ڈی سی او کا عہدہ ختم ہو گیا ہے اور اب ڈپٹی کمشنر کا عہدہ ہو گا۔ ای ڈی او اور ڈسٹرکٹ افسران کے عہدے بھی ختم کر کے تمام اختیارات ایڈیشنل ڈپٹی کمشنرز کو سونپ دیئے گئے ہیں۔ اجلاس سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے وزیر اعلیٰ شہباز شریف نے کہا کہ بلدیاتی حکومتوں کو بااختیار بنائیں گے اور انہیں مالیاتی خود مختاری دی جائے گی جبکہ بلدیاتی حکومتوں کو رواں مالی برس ملنے والے فنڈز میں گزشتہ برس کے مقابلہ میں 44 فیصد اضافہ ہو گا۔ اجلاس میں صوبائی مالیاتی کمشنر 2016ء کی منظوری بھی دی گئی۔ کابینہ نے پنجاب وائلڈ لائف ترمیمی ایکٹ 2007ء میں بھی ترمیم کی منظوری اور سیفٹی کمشن اور پولیس کپیلنٹ اختیارات قائم کرنے کی بھی منظوری دی۔ وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب نے ترقیاتی فنڈز کسی اور مد میں استعمال کرنے پر پابندی اور شہری و دیہی یونین کونسلز کو یکساں فنڈز دینے کی بھی ہدایت کی۔ اجلاس میں صوبائی وزراء، معاونین خصوصاً، مشیران، چیف سیکرٹری، آئی جی پولیس اور متعلقہ محکموں کے سیکرٹریوں نے بھی شرکت کی۔ ذرائع کے مطابق سیکشن 14 حذف کرنے سے اب ڈپٹی کمشنرز اور پولیس حکام اپنے اپنے دائرہ کار میں رہ کر کام کریں گے۔ ترمیمی آرڈیننس میں واضح کیا گیا ہے کہ پولیس حکام ڈپٹی کمشنر کو جو ابده نہیں ہونگے۔ محکمہ خزانہ نے پنجاب میں ڈی سی او کے عہدے ختم کرنے سے متعلق نوٹیفیکیشن جاری کر دیا ہے۔ پنجاب کے تمام ڈی سی او، ای ڈی او اور سمیت 299 عہدے ختم کئے گئے۔ ڈپٹی کمشنرز اور ایڈیشنل ڈپٹی کمشنرز سمیت 153 عہدے بحال کر دیئے گئے۔

بیجنگ: پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان ایچ وی سی ڈی ٹرانسمیشن لائن بچھانے کا معاہدہ طے پا گیا ہے۔ چین ڈیڑھ ارب ڈالر لاگت سے لاہور اور میٹری کے درمیان ٹرانسمیشن لائن 2018 تک مکمل کی جائے گی۔ پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان ایچ وی سی ڈی ہائی ٹرانسمیشن لائن بچھانے کے معاہدے پر دستخط کی تقریب بیجنگ میں منعقد ہوئی۔ تقریب میں ترقی و منصوبہ بندی کے وفاقی وزیر احسن اقبال اور خیبر پختونخوا، سندھ اور بلوچستان کے وزرا اعلیٰ بھی شریک ہوئے۔ سیکرٹری پانی و بجلی یونس ڈاگانے معاہدے پر دستخط کئے جبکہ چین کی طرف سے اسٹیٹ گریڈ آف چائنہ کے چیئرمین نے دستخط کیے۔ ڈیڑھ ارب ڈالر کی لاگت سے پینجیل کے بعد لاہور، میٹری ٹرانسمیشن لائن پاکستان کی پہلی ہائی کیپیسٹی ٹرانسمیشن لائن ہوگی۔ ٹرانسمیشن لائن کے ذریعے شمالی و جنوبی

فور کاسٹنگ ڈویژن
روزنامہ نوائے وقت
31 دسمبر 2016

ایل بی جی کی قیمت میں 10 روپے کلو اضافہ گھریلو سلنڈر 100 کمرشل 400 روپے ہوگا
روزنامہ نوائے وقت
31 دسمبر 2016

پاکستان بھارت میں پانی کے مسئلے کا پُر امن حل چاہتے ہیں جان کیری کا اسحاق ڈار کو فون
روزنامہ نوائے وقت
30 دسمبر 2016

بلدیاتی ادارے 2 جنوری سے کام شروع کر دیئے گئے، پنجاب کابینہ نے سول ایڈمنسٹریشن آرڈیننس کی منظوری دیدی، ڈپٹی کمشنر چارج سنبھالیں گے، سیکشن 14 حذف، پولیس حکام و ابده نہیں ہونگے
روزنامہ نوائے وقت
30 دسمبر 2016

پاکستان اور چین میں ایچ وی سی ڈی ٹرانسمیشن لائن کا معاہدہ طے پایا گیا
روزنامہ نوائے وقت
30 دسمبر 2016

پبلک سروسز

تفصیلات

لاہور: پنجاب حکومت کی جانب سے اربوں روپے کے ترقیاتی منصوبے جاری ہیں لیکن صحت عامہ کی صورت حال اس قدر مخدوش ہے کہ سرکاری اسپتالوں میں مریض سہولیات کی عدم فراہمی کے باعث زندگی کی بازی ہار رہے ہیں اور ایسا ہی ایک واقعہ لاہور کے جناح اسپتال میں بھی پیش آیا ہے کہ جہاں قصور سے لائی گئی مریضہ بنیادی سہولیات نہ ملنے پر جاں بحق ہو گئی۔ ایکسپریس نیوز کے مطابق پیر کی علی الصبح قصور کی رہائشی زہرہ بی بی کو اس کے بچے ملیوں دور لاہور کے جناح اسپتال میں صرف اس لیے لائے کہ شاید ان کی والدہ کو بہتر علاج کی سہولیات مل جائے لیکن جہاں حکمران خود بیرون ملک علاج کراتے ہوں وہاں ملک کے سرکاری اسپتالوں میں بھلا غریبوں کو کون پوچھے گا اور نتیجہ وہی نکلا جو زہرہ بی بی جیسے ہزاروں مریضوں کو سرکاری اسپتالوں میں لانے سے نکلنے ہیں یعنی ورٹالائے تو مریض کو اپنے پیروں پر لیکن اسے چار کندھوں پر لے جایا گیا۔ زہرہ بی بی کو جناح اسپتال کی ایمر جنسی میں ایک ہیڈ بھی نہ ملا اور تو اور ڈاکٹروں نے اس کے میڈیکل ریکارڈ کا بھی جائزہ نہ لیا کہ وہ بدنصیب دل کی مریضہ ہے، زہرہ کو ایمر جنسی کے ٹھنڈے فرش پر ہی لٹا کر ڈرپ لگا دی گئی، کچھ ڈرپ کا اثر تھا اور کچھ ٹھنڈے فرش نے کام دکھایا کہ دیکھتے ہی دیکھتے اسے شدید بخار نے آگھیرا، اس پر بھی وہاں موجود ڈاکٹروں اور طبی عملے کو کچھ خیال نہ آیا، انہوں نے اسی وقت پھرتی دکھائی جب زہرہ کے ساتھ آنے والوں نے دھاڑیں مار کر رونا شروع کر دیا لیکن تب تک بہت دیر ہو چکی تھی اور زہرہ بی بی ابدی نیند جاسوئی۔ زہرہ بی بی کی ہلاکت پر اسپتال انتظامیہ کا کہنا تھا کہ اسپتال کا پورا ناملہ مریضوں کے علاج میں کوئی کسر باقی نہیں رکھتا لیکن اسپتال میں آنے والے مریضوں کی تعداد بہت زیادہ جب کہ سہولیات کم ہیں اور یہ واقعہ بھی اسی کا نتیجہ ہے۔ دوسری جانب وزیر اعلیٰ پنجاب شہباز شریف نے روایتی انداز میں واقعے کا نوٹس لیتے ہوئے رپورٹ طلب کر لی ہے۔

کوسٹہ میں انسداد پولیو کی 5 روزہ خصوصی مہم آج سے شروع ہو گئی ہے مہم کے دوران 4 سے زائد بچوں کو پولیو سے بچاؤ کے قطرے پلائے جائیں گے۔ ایمر جنسی آپریشن سینٹر کے کوارڈینیٹر سید فیصل احمد نے بتایا کہ کوسٹہ کی 39 یونین کونسلز میں انسداد پولیو مہم آج سے شروع ہو گئی ہے جس میں 1345 ٹیمیں حصہ لیں رہی ہیں جن میں فلسفہ سائنس 105، ٹرانزٹ پوائنٹس جبکہ اس کے علاوہ 1 ہزار سے زیادہ موبائل ٹیمیں شامل ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ مہم کے دوران 4 لاکھ سے زیادہ بچوں کو پولیو سے بچاؤ کے قطرے پلانے کا ہدف مقرر کیا گیا ہے۔

کراچی: کراچی ٹرانسپورٹ اتحاد نے وزارت پیٹرولیم سے سی این جی کی قیمتوں کو ڈی ریگولیت کرنے کے فیصلے کو واپس لینے کا مطالبہ کرتے ہوئے بصورت دیگر 12 جنوری کو وفاقی حکومت کے خلاف احتجاج کا اعلان کیا ہے۔ کراچی ٹرانسپورٹ اتحاد کا اجلاس صدر ارشد بخاری کی سربراہی میں ہوا جس میں وفاقی وزارت پیٹرولیم کی جانب سے سندھ میں سی این جی کی قیمتوں کو ڈی ریگولیت کرنے اور سی این جی مالکان کو کھلی چھوٹ دینے پر سخت تشویش کا اظہار کرتے ہوئے کہا گیا کہ پمپ مالکان کو چھوٹ ملنے سی این جی کی قیمت میں اضافہ کر کے ٹرانسپورٹرز اور عوام کے ساتھ زیادتی شروع کر دی گئی ہے اور یہ سلسلہ آئندہ بھی رکنے والا نہیں ہے۔ اجلاس سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے ٹرانسپورٹ اتحاد کے صدر ارشد بخاری نے وفاقی وزیر پیٹرولیم سے مطالبہ کیا گیا کہ ڈی ریگولیشن کا فیصلہ فوری طور پر واپس لیا جائے، اگر ایسا نہ کیا گیا تو ٹرانسپورٹرز بھی کرائے کی پابندی ہٹانے کا مطالبہ کرنے میں حق بجانب ہوں گے۔ اجلاس میں فیصلہ کیا گیا کہ اگر وفاقی وزارت پیٹرولیم نے ڈی ریگولیشن کا فیصلہ واپس نہ لیا تو 12 جنوری کو وفاقی حکومت کے اس فیصلے کے خلاف ہڑتال کی جائے گی اور 13 جنوری سے تمام سی این جی بیچوں کا گاڑیوں سے گھیراؤ کیا جائے گا، علاوہ ازیں سندھ ہائی کورٹ میں اس ظلم کے خلاف رٹ داخل کی جائے گی۔

حکومت نے پیٹرولیم مصنوعات کی قیمتیں برقرار رکھنے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے۔ یکم جنوری کو قیمتیں بڑھانے کے لیے وزارت پیٹرولیم کو ارسال کی گئی سمری کو منظور نہیں کیا گیا۔ سمری میں مٹی کا تیل 6 روپے 93 پیسے فی لٹر مہنگا کرنے کی تجویز دی گئی تھی۔ علاوہ ازیں ہائی سپیڈ ڈیزل 3 روپے 94 پیسے، لائٹ ڈیزل 3 روپے 48 پیسے اور پٹرول 31 پیسے فی لٹر مہنگا کرنے کی سفارش کی گئی تھی۔ وزیر خزانہ اسحاق ڈار نے کہا پیٹرولیم اور ڈیزل کی قیمتوں میں ردوبدل کا فیصلہ 15 روز بعد ہو گا۔

تریبلا اور منگلا ڈیمز میں قابل استعمال پانی کی مقدار انتہائی کم سطح پر آگئی ہے۔ فلڈ فور کاسٹنگ ڈویژن کے مطابق دونوں ڈیمز میں قابل استعمال پانی کا ذخیرہ 13 لاکھ 46 ہزار ایکڑ فٹ ریکارڈ کیا گیا ہے، جو پچھلے سال 31 دسمبر کے مقابلے میں انتہائی کم ہے۔ تریبلا میں پانی انتہائی کم سطح سے 39 فٹ اور منگلا 62

سرخیاں

جناح اسپتال لاہور میں مریضہ ٹھنڈے فرش پر تڑپ تڑپ کر جان کی بازی ہار گئی

ایکسپریس نیوز
02 جنوری 2016

کوسٹہ: پانچ روزہ انسداد پولیو مہم شروع
4 لاکھ بچوں کو پولیو سے بچاؤ کے قطرے پلائے جائیں گے

روزنامہ نوائے وقت
02 جنوری 2016

سی این جی کی قیمتیں ڈی ریگولیت کرنے
کا فیصلہ واپس لیا جائے، کراچی

ٹرانسپورٹ اتحاد
ایکسپریس نیوز
02 جنوری 2016

نئے سال پر ٹھنڈے، حکومت کا پیٹرولیم
مصنوعات کی قیمتیں نہ بڑھانے کا فیصلہ

روزنامہ نوائے وقت
31 دسمبر 2016

تریبلا اور منگلا ڈیمز میں قابل استعمال پانی
کی مقدار انتہائی کم سطح پر آگئی: فلڈ

انہیں اسلحہ لائسنس دیا جائے، جبکہ جنوری میں اس حوالے سے فیصلہ ہو جائے گا۔ ان کا کہنا تھا پولیس دوران تلاشی گاڑی میں موجود لائسنس یافتہ اسلحہ پر کارروائی نہیں کر سکتی، لائسنس یافتہ اسلحہ گاڑی میں رکھا جا سکتا ہے۔ قائمہ کمیٹی برائے داخلہ کے اجلاس میں چیئر مین قائمہ کمیٹی رانا شمیم اور ایم کیو ایم پاکستان کے رہنما سلمان مجاہد بلوچ الجھ پڑے اور دھمکی آمیز گفتگو پر اتر آئے۔ رانا شمیم کی زیر صدارت اجلاس ہوا۔ اجلاس میں مجوزہ غیر قانونی بے دخلی ترمیمی بل 2016 کو زیر غور لایا گیا، اس دوران ایم کیو ایم کے رکن سلمان مجاہد بلوچ نے بولنے کی کوشش کی۔ کمیٹی چیئر مین نے انہیں بولنے سے باز رکھا لیکن وہ اپنی بات جاری رکھنے پر مصر تھے۔ اجلاس میں بولنے سے منع کرنے پر ایم کیو ایم پاکستان کے رہنما سلمان مجاہد بلوچ نے چیئر مین کمیٹی کو مخاطب کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ آپ مجھے بولنے دیں آپ مجھے نہیں جانتے جس پر رانا شمیم نے سلمان بلوچ سے کہا کہ مجھے دھمکی دینے سے پہلے ہوش کے ناخن لیں آپ مجھے نہیں جانتے۔

آئی ایس پی آر کے مطابق آرمی چیف جنرل قمر جاوید باجوہ نے سنگین جرائم میں ملوث آٹھ دہشتگردوں کی سزائے موت کی توثیق کر دی۔ سزائے موت پانے والے تمام دہشتگرد دہشتگردی واقعات سمیت مسلح افواج کے جوانوں اور شہریوں کے قتل میں ملوث ہیں۔ ان دہشتگردوں نے اپنی کارروائیوں کے دوران مجموعی طور پر نوے افراد کو قتل اور ننانوے افراد کو زخمی کیا۔ دہشتگردوں سے دھماکہ خیز مواد برآمد ہوا جبکہ ان تمام امن دشمنوں کو فوجی عدالتوں نے سزائے موت پانے والے دہشتگردوں میں محمد عمر، علی رحمان، عبدالسلام اور خرم شفیق کا عدم تنظیم کے ارکان ہیں۔ ان دہشتگردوں نے کراچی میں صفورا گوگرچی پر اسماعیلی کمیونٹی کی بس پر فائرنگ کی۔ جس کے نتیجے میں پختالیس افراد دم توڑ گئے۔ ان دہشتگردوں نے کراچی میں سماجی کارکن سبین محمود کو بھی قتل کیا۔ سزائے موت پانے والا دہشتگرد مسلم خان کا عدم تنظیم کا ترجمان ہے جو شہریوں کے قتل اور مسلح فورسز پر حملوں میں ملوث ہے۔ ان حملوں کے نتیجے میں فوج اور پولیس کے افسروں سمیت اکتیس افراد شہید اور انہتر زخمی ہوئے۔ اسی طرح دہشتگردوں محمد یوسف، سیف اللہ اور بلال محمود کی سزائے موت کی بھی توثیق کر دی گئی۔ آئی ایس پی آر کے مطابق آرمی چیف نے تین دہشتگردوں کی قید کی سزا کی بھی توثیق کی۔ دہشتگرد سرتاج علی کو عمر قید جبکہ دہشتگرد محمود خان اور فضل غفار کو بیس برس سخت قید کی سزا دیدی گئی۔

ایلیکشن کمیشن میں دائر درخواست میں موقف اختیار کیا گیا کہ ضلع کو نسل خوشاب کے چیئر مین وائس چیئر مین کی پولنگ کے دوران پانچ ووٹرز نے ووٹ ظاہر کر کے کاسٹ کیا۔ پریز اینڈنگ افسر نے بھی اپنی رپورٹ میں ووٹ ظاہر کرنے کی نشاندہی کی۔ سمیر الملک کی کامیابی صرف ایک ووٹ سے ہوئی جسے کا عدم قرار دیا جائے۔ سمیر الملک کے وکیل نے ووٹ ظاہر کرنے کے الزامات مسترد کر دیئے۔ سمیر الملک کے وکیل کا کہنا تھا کہ مخالفین ہارنے کے بعد اعتراض کر رہے ہیں۔ ووٹرز نے اپنے ووٹ دکھائے نہیں بیٹ پیپر ز خشک کئے تھے۔ کیس ایلیکشن کمیشن کی بجائے ایلیکشن ٹریبونل کے سامنے لانا چاہیے تھا۔ پریز اینڈنگ افسر اسرار احمد کا کہنا تھا کہ پانچ ووٹرز نے اپنے ووٹ ظاہر کئے۔ سمیر الملک کے مخالفین کے کہنے پر ووٹرز کھٹاف کارروائی کے لئے سفارش کی۔ چیف ایلیکشن کمیشن نے پریز اینڈنگ افسر سے کہا کہ اس کا مطلب ہے آپ نے کسی دباؤ میں رپورٹ دی۔ پریز اینڈنگ افسر اسرار احمد نے کہا کہ کسی دباؤ میں نہیں آیا اس وقت کے ماحول کے مطابق رپورٹ دی۔ ریٹرننگ افسر کا کہنا تھا کہ جب ووٹ ظاہر کر کے کاسٹ کیے گئے اس وقت وہ موقع پر موجود نہیں تھے۔ ایلیکشن کمیشن نے دلائل سننے کے بعد سمیر الملک کی کامیابی کو کا عدم قرار دیدیا۔ ایلیکشن کمیشن نے نشست پر دوبارہ ایلیکشن کا مطالبہ کر دیا۔

اسلام آباد: وفاقی حکومت کی جانب سے پانچ ریگولیٹری اتھارٹیز کو وزارتوں کے ماتحت کرنے سے متعلق نوٹیفیکیشن کو اسلام آباد ہائی کورٹ میں چیلنج کر دیا گیا۔ نمائندہ ایکسپریس کے مطابق وفاقی حکومت کی جانب سے پانچ ریگولیٹری اتھارٹیز کو وزارتوں کے ماتحت کرنے سے متعلق حکومتی نوٹیفیکیشن کو اسلام آباد ہائی کورٹ میں چیلنج کر دیا گیا۔ درخواست گزار نے موقف اختیار کیا کہ اوگر کے بجائے سی این جی مالکان کو قبوتوں کے تعین کا اختیار غیر قانونی ہے۔ درخواست گزار نے عدالت عالیہ سے حکومتی نوٹیفیکیشن کو غیر قانونی قرار دینے کی استدعا کی ہے۔ واضح رہے کہ سیکرٹری کابینہ نے 19 دسمبر کو وزیر اعظم کی ہدایت پر پانچ ریگولیٹری اتھارٹیز کو وزارتوں کے ماتحت کرنے کا نوٹیفیکیشن جاری کیا تھا۔

کراچی: سائٹ ایریا میں پولیس نے سرچ آپریشن کے دوران کا عدم تنظیم کے 3 کارندوں سمیت 17 افراد کو حراست میں لے لیا۔ ایکسپریس نیوز کے مطابق پولیس نے کراچی کے علاقے سائٹ ایریا میں جرائم پیشہ افراد کی موجودگی کی اطلاع پر سرچ آپریشن کیا، اس دوران علاقے کے مختلف علاقوں کی مکمل ناکہ بندی کی گئی جب کہ سرچ آپریشن والے علاقوں میں لوگوں کا داخلہ بھی بند کر دیا گیا۔ پولیس کے مطابق سائٹ ایریا میں مختلف مقامات پر سرچ آپریشن کے دوران 17 افراد کو حراست میں لیا گیا جن میں 3 کا عدم تنظیم کے کارندے بھی شامل ہیں۔ پولیس کا کہنا ہے کہ حراست میں لیے گئے افراد سے تفتیش شروع کر دی گئی ہے جب کہ ان کے کوائف بھی چیک کیے جا رہے ہیں۔

چیف آرمی سٹاف جنرل قمر جاوید باجوہ نے آٹھ دہشتگردوں کی سزائے موت کی توثیق کر دی

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

28 دسمبر 2016

ایلیکشن کمیشن نے ضلع خوشاب کے چیئر مین کا ایلیکشن کا عدم قرار دیکر نشست پر دوبارہ ایلیکشن کرانے کا حکم دیدیا

بی بی سی اردو

23 دسمبر 2016

پانچ ریگولیٹری اتھارٹیز کو وزارتوں کو دینے کا فیصلہ اسلام آباد ہائی کورٹ میں چیلنج

ایکسپریس نیوز

28 دسمبر 2016

کراچی کے علاقے سائٹ ایریا میں پولیس کا سرچ آپریشن، 17 افراد زیر حراست

ایکسپریس نیوز

27 دسمبر 2016

انھیں ویسا ہی مکان جیسا ان کا تھا اس رقم میں تعمیر کر کے دے۔ شمالی وزیرستان کے تاجروں کا کہنا ہے کہ صرف میر علی اور میر انشاہ میں کوئی انیس ہزار سے زیادہ دکانیں تباہ ہوئی ہیں ان دکانوں اور ان میں ہونے والے نقصان کا تخمینہ اربوں روپے میں بتایا گیا ہے۔

جن متاثرین کی واپسی اب تک نہیں ہوئی اور وہ خیموں میں زندگی گزارنے پر مجبور ہیں ان کے حالات کسی سے ڈھکے چھپے نہیں ہیں۔ کھانے کو خوراک نہیں، بیماری میں علاج نہیں بچوں کی تعلیم نہیں اس پر موسم کی شدت علیحدہ ہے۔ شمالی وزیرستان کے قبائلی رہنما ملک نثار علی خان کا کہنا ہے کہ ان متاثرین کی زندگی کا نٹوں پر گزر رہی ہے۔ نثار علی خان نے بتایا کہ نقل مکانی کرنے والے متاثرین کے بچے بیمار ہیں، پانی نہیں ہے، خوراک کی قلت ہے اور ان کے پاس کوئی وسائل نہیں ہیں کہ وہ یہاں مزید گزارہ کر سکیں۔ اس بارے میں شمالی وزیرستان کے قبائلی رہنما ملک غلام نے بتایا کہ حکومت نے اب تک ان متاثرین کے لیے کوئی لائحہ عمل تیار نہیں کیا جو افغانستان کی جانب نقل مکانی کر گئے ہیں۔ انھوں نے کہا کہ افغانستان جانے والے متاثرین کے لیے پاکستان آنے کے راستے بند کر دیے گئے ہیں جبکہ افغانستان میں انھیں اپنا یا نہیں جاسکتا۔ اس بارے میں قبائلی علاقوں میں قدرتی آفات سے نمٹنے کے ادارے ایف ڈی ایم اے کے ڈائریکٹر جنرل خالد خان کا کہنا ہے کہ 82 فیصد متاثرین اپنے گھروں کو چاچکے اور اب اس وقت تمام قبائلی علاقوں کے کوئی ساٹھ ہزار خاندان باقی رہ گئے ہیں۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ ان متاثرین کی واپسی کا عمل تیزی سے جاری ہے لیکن بیشتر علاقوں میں موسم کی شدت آڑے آ رہی ہے جس وجہ سے اس سال دسمبر تک ان کی واپسی مکمل نہیں ہو سکی۔ خالد خان نے بتایا کہ اب امید ہے کہ اگلے سال جون تک ان متاثرین کی واپسی مکمل ہو جائے گی۔ انھوں نے کہا کہ کرم ایجنسی، اور کزئی ایجنسی اور دیگر قبائلی علاقوں کے بیشتر آئی ڈی پیز اپنے علاقوں کو واپس چاچکے ہیں۔ حیران کن بات یہ ہے کہ جنوبی وزیرستان میں فوجی آپریشن راہ نجات سال دو ہزار نو میں شروع کیا گیا تھا اور اس ایجنسی کے متاثرین نے ناک اور ڈیرہ اسماعیل خان میں پناہ لی۔ ان متاثرین کی واپسی کا عمل سال 2010 سے شروع کر دیا گیا تھا جو اب تک مکمل نہیں ہو سکا۔ جنوبی وزیرستان سے تعلق رکھنے والے قبائلی رہنما نور خان محمود نے کہا کہ تمام قبائلی ایجنسیوں میں سب سے زیادہ جنوبی وزیرستان کے لوگ متاثر ہوئے ہیں جو ایک عرصے سے بے گھر ہیں اور ان کے لیے کوئی کیس یا ان کے لیے کوئی ایسے اقدامات نہیں کیے گئے جس سے ان متاثرین کی پریشانیوں کو دور کیا جاسکے۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ انھیں شروع میں یہ بتایا گیا تھا کہ چند ہزار شدت پسند یا طالبان ہے جن کا خاتمہ کرنا ہے اس کے نتیجے میں ان کے علاقے کے لاکھوں لوگوں نے نقل مکانی کی اور ملک کے لیے قربانیاں دیں اب چاہیے تھا کہ انھیں گلے لگایا جاتا اور انھیں محبت سے اپنے علاقوں میں رہائش دی جاتی لیکن ایسا نہیں ہے۔ انھوں نے مزید بتایا کہ اب بھی اگر کہیں کوئی دھماکہ یا فائرنگ کا واقعہ ہوتا ہے تو اس علاقے کو گھیرے میں لے کر لوگوں کو تنگ کیا جاتا ہے جس کے خلاف لوگوں نے احتجاج بھی کیے ہیں۔ شمالی وزیرستان میں فوجی آپریشن جو سال 2014 میں شروع کیا گیا تھا جس سے کوئی دس لاکھ افراد نے نقل مکانی کی۔ ان متاثرین کی واپسی کا سلسلہ گزشتہ سال مارچ میں شروع کیا گیا تھا جو انتہائی سست روی کا شکار رہا۔ اس سال جون میں کہا گیا کہ اب متاثرین کی واپسی میں تیزی آئے گی اور اس سال دسمبر تک تمام قبائلی علاقوں کے متاثرین اپنے وطن واپس بھیجے جائیں گے۔

اسلام آباد (واقعہ نگار خصوصی) انسداد دہشت گردی ایکٹ اور تحفظ پاکستان قانون کو ضم کرنے کا فیصلہ کر لیا گیا ہے جبکہ نئے قانون کا مسودہ بھی تیار کر لیا گیا۔ قومی اسمبلی کی مجلس قائمہ برائے داخلہ کے اجلاس میں وزارت داخلہ نے انسداد دہشت گردی ایکٹ اور تحفظ پاکستان قانون کو ضم کر کے نیا قانون بنانے کی تجویز دی۔ ترجمان وزارت داخلہ کی باقاعدہ منظوری کے بعد اسے پارلیمنٹ میں لایا جائے گا جس کے بعد یہ قانون مستقل قانون کی حیثیت وزیر داخلہ کو پیش کیا جائے گا اور وزیر داخلہ کی باقاعدہ منظوری کے بعد اسے پارلیمنٹ میں لایا جائے گا جس کے بعد یہ قانون مستقل قانون کی حیثیت رکھے گا۔ نئے مجوزہ قانون میں فوجی عدالتوں کی مدت کا معاملہ بھی شامل کر دیا گیا ہے، فوجی عدالتوں کی مدت آئندہ ماہ 7 جنوری کو ختم ہو رہی ہے جس کے بعد فوجی عدالتوں میں زیر سماعت تمام کیسز انسداد دہشت گردی عدالتوں میں منتقل ہو جائیں گے اس وقت فوجی عدالتوں میں 300 کیسز بچھوائے گئے ہیں اور 120 کیسز زیر سماعت ہیں۔ نئے قانون میں دہشت گردی کے مقدمات فوجی عدالتوں میں ہی بھیجے جائیں گے دہشت گردی کے مقدمات کے لئے فوجی عدالتیں مستقل ہو جائیں گی۔ نئے قانون کے تحت قانون نافذ کرنے والے ادارے ملزمان کو تحقیقات کے لئے 90 روز تک اپنی تحویل میں رکھ سکیں گے۔ نئے قانون میں کسی بھی مشتبہ شخص کو 90 روز حراست میں رکھنے سمیت فوجی عدالتوں کی شق بھی شامل ہے، وفاقی اور صوبائی حکومتوں کی جانب سے فوجی عدالتوں کو 300 کیسز بچھوائے گئے ہیں اور اس وقت ایک سو بیس کیسز فوجی عدالتوں میں زیر سماعت ہیں۔ واضح رہے کہ وزارت داخلہ نے تحفظ پاکستان ایکٹ اور انسداد دہشت گردی ترمیمی ایکٹ 2014 میں توسیع کیلئے بھی وزارت قانون کو سہری ارسال کی تھی تاہم یہ دونوں سہریاں اس وقت بھی وزارت قانون کے پاس ہیں، اب دونوں قوانین کو یکجا کر دیا گیا ہے۔ این این آئی اور صباح نیوز کے مطابق قومی اسمبلی کی قائمہ کمیٹی برائے داخلہ کے اجلاس میں اہم فیصلے کیے گئے۔ کمیٹی نے سزاؤں میں اضافے کے ترمیمی بل کی منظوری دے دی ہے۔ دریں اثناء قومی اسمبلی کی قائمہ کمیٹی برائے داخلہ نے چوری ڈکیتی اور دیگر جرائم کی سزاؤں میں اضافے کے ترمیمی بل 2014ء کی منظوری دے دی۔ چوری کی سزا 31 سال سے 5 سال کرنے کی تجویز، جبکہ چیک فراڈ پر زر ضمانت چیک کی مالیت سے دگنا کر دیا گیا۔ سیکرٹری داخلہ عارف احمد خان نے مختلف قوانین میں ترمیم پر بریفنگ دی۔ اس موقع پر سیکرٹری داخلہ نے بتایا اسلحہ لائسنس کے اجراء کے لئے سفارشات تیار کر لی ہیں۔ کوشش ہے کہ معاشرے میں جن لوگوں کو ضرورت ہے

انسداد دہشت گردی، تحفظ پاکستان ایکٹ کو ضم کر کے نیا قانون بنانے کا فیصلہ، فوجی عدالتیں مستقل ہو جائیں گی

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

29 دسمبر 2016

مشغول افراد کو منسٹر کر دیا، پولیس نے جاں بحق افراد کی لاشیں سول ہسپتال سجاول منتقل کر دی ہیں۔

پنجاب حکومت نے صوبے بھر میں ڈپٹی کمشنر کا نظام دوبارہ متعارف کرنے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے اور اس مقصد کے لیے قانون کو حتمی شکل دے دی گئی ہے۔ آرڈیننس کے ذریعے ڈپٹی کمشنر کا نظام دوبارہ رائج کیا جائے گا جو پنجاب بھر میں نفاذ العمل ہو گا۔ حکومت کے مطابق اس نظام سے ڈیوری سروس میں بہتر آئے گی تاہم قانونی ماہرین کے مطابق اسے بلدیاتی اداروں کو بے اختیار کرنے کا اقدام قرار دے رہے ہیں۔ سنہ 2001 میں اس وقت کے فوجی صدر جنرل ریٹائرڈ پرویز مشرف نے ڈپٹی کمشنر کا عہدہ تحلیل کر کے اس کی جگہ ضلعی رابطہ افسریا ڈی سی او کا عہدہ تشکیل دیا تھا۔ ڈپٹی کمشنر کے نظام کی بحالی کے لیے پنجاب سول ایڈمنسٹریشن کے عنوان سے آرڈیننس جاری کیا جائے گا اور یہ پورے پنجاب میں نفاذ ہو گا۔ صوبہ پنجاب میں ڈپٹی کمشنر کا عہدہ ایک ایسے وقت میں بحال کیا جا رہا ہے جب صوبے میں بلدیاتی ادارے بحال ہونے والے ہیں۔ بلدیاتی امور اور قانون کے ماہر مبین الدین قاضی ایڈووکیٹ نے خدشہ ظاہر کیا ہے کہ ڈپٹی کمشنر کا عہدہ بحال ہونے سے بلدیاتی نمائندوں کے اختیارات پر ضرب لگے گی جو بقول ان کے جمہوریت کی نفی ہے۔ لگ بھگ 8 برس کے بعد پنجاب میں بلدیاتی ادارے بحال ہو رہے ہیں اور حال میں ان کی تشکیل مکمل ہوئی۔ پنجاب سول ایڈمنسٹریشن نامی آرڈیننس کے تحت ڈپٹی کمشنر ضلع اور اسسٹنٹ کمشنر تحصیل میں وسائل کی موثر فراہمی، امن و امان کے معاملے پر پولیس سے مشاورت اور مالیاتی امور سمیت دیگر انتظامی معاملات کا جائزہ لیں گے۔ مبین الدین قاضی ایڈووکیٹ کی قانونی رائے ہے کہ یہ متوقع آرڈیننس آئین کے منافی ہے کیونکہ آئین کے آرٹیکل 140 اے کے تحت یہ پابندی ہے کہ انتظامی، سیاسی اور مالیاتی نوعیت کے اختیارات منتخب بلدیاتی نمائندوں کے پاس ہوں گے اور یہ اختیار سرکاری افسر کو نہیں دیے جاسکتے۔ یہ آرڈیننس ڈپٹی کمشنر کو یہ اختیار بھی دے گا کہ وہ عوامی سہولیات کی فراہمی کا جائزہ لیں اور مناسب ہدایات جاری کر دیں۔ ڈپٹی کمشنر کو یہ بھی اختیار ہو گا کہ وہ اپنی ہدایات پر عمل نہ ہونے کی صورت میں حکومت کو قانون کے مطابق کارروائی کی تجویز دے سکیں۔ ایک اعلیٰ افسر نے نام ظاہر نہ کرنے کی شرط پر بتایا کہ اس قانون کے تحت ایک طرح سے منتخب نمائندوں کے اختیارات سرکاری افسروں کو مل جائیں گے۔ سرکاری افسر نے حیرت کا اظہار کیا کہ دنیا آگے کی جانب جا رہی ہے لیکن حکومت صوبے میں پرانے قوانین کی بحالی میں مصروف ہے۔ بلدیاتی قوانین کے ماہر مبین قاضی نے تشویش کا اظہار کیا کہ نئے قانون کے تحت ڈپٹی کمشنر کو یہ اختیار مل جائے گا کہ وہ انکوائری کر سکیں گے۔ مبین قاضی نے خدشہ ظاہر کیا کہ اس اختیار کو سیاسی وفاداریاں تبدیل کرنے اور سیاسی مخالفین کو انتقامی کارروائی کا نشانہ بنانے کے لیے استعمال کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ ان کے بقول جس کے خلاف انکوائری شروع ہوگی اس کو ناصر ڈپٹی کمشنر کے دفتر کے باہر انتظار کرنا پڑے گا بلکہ اس بار بار دفتر کا ٹھکانا بھی پڑیں گے۔ اعلیٰ افسر نے بتایا کہ اس قانون کے تحت امن و امان، پبلک سیفٹی اور دیگر معاملات پر پولیس کو ڈپٹی کمشنر کے تابع کر دیا ہے اور پولیس ڈپٹی کمشنر کی ہدایات پر عمل کرنے کی پابند ہوگی۔ مبصرین کے مطابق ڈپٹی کمشنر کے نظام کو رائج کرنے مقصد 2018 کے انتخابات کو کنٹرول کرنا ہے۔ مبین قاضی ایڈووکیٹ نے افسوس کا اظہار کیا کہ ڈپٹی کمشنر کے نظام کو بحال کرنے یہ ظاہر ہوتا ہے کہ حکومت منتخب نمائندوں کے بجائے ڈی ایم جی گروپ کے ذریعے معاملات چلانے میں دلچسپی رکھتی ہے۔ ان کے بقول اس طرح عوامی کلچر کے بجائے پروٹوکول کلچر فروغ پائے گا۔

حکومت اور سکیورٹی فورسز کے وعدوں اور دعووں کے باوجود قبائلی علاقوں سے نقل مکانی کرنے والے متاثرین کی واپسی اس سال کے آخر تک بھی مکمل نہیں ہو سکی اب حکام کا کہنا ہے کہ واپسی کا یہ عمل اگلے سال جون تک ہی مکمل ہو سکے گا۔ دیار غیر میں متاثرین کی زندگی بھی تکلیف دہ ہے اور اپنے تباہ شدہ علاقے میں واپس جانے والے افراد کو بھی مشکلات درپیش ہیں۔ حیران کن بات یہ ہے کہ بعض علاقوں کے متاثرین کی واپسی چھ سالوں میں بھی مکمل نہیں ہو سکی۔ ان میں جنوبی وزیرستان کے محمود قبیلے کے مکین شامل ہیں۔ قبائلی علاقوں کے ان متاثرین کے لیے یہ ایک ایسا امتحان رہا ہے جس میں ان قبائلیوں کا اپنا کچھ عمل دخل نہیں رہا ان کے علاقوں میں شدت پسند کیسے آئے یا انھیں کون لایا جن کے خلاف فوجی آپریشن شروع کیے گئے اور ان بے گناہ افراد کو اپنے گھر بار چھوڑنا پڑے۔ فوجی آپریشن شروع ہونے کے بعد ان لوگوں نے جہاں موقع ملا پناہ لی، بیشتر لوگ قبائلی علاقوں کے قریب شہروں اور دیہاتوں میں سر چھپانے پر مجبور ہوئے، کوئی دور دراز شہروں میں پینچے اور ہزاروں خاندان سرحد پار افغانستان میں پناہ حاصل کرنے میں کامیاب ہوئے۔ شدید سردی اور شدید گرمی جیموں میں گزاری۔ حکام کے مطابق کوئی اسی فیصد سے زیادہ متاثرین اپنے علاقوں کو چکے ہیں۔

احسان داؤد صحافی ہیں ان کا تعلق شمالی وزیرستان ایجنسی کی تحصیل میر علی سے ہے۔ ان کی واپسی اس سال فروری کے مہینے میں ہوئی تھی۔ احسان داؤد نے بی بی سی کو بتایا کہ میر علی اور ایجنسی ہیڈ کوارٹر میر انشاہ تو اپنی جگہ پر موجود ہی نہیں جہاں پہلے مکانات بازار اور دوکانیں تھیں اب وہاں میدان ہے۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ میر علی اور میر انشاہ میں پیشتر متاثرین نے واپسی کے بعد اپنے تباہ شدہ مکانات کے ملے پر نیچے لگا لیے تھے جبکہ ایسے لوگ تھے جن کے مکان تباہ ہو گئے تھے اور ان کے پاس اوڑھنے کے لیے کبل تک نہیں تھا۔ احسان داؤد کا کہنا ہے کہ ان کے مکان کو نظارہ تو جزوی نقصان پہنچا ہے لیکن اس کی مرمت میں ان کے دس لاکھ روپے خرچ ہو چکے ہیں جبکہ انھیں حکومت نے ڈیڑھ لاکھ روپے دینے کا وعدہ کیا ہے یہ رقم انھیں کب ملے گی کچھ معلوم نہیں۔ جن متاثرین کے مکان مکمل تباہ ہو چکے ہیں انھیں صرف چار لاکھ روپے دینے کے وعدے کیے گئے ہیں۔ ان متاثرین کا کہنا ہے کہ حکومت

پنجاب میں دوبارہ انگریز کے زمانے کا
کشمیری نظام متعارف کرانے کا فیصلہ

بی بی سی اردو

30 دسمبر 2016

متاثرین: گھر واپسی کے بجائے جی ڈیڈ

لائسن

بی بی سی اردو

30 دسمبر 2016

سیفٹی اور سیکورٹی

تفصیلات

سرخیاں

پاکستان کے صوبہ بلوچستان کے دارالحکومت کوئٹہ ہونے والے ایک بم دھماکے میں فرنیچر کور کے چھ اہلکار زخمی ہو گئے ہیں۔ پیر کو یہ واقعہ شہر کے مغربی بائی پاس کے علاقے بروری میں پیش آیا۔ قوعہ پر میڈیا کے نمائندوں سے بات چیت کرتے ہوئے ڈی آئی جی پولیس کوئٹہ عبدالرزاق چیمہ نے بتایا کہ جس علاقے میں دھماکہ ہوا وہ سیکورٹی فورسز کی عارضی فائرنگ رینج ہے۔ اُن کا کہنا تھا کہ اس علاقے میں نامعلوم مسلح افراد نے دھماکہ خیز مواد نصب کیا تھا۔ ڈی آئی جی پولیس نے بتایا کہ جب ایف سی اہلکار وہاں فائرنگ کی ٹریننگ کے لیے پہنچے تو ایک زوردار دھماکہ ہوا۔ انھوں نے بتایا کہ دھماکے میں چھ اہلکار زخمی ہوئے جن کو ابتدائی طبی امداد کے لیے ہسپتال منتقل کیا گیا۔ پولیس حکام کا کہنا ہے کہ یہ ریوٹ کنٹرول دھماکہ تھا جس کے لیے 8 سے 10 کلودھماکہ خیز مواد استعمال کیا گیا تھا۔ ڈی آئی جی نے بتایا کہ چونکہ یہ فائرنگ رینج ہے۔ یہاں عام طور سیکورٹی نہیں ہوتی ہے اس لیے اس جگہ کا انتخاب کیا گیا۔ بلوچستان میں حالات کی خرابی کے بعد سے کوئٹہ شہر میں بم دھماکوں کا سلسلہ جاری ہے تاہم سرکاری حکام کا کہنا ہے کہ پہلے کے مقابلے میں اب حالات میں بہتری آئی ہے۔

کوئٹہ میں دھماکہ، فرنیچر کور کے چھ

اہلکار زخمی

بی بی سی اردو

02 جنوری 2016

پاکستان کی عدالت عظمیٰ نے کہا ہے کہ قومی احتساب بیورو ملک میں بد عنوان عناصر کا سہولت کار بنا ہوا ہے جس کی وجہ سے بد عنوانی کو جڑ سے اٹھاڑنے میں مشکلات کا سامنا ہے۔ یہ ریمارکس سپریم کورٹ کے جج جسٹس شیخ عظیم سعید نے پیر کے روز قومی احتساب بیورو کے 'پلی بارگین' کے اختیار سے متعلق از خود نوٹس کی سماعت کے دوران دیے۔ سماعت کے دوران انھوں نے کہا کہ 250 روپے لینے والے نچلے گریڈ کے اہلکار کو پکڑ کر جیل بھیج دیا جاتا ہے جبکہ اربوں روپے کی کرپشن کرنے والے شخص کو چھوڑ دیا جاتا ہے۔ جسٹس شیخ عظیم سعید نے نیب کے پراسیکیوٹرز جنرل کو مخاطب کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ اُن کا ادارہ اخبارات میں 'کرپشن کر لو اور کرپشن کرالو' کے اشتہارات کیوں نہیں دیتا؟ انارنی جنرل اشرف اوصاف نے عدالت کو بتایا کہ نیب پلی بارگین سے متعلق اختیارات کے قانون کا غلط استعمال کر رہا ہے جس پر نیب کے پراسیکیوٹرز جنرل و قاص ڈار کا کہنا تھا کہ ان کا ادارہ قانون کے مطابق ہی کام کر رہا ہے اور یہ قانون نیب نے خود نہیں بنائے بلکہ پارلیمنٹ نے بنائے ہیں اس لیے نیب تو قانون کے مطابق ہی کام کرے گا۔ نیب کی پلی بارگین کے بارے میں از خود نوٹس کی سماعت کرنے والے بیچ کے سربراہ جسٹس امیر ہانی مسلم نے ریمارکس دیتے ہوئے کہا کہ اگرچہ قوانین نیب نے نہیں بنائے لیکن وہ اس قانون کا غلط استعمال ضرور کر رہا ہے۔ انھوں نے کہا کہ کسی بااثر آدمی کو نہ پکڑنا اس کی واضح مثال ہے۔ نیب کے پراسیکیوٹرز جنرل کا کہنا تھا کہ ماتحت عدالتوں کے حکم پر بھی ملزمان سے رقوم کی واپسی کے لیے پلی بارگین کی جاتی ہے جس پر بیچ کے سربراہ کا کہنا تھا کہ وہ ایسے عدالتی فیصلوں کو چیلنج کیوں نہیں کرتے۔ عدالت نے انارنی جنرل سے کہا کہ وہ نیب کے قانون کی شق 25 کے بارے میں وفاق کا موقف ایک ہفتے میں پیش کریں جو پلی بارگین سے متعلق نیب کے چیئرمین کی اختیارات کی وضاحت کرتا ہے۔ عدالت کا یہ بھی کہنا تھا کہ وہ اس معاملے کو سپریم کورٹ کے تین رکنی بیچ کے سامنے رکھنے کے لیے چیف جسٹس کو لکھیں گے۔

قومی احتساب بیورو بد عنوان عناصر کی

معاونت کر رہا ہے: سپریم کورٹ

بی بی سی اردو

02 جنوری 2016

واضح رہے کہ سابق چیف جسٹس انور ظہیر جمالی کی سربراہی میں سپریم کورٹ کے بیچ نے پلی بارگین سے متعلق چیئرمین نیب کے اختیارات کو معطل کر رکھا ہے۔ بلوچستان کے سیکریٹری خزانہ مشتاق ریسائی کی بد عنوانی کا مقدمہ نیب میں زیر سماعت تھا جس میں نیب نے اُن سے پلی بارگین کی تھی۔ مشتاق ریسائی کی پلی بارگین پر ملک کے کئی حلقوں نے نیب کو شدید تنقید کا نشانہ بنایا تھا۔

لاہور میں پولیس کا پتنگ بازوں کے

خلاف کریک ڈاون، دو افراد

گرفتار، 100 سے زائد پتنگیں برآمد

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

02 جنوری 2016

لاہور: پولیس نے پتنگ بازوں کے خلاف کریک ڈاون کرتے ہوئے 2 افراد کو گرفتار کر لیا، ملزمان کے قبضے سے 100 سے زائد پتنگیں اور بڑی مقدار میں ڈور برآمد ہوئی ہے۔ گزشتہ روز بھائی گیٹ پولیس نے موچی دروازیاور ملحقہ علاقوں میں پتنگ بازوں کے خلاف کریک ڈاون کیا، اس دوران ذوالقرنین عباس اور علی حیدر کو گرفتار کر کے 100 سے زائد پتنگیں اور بڑی مقدار میں ڈور برآمد کر لی گئی۔ ملزم اپنی دکانوں کے خفیہ حصوں میں پتنگیں اور ڈور فروخت کر رہے تھے، پولیس نے مقدمہ درج کر لیا۔

ٹھٹھہ بدین شاہراہ پر سجاواں جاتی بائی پاس کے قریب تیز رفتار ٹرک نے مخالف سمت سے آنے والے موٹرسائیکل کو ٹکرا دی۔ حادثے کے نتیجے میں سجاواں کے رہائشی موٹرسائیکل سوار دونوں جوان موقع پر ہی دم توڑ گئے۔ پولیس کے مطابق جاں بحق افراد کی شناخت فیاض اور عبدالرزاق صاحبزادے کے نام سے ہوئی ہے۔ واقعہ کے بعد موقع پر موجود مشتعل افراد نے ٹرک کو آگ لگا دی ہے۔ تاہم اطلاع ملنے پر مقامی تھانے کی پولیس موقع پر پہنچ گئی اور

ٹھٹھہ: موٹرسائیکل اور ٹرک میں تصادم

2 افراد جاں بحق کی بازی ہار گئے

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

31 دسمبر 2016

نصف شب کو یہ عالم تھا کہ شہر میں دھند کی سکرانی تو کھلے علاقوں میں ہاتھ کو ہاتھ بھائی دینا بند ہو گیا تھا۔ حدنگاہ صفر تک پہنچ گئی، موٹروں کو بند کر دیا گیا تھا۔ لاہور سے شیخوپورہ اور پنڈی بھٹیاں تک، جبکہ پنڈی بھٹیاں سے فیصل آباد اور گوجرہ تک سیکشنز پر ٹریفک روک دی گئی۔

علامہ اقبال ایئرپورٹ اور ملحقہ علاقوں میں حدنگاہ انتہائی کم ہونے پر فلائٹ آپریشن بھی معطل کر دیئے گئے۔ دھند کے بعد شہر کے متعدد علاقوں میں بجلی کے فیڈر ٹرپ کر گئے۔ بجلی غائب ہونے سے کئی علاقے تاریکی میں ڈوب گئے۔ گھروں کے ساتھ ساتھ سڑکوں اور گلیوں بازاروں میں ہر سو ہو کا عالم چھا گیا۔ فیصل آباد کے علاقے چک جمہرہ کے قریب گئے سے لدی ٹرائی کی موٹر سائیکل کو ٹکر کے نتیجے میں دونوں جوان جاں بحق ہو گئے ہیں۔ پولیس حکام کے مطابق مرنے والوں کی شناخت ناصر اور بلال کے ناموں سے ہو گئی ہے جبکہ حادثے کے باعث موٹروں سے لاہور سے کوٹ مومن اور گوجرہ تک ٹریفک کے لیے بند کر دیا گیا۔ ادھر انک کے علاقے پنڈی گھیب اجمل روڈ پر ٹرک کی موٹر سائیکل کو ٹکر سے ایک بچہ جاں بحق اور والد زخمی ہو گیا۔

پاکستان میں جاری طویل خشک سالی اور آبی ذخائر میں پانی کی سطح کم ہونے سے گندم کی کاشت متاثر ہو رہی ہے جبکہ محکمہ موسمیات کا کہنا ہے کہ آئندہ ماہ میں بھی تیز بارشوں کا امکان نہیں ہے۔ پاکستان میں پانی کی تقسیم کے ادارے ارسا کے ترجمان خالد رانا نے بتایا کہ آبی ذخائر میں موجود پانی فصلوں کو سیراب کرنے کے لیے سطح ڈیڈ لیول کے قریب ہے۔ منگل کو اسلام آباد میں ارسا کے ترجمان خالد رانا نے بتایا کہ آبی ذخائر میں موجود پانی فصلوں کو سیراب کرنے کے لیے ناکافی ہے۔ انھوں نے بتایا کہ رواں سال رینج کے موسم میں 17 فیصد پانی کی کمی پیش گوئی کی گئی تھی لیکن خشک سالی کی وجہ سے پانی کے دستیاب ذخائر میں مزید کمی کا امکان ہے۔ دوسری جانب محکمہ موسمیات کا کہنا ہے کہ تین ماہ سے جاری خشک سالی فوری کے طور پر ختم ہونے کا امکان نہیں ہے۔ محکمہ موسمیات کے ڈائریکٹر جنرل غلام رسول نے بی بی سی سے بات کرتے ہوئے بتایا کہ خشک سالی کی وجہ موسمیاتی تبدیلیاں ہیں۔ انھوں نے بتایا کہ سال 2015 سے 2016 میں موسمیاتی پیٹرن انیسوکی وجہ سے ملک میں بارش نہیں ہو رہی ہے اور یہ خشک سالی کب تک جاری رہے گی اس بارے میں کچھ نہیں کہا جاسکتا۔ یاد رہے کہ سال 2016 گرم ترین سال ہے اور اس حدت کے اثرات پاکستان پر بھی نمایاں ہے۔ خشک خالی کی وجہ سے بارش پر انحصار کرنے والے بارانی علاقے بری طرح متاثر ہو رہے ہیں۔ محکمہ موسمیات کے مطابق انیسوکی وجہ سے خشک سالی کے بارے میں تمام متعلقہ اداروں کو قبل از وقت آگاہ کر دیا تھا۔ ڈی جی محکمہ موسمیات غلام رسول نے بتایا کہ کئی بارانی علاقوں میں کاشتکاروں نے زمین میں موجود پانی کو زیر استعمال لاتے ہوئے مختلف سبزیوں کو متبادل فصل کے طور پر کاشت کیا ہے لیکن بارش کا انتظار کرنے والے کاشتکار گندم کی فصل کاشت نہیں کر سکے ہیں۔ انھوں نے بتایا کہ رواں سال موسم سرما میں درجہ حرارت معمول سے زیادہ ہے۔ انھوں نے بتایا کہ پنجاب، خیبر پختونخوا اور بلوچستان کے بارانی علاقوں میں وقت پر بارش نہ ہونے کے سبب گندم کی کاشت متاثر ہوئی ہے۔ ارسا کے ترجمان خالد رانا کا کہنا ہے کہ بارشوں میں کمی کی وجہ سے نہری پانی پر انحصار کرنے والے کاشتکاروں کے لیے بھی پانی ناکافی ہے۔ انھوں نے بتایا کہ دریائے جہلم اور چناب میں پانی کی اوسط آمد دس ہزار کیوسک کے مقابلے اب کم ہو کر محض 6 ہزار کیوسک ہو میہ رہ گئی ہے۔ خالد رانا کا کہنا ہے کہ دریائے جہلم اور چناب میں پانی کے بہاؤ میں کمی اور منگلا اور تربیلا ڈیم میں پانی کی سطح کم ہونے کے سبب بالائی، زیریں اور وسطی پنجاب میں نہری پانی پر انحصار کرنے والے کاشتکاروں کو پانی کی شدید قلت کا سامنا کرنا پڑے گا۔

جنوری میں بھی بارش کا امکان کم، آبی

ذخائر میں ناکافی پانی

بی بی سی اردو ڈاٹ کام، اسلام آباد

27 دسمبر 2016

قدرتی آفات

تفصیلات

لاہور: (دنیا نیوز) محکمہ موسمیات کے مطابق ملک کے بیشتر علاقوں میں موسم سرد اور خشک رہنے کا امکان ہے۔ پنجاب کے میدانی علاقوں اور بالائی سندھ میں رات اور صبح کے اوقات میں شدید دھند کا سلسلہ جاری ہے۔ لاہور میں دھند کم ہو گئی ہے۔ جس سے موسم میں خشکی بھی کم ہوئی۔ شمالی علاقہ جات اور شمالی بلوچستان کے بیشتر علاقے شدید سردی کی لپیٹ میں رہیں گے۔

پنجاب میں دھند کے باعث مختلف حادثات میں ایک شخص جاں بحق جبکہ پنجاب میں دھند کے باعث ٹریفک حادثات، ایک شخص جاں بحق، 32 زخمی تیس زخمی ہو گئے ہیں۔ تفصیلات کے مطابق پنجاب کے مختلف شہروں میں دھند کے باعث حادثات رونما ہوئے ہیں پسرور میں ڈسکہ روڈ پر زائرین سے بھری کوچ الٹنے سے ایک شخص جاں بحق جبکہ پچیس زخمی ہو گئے زخمیوں میں سے سات کی حالت تشویشناک ہے پنڈی بھٹیاں میں لاہور روڈ پر سیکھی کے قریب دھند کے باعث بس مخالف سمت سے آنے والے ٹرک سے جا لکرائی حادثے میں سات افراد شدید زخمی ہو گئے جنہیں قریبی اسپتال منتقل کر دیا گیا ہے۔

تریبلا اور منگلا ڈیمز میں قابل استعمال پانی کی مقدار انتہائی کم سطح پر آگئی ہے۔ فلڈ فور کاسٹنگ ڈویژن کے مطابق دونوں ڈیمز میں قابل استعمال پانی کا ذخیرہ 13 لاکھ 46 ہزار ایکڑ فٹ ریکارڈ کیا گیا ہے، جو پچھلے سال 31 دسمبر کے مقابلے میں انتہائی کم ہے۔ تریبلا میں پانی انتہائی کم سطح سے 39 فٹ اور منگلا 62 فٹ ریکارڈ کی گئی ہے۔ فلڈ فور کاسٹنگ ڈویژن کے مطابق تریبلا میں پانی کی سطح ایک ہزار 1419 اعشاریہ 22 فٹ ہے، جو انتہائی کم سطح سے 39 فٹ اوپر ریکارڈ کی گئی۔ ڈیم کا ڈیول ایک ہزار 380 فٹ ہے، تریبلا میں قابل استعمال پانی کا ذخیرہ 6 لاکھ 91 ہزار ایکڑ فٹ رہ گیا۔ اسی طرح منگلا ڈیم میں پانی کی سطح ایک ہزار 102 فٹ ہے، جو انتہائی کم سطح سے 62 فٹ اوپر دیکھی جا رہی ہے، ڈیم میں قابل استعمال پانی کا ذخیرہ 6 لاکھ 55 ہزار ایکڑ فٹ ریکارڈ کیا گیا ہے۔ فلڈ فور کاسٹنگ ڈویژن کے مطابق خشک موسم اور بارشیں نہ ہونے کے سبب پچھلے سال کے مقابلے میں دونوں ڈیموں میں قابل استعمال پانی کے ذخائر میں بڑی کمی آئی ہے۔ تریبلا میں پچھلے سال 31 دسمبر کے مقابلے میں آج کے دن پانی کی سطح میں 70 فٹ کا بڑا فرق ریکارڈ کیا گیا۔ اسی طرح منگلا میں 2015 کے مقابلے میں 31 دسمبر 2016 کو پانی کی سطح 77 فٹ ریکارڈ کی گئی۔

کراچی کے مختلف علاقوں میں دھند سے حد نگاہ انتہائی کم ہو گئی جبکہ دھند کے باعث پروازوں کا شیڈول بھی متاثر ہوا۔ ہفتہ کو کراچی میں صبح سویرے شدید دھند کے باعث روزمرہ امور سرانجام دینے والوں کو شدید مشکلات کا سامنا کرنا پڑا۔ محکمہ موسمیات کے مطابق دھند کے باعث حد نگاہ پچاس سے سو میٹر تک ہو گئی جبکہ دھند کے باعث اندرون و بیرون ملک سے آنے والی پروازوں کی آمد و رفت بھی تاخیر کا شکار ہوئی۔ محکمہ موسمیات کے مطابق کچھ روز تک دھند کاراج برقرار رہے گا البتہ بارش کا کوئی امکان نہیں ہے۔

فیصل آباد (مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک) حکومت پنجاب محکمہ سول ڈیفنس کا آگ سے بچاؤ کے لیے حفاظتی انتظامات نہ کرنے پر 130 سرکاری و نجی عمارتوں کو نوٹس جا ری 15 دنوں تمام حفاظتی اقدامات مکمل کیے جائیں ورنہ عمارتوں کو سیل کر دیا جائے گا تفصیل کے مطابق حکومت پنجاب محکمہ سول ڈیفنس نے 130 مختلف سرکاری عمارتوں نجی پلازوں سمیت مختلف عمارتوں جن میں ہوٹلز بھی شامل ہیں نوٹس جاری کرتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ عمارتوں میں آگ سے بچاؤ کے تمام اقدامات 15 دنوں میں مکمل کیے جائیں دوسری صورت میں ان تمام سرکاری و نجی عمارتوں پلازوں کو سیل کر دیا جائے گا اور بھاری جرمانے بھی وصول کیے جائیں گے۔

لاہور: پنجاب کے بیشتر حصوں میں دھند ڈیرے جمائے۔ موٹروے لاہور سے شیخوپورہ، پنڈی بھٹیاں، فیصل آباد اور گوجرانگہ تک بند رہی۔ لاہور ایئرپورٹ پر فلائٹ آپریشن معطل رہا، اندرون اور بیرون ممالک جانے والی بیشتر پروازوں کے رخ موڑ دیئے گئے۔ دھند سے ٹریفک حادثات میں تین افراد جاں بحق جبکہ متعدد زخمی۔ لاہور شہر اور گرد و نواح کے علاقے ایک بار پھر شدید دھند کی لپیٹ میں ہیں۔ حد نگاہ صفر ہونے پر موٹروے کو بند اور علامہ اقبال ایئرپورٹ پر فلائٹ آپریشن معطل کیا گیا۔ دھند کے باعث بجلی غائب ہونے سے شہر کے کئی علاقے تاریکی میں ڈوب گئے۔ لاہور میں سرشام چھانے والی کھرنے رات پڑتے ہی دھند کاروپ دھار لیا تھا۔ جوں جوں رات گزری شدید دھند کی سفید چادر شہر اور نواحی علاقوں کو لپیٹ میں لیتی گئی۔

30 دسمبر 2016

سرخیاں

آئندہ 24 گھنٹوں کے دوران ملک کے بیشتر علاقوں میں موسم سرد اور خشک رہے گا
دنیا نیوز

1 جنوری 2016

پنجاب میں دھند کے باعث ٹریفک

حادثات، ایک شخص جاں بحق، 32 زخمی

اردو ایئر

31 دسمبر 2016

تریبلا اور منگلا ڈیمز میں قابل استعمال

پانی کی مقدار انتہائی کم سطح پر آگئی: فلڈ

فور کاسٹنگ ڈویژن

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

31 دسمبر 2016

کراچی میں مختلف علاقوں میں دھند

سے حد نگاہ انتہائی کم، بارش کا کوئی امکان

نہیں ہے: محکمہ موسمیات

اردو ایئر

31 دسمبر 2016

حفاظتی انتظامات نہ کرنے پر

130 سرکاری و نجی عمارتوں کو نوٹس جا

ری

اوصاف

30 دسمبر 2016

پنجاب کے بیشتر حصوں میں دھند نے

ڈیرے لہور ایئرپورٹ پر فلائٹ آپریشن

معطل، موٹروے بند، ٹریفک حادثات، بجلی

کے فیڈر ٹرپ

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

30 دسمبر 2016



سُرخیاں

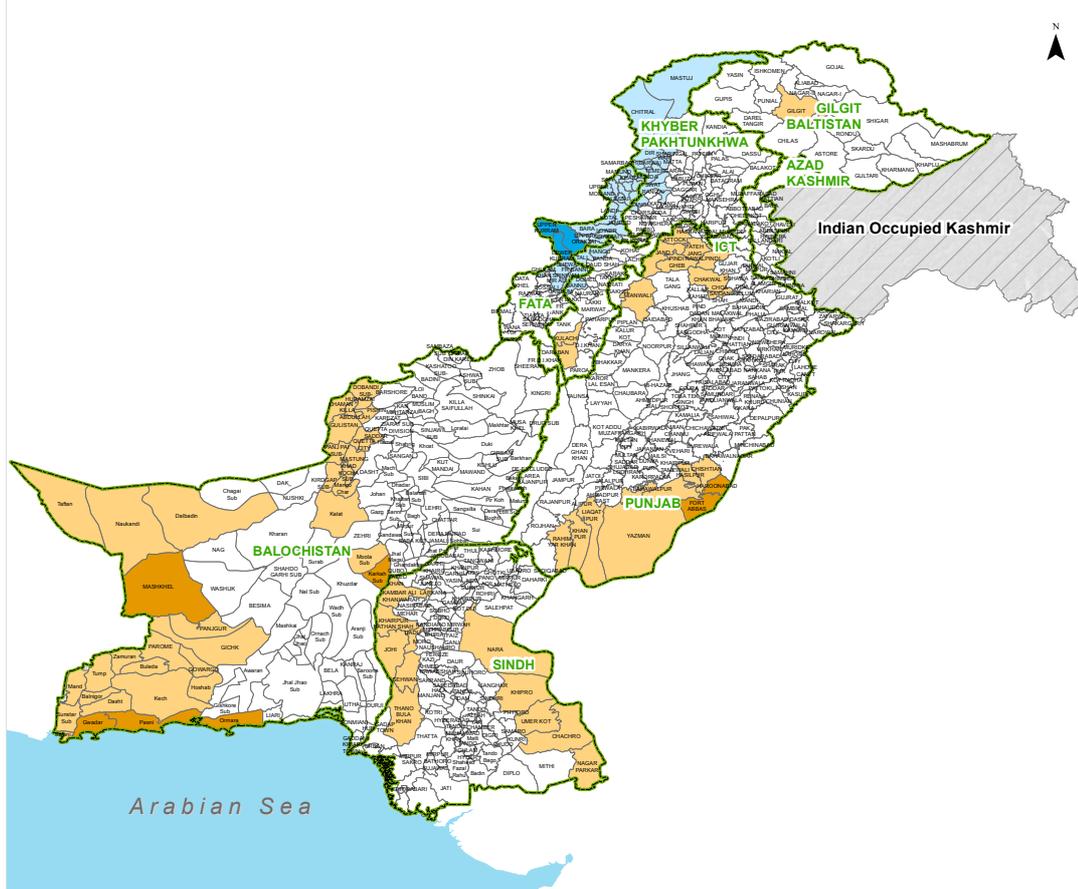
- 41 آئندہ 24 گھنٹوں کے دوران ملک کے بیشتر علاقوں میں موسم سرد اور خشک رہیگا
- 41 تربیلا اور منگلا ڈیمز میں قابل استعمال پانی کی مقدار انتہائی کم سطح پر آگئی: فلڈ فور کاسٹنگ ڈویژن
- 39 قومی احتساب بیورو بد عنوان عناصر کی معاونت کر رہا ہے: سپریم کورٹ
- 38 پنجاب میں دوبارہ انگریز کے زمانے کا کمشنری نظام متعارف کرانے کا فیصلہ
- 38 متاثرین گھر واپسی کی بجائے نئی ڈیڈ لائن
- 37 انسداد دہشت گردی، تحفظ پاکستان ایکٹ ضم کر کے نیا قانون بنانے کا فیصلہ، فوجی عدالتیں مستقل ہو جائیں گی
- 35 نئے سال کا تحفہ، حکومت کا پٹرولیم مصنوعات کی قیمتیں نہ بڑھانے کا فیصلہ
- 34 ایل پی جی کی قیمت میں 10 روپے کلو اضافہ، گھریلو سلنڈر 100 کمرشل 400 روپے مہنگا
- 32 جوہری طریقہ کار سے بجلی کا حصول صاف شفاف، سستا اور آلودگی سے پاک ہے

بلیٹن میں شامل

- 41-30 اردو کی خبریں
- 41-40 قدرتی آفات سے متعلق اردو کی خبریں
- 39-36 سیفٹی اور سیکورٹی سے متعلق اردو کی خبریں
- 35-30 پبلک سروسز سے متعلق اردو کی خبریں
- 28-29 نقشہ جات
- 03-27 انگریزی کی خبریں
- 03-07 قدرتی آفات سے متعلق انگریزی کی خبریں
- 08-22 سیفٹی اور سیکورٹی سے متعلق انگریزی کی خبریں
- 23-27 پبلک سروسز سے متعلق انگریزی کی خبریں

Drought Situation Map of Pakistan

As of 16 December to 31 December, 2016



Legend

- Mild Drought
- Moderate Drought
- Normal
- Slightly Wet
- Moderately Wet
- Provincial Boundary

Creation Date: January 2, 2017
Projection/Datum: WGS 84 Geographic
Page Size: A3
SCALE 1:6200,000

0 75 150 300 KM

Map data source(s):
Pakistan Meteorological Department

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