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## Kundi Discusses Iran, Afghan Ties with Envoys in Peshawar

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**PESHAWAR** Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi held separate meetings with the Iranian and Afghan Consul Generals on Tuesday, focusing on regional cooperation, security coordination, and bilateral relations.

Governor Kundi met Iranian Consul General Ali Banafshehah at the Governor House, where the two discussed a wide range of topics, including Pakistan-Iran relations, the upcoming Arbaeen pilgrimage, and the need for mutual collaboration on border and immigration matters.

The Iranian envoy noted that the anticipated visit of the Iranian President to Pakistan would be a major development in strengthening diplomatic and economic ties between the two countries. He also thanked Pakistan for its support during recent regional tensions involving Iran, highlighting Islamabad's solidarity as commendable.

Governor Kundi reiterated Pakistan's longstanding ties with Iran and recalled Iran's support during past periods of cross-border tension involving India. He emphasized the importance of joint planning between Iran, Iraq, and Pakistan to facilitate religious travel during the Arbaeen pilgrimage, including improvements in visa issuance and administrative procedures.

Security concerns in Balochistan during the pilgrimage were also addressed, with both sides acknowledging the need for enhanced coordination to ensure the safety and convenience of pilgrims traveling through the region.

Later in the day, the Afghan Consul General in Peshawar, Hafiz Mohibullah, also met with Governor Kundi. The discussions centered around border management, trade promotion, and broader cooperation between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Governor Kundi underscored the shared cultural and religious ties between the two neighboring countries and expressed Pakistan's commitment to regional peace and development. "Peace in Afghanistan is vital for the stability and progress of the entire region," he stated.

The two sides agreed to explore avenues for improved trade, the exchange of parliamentary delegations, and streamlined border processes to promote bilateral cooperation.

These back-to-back meetings underscore Pakistan's active engagement with its western neighbors and the growing importance of regional diplomacy in shaping security, economic, and humanitarian outcomes.