

QUETTA VOICE

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Bilawal challenges PM Imran to arrest him, Zardari, Aseefa on corruption charges if has courage



Imran Khan says US always 'used' Pakistan

BHC declares SSGC 'other' charges null and void after slow meter

Syed Ali Shah
QUETTA: Balochistan High Court (BHC) on Thursday declared 'other' charges in gas bills as null and void after its order about slow meter charges. Mr Justice Abdullah Baloch passed this order on an application filed by a senior lawyer, Syed Nazeer Agha Advocate.



Despite the court's order, the Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC) has replaced slow meter charges with other charges in gas bills. This prompted senior lawyer, Syed Nazeer Agha Advocate to file a petition and ask the company in this regard.

SSGC continues to collect Rs.16bs under the garb of slow meter charges from Balochistan per annum. The company has also sent other charges bills to the judge as well, Mr. Agha informed. He revealed that the company has collected over Rs. 16 billion from masses under the garb of slow meter charges and other charges per annum.



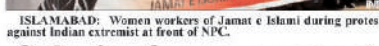
ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan awards performance certificate to SAPM on Poverty Alleviation Dr. Sania Nishtar.

Imran Khan says US always 'used' Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Imran Khan has said that the United States has used Pakistan only when Washington needed and then left it alone.

Imran Khan said the US had failed in Afghanistan and it blamed Pakistan for the Afghan situation. In an interview with Director of the Advisory Committee of China Institute of Peking University Dr. Eric Li, the prime minister invited other countries to join and invest in China Pakistan Economic Corridor project, emphasizing the government's foremost priority is geo-economics and to uplift the economy. "Raising suspicion on the corridor project makes no sense," he declared.

He said Pakistan sees CPEC and Gwadar project as a great opportunity for its geo-economics, adding his priority is the people of Pakistan and lifting the people out of poverty while taking a cue from China. "Imran Khan said both Pakistan and China have always stood by each other in difficult times. He said this all-weather relationship has transformed into a people-to-people friendship. When asked about the Western concerns on the situation in Chinese province Xinjiang, Imran Khan said Pakistani ambassador in China had visited the area and the report he gave was different from the one that was coming on the Western media. He said what was being told by the Western media did not exist against Uighurs. INP



ISLAMABAD: Women workers of Jamat e Islami during protest against Indian extremist at front of NPC.

Salaries for government employees hiked by 15 PC: Fawad Chaudhry

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Fawad Chaudhry on Thursday announced a 15 percent increase in salaries of government employees saying that the economy is growing and its positive impact will be transferred to salaried class.

Fawad Chaudhry made the announcement through his Twitter handle after the federal finance ministry shared that government employees from BPS-1 to 19 will be given a disparity allowance from March.

"The employees will get 15 percent disparity allowance on their running basic salary," he said and added that the provincial governments are also suggested to follow the suit.

Fawad Chaudhry in his message said that after Senat card, the government has increased salaries by 15 percent. "The economy is growing and God willing salaries will see a further increase in the next one year," he said.

He said that Prime Minister Imran Khan is making Pakistan an Islamic welfare state and all measures are being taken with regard to fulfilling the agenda.

It is pertinent to mention here that Prime Minister Imran Khan during his visit to Nurekhi has announced to increase salaries of FC and Rangers.

Sheikh Rasheed a day later said that the salaries of security forces as announced by prime minister Imran Khan will be raised from March. "I have also requested the prime minister to increase salaries of civil employees," he said. INP

Concerns of political parties about delimitations need to be addressed: Governor Balochistan

News Desk
Governor Balochistan, Syed Zahoor Ahmed Agha on Thursday said that the concerns, reservations, and apprehensions of political parties about the delimitations of constituencies need to be addressed on a priority basis.

He expressed these views while talking to provincial election commissioner, Fayyaz Hussain Murad at the Governor's House, an official handout released from the Governor's House said.

PMC to decide fate of 600 students of Balochistan on Feb 15

Health Desk
Pakistan Medical Commission (PMC) has convened an important meeting on February 15 to decide about the fate of 600 students of Balochistan.

In the meeting, the Chief Secretary Balochistan has been specifically invited to present the case of protesting students, a well placed source at the PMC said.

Students of three colleges of Balochistan have been protesting against the PMC for taking their special examinations. The Commission registered all three colleges including Jhalawan, Melran and Loralai. However, the Commission has directed all 600 students of the three colleges to reappear in the special test.

HEC seats for Balochistan and Ex-FATA restored

Syed Muhammad Yaseen
The Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan announced the restoration of Medical seats for Balochistan and Ex-FATA for the year 2022. For the last few weeks students of Balochistan and Ex-FATA were on a sit-in before the HEC office in Islamabad for the restoration of 265 medical seats.

"For those fully funded medical seats was not taken in 2021 which aroused concerns among the medical aspirants and they feared the cancellation of the program. A number of strikes and rallies were organized by medical aspirants of both provinces. Mounting pressure forces HEC to restore seats."

After mounting pressure on HEC through social media and physical campaigns the institution sent notifications to provincial governments for the restoration process. Recently, an agreement from Balochistan Investment of Medical and Health Sciences reveals that HEC seats for the province are restored and students can apply for medical seats. Secretary Health Balochistan, Nisar Ull Haq Baloch played a key role in the restoration of this program. We are waiting for a response from the Sindh government for seat allocation. Dr. Atabagar Baloch, Health department Balochistan representative told Quetta Voice. Right now these seats are restored for session 2021-2022 and PCI worth Rs. 9 Billion has been sent to Planning Commission Islamabad by HEC for the next five years, he added.



Governor of Balochistan Sania Nishtar clarified that the date fixed for the new constituencies could be extended. Many important decisions were taken as a result of the recommendations and suggestions of the participants of the meeting convened regarding the new constituencies.

Sania answers public queries through twitter

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to Prime Minister on social safety and poverty alleviation Dr. Sania Nishtar on Thursday answered people's questions on Ehsaas projects through twitter.

"Respected Hanzla Shah, Ehsaas registration desk in Bhalwal is located on following address: Main road, Al-Fazel town, opposite railway station Bhalwal." Sania answered twitter user Hanzla Shah's query, who asked PM's aide about the location of Ehsaas registration desk in Bhalwal.

Ehsaas program is a social safety and security project of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government which deals with financial and social assistance of country's lower middle class. Ehsaas 'Kafalat' programme is currently driving financial and digital inclusion for around 8 million women. ONLINE

Senate body reviews bill regarding dual nationality of bureaucrats

ISLAMABAD: Senate Standing Committee on Cabinet Secretariat Thursday reviewed the amendment bill by committee member Senator Afrazullah Khan in the Senate House regarding dual citizenship of bureaucrats.

Senator Afrazullah Khan in the Senate House regarding dual citizenship of bureaucrats. He said that this matter will be decided after further consideration in the next meeting. He directed that the details of the debate on the bill in the National Assembly should be provided to all the senators so that the matter could be settled and a logical conclusion INP

Quetta Karachi highway: 90% drivers have no PSV licenses

Manan Mandokhal

Over 90 percent of drivers have no Public Service Vehicle (PSV) licenses on the Quetta-Karachi highway. This was revealed by the Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Quetta, Captain (R) Sher Ali while talking to Daily Quetta Voice.

"This is one of the underlying reasons behind increasing traffic accidents on Quetta-Karachi Highway," he mentioned. Besides narrow roads, lack of qualified and competent drivers are also causing deadly traffic accidents, Sher Ali stated.

Quetta Traffic Police launches a crackdown against the drivers. Quetta Traffic Police launched a crackdown against the drivers driving passenger coaches on the highway, which is commonly called the "Killer Highway". During the operation, 30 drivers were fined for not possessing the PSV license. Fine from Rs. 4,000 to 15,000 were issued to the drivers by the traffic police on the spot.



thousands of precious human lives during the last few years. This has prompted the Quetta Traffic Police to launch a crackdown against the drivers who are not qualified to driver passenger coaches.

Government declares PSV license mandatory for the drivers. Balochistan government has made PSV license mandatory for the driver to drive passenger coaches on the Quetta-Karachi highway. Nevertheless, most of the drivers do not have proper licenses to drive passenger coaches.

According to SSP Traffic, if 50% of accidents on the Quetta-Karachi highway occur due to a single lane of the road, then 50% of accidents occur due to irresponsible driving of less experienced drivers. According to him, every month, the Quetta Traffic Police will check the passenger bus, wagon, trailer's HTV, and PSV licenses on the highway. In case of non-availability of a license, action will be taken as per traffic rules.

Passengers have hailed the traffic police for taking action against the drivers playing with the lives of people on the busiest highway linking Balochistan with Sindh.

Development of new health facilities under close monitoring: Dr. Yasmin

LAHORE: Punjab Health Minister Dr. Yasmin Rashid has said that the development of new health facilities is under close monitoring and all measures are being taken in this connection...

Special Secretary Dr. Asif Iqbal, Chief Executive Officer Dr. Hafiz Chaudhry, Chief Architect Haq Bhatti, Chief Engineer Do Khan, and medical college and senior officials...

child hospitals are being set up in the province. He said that all mother and child hospitals will be expanded in the new fiscal year...

The health minister said that Prime Minister Imran Khan and Chief Minister Usman Buzdar want to give top quality health facilities to citizens at their doorstep...



IHC suspends ECP's powers under LG ordinance 2021

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Thursday suspended powers of the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) under the LG Ordinance 2021...

Senate body discusses Bill "The Allied Health Professionals Council Bill 2021"

Islamabad: The Senate Standing Committee on Thursday met under the Chairmanship of Senator Dr. Muhammad Hameed to discuss the Allied Health Professionals Council Bill 2021...

"dispensaries, clinical psychology, and "academics" in the advisory committee, the bill will explicitly define the use of designated word doctor, professor or authorized...

ISLAMABAD: Nicolae Goia, Ambassador of Romania to Pakistan called on Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research Syed Fakhar Imam .

ISLAMABAD: An accountability court heard corruption case against Ex-municipal commissioner Masroor Memon and his two accomplices on Thursday. National Accountability Bureau prosecutor pleaded for 14 days' physical remand of accused Masroor Memon, Vikash and Dhanraj...

Ex-municipal commissioner, two aides produced in NAB hearing

ISLAMABAD: Ex-municipal commissioner Masroor Memon and his two accomplices were produced in NAB hearing on Thursday. The NAB is asking for their physical remand...

Two dead, over a dozen injured in Kasur factory fire in Kasur

KASUR: At least two persons were killed and a dozen others sustained burn injuries when a fire erupted in Bulah Shah Paper Mills in Kasur on Tuesday evening...

Man arrested for fake attorney papers of church land in Karachi

LAHORE: The anti-corruption department Punjab on Thursday arrested a man alleged to be involved in forging power of attorney to sell a Church-owned property...

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CPEC helps address Pakistan's power shortage woes

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ISLAMABAD: Senior Leader of Pakistan Muslim League PML (N) Ahsan Iqbal talking to media persons after hearing in accountability court in Federal Capital.

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Large-scale manufacturing grows at steady pace

ISLAMABAD: The large-scale manufacturing (LSM) sector grew by 3.58% in the first quarter (July-October) of the current fiscal year 2021-22 compared to the same period of last year...

textiles, which make up 20.03% of LSM, increased by 0.91%, food, beverages and tobacco by 5.18%, coke and petroleum products by 5.35%, pharmaceuticals 1.44%, leather products 10.49%, engineering 2.68%, fertilizers 7.22% and wood products 6.59% during the first quarter of 2021-22 compared to the same period of 2020-21. The sectors registering a growth decline during the first quarter of this fiscal year compared to the same period of last year included non-metallic mineral products down 2.26%, electronics 10.92% and rubber products 32.25%.

Govt expects improvement in trade balance in coming months

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Government expects improvement in trade balance in coming months, WealthPK reported on Thursday. The Ministry of Finance says though the economic recovery is underway, the challenges of the new COVID-19 wave, inflation and external sector pressure are still there...

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