

QUETTA VOICE

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CM Balochistan takes notice of fire in Musakhail forest



Third case of poliovirus reported in Pakistan from

Soldiers, children among six martyred in NW suicide attack: ISPR

RAWALPINDI: Three Pakistani Army soldiers and three children have been martyred in a suicide attack in North Waziristan area of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province, the Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) said on Sunday.



According to the ISPR, the suicide attack in Miramshah area of the North Waziristan district claimed lives of three soldiers and three innocent children. The martyred army personnel included Havaldar Zubair Qadir, and soldiers Aziz Asfar and Qasim Maqsood Umar. The martyred children, according to the military's media wing, have been identified as 11-year-old Ahmed Hasan, eight-year-old Ahsan, and four-year-old Anam.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Miftah Ismail addressing a press conference.

Cholera outbreak: IG FC North Balochistan arrives in Dera Bugti

Faiq Ali Bugti News Desk:

The Inspector-General Frontier Corps (North) Balochistan, Major General, Muhammad Yousaf Majoka arrived in Dera Bugti in the aftermath of the outbreak of cholera in the Pir Koh area on Sunday. The cholera outbreak has claimed seven lives as per the official statistics. FC established a free medical camp in Sui to make sure provision of timely medical treatment to cholera patients.



He urged the FC and civil administration to double their efforts and improve mutual coordination to address the water scarcity issue in the Pir Koh and other parts of Dera Bugti. The FC Chief was also briefed about the ongoing relief operation and the steps taken by the government for the provision of clean drinking water to the residents of Pir Koh.

the provincial government.

An FC doctor checking a child patient in Sui Dera Bugti

WHO team is already in Dera Bugti to assess the situation. The World Health Organization (WHO) team has already arrived in Dera Bugti to assess the situation and probe into the outbreak of cholera. The Oil and Gas Development Company Limited (OGDCL) has also set up a facility to provide space to the patients and make sure better medical treatment. "FC would work along with local people and overcome this situation", Major General Muhammad Yousaf Majoka said. Residents of the area thanked the FC for their tireless efforts and timely response in the aftermath of the outbreak of cholera in the Pir Koh area.

Quetta: Poets, writers, authors call for promotion of Pashto language

Samad Shabnam, Syed Ali Shah

Poets, writers, authors, and political figures at the three-day Pashto Seminar in Quetta called for the promotion of the Pashto language. The Pashto Academy in Quetta had organized a three-day seminar to discuss the importance, and history of the Pashto language.



Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Balochistan, Muhammad Hashim Ghilzai was the Chief Guest of the inaugural ceremony of the three-day seminar. He spoke about the importance and history of the ancient language in his speech. "Literary figures, poets, and authors' role crucial in the promotion of any language", Mr. Ghilzai said. He urged the intellectuals, authors and writers to focus on the promotion of education despite their tireless efforts for the promotion of the Pashto language. "Pashto should be declared as an official and educational language", Syed Khair Muhammad Arif, the Chief of the Pashto Academy demanded.

FM Bilawal to visit US, China, Switzerland next week

ISLAMABAD: Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari will visit United States (US), China and Switzerland in the next week where he would be meeting his foreign counterparts and would also attend a meeting of the World Economic Forum.

According to sources in the foreign ministry, the foreign minister will visit the United States on May 17 where he would meet US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and attend a meeting on Global Food Security. "On May 19, he will return from the US and visit China on May 20 for two days," they said adding that the visit was planned at the invitation of the Chinese foreign minister. "Bilawal will visit Kangzhu and meet his counterpart". Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, according to sources, will then visit Davos and attend meeting of World Economic Forum and will also meet multiple foreign ministers at the sidelines of the meeting. "He will return Pakistan on May 25," they said. INP

Rasheed demands NSC meeting to elect interim prime minister

ISLAMABAD: Former Interior Minister Sheikh Rasheed on Sunday demanded to hold the National Security Council meeting to elect an interim prime minister, saying that the politics of 11 parties have failed. Addressing a press conference in Faisalabad on Sunday, he said the National Security Committee (NSC) is the country's top body on security issues and includes the three services chiefs among its members, besides the prime minister and federal ministers. Sheikh Rasheed said the country's situation had become worst and the economy was being destroyed "because the politics of 11 parties have failed." INP

Musakhail Toisar forest caught fire, roaring flames of fire

Abdul Rehman Musakhail

An ancient forest in Balochistan's Musakhail district caught fire. The forest caught fire in Toisar tehsil Hassan Khail area of the district. Roaring flames of fire could be seen from quite far away. So far, the administration and the forest department have not launched an operation to extinguish the flames of fire.



People of the area have repeatedly asked the administration to take steps to put off the flames of fire. Nevertheless, no response on the part of the district administration. "The fire spreads in two kilometers area of the forest", Sardar Khabir Musakhail told Quetta Voice.

He lamented that the district administration had to timely give respond to this incident. "Commissioner has to take notice of the fire and protect this forest", Sardar Khabir said. There was no word on behalf of the Balochistan forest and wildlife department regarding the forest, which caught fire. There were still roaring flames of fire till the filing of this report.

CM Balochistan takes notice of fire in Musakhail forest

Abdul Rehman Musakhail

Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Qudus Bizenjo has taken notice of the fire in the ancient Musakhail forest. The CM has directed the concerned authorities to step up efforts to extinguish the roaring flames of fire.

Daily Quetta Voice had reported that an ancient forest caught fire in Balochistan's Musakhail district. This prompted CM Balochistan to take notice of the fire. The CM directed the Commissioner Loralai Division and Secretary Forest to take emergency steps to put off the flames of fire in the ancient forest. Use all available resources to extinguish flames of fire, the CM directed. The present government has



been determined to protect forests and wildlife in Balochistan since they play an important role in the ecosystem, he mentioned. Mr. Bizenjo directed the Commissioner and Secretary Forest to prepare a report in this regard.

Interior Minister condemns killing of minority people in Peshawar

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Interior Rana Sana Ullah on Sunday strongly condemned killing of two Pakistanis belonging to Sikh community in Peshawar and sought report from Chief Secretary and IG Police of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in to the incident.

He said the KP government has miserably failed to protect minorities, said a statement issued here. Such incidents had already taken in the province, he added. The minister said the provincial government and law enforcing agencies should ensure the safety of citizens belonging to the minority community. The killers of Ranjit Singh and Kanwal Singh would be arrested soon as per the directive of the Prime Minister, he added. He expressed condolence with the families of the victims and assured them that the federal government would extend full support to the provincial government in apprehending the culprits. INP

Third case of poliovirus reported in Pakistan from Waziristan

News Desk

The third case of poliovirus was reported from North Waziristan on Sunday. The number of cases of the crippling virus reached three this year in Pakistan. A statement from the Ministry of Health confirmed the poliovirus in a one-year minor child in erstwhile FATA.

Local health officials had collected samples of the minor child earlier. The laboratory report confirmed the crippling virus and this was declared the third polio case in Pakistan during the year 2022. Health officials had already reported two cases of the



poliovirus from North Waziristan. Pakistan had earlier celebrated a year without any polio cases. However, three cases from the volatile North Waziristan has again sent alarm bells among the parents across Pakistan.

Saba Qamar speaks up about marriage plans

KARACHI: Actor Saba Qamar is one of the most prolific celebrities in Pakistan and is popular among fans for her performances in many projects.

She came as a guest on ARY Digital morning show Good Morning Pakistan, hosted by fellow celebrity Nida Yasir, and answered questions about her marriage. The Cheekh star asked the fans should be patient as she would take the name of the person she would marry.

The actor added her wedding will come soon by the grace of Almighty Allah. She said all things that are in her fate would surely happen. Saba Qamar shied away from the question about her hands being in henna or not. She added the wedding ceremony would be intimate in presence of her close ones. INP

Cholera claims 20 lives in Pir Koh Dera Bugti: Sarfaraz Bugti Claims

Syed Ali Shah

Senator Sarfaraz Bugti of the ruling Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) has claimed that the cholera outbreak has claimed 20 lives including women and children. Mr. Bugti took to the social media network Twitter and demanded of Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Qudus Bizenjo to take notice of the situation in the Pir Koh.

However, the District Health Officer (DHO) Dera Bugti, Muhammad Azam Bugti contradicted Bugti's claim and said that so far six people including two women and two children have died since the outbreak of cholera.

"12 people had died due to cholera till May 10th", Sarfaraz Bugti told Quetta Voice via telephone from the Baker area of Dera Bugti. The remaining eight people lost their lives up till now, he explained. Sarfaraz Bugti also provided a list of the people who died because of cholera.

"Situation under control in Dera Bugti", Farah Azeem Shah Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Qudus Bizenjo had approved the release of Rs.300 million to address the water scarcity issue in the district. "The situation is under control now", Farah Azeem Shah, the Spokesperson of the Balochistan government said. She said the government has



taken effective measures to address the water scarcity problem in the area.

Hitherto, 2100 patients were admitted to a government-run hospital in the Pir Koh area of Dera Bugti, DHO Azam Bugti informed. The provincial government has already declared an emergency in the area to cope with the situation.

The major reason behind the spread of cholera was using contaminated water. The Oil and Gas Development Company Limited (OGDCL) was providing water to the Pir Koh area from 12 kilometers away through pipes. Water pipes are three decades old, which was also the main cause behind the spread of cholera, Azam Bugti said.

Pir Koh houses a 35,000 population. Pir Koh, a mountainous village in the resource-rich Dera Bugti district houses 35,000 people. Residents of the area also staged a protest demonstration to mount pressure on the government to make sure provision of clean drinking water. "Government has failed to provide water", Muhammad Nabi Bugti, an elder of the area said.

"For last more than 60 years, we are providing gas to the entire country but we have clean water to drink", Mr. Bugti lamented. He demanded of the provincial and federal governments to ensure the provision of clean drinking water to the area.

Rising current account deficit a serious blow to rupee-dollar exchange rate

ISLAMABAD: The Friends of Economic and Business Reforms (FEBR) on Sunday urged the government to control the freefall of the local currency against the US dollar, as rising current account deficit is a serious blow to the exchange rate while the fear of higher demand of dollars further exacerbated with the information of the SBP that the county would need dollars to repay loans.

come up with policy reforms to control depreciation of rupee which is becoming more and more valueless. He said that it was unfortunate that Pakistan had announced to start its financial transaction with several countries under currency swap agreement some eight years back in 2013 aiming at controlling its import bill and balance of payment, but no implementation is seen so far.

SBP that the county would need dollars to repay loans. He said that the high import bill this year was enough to signal the market that demand of dollar was very high. He said that the rising instability in the region has stirred fear within Pakistan that may hurt the normal economic life in the country, motivating people to buy dollars. At the same time, exports to Afghanistan have come down.

Rainwater harvest vital to improve people's lives in barani areas: WealthPK

ISLAMABAD: Dryland agriculture is performed on around 12 million hectares (40%) of total cultivable land in Pakistan, totally relying on rainfall. Since the governments' primary investments have been in irrigated agriculture, the living conditions of the people dependent on rainfed agriculture have generally been abject.

NARC scientist, because groundwater levels have been declining over time, desertification may become a serious problem. The water recharge can be addressed by building ponds to store rainwater. Furthermore, artificial groundwater recharge can be achieved using a variety of ways, including rainwater collection at the household level in urban areas, creating ponds in parks and farms, clogging flood drains, and even diverting river flows.

According to the Pakistan Council of Research on Water Resources, Pakistan is deemed to have crossed the "water scarcity line" in 2005. "If the issue is not resolved on an urgent basis, it can have a significant geopolitical, economic and ecological impact on the country," said the scientist.



KARACHI: Members of Fikit hold a protest against shortage of water outside press club in Provincial Capital.

Pakistan needs precision farming to address agriculture sector woes: WealthPK

ISLAMABAD: Amid depleting water resources, sharply rising population and impact of climate change, Pakistan needs to adopt precision agriculture to increase the crop yield and tackle the problem of food security by monitoring, accessing, and analyzing agricultural land more efficiently, WealthPK reported.

farming has been introduced in Pakistan to boost production and efficiency through advanced technologies. Precision agriculture is a farming management approach that uses information and technology to simplify, optimize, and boost productivity on farms. Precision agriculture reduces the consumption of agricultural inputs, such as water, fertilizers, and pesticides, thereby reducing the environmental footprint and costs associated with agricultural production.

Global Positioning System (GPS), Geographical Information System (GIS), Sensors, and Remote Sensing. GPS enables farmers to identify field information, such as soil type, pest occurrence, weed invasion, etc., based on a precise location. GIS surveys are used to determine field variability, ensure optimal use of inputs and maximize the output from a farm.

PTI seeks special security for Imran Khan at nationwide airports

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has sought security protocol for former prime minister Imran Khan citing threats to his life from Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

(PTI) Chief Imran Khan on Saturday said that a conspiracy is being hatched to kill him and that he has recorded a video statement which will be released if he is murdered so that the nation knows the conspirators.

know the names, the real faces (of its enemies)," said Imran Khan. PTI chief said that the video he has recorded is in a safe place. The PTI chief said that he has recorded a video statement detailing everything, revealing every name behind the conspiracy to oust him and now kill him, and it will be released if he is murdered during this movement.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister of Religious Affairs Asad Mehmood press the baton to inauguration of Haj Raffle (Quraan Andazi) after the press conference along with Federal Minister for Housing Maulana Abdul Wasay in Federal Capital.

Dua Zehra blames Sindh, Punjab police for harassing her

KARACHI: Dua Zehra, who claimed to have married Zaheer Ahmed after being reported missing from Karachi, on Sunday shared a threat to her life and said that Sindh and Punjab police are harassing her.

by Justice Muhammad Iqbal Kalhoro heard Dua's father petition seeking the recovery of teenage girl, who had gone missing from her Karachi home and later surfaced in Punjab.

The decision was taken in a special meeting on the law and order situation in Karachi with Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah in the chair.

Street criminal killed in alleged Karachi police encounter

KARACHI: Police on Sunday claimed to have shot dead a street criminal in Karachi's Gulshan-e-Iqbal Block 6. As per SSP Gul Rahim Sheerazi, the police party met an encounter with the two street criminals who were fleeing after street snatching mobile and cash from the citizens.



QUETTA: Relatives of Missing persons hold a protest in favor of their demands outside press club in Provincial Capital.

PM Shehbaz Sharif decides to consult allies on tough economic decisions

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has decided to call a meeting of coalition parties in the federal government to decide on tough measures needed to bring economy out of crisis.

political roadmap even after two days of consultation between Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif along with cabinet members and party supreme Nawaz Sharif in London.

Even no consensus could be developed between Ishaq Dar and Finance Minister Miftah Ismail over an economic package. "Ishaq Dar wanted to return to Pakistan, immediately, however, Nawaz Sharif has refrained him from doing so," the sources having knowledge of discussions in the PML-N meeting shared.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER. The Director Electricity (North), Energy Department, Government of Balochistan invites sealed tenders from interested contractors/firms based on composite scheduled rates 2018 on percentage rates for the work mentioned below with the Bid Security of 3% of estimated cost/offer rate in shape of Bank Guarantee or Deposit a Call. The non-refundable Tender fee deposited in head of account C03870 through Green Bank Chalan in any National Bank of Pakistan located within Balochistan Province. Bid Security 3%, Tender fee Rs. 15000 for the work.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER. The Executive engineer PHE Division Nushki invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2022 based on Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates. Bid Security 2% for each work.

