

QUETTA VOICE

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Sobia Khanam appointed as the first female SHO in Balochistan

Ali Khan Mandokhail

ZHOB: At least 20 people were killed when a passenger bus fell into a ravine in the Dana Sar area on the Quetta-Islamabad highway on Sunday morning. Mehtab Shah, Assistant Commissioner Sherani said that 14 passengers were also injured as a result of the deadly incident. The bus was coming from Rawalpindi to Quetta when it fell into a deep ravine in the Dana Sar rugged mountains. Mr. Shah informed, "Over speeding and rainfall in the area caused the incident", the Assistant Commissioner explained. Women, children, and two students were also among the dead. Four dead bodies were brought to the district headquarters hos-

pital Zhob. "Remaining dead bodies would be shifted to the hospital soon", the AC informed. All of the injured in the deadly traffic accident were evacuated and brought to Zhob district headquarters hospital for medical treatment. An emergency was imposed in the hospital to provide medical treatment to the injured in the traffic accident. Levies personnel and senior administration officers reached the spot as an investigation into the incident went underway. Reckless driving and narrow roads continue to cause deadly traffic accidents in Balochistan. Such untoward and deadly accidents have become the order of the day on all national highways of Balochistan linking the province with the rest of the country. Balochistan covers half

of the country in terms of area. However, the province has not a single motorway. Masses of Balochistan and political parties have demanded of the federal government to start work on the dualization of the Quetta Karachi and Zhob highways to reduce the number of increasing traffic accidents in the province. Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Qudus Bizenjo has expressed grief and sorrow over the deadly traffic accident. In a condolence statement issued after the incident, Mr. Bizenjo directed the administration to provide better medical treatment to the injured in the traffic accident. Journalists Mir Salam Jogezaei in Quetta, Mohibullah Khan in Quetta, and Sardar Muhammad Khondai in Chaman also contributed to this report.



Petroleum dealers threaten shutting down stations in protest



QUETTA: People stand near a accidental bus, At least 19 passengers died after a Quetta-bound bus travelling from Islamabad fell into a ravine in Zhob district of the Balochistan province.

Sobia Khanam appointed as the first female SHO in Balochistan

Staff Reporter

QUETTA: Sub-Inspector Police Sobia Khanam has been appointed as the first female Station House Officer (SHO) Police Quetta Cantonment. Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Police Quetta, Syed Fida Hassan Shah has appointed Sobia Khanam. "This is an honor for all women of Balochistan", she told Daily Quetta Voice in an exclusive interview. According to a notification issued by the DIG's office, Sobia Khanam has been appointed as the SHO Quetta Cantonment. She is the first female police officer to take charge as the head of any police station. The news of her appointment as the SHO went viral on social media. "Women of Balochistan should come forward and play their due role in the development of country and nation", Sobia Khanam said. She had also the title of Madam Quetta when the first news about her appointment as traffic police woman sergeant went viral by this newspaper earlier. People belonging to various walks of life appreciated her appointment as the first female officer leading a police station in Balochistan. Sobia Khanam was appointed as an assistant sub-inspector (ASI) in the police department through the Balochistan Public Service Commission (BPSC). She has been the United States on a police training course. Earlier, people had appreciated the appointment of Pari Gul Tareen as the Superintendent of Police in Quetta.

Hanna lake Quetta dries up as drought spreads across Balochistan

Syed Ali Shah

Nestled deep in the midst of rugged mountains, Hanna lake Quetta has dried up as drought spreads across Balochistan. The lake, which is considered to be a famous tourist point is now giving a deserted look. Cracks appeared in the lakebed as a result of no rainfall in this part of the country. Dead fish and wrecked boats are lying on the shore of the lake. "Global warming and fewer rains are the main reasons behind turning Hanna lake into a desert", Amjad Rasheed, a well-known environmentalist tells Daily Quetta Voice. Despite this all, scores of tourists were roaming the lake to enjoy pleasant weather. "We are here to enjoy this pleasant weather", Ikramullah Khan, a young tourist said. Mr. Khan stated that the authorities should take benefit of this situation and start cleaning the lake. The scenic beauty of Hanna lake attracts tourists



The scenic beauty of the lake attracts tourists from Balochistan and across the country. "Weather is cold and we pray for rainfall to see water inside the lake", Hyder Abro, a tourist from Jacobabad Sindh said. Mr. Abro was leading a family from Sindh Jacobabad to enjoy cold pleasant weather in Hanna lake, nestled

deep in the midst of rugged mountains. Quetta and most parts of Balochistan are under the clutching of severe drought. Most green parts in the province have turned into deserts recently. The drought-hit-like situation has forced growers to cut green trees in Pishin, Mastung, Kalat, Killa Abdullah, and other parts of the province. "Lake dried up but tourists are still coming", "Lake dried up but tourists are still coming", Muhammad Ajmal, a tea stall owner on the edge of the lake said. A crowd of tourists was sipping tea outside the tea stall. Every evening, traditional Pashto music reverberates in the valley. Youngsters coming from various parts of the province were dancing to traditional music to enjoy the cold weather. British rulers constructed Hanna lake in 1884. The major objective behind this was to maintain depleting water table, promote tourist activities, and agriculture purposes, and a place for birds and livestock.



LAHORE: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif inquires about health of JUI-F leader Maulana Fazlur Rehman at ttefaq Hospital in Lahore.

Balochistan talent: Amir Chakar passes 3 exams at BPSC simultaneously

Syed Muhammad Qaseem

QUETTA: A talented young candidate from Balochistan's Kharan district passed three competitive examinations at the Balochistan Public Service Commission (BPSC) simultaneously. As per the BPSC notification, Amir Chakar from Kharan has cleared the exams of the Research Officer (BPS 17), Assistant Mine Labour Welfare Commissioner (BPS 17), and Assistant Director Labour And Child (BPS 17) Balochistan. Amir Chakar belongs to Balochistan's Kharan district. This is one of the most backward districts of the province. It must be noted that he has already cleared the post of Assistant (BPS 16) in the Divisional Development Directorate, planning and development Department. The news of Amir Chakar went viral on social media. People belonging to various walks of life have appreciated Amir Chakar for his struggle and simultaneously cleared three competitive examinations.



ZHOB: This young student Anwar ul Haq also among the dead

Sardar Muhammad Khondai

The hapless student Anwar ul Haq was also among the dead in a deadly traffic incident in Dana Sar Zhob on Sunday morning. At least 20 passengers were killed when a passenger bus fell



into a ravine in Dana Sar. Anwar ul Haq was travelling from Islamabad to Quetta when the tragedy struck. He was studying in Islamabad Islamic University. Another student from Balochistan's Ziarat, Allauddin was also among the dead.

Govt announces five Eid-ul-Azha holidays

ISLAMABAD: Government has announced five holidays in connection with Eid-ul-Azha, a notification stated that was released on Sunday. According to a notification from PM Office, Eid-ul-Azha holidays will be observed from July 8 to 12. Pakistan is to celebrate Eid-ul-Azha on July 10. Central Ruet-e-Hilal Committee on Wednesday said Eid-ul-Azha will fall on Sunday (July 10) INP

Health emergency declared as cholera claims 2 lives in Barkhan

Asif Kareem Khetran, Yousaf Marri

BARKHAN: Balochistan government declared a health emergency in the Barkhan district after cholera claimed two lives including a child on Saturday morning. The cholera outbreak was reported in remote areas of the district, bordering with populous Punjab province. "15 patients are admitted to the district headquarters hospital Barkhan", Abdullah Hameed Lehri, the District Health Officer (DHO) Barkhan said. He said an emergency was imposed in the district to cope with any emergency situation. Six patients are admitted to the hospital and the remaining patients have been discharged after the provision of medical treatment. Cholera cases were reported in Vitaki and Nahar Kot areas, the DHO mentioned. "Contaminated water has caused the outbreak of cholera", Mr Lehri said. He said medical staff and medicines were dispatched to the



area to provide timely medical treatment to the affected people from cholera. This outbreak has come twelve days after cholera claimed three lives in the Barkhan district. In view of the outbreak of cholera, Deputy Commissioner Barkhan, Abdullah Khoso has directed all health professionals to ensure their presence for 24 hours at the district headquarters hospital. "People are being affected by cholera", Mr Khoso said in a letter addressed to the health department and other concerned quarters in the district. Balochistan Finance Minister, Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran has taken notice of the outbreak of cholera and directed the health department to step up efforts to tackle the situation. Mr Khetran who is elected from Balochistan's Barkhan district has asked the Chief Secretary to take notice of the outbreak. "Government would ensure the provision of medical facilities to the masses", Mr Khetran said in a statement issued to the press on Saturday afternoon. The Minister said the government was aware of the situation and will discharge its responsibilities in an effective way.

Energy crisis soars as shortfall nears 8,000 mw

ISLAMABAD: The electricity shortfall in the country has reached 7,787 Mega watts as production is stagnated at 21,213 MW and demand reaches 29,000 MW. According to the power division of the country, the electricity shortfall has reached near 8,000 MW. The demand for electricity in the country has exceeded 29,000 while the production lags at 21,000 MW. The power division told that currently, a total of 5,430 MW of power is being produced by hydropower while 705 MW are being produced via Thar mill plants. The production via the private sector is 10,241 MW while Wind and solar plants throughout the country are producing 1,742 MW of electricity, it added. Biogas plants are producing a total of 120 MW, while 2,275 MW are being produced using nuclear power, the power division said. The load shedding duration in the country has gone up to 14 hours. Areas with greater line losses are suffering from higher durations of load shedding, the power division said. On June 30, according to the power division, the demand for electricity peaked at 29,200 MW against the available supply of 21,900 MW. The power division said that some of the urban centres and rural areas were experiencing load shedding of 12 to 14 hours. Biogas plants are producing a total of 120 MW, while 2,275 MW are being produced using nuclear power, the power division said. The load shedding duration in the country has gone up to 14 hours. Areas with greater line losses are suffering from higher durations of load shedding, the power division said. INP

Petroleum dealers threaten shutting down stations in protest

The Pakistan Petroleum Dealers Association (PPDA) on Sunday announced that it will be going on a nationwide strike as of July 18, shutting down petrol stations all over the country, in the wake of rising oil prices. The PPDA chairman Abdul Sami Khan, in a statement, said that it was not possible to continue petroleum sales at the current rate. He announced that petrol pumps will remain closed following July 18 until the margin on petroleum products is increased. The statement was issued after an emergency meeting was called by the PPDA where it was decided that a minimum commission margin of six per cent was required for the stations to continue operating. The officials lamented that the current margin of 3.5 per cent was not sustainable. Yesterday, it was also reported that the demand for petrol and diesel had dropped 12% and 16% respectively in June 2022 compared to the previous month, snatching a long uptrend in sales of petroleum products in the wake of the withdrawal of subsidies and imposition of taxes. Last year in November, the previous Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government had given in to the association's demands after a nationwide



strike. However, instead of meeting the PPDA's demand of six per cent margin - approximately Rs5 per litre on petrol, it was decided that the margin on petrol will be increased by 99 paisas per litre and 83 paisas per litre on high-speed diesel (HSD). Similarly, the margin on HSD was increased to Rs4.13 per litre from the current Rs3.30. It may be noted that in June this year, a major oil industry lobby had warned of an impending breakdown in the energy supply chain as companies are facing a financial crisis following the refusal of international banks to accept Letters of Credit (LCs) opened by Pakistani banks. In an SOS call, Oil Companies Advisory Council (OCAC) Chairman Waqar Irshad Siddiqui revealed that the oil industry had come under a financial strain, raising the spectre of breakdown in the country's energy supply chain. Furthermore, on June 30, the coalition government dropped another oil bomb as it increased the prices by up to Rs18.83 per litre on account of the petroleum levy on these products. Earlier, the government had been charging zero petroleum levy and general sales tax on petroleum products to absorb the impact of the hike in global oil prices and depreciation of the rupee against the dollar.

FPCCI urges govt and private sector to raise forest cover from 5 to 25 per cent to meet local needs

LAHORE: President Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry Irfan Iqbal Sheikh Sunday urged the government and private sector to join hands for raising its forest cover from 5 per cent to 25 per cent to meet the ever growing needs of furniture industry in Pakistan.

Demand for Pakistani handicrafts can increase with use of cutting-edge technology: WealthPK

ISLAMABAD: The handicraft industry has enormous potential to improve women's socio-economic empowerment through exports, but the quality of craftsmanship has deteriorated over time due to lack of cutting-edge technology.



LAHORE: Provincial Health Minister Khawaja Salman Rafique and others hold a banner during dengue awareness walk in Provincial Capital.

Rangers, police arrest two accused of Karachi cash van heist

KARACHI: The Rangers and Police in a joint intelligence based operation arrested two suspects of the cash van heist last year on Sunday.

Karachi: Gang of Katcha area bandits nabbed in defence robberies

KARACHI: South Police has arrested a gang of five most wanted bandits of Katcha area, for robberies in Karachi's DHA on Sunday.

Sindh gov't plans Nepra-like power regulatory body in province

KARACHI: Sindh government has decided to establish a National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA)-like authority at the provincial level.

Raging inflation leaves Pakistanis struggling to buy sacrificial cattle for Eid ul Adha

Customers at a market in Pakistan said on Friday, July 1, that they were struggling to buy sacrificial cattle for the upcoming Eid ul Adha festival amid skyrocketing prices.



QUETTA: Woman takes interest in stall during 1st woman expo organized by DOCH.

Two Covid deaths reported as positivity rate hovers at 4%

ISLAMABAD: In the first two days of July, six people succumbed to Covid-19 infection as the disease hits back with a vengeance, driving national positivity ratios up.



LAHORE: Hamza Shahbaz Chief minister of Punjab meet Shehbaz Sharif Prime Minister of Pakistan.

Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi Holds Ceremony to Pay Tribute to Famous Critic & Scholar Dr. Gopi Chand Narang

Karachi: Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi held a function to pay homage to Indian critic Dr. Gopi Chand Narang at Hasina Moin Hall.

Rare gemstones can bring huge economic benefits for Pakistan: WealthPK

ISLAMABAD: A variety of rare gemstones in sizeable quantities still remain unexplored in Pakistan. Proper exploration and trading of these treasures can bring a fortune to the country.

Advertisement for staff required on contract basis at Girls Cadet College, Quetta, Balochistan. Includes a table with columns for S.No, Name of the Post & Grade, Posts, Qualification & Experience, and Age Limit.

Vacancy Announcement for Director Sales & Marketing. Includes details about the organization, required qualifications, and terms and conditions.

