

# QUETTA VOICE

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**Ramazan moon sighted, holy month to begin from Today**



**IMF 'not interested' in releasing loan money to Pakistan: Miftah**

## Governor Balochistan removes 4 VCs of universities

Syed Ali Shah

QUETTA: Governor Balochistan, Malik Abdul Wali Khan Kakar removed vice-chancellors of four public universities on Wednesday. The VCs include Dr. Farooq Ahmed Bazai of the Balochistan University of Information Technology Engineering and Management Sciences (BUIITEMS), Dr. Shafique ur Rehman, the Vice Chancellor University of Balochistan, Mr. Maqsood, the VC of Loralai University and Dr. Dost Muhammad Baloch, the VC Lasbella Science and Marines University.

**Farooq Bazai and Mr. Maqsood's tenure is about to expire**

"No extension was given to Mr. Bazai and Mr. Maqsood as their tenures were about to expire", an official in the Balochistan government told Daily Quetta Voice via telephone. He requested anonymity since he was not authorized to speak to the media.

However, Dr. Shafique ur Rehman's tenure was going to be expired in October this year and Dr. Dost Muhammad Baloch's tenure was scheduled to be expired on the 30th of September this year. "They



both were sacked prior to the expiry of their tenure", the official mentioned.

**Pro VCs given acting charge of VCs**

The pro VCs were given acting charge of the four universities, the official informed. Although, he said the pro VCs were also not appointed as per the Balochistan Universities Model Act 2022.

Dr. Dost Muhammad Baloch was also one of the members of the search committee that recently completed the tests of candidates for the slot of VCs in 5 public universities.

If the Chancellor is not satisfied with the performance of certain VCs then instead of removing them, it would have been much better if as per Act an inquiry should have been conducted and the recommendations should have removed them through proper procedure, the official mentioned.

Although, two acting VCs in Sibi Uni and Bolan University have not been removed, he added.

## BHC extends suspension of arrest warrant of Chairman PTI Imran Khan

Manan Mandokhail  
Syed Muhammad Qaseem

The Balochistan High Court (BHC) has extended the suspension of the arrest warrant of Chairman Pakistan Tehreek e Insaaf (PTI) Imran Khan. Rozi Khan Barech the Justice BHC heard the application regarding the dismissal of the First Information Report (FIR) registered in Quetta against Imran Khan, the former premier.

The court had earlier suspended the arrest warrants of the PTI Chief for two weeks after a local court in Quetta had issued the arrest warrants for the former. The PTI Balochistan lawyers wing had challenged the registration of FIR and arrest warrants of the former premier.

**Syed Iqbal Shah had challenged the FIR against PTI Chief**

The petition was filed by Iqbal Shah, organizer of the PTI Lawyers Forum. The petitioner said that the case against Imran Khan is baseless and the legal requirements were not fulfilled in registering the FIR.



During the hearing, the court ordered that the records of all the cases registered under this crime should be presented. Apart from this, the court extended the suspension of Imran Khan's arrest warrant till the next hearing and postponed further hearings on the application.

**FIR registered against Imran Khan**

The Bijli Road Police Station in Quetta had registered FIR against the PTI Chief on an

application filed by a citizen. Abdul Khalil Kakar, a resident of Nawab Killi had accused the PTI Chief of inciting hatred against State institutions and using foul language in his speeches.

The Bijli Road Police Station lodged FIR against the former premier and a police team headed by a senior police officer also visited Lahore to arrest Imran Khan. However, the court suspended the arrest warrants of the PTI Chief for two weeks.

The BHC had already ordered the quashing of FIRs against PTI leaders Shehbaz Gill and Azam Swati in Balochistan.

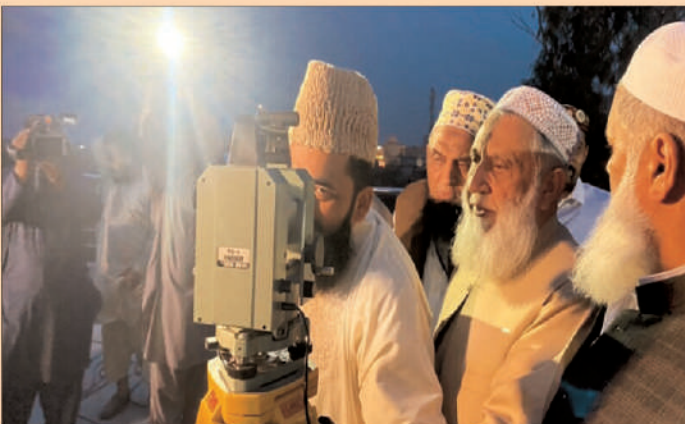
## Ramazan moon sighted, holy month to begin from Today

The Central Ruet-i-Hilal Committee announced on Wednesday that the Ramazan moon had been sighted and the first of the holy month would fall on Thursday (tomorrow).

The announcement was made by Central Ruet-i-Hilal Committee chairman Maulana Abdul Khair Azad at a press conference in Peshawar.

The announcement came after the committee met at Peshawar's Eidgah. Separate meetings of the zonal and district Ruet-i-Hilal committees were also held at their respective headquarters.

During the press conference, Maulana Azad said that the



committee received moon sighting testimonies from a number of places in the country, including Bahawalpur,

Rahim Yar Khan, Swabi, Qila Saifullah and Mardan.

Therefore, it was unanimously decided that the first of Ramazan would be on March 23," he said.

Meanwhile, Hindustan Times reported that moon had not been sighted in neighbouring India, therefore, Ramazan would begin on Friday.

Saudi Arabia had announced that Ramazan would start on Thursday after the moon was not sighted on Tuesday. The official Crescent Sighting Committee in neighbouring Qatar had also announced Thursday as the first day of Ramazan.

## ECP postpones Punjab elections to October 8

The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Wednesday postponed the Punjab elections, originally scheduled for April 30, till October 8.

In the order, a copy of which is available with Dawn.com, the ECP said that in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Article 218(3) read with Section 58 and Section 8(c) of the Elections Act, 2017, the commission "hereby withdraws the election programme [...] and fresh schedule will be issued in due course of time with poll date on October 8".

On March 1, the Supreme Court had ruled



that the elections to the Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa assemblies should be held within the stipulated period of 90 days. It had, however, allowed the ECP to propose a poll date that deviates from the 90-day deadline by the "hardest minimum", in case of any practical difficulty.

On Mar 10, the ECP later wrote separate let-

ters to the president and the KP governor. In the letter to President Dr Arif Alvi, the electoral watchdog proposed dates between April 30 and May 7 for the elections. Alvi later the same day announced that elections in Punjab will be held on April 30. The order said that the ECP approached the interior and defence ministries. Web Desk

## IMF 'not interested' in releasing loan money to Pakistan: Miftah Ismail

**"If Pakistan defaults it will be a grave situation."**

As Pakistan continues to woo the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to secure the much-needed bailout from the global lender, former finance minister Miftah Ismail claimed that the Washington-based lender is "not interested" in giving money to the cash-strapped nation.

Pakistan is now the only South Asian country that's yet to secure a bailout from the multilateral lender as Sri Lanka clinched financing this week and Bangladesh pushes on with carrying out IMF-mandated reforms.



Pakistan has taken tough measures including increasing taxes and energy prices, and allowing its currency to weaken to restart a \$6.5 billion IMF loan package. The funds will offer some relief to a nation still reeling from a dollar

shortage that has raised the probability of the economy slipping into a recession ahead of elections this year.

Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) leader Miftah, while speaking during a session titled 'Pakistan in the midst of crisis' organised by a private university in Karachi, said that when he was heading the Ministry of Finance, he spoke to the IMF officials and assured them that Pakistan would not make false statements or violate the agreement; however, when Ishaq Dar was sworn in "he sabotaged the agreement". He recalled that Pakistan has three times made sovereign commitments and has then gone back on them. "Now the IMF is not interested in giving money to Pakistan," he said, emphasising that the Washington-based lender doesn't trust the government in Islamabad. Web Desk

## President calls for readiness to deal with natural calamities

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi on Wednesday said in the wake of natural disasters, ensuring resilience, mitigation and adaptation was the key to deal with the aftermath of the calamities.

"What we need is to be ready and prepared for any calamity and show resilience during and after the devastation," he said in his address at the donors conference for Turkiye, organized here by the National University of Science and Technology (NUST).

President Alvi called for using safety measures while constructing new buildings and also stressed the need to use



shear walls in the existing buildings to protect them from the earthquake shocks.

Recalling the massive earthquake that brought immense destruction in Turkiye last month, the president said as soon as the horrible images of large scale devastation

started receiving, the government and the civil society of Pakistan immediately initiated rescue and relief work for the brotherly nation.

He said the people of Pakistan and Turkiye enjoyed long history of brotherly relations even before the creation of

Pakistan in 1947. He appreciated the Muslim Ummah's spirit for donations during natural calamities to reduce sufferings of the people affected by large-scale devastation.

He said the noble spirit among the Muslims was still alive due to the teachings of Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him), who himself donated generously throughout his life.

The president also thanked the government and the people of Turkiye for their support to Pakistan after the devastation caused by floods last summer. Earlier, Ambassador.INP

## Govt aware about problems of hawkers community: Mitha Khan

Staff Reporter

QUETTA: Provincial Information Adviser, Mitha Khan Kakar has said that the provincial government was fully aware of the problems of the hawkers' community and was taking serious steps to solve them. To solve their financial problems, steps are being taken for the proper utilization of hawkers' welfare funds and distribution of funds to deserving hawkers.

Secretary Information Balochistan, Hamza Shafqaat, Director General Public Relations Balochistan Kamran Asad, President of Officers Welfare Association Inayat Rahman, media representatives and a large number of hawkers were present on this occasion.

He expressed these views while addressing the ceremony of distribution of motorcycles among hawkers from the Hawkers Welfare Fund at the Director General Public Relations (DGPR) office here on Wednesday. He said that it has been a few weeks since he took charge of the Department of Information, but he is determined to take measures on an urgent basis to develop the Department of Public Relations on modern lines so that the Department of Public Relations is aligned with modern requirements and



modern technology.

**Govt determines to solve problems of hawkers: Hamza Shafqaat**

In his address at the event, Information Secretary Hamza Shafqaat said that the provincial government is aware of the problems of hawkers related to the newspaper industry. Hawkers Welfare Fund is an important step taken by the Government of Balochistan towards the welfare and financial problems of hawkers.

**Hawkers belong to the middle class: Kamran Asad**

On this occasion, DGPR Kamran Asad said that hawkers are the middle class associated with the newspaper industry and steps have already been taken for their rehabilitation and welfare. Their support will continue even now. Abdul Nabi Samalani, president of Anjuman Akhbar Furoshan and others also expressed their views from the event, was given.





# IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT

## GOVERNMENT OF BALOCHISTAN

# WINDER DAM PROJECT



The present government has launched a number of projects with regard to the construction of delay and check dams to maintain the depleting water table in Balochistan. Balochistan Irrigation Department has been making efforts to make sure construction of dams to check the wastage of water. The present government has allocated substantial funds for the construction of delay and check dams in Balochistan to maintain the water table. Quetta and some parts of Balochistan are facing serious water shortages. Addressing this issue is one of the top priorities of the present government. The government is determined to address such important issues on a priority basis.

**Mir Abdul Quddus Bizenjo**  
Chief Minister Balochistan



The development objective of the project is to improve the management of water resources among targeted communities and farmers and selected rivers basins of Balochistan. The federal and provincial governments have launched various projects to improve the water table in Balochistan. Officers and staff of the Irrigation Department are making hectic efforts to ensure timely and quality completion of these projects. The completion of Windar dam projects would bring a major change in the province. This would maintain the depleting water table to a large extent. The present government's priority is to maintain the water table and address the issue of water scarcity.

**Mir Muhammad Khan Lehri**  
Minister Irrigation Balochistan



The completion of the Windar project would open new vistas of development and prosperity in Balochistan and other parts of the country. This would help irrigate the land and promote agriculture in the area. Staff and locals of the area are committed to make sure timely completion of the project.

**Abdul Fateh Bhanger**  
Secretary Irrigation Dept



The provincial government has launched this project to promote agriculture and stop the wastage of rainy water in the area. The project has created job opportunities and it will also be having far-reaching socio-economic impact on the entire district and Balochistan province. This project would open new vistas of development and prosperity in the area.

**Nasir Majeed**  
Project Director Windar Dam

## Project Objectives

- ◆ To construct Dam and its allied structures, water conveyance system and develop command area with sustainable water supply.
- ◆ To provide irrigation water to an area of 10,000 acres through an efficient irrigation system.
- ◆ To improve socio-economic conditions of communities living in and around the project area.
- ◆ To provide drinking water to Winder Town, Damb Village and adjoining areas.

## Project Location

The Winder dam project is situated on Winder river about 125 km from Karachi, 66 km from Uthal City and about 25 km from RCD Highway at Winder Town. The dam site lies in Lasbela District of Balochistan.

The proposed dam site is located on Winder river near Goth Amun at latitude 25° 28' 40" and longitude 66° 51' 43".

The dam site is accessible through metaled Khurkhera-Kanraj Road.



## Salient Features

### Hydrology

Catchment Area	919 sq. km
Mean Annual Rainfall	131 mm
Estimated Mean Annual Inflow	49.79 MCM (40,365 AF)
<b>Reservoir</b>	
Gross Storage	67.218 MCM (54,500 AF)
Live Storage	57.633 MCM (46,700 AF)
Dead Storage	9.585 MCM (7,800 AF)
Max. Reservoir Level	117.64 m
Normal Pool Level	112 m
Freeboard	1.70 m
Min. Reservoir Level	90.00 m

### Main Dam Body

Type	Earth Core Rock fill Dam (ECDR)
Crest Elevation	119.0 m
Crest Width	8.00 m
Height	41.0 m
Length	1,525 m
River Bed Level	78.0 m

### Spillway

Type	Ungated, Ogee shaped overflow
Crest Elevation	112 m
Crest Width	300 m
Length of Stilling Basin	30.0 m
Design Discharge (PMF)	9,260 m <sup>3</sup> /s (327,014 cfs)

### Outlet Works

Intake tower	RCC intake with gated inlets
Conduit/pipe	RCC Conduit
Max. Discharge	1.50 m <sup>3</sup> /s (53 cfs)
Re-alignment of Existing Kanraj Road	
Length of Existing Road	10.2 km
Length of New Road	10.6 km
<b>Irrigation System</b>	
Command Area	10,000 Acres

## Project Benefits

- ◆ Creation of job opportunities during and post construction period
- ◆ Drinking Water will be available for inhabitants and livestock. Flood attenuation
- ◆ Enhanced groundwater recharge Development of fisheries and Aquaculture
- ◆ Increase in trade & commerce due to marketing of incremental crop production
- ◆ Increase in farm income
- ◆ Development of industry around the project area
- ◆ Recreational facilities

## Physical Status

- ◆ The detailed design has been reviewed and construction drawing of main dam spillway, conveyance system and road have been issued to the Contractor and work in progress on all components.
- ◆ Camp Office, material testing laboratory and residential accommodation have been established at site.
- ◆ Physical Model of Winder Dam project was constructed and checked on Probable Maximum flood at Irrigation Research Institute (IRI), Nandipur to observe the different design parameters of spillway along with design returned periods.