

QUETTA VOICE

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Govt sets deadline of Nov 1 for illegal immigrants to leave Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Interior Minister Sarfraz Bugti on Tuesday announced a November 1 deadline for illegal immigrants in the country to leave Pakistan, otherwise, all law enforcement agencies would deport them.

The interior minister was addressing a press conference in Islamabad and briefing the media on the details of the decisions taken during a meeting of the apex committee on the National Action Plan at the Prime Minister's House.

Welfare and security of our people important: Bugti

The army chief, federal ministers, provincial chief ministers and heads of all civil and military agencies were present at the meeting.

"The most important thing that was decided was that the welfare and security of a Pakistani are most important for us over any country or its policy. The first decision taken is about our illegal immigrants who are living in Pakistan through illegal means. "We have given them a deadline of Nov 1 to willingly return to their countries and if they don't, all law enforcement agencies (LEAs) of the state and provinces will deport them."

Bugti said all stakeholders were "taken in the loop" for the decision.

Separately, interim Information Minister Murtaza Solangi said illegal immigrants now had 28 days to leave Pakistan. Bugti said the same deadline would apply for entry into Pakistan without a passport or visa, adding that people would not be able to enter the country without those documents after Nov 1.

He said entry without the aforementioned documents was not allowed in any other country of the world. Bugti said those arriving with legal documents and who formally entered the tax net would be promoted.



1.7 million Afghans living illegally in Pakistan

He added that there were currently 1.73 million unregistered illegal Afghans living in the country. The interior minister added that e-tazkiras (electron Afghani identity cards) would be accepted from October 10-31 and afterwards the abovementioned passport and visa policy would apply.

Furthermore, he said Nov 1 onwards an operation would kick off, by a task force already created in the interior ministry, that would target illegal properties and businesses owned by illegal immigrants or that were being run in collaboration with Pakistanis. "Our intelligence agencies and LEAs will find them and the authorities will seize those properties and businesses. The Pakistanis involved in this facilitation will be sentenced as per the law."

He added that the task force would also initiate proceedings to crack down on illegal identity cards and passports since they were used for nefarious means.

No entry in Pakistan without valid travel documents

Bugti said DNA testing would also be utilised to detect such people who were Pakistani identity cardholders despite not being Pakistani.

He said a universal helpline number and a web portal were also being launched for people to come forward as anonymous informants to give information about illegal ID cards, illegal immigrants and other illegal practices such as smuggling and hoarding.

The interior minister added that reward money would be set as well under the informant scheme.

Bugti also talked about the establishment of joint checkpoints to curb smuggling and hoarding, adding that crackdowns on illicit money transfers and power theft would also be ramped up. Similarly, he said strict measures were also going to be taken against narcotics. The interior minister said the monopoly of violence belonged to the state and it would allow no other entity to exercise it whether it was done so under political violence, militancy, ethnicity, religion or under any other garb. NEWS DESK

Quetta Celebrates Germany Unity Day: A Global Celebration of Unity and Diversity

Syed Ali Shah:

QUETTA: The German Unity Day was observed in Quetta on Tuesday evening. In this connection, a function was organized at a local hotel to mark the day when East and West Germany got united on October 3rd, 1990.

Balochistan Caretaker Information Minister, Jan Achakzai was the chief guest of the function. "Balochistan admires the contribution of the German government to the welfare of people", Mr. Achakzai told the participants of the function.

German Consul General Dr. Lotz Rodiger addressed the function

Karachi-based German Consul General, Dr. Lotz Rodiger, Honorary Consul General Balochistan, Murad Baloch, provincial ministers, Nawabzada Jamal Raisani, Mir Omair Muhammad Hassani, and others were also present on the occasion.

"Pakistan's law enforcers sacrificed their lives against terrorists to preserve our freedom",



Mr. Achakzai said, referring to the German Consul General's visit to the injured of the deadly Mastung blast.

People belonging to various walks of life including politicians, academicians, journalists, lawyers, and others participated in the German Unity Day function.

"We cannot be intimidated by brutal acts of terrorism", Dr. Lotz

"The German Unity only observed in Quetta", the German CG Dr. Lotz Rodiger said while addressing the participants of the function. "We show our solidarity with the people of Balochistan after the Mastung blast and we would not accept to be intimidated by brutal terrorist acts", the Consul General mentioned in his calculated and measured speech. Nawabzada Jamal Raisani also addressed the participants of the German Unity Day. "We see a thriving partnership with Germany in all walks of life including sports and youth affairs", Mr. Raisani said.

CJP questions how practice and procedure law diminishes SC's powers

ISLAMABAD: Chief Justice of Pakistan Justice Qazi Faez Isa on Tuesday questioned how the Supreme Court (Practice and Procedure) Act 2023 could diminish the powers of the apex court.

He made the remarks as a full court resumed hearing pleas against the law which requires the formation of benches on constitutional matters of public importance by a committee of three senior judges of the court. Like last time, the hearing was streamed live on television. Headed by CJP Isa, the bench consisted of Justice Sardar Tariq Masood, Justice Ijazul Ahsan, Justice Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Justice Munib Akhtar, Justice Yahya Afridi, Justice Aminuddin Khan, Justice Sayyed Mazhar Ali Akbar Naqvi, Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhel, Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar, Justice Ayesha A. Malik, Justice Athar Minalah, Justice Syed Hasan Azhar Rizvi, Justice Shahid Waheed and Justice Musarrat Haliqi. In a pre-emptive move, the Supreme Court — then led by former CJP Umar Ata Bandial — in April had barred the government from imple-

menting the bill seeking to curtail the chief justice of Pakistan's powers once it became a law. During the hearing today, the court heard arguments by parties opposing the law, including the PTI, and then adjourned the hearing till Monday (Oct 9). "That shall be the last day of the hearing," Justice Isa said. He also told the lawyers that only one case would be fixed for hearing on Oct 9 and asked the counsels to be prepared if the proceedings continued till late at night. On the very first day of assuming charge as the chief justice, CJP Isa had ordered the hearing to be live-streamed and had implicitly vacated the April 13 suspension of the enforcement of the Supreme Court (Practice & Procedure) Act, 2023. Though the court order did not explicitly say that the stay on the implementation of the law regulating the powers of the top judge had been vacated, Justice Isa stated he would consult with two senior-most judges Sardar Tariq Masood and Ijazul Ahsan regarding the formation of benches — a key clause in the law. NEWS DESK



Earthquake jolts India and Nepal, 6.2 magnitude on reactor scale

Monitoring Desk:

A 6.2-magnitude earthquake jolted New Delhi and parts of Nepal on Tuesday, India media reported.



According to initial assessments by India's National Center for Seismology, the depth of the earthquake was measured at 5km. The epicenter of the quake was located in Nepal.

Levies Force Thwarts Major Arms Smuggling Attempt in Balochistan's Chaghi District

Riaz Baloch:

DALBANDIN: In a significant triumph against illicit arms trafficking, Levies Force in Balochistan's Chaghi district successfully intercepted and foiled a major smuggling attempt on Tuesday.

100 pistols seized

Acting on precise intelligence, Levies Force carried out a targeted raid, resulting in the confiscation of 100 pistols and the apprehension of two individuals involved in the unlawful operation. Additionally, a vehicle used for the smuggling was seized.

Accused facing legal action

The accused are currently facing legal action, with a case registered against them as the investigation unfolds. Preliminary findings suggest that the culprits were attempting to smuggle these weapons into the country from the porous Pak-Afghan border.

Levies determined to stop arms smuggling

This operation underscores the unwaver-



ing commitment of Levies Force in safeguarding the region and the nation from the menace of illegal arms trade. Stay tuned for further updates on this developing story.

Daily Quetta Voice will continue to provide you with the latest updates on this significant development in Chaghi district, Balochistan. Your trusted source for breaking news and in-depth coverage.



When Quetta razed to ground within 30 seconds 88 years ago

Editorial

Quetta, Pakistan's southwestern city was razed to ground within 30 seconds when a powerful earthquake struck 88 years ago. The deadliest earthquake of 1935 still haunts the people. Strong tremors jolted this mountain-ringed city between 2:33 to 3:40 am when people were in their deep sleep on May 31, 1935. The earthquake was recorded 7.7 on the rector scale. It was Chilian fault located in the South West of the city that destroyed the city. Chilian and Chaman fault pose a serious threat to Quetta and parts of northern Balochistan.

British rulers declared emergency after the deadliest earthquake of 1935

The English colonial rulers declared an emergency in the aftermath of the deadliest earthquake, which claimed more than 30,000 lives. Rescue workers and military personnel were moved from Bombay to Quetta in passenger trains to assist in the rescue efforts. Local tribesmen from neighboring Pishin, Mastung and other areas also rushed towards the city to participate in the rescue operation.

It took weeks and months for the rescue workers to retrieve the dead bodies buried beneath the rubbles of the houses. The earthquake destroyed main commercial center of the city.

Specific building code was introduced for Quetta

The British rulers introduced a specific building code for Quetta in the looming danger of earthquakes. For sometime, the building code was implemented in latter and spirit. However, that is no more than the case when it comes to the implementation of the building code in the city.

Over 700 building constructed in violation of building code

As per the statistics of the metropolitan corporation Quetta, around 700 buildings have been constructed in the city in violation of building code.

Standard materials are also being used in construction, which can cause more human losses in the case of any future earthquakes. Experts have warned that there is ticking bomb beneath Quetta and precautionary measures need to be adopted to ensure quality construction and implementation of building code to avoid human losses in the case of any natural calamity.

Washed away

By Sajjad Hussain Changezi:

CALLS for protests against inflated electricity bills and increasing food prices have become common in Pakistan's big cities, but one wonders how poor families in the rural areas are faring in the midst of such hardship. A household survey of 600 families in district Kech in Balochistan, Pakistan's poorest province, gives shocking details.

Survey respondents included families apparently benefiting from the BRACE Programme, an EU-funded poverty reduction initiative implemented by the Balochistan and National Rural Support Programmes. The survey reveals that although average monthly household income has increased by 29 per cent since the baseline in 2018, monthly struggling to maintain the ownership of their assets.

The best efforts of NRSP and supporting partners, the end result is that poverty in these households has increased, with a net negative saving amount. If the beneficiaries of a poverty-reduction initiative are suffering setbacks, one can only

imagine what rural families not covered by any plan above or below them must be going through.

For a Kech-based research, a Karachi-based research firm, conducted the baseline in 2018, midline in 2021 and endline in 2023. The survey also reveals that the lion's share, i.e. 72pc of total household expenditure — averaging Rs24,720 is spent on food. This is on a par with 2018 and 2021. In 2023, it is 72pc. If this is for a family's budget is taken up by food expenses, there is no room to build assets or invest in personal and professional skills development. This is also evident from the ownership pattern which has reduced since 2018. A decline of 5pc has been reported. In other words, most households are living at the basic survival level of even struggling to maintain the ownership of their assets.

Another major finding of the survey is that the impact of climate change has made its way from science conferences and university research papers into the common people's lives. Nothing shows that more clearly than when

people from two tehsils of a single district complain about consecutive efforts to protect the environment, as noted in the midline survey, fewer respondents say they are continuing tree plantation efforts, preventing deforestation or adopting to extreme weather conditions by means of improved house construction.

The economic hardships beyond a certain threshold also result in social deterioration. This is evident from the fact that the perception of people helping each other in need has decreased from 56pc in 2018 and 30pc in 2021 to 20pc in 2023. Not surprisingly, when surveyors inquired about trust in local representatives, an increased percentage of respondents — 29pc in 2023 compared to 20pc in 2021 and 15pc in 2018 — opted for "no trust".

Balochistan has long suffered from political instability and economic deprivation but now poor families across the country are nosediving into poverty. The middle class is rapidly thinning and millions of families find it hard to keep their hopes alive for economic betterment.

Balochistan in the Eye of Climate Change Storm: Calls for Resilient Climate Policies Surface

Chandni Kakar:

In the global battle against climate change, Balochistan, Pakistan, serves as a stark reminder of the urgent need for climate resilience. The province is experiencing increasingly severe weather events, a consequence of human-induced climate change. However, many residents mistake these extreme weather occurrences for regular fluctuations, hindering recognition of the escalating climate crisis.

Balochistan becoming unbearably hot

Balochistan is becoming unbearably hot, with rising temperatures transforming heatwaves into a year-round threat. These heatwaves pose severe health risks, including heat stress, dehydration, and even fatalities. In 2017, Turbat recorded a scorching 53.5°C (128.3°F), setting a record for Pakistan. Unfortunately, forecasts suggest that temperatures will continue to rise.

However, the climate challenges in Balochistan extend beyond relentless heat waves. The province grapples with devastating droughts and floods, both of which wreak havoc on homes and infrastructure. The floods of 2010 and 2022 left nearly 4 million people displaced, triggering food shortages and posing threats due to their impact on the agriculture sector.

The 2022 flood in Balochistan underscores the looming climate change threat

The 2022 flood underscored the looming threat of climate change over Balochistan. Driven by intensified and increasingly frequent monsoon rains, the full extent of the damage is yet to be comprehended. However, it exposed the province's vulnerabilities and highlighted the urgent need for effective management strategies.

Balochistan's annual rainfall of just 200 mm barely meets the needs of its parched population. This water scarcity adversely affects food production, access to drinking water, and livestock numbers, exacerbated by climate change. The severe droughts of 1997-2003 and 2014-2017 forced migrations to water-rich areas.

CC affects economy

Climate change also decimated the region's economy through the loss of livestock. Between 2010 and 2022, over 1.5 million livestock were lost, costing over \$1 billion and displacing over 100,000 people, particularly in districts like Quetta, Pishin, Turbat, Pajgure, and Khuzdar.

However, Balochistan need not accept this grim fate. It requires comprehensive strategies tailored to its unique challenges. The provincial government must implement robust climate change policies, emphasizing water resource management and disaster preparedness. Learning from the tragic damage of 2022, preventive measures, such as effective water reservoirs and early warning systems, are imperative. Spreading awareness about climate change and promoting sustainable agricultural practices are equally crucial.

Tree plantations could mitigate sweltering temperatures

In a province where tree planting could mitigate sweltering temperatures and climate change impacts, government initiatives should engage younger generations in green initiatives. Achieving a resilient future necessitates a collaborative effort involving government, local communities, civil society, and the commercial sector.

Balochistan's path towards resilience begins with a symphony of collective action. By addressing these critical issues, Balochistan can better adapt to the challenges posed by climate change, ensuring a more secure and sustainable future for its residents.

A long four years

By Umair Javed:

NAWAZ Sharif was ousted from the Prime Minister's Office by a dubious Supreme Court decision on July 28, 2017. He left the country on Nov 19, 2019. Six years have passed since his participation in electoral politics, and four since he was last in Pakistan.

When he left the PM Office, his party was in comfortable control of parliament, with the largest majority in the National Assembly for its last one between 1997-1999.

These four years have seen the party's strength weakened by defections, but still the dominant party in urban Punjab, and a close second to the PTI in the rest of the province. On the day his brother took over the premiership on a wafer-thin margin, following Imran Khan's conspiracy-laden ouster, his party was competitive on their home turf and could have arrested immediate anti-incumbent sentiment. That ship sailed soon after.

At the time of writing, in late September 2023, none of these trends hold up. The political context has changed. Very dramatically, according to most observers, in tandem with this transformation, the social landscape has changed a fair deal as well. The PTI is dominant, the social profile of its support base has expanded, and the age make-up of the Pakistani voter continues its unrelenting march onwards. Last week, Gallup Pakistan shared findings of its national public opinion poll, with data on a range of political aspects, including voting intention and favourability ratings of political leaders. These provide a quantification of the anecdotal trends and news media conversations happening over the past six months. Data collection took place a month after the national political break-up of this support in its aftermath.

The headline finding, as it has been for the last year or so, is that Imran Khan remains the most popular politician in the country. His favourability rating is holding firm at 60 per cent, around the same rate as the last version of this survey from February 2023.

It further confirms that efforts to portray him in a negative/disruptive light through court cases and the fall-out of the May 9 protests have not had any noticeable impact on how the public perceives him. A notable omission from the survey is the absence of reported favourability figures for Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, which is worth evaluating given the PPP's continued political strength in Sindh. A series of other confirmations from the survey are the following: PTI is the most popular party in the country, its supporters feel very strongly about the party, more so than supporters of other parties feel about theirs; and it is the only party with national political credentials, drawing support from all four provinces. The provincial break-up of this support is worth analysing in detail. The PTI's political hegemony in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is intact, with each survey and every election result since 2013, showing it as the highest out of all major parties in Balochistan, which is a further indication of its national appeal.

Unsurprising for close observers, but a good data point for those who thought the crackdown may have fragmented the party's support base. Of greater interest is its significant gains in voting intention in the province of 141 out of 266 directly elected seats. Here, PTI (41pc) comes out with a 13-point lead over the PML-N (28pc), a gap that has widened over the preceding year. Around a year or so ago, the PML-N was polling above 30pc in the province, with the PTI close to the proximity. Despite restrictions and crackdowns on PTI workers, the party's favourability continues to translate into province-wide voting intention. This shows that party identification continues to increase and is not necessarily mediated by the on-ground presence of the PTI's local office-bearers or politicians. The results from other provinces are also worth considering. Intention to vote for the PTI is the highest out of all major parties in Balochistan, which is a further indication of its national appeal.

Democracy stalls

By Dr Niaz Murtaza:

OUR democratic journey is like that of a small boat caught in stormy seas. But in a country where the vast majority has not seen the fruits of democracy in real life, it is often hard for many to realise that democracy matters. Even highly educated persons often argue that we need good governance, whether it comes from democracy or autocracy.

Such talk reflects the sorry reality that even after 75 years, we have no consensus on democracy, unlike in most Satear states where democracy is given and the only debate is on improving it. It also reflects the sorry fact that such people have not done a serious analysis of our own and global trends to realise that only democracy leads to durable good governance. Thus, such talk is reflective of not wisdom but naivete.

Democracy is a form of governance based on participation, tolerance and human rights unlike despotism. But for even many educated people, these are abstract luxuries that we can't afford yet and governance must yield immediate economic progress, infrastructure, utilities and

law and order even if via autocracy. A regime that doesn't ensure participation, tolerance and human rights can't give the latter concrete outcomes for too long, as global trends show.

Among the four autocracy types, monarchies are most old, except the Gulf ones which thrive only on oil money. Army regimes today all do poorly in Myanmar, Egypt and West Africa. Theocracy in Iran and Afghanistan is still going strong. Among other party autocracies, only China and Vietnam do well, but most others — in North Korea, Cambodia, Laos and Central Asia — don't. Also, none of our parties have seen to be given carte blanche. Against this, dozens of democracies are doing well, even regionally. Autocracy takes time to mature and deliver. In the case of Lanka, Egypt and Bangladesh, it took decades. Yet people there still stuck with it to later pick up its fruits.

In Pakistan, even a few years of bad outcomes under a severely controlled democracy grappling with the baggage of long autocracy are enough for us to yearn for autocracy

despite its decades of civil freedoms notwithstanding absolute powers and lavish US aid. Many blame our democracy even though we have not had even for one day the unshackled democracy some of our neighbours have had for decades. There were no national polls from 1947 to 1958 and a dubious constitution only lasted two years. Since 1958, our history is simple: we have been ruled directly by the establishment or by three parties (the PPP, PML-N and PTI) whose autocracies were initially brought into politics by the establishment which later fell foul of all three. Thirteen out of our 15 national polls and referenda since 1958 were seen to be rigged by the establishment and one by civilians (1977). We have dutifully invented a fifth autocracy type — hybrid military-civilian — where the establishment keeps changing the junior or civilian face once it invariably becomes too big for its boots and starts wanting to don the establishment's bigger and shiner boots, only to be booted out.

Until 1971, the main impetus for autocracy came from the Bengali numerical edge that banded together western

Courting controversy

By Malecha Lodhi:

THE interim government to decide unilaterally what constitutes a "fair" election. Former prime minister and PML-N leader Shahid Khaqan Abbasi also said it was not the interim PM's duty to make such contentious statements.

An official clarification claiming Kakar's comments had been "misunderstood" and "misreported" did little to quell the controversy. Nor did Kakar's subsequent explanations. His misadventure on being non-partisan was a response to rising criticism, but it was too little, too late. In his monoton media interviews on political issues and daily sermons on "requirements of the law" only compounded the matter.

Meanwhile, remarks from political parties, minister also drew a furious response, this time from leaders of Pakistan's other major party, PML-N. In an interview, Sarfraz Bugti said Man Nawaz Sharif would be arrested when he arrived back home to get bail. PML-N leader and the conduct of the Kakar administration is "exceeding his jurisdiction" and pointed out that it was neither his business nor his decision about where Sharif

would go on arrival. Again, a clarification by the minister that his government had no "political agenda" did little to calm ruffled feathers.

Earlier, PPP leader Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari declared the absence of a "level playing field" for the polls. Party representatives publicly assailed the inclusion in the interim cabinet of former bureaucrats closely aligned with PML-N in the past. They also accused the government of bias. If the principal role of a caretaker government is to oversee free and fair polls and act impartially, such criticism from political parties, who are major contenders in the upcoming election, suggests it is already falling short on being impartial and fulfilling its responsibilities as envisaged in the Constitution and Elections Act of 2017.

The gap between how a caretaker government is supposed to act and the conduct of the Kakar administration is evident from what is prescribed by Section 230 of the Elections Act, 2017. It obliges the interim

government to be "impartial to every person and political party" and "restrict itself to activities that are of routine, non-controversial and urgent" nature.

Responsible for managing "day-to-day matters which are necessary to run the affairs of the Government," it is barred from taking "major policy decisions except on urgent matters." It cannot take decisions that pre-empt the scope of the government's future. It is also not authorised to make appointments or carry out large-scale shuffles of civil servants that can affect the working process of the future government.

Over the years, the Supreme Court has upheld this principle in rulings on petitions by government employees and others who challenged such transfers. The judgement in the Khwaja Asif case in 2013 is a case in point.

True, an effort was made by the previous parliament to grant more powers to the caretaker government. But because of strident protests from treasury and opposition benches, the Elections Act, 2017

Education's standard to be improved for development, economic growth: Minister

ISLAMABAD (INP): Federal Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training Madad Ali Sindhi has said that the government was working to improve the education standard in the country in order to ensure holistic development and better economic growth. Speaking as chief guest of the inter-university business plan competition organized by ICCI in collaboration with universities here on Tuesday, he said that education is the basic right of every child and an important tool for the progress and development of any nation and human resource development through better education is the central pillar of the government's policy. Madad Ali Sindhi said that the government has formulated the first ever National Technical and Vocational Education and Training Policy, which aims to cater to the needs of the industrial sector by adding value to human capital through imparting requisite training and skills. He lauded the initiative of ICCI for organizing the business plan competition among university students that has provided them a good opportunity to show their innovative business ideas and entrepreneurial skills. He said that his ministry is ready to collaborate with ICCI in various initiatives to upscale the education sector in order to produce trained and skilled manpower for business and industry. Speaking on the occasion, ICCI President Ahsan Zafar Bukhtawani said that the purpose of organizing the business plan competition among university students is to provide them a good platform to present their innovative business ideas and get the attention of investors for their commercialization. He stressed that the government should take solid measures to create a conducive environment for innovators and startups and focus on fostering a culture of entrepreneurship in the country in order to turn around the economy and achieve sustainable economic growth. Ahsan Bukhtawani said that due to the falling standard of education in the public schools, the people prefer to send their children to private schools and stressed that ICCI would continue to organize such events to foster a culture of innovators and startups so that many of them could emerge tomorrow's rising business enterprises.

ISLAMABAD should be handed over to ICCI to make it a role model for other public schools. The ICCI President proposed that to improve the standard of education in public schools, a Board of Governors should be constituted and ICCI should also be given representation in it. He further proposed that surplus land of public schools be given on lease rent to generate funds for schools. He hoped that many business ideas presented in the business plan competition would get the attention of investors for commercialization. He resolved that ICCI would continue to organize such events to foster a culture of innovators and startups so that many of them could emerge tomorrow's rising business enterprises.



HYDERABAD: Health worker administering polio vaccine drops to a child during a Polio vaccination campaign at Government Hospital at Norani basti.

Over 100,000 patients receive free treatment in GDA hospital

GWADAR (INP): The GDA Hospital Gwadars has made significant strides in addressing the primary healthcare needs of the local community, providing medical treatment to over 100,000 patients in the past year, with a primary focus on maternal and child health issues. During a meeting held here, Dr. Atiab Ahmad, the Head of Indus Campus at GDA Hospital, presented a comprehensive report to the Director General of GDA, Majeed Ur Rehman Qambarani, and Dr. Shahzad Alam, the Health Consultant to the Chief Minister of Balochistan. Last year, the Gwad Development Authority (GDA) entered into a strategic partnership with Indus Hospital, a trusted name in the realm of social services and healthcare. Under this agreement, the management of GDA Hospital was handed over to Indus Hospital, ensuring the delivery of top-tier healthcare services to the local population. "Over the past year, our hospital has played a pivotal role in providing free healthcare services to the residents of Gwad, making a significant impact on the local community's well-being," said Majeed Ur Rehman Qambarani. According to the statistics presented by Dr. Atiab Ahmad during the meeting, a total of 99,309 individuals sought medical attention at the Outpatient Departments (OPDs) of GDA Hospital in the past year. Out of them, 47,379 were females who visited the Family Medicine Clinic, while 30,989 patients sought care at consulting clinics. Additionally, 20,941 individuals sought medical attention in the Emergency Room (ER) department of the hospital.

Like wise, a total of 3,642 patients were admitted to the hospital for the treatment of various ailments. During this period, 1,094 women visited the hospital to deliver their children. The hospital also conducted 1,077 general surgeries for patients from the local population. An impressive total of 102,168 laboratory tests were conducted over the past year. These tests served as the basis for providing high-quality treatment to patients, including the provision of free medications when necessary. The launch of 5G services in Pakistan is a pivotal moment in technological advancement. It is expected to revolutionize the way people communicate and consume content. 5G will also enable new and innovative applications in areas such as healthcare, education, and transportation. To further encourage the expansion of 5G services, the business plan includes provisions for facilitating the opening of Letter of Credits (LC) and laying fiber optic cables. The launch of 5G services in Pakistan is a pivotal moment in technological advancement. It is expected to revolutionize the way people communicate and consume content. 5G will also enable new and innovative applications in areas such as healthcare, education, and transportation. To further encourage

Pakistan to launch 5G mobile services in August 2024

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan is gearing up to launch 5G mobile phone connectivity in August 2024, according to the Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication. According to media report, this announcement comes as a response to the growing demand for faster and more advanced telecommunications services. The ministry has unveiled a comprehensive business plan for the launch of 5G services in the country. The plan includes hiring an international consultant to provide assistance in the design and development of an auction policy and business plan. "The government will also take inspiration from successful models in countries like Bangladesh to speed up the auction process. Importantly, the plan emphasizes that spectrum allocation will not be granted to any single operator without a competitive process to ensure fairness and promote a competitive environment. Before the auction of the coveted 600 MHz spectrum, the business plan outlines the need for substantial reforms in the telecom sector. This includes addressing ongoing court cases related to spectrum allocation and creating incentives for telecom operators to participate actively in the auction. To further encourage

the expansion of 5G services, the business plan includes provisions for facilitating the opening of Letter of Credits (LC) and laying fiber optic cables. The launch of 5G services in Pakistan is a pivotal moment in technological advancement. It is expected to revolutionize the way people communicate and consume content. 5G will also enable new and innovative applications in areas such as healthcare, education, and transportation. To further encourage



HYDERABAD: Sand is lifted with the help of an excavator from the bed of river Indus at kotri.



ISLAMABAD: A delegation from KP working for the promotion of Hindko language called on President Dr Arif Alvi at Aiwan-e-Sadr.

SC resumes hearing pleas challenging law limiting CJP's powers

ISLAMABAD (INP): A full court headed by Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Qazi Faez Isa has resumed hearing a set of petitions challenging the Supreme Court (Practice and Procedure) Act 2023. The proceedings are being streamed live on television. The Act requires the formation of benches on constitutional matters of public importance by a committee of three senior judges of the court. In a pre-emptive move, the Supreme Court then led by former CJP Umar Ata Bandial — in April had barred the government from implementing the bill seeking to curtail the chief justice of Pakistan's powers once it became a law. On the very first day of assuming charge as the chief justice, CJP Isa had ordered the hearing to be live streamed and had implicitly vacated the April 13 suspension of the enforcement of the Supreme Court (Practice & Procedure) Act, 2023. Last week, the Pakistan Muslim League-Q (PML-Q) had pleaded before the apex court that the Supreme Court (Practice and Procedure) Act 2023 was aimed at promoting the independence of judiciary, the rule of law, and the right to access to justice and fair trial. The party, represented by its counsel Zahid F. Ebrahim, said SC rules provided that the legislature could determine the practice and procedure of the court in relation to the constitution of benches, in particular. Parliament has the right to enact the subject legislation and has done so strictly in accordance with the law and the Constitution, the response said. Meanwhile, the government had argued that if the Supreme Court (Practice & Procedure) Act, 2023 was sustained, verdicts handed down by benches constituted before enactment of the Act would be void as past and closed transactions. At the outset of Tuesday hearing, CJP Isa said that the law affected the chief justice and the two senior most judges of the apex court. "On one hand, the same powers are being distributed among senior judges," he said. Justice Isa said that the law would also apply to future chief justices and senior judges of the apex court. He said that he had felt that he should not be a part of the bench hearing the plea but because it affected all judges, it was deemed fit that a full court preside over the case. Addressing the lawyers gathered, he urged them to talk about points that were relevant to the case. "We want to try to conclude [the case] today," he said as he highlighted the backlog of cases in the SC. He said that if the lawyers wished to make additional arguments, they could submit a detailed response to the court.

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ISLAMABAD (INP): Children of Karachi are busy in study at open to sky park school in F-6 area.



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Members of notorious criminal gang busted

KARACHI (INP): Karachi Police on Tuesday claimed to have successfully apprehended members of the notorious criminal gang known as the "Asif Burger" gang. According to police, this group was involved in a wide range of criminal activities, including car thefts, mobile phone and laptop robberies, online bank heists, all conducted through fraudulent women's identities. The operation resulted in the arrest of multiple suspects from the Sarjani area of Sindh's capital, Karachi. The arrested individuals include the leader of the gang, Asif Burger, as well as his associates Ramiz (alias Raheel), Umar, Danyal, Sarfraz, and Ali Raza. However, one member of the gang, Waqid, managed to evade capture, prompting a manhunt by law enforcement agencies. The media operator and of the gang was cunning, Asif Burger, the ringleader, specialized in creating fake female identities to lure unsuspecting victims. He would use these fake IDs to pose as a potential buyer of mobile phones and laptops. KARACHI (INP): Karachi Police on Tuesday claimed to have successfully apprehended members of the notorious criminal gang known as the "Asif Burger" gang. According to police, this group was involved in a wide range of criminal activities, including car thefts, mobile phone and laptop robberies, online bank heists, all conducted through fraudulent women's identities. The operation resulted in the arrest of multiple suspects from the Sarjani area of Sindh's capital, Karachi. The arrested individuals include the leader of the gang, Asif Burger, as well as his associates Ramiz (alias Raheel), Umar, Danyal, Sarfraz, and Ali Raza. However, one member of the gang, Waqid, managed to evade capture, prompting a manhunt by law enforcement agencies. The media operator and of the gang was cunning, Asif Burger, the ringleader, specialized in creating fake female identities to lure unsuspecting victims. He would use these fake IDs to pose as a potential buyer of mobile phones and laptops.

Grand operation against power pilferers in AJK to be launched soon

ISLAMABAD, Oct 03 (INP): Grand operation against power pilferers in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) will be soon launched in cooperation with the federal government. According to details, out of 2.2 billion units of electricity provided by the federation to AJK on annual basis, 1.28 million units electricity was stolen causing a loss of Rs10.62 billion to the national exchequer. Chairman Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) has assured of extending full support to Azad Kashmir to overcome the electricity theft. ISLAMABAD, Oct 03 (INP): Grand operation against power pilferers in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) will be soon launched in cooperation with the federal government. According to details, out of 2.2 billion units of electricity provided by the federation to AJK on annual basis, 1.28 million units electricity was stolen causing a loss of Rs10.62 billion to the national exchequer. Chairman Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) has assured of extending full support to Azad Kashmir to overcome the electricity theft.

TENDER NOTICE

The BALUCHISTAN CIVIL SERVICES ACADEMY, (BCSA), QUETTA invites bids from eligible Bidders for supply of following items. TSE-232409355511

Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPRAA GOB. Tender Fee Rs. 1000/-

S.No	Class of Object	Bid Security
1	Chairman (Tax/Item/Contract No)	5%

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Assignments of Similar Nature and Complexity 2,000,000 in Previous Turn over of at least 1,000,000 PKR in 1 Subsequent Previous Years Presence in Active Tax Payer List, Sales Tax Certificate. The bidding firm must not be currently blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. JV is not permissible. Submission of the required Bid Security in case Bid Security is not found as required during financial evaluation the bidding firm shall be declared as ineligible and non-responsive. Submission of the required Bidding document Fee Audit report of 1 year. Procedure of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Deposit at call of 5% specified above in the name of the under-siged from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the under-siged, 1,000 PKR Issuance of tender documents from the date of publication of NIT to 23 October, 2023 during office hours on working days Last Date of bid submission: The tenders must be submitted latest by 23 October, 2023 at 11:00 AM. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the under-siged at 12:00 PM Address: BALUCHISTAN CIVIL SERVICES ACADEMY (BCSA), QUETTA Western Bypass Rural Development Training Complex Phone no: 0815204452 Email: BCSAGOB@gmail.com

DEPUTY DIRECTOR
BALUCHISTAN CIVIL SERVICES ACADEMY (BCSA), QUETTA

PRO. No. 635/03-14-2023
031-8181117 / 031-8181117

German Consul Visits Trauma Center in Quetta, Offers Support and Condemns Violence in Pakistan

Syed Ali Shah:

QUETTA: Karachi-based German Consul General, Dr. Lotz Rodiger visited the Civil Hospital Trauma Center Quetta and inquired about the condition of the injured in the Mustang tragedy and presented them with flower bouquets and wished them a speedy recovery.

The Managing Director (MD) of the Trauma Center, Dr. Azimullah Bahar briefed the German Consul General regarding the treatment of the injured.

Germany strongly condemns terrorist attack

Talking to the media on this occasion, the German Consul General Dr. Lotz Rodiger said that Germany strongly condemns terrorism in Pakistan.

"We stand by Pakistan in this hour of trial," he said. The CG condemned the incidents of violence in the strongest terms and has come to visit the injured in the light of the special instructions of the German government. The German Consul General appreci-



German Consul General Dr. Lotz Rodiger (right) and others at the trauma center.

Germany ready to provide support to Pakistan

Dr. Lotz said that Germany is ready to provide all kinds of support to its friend country Pakistan in economic, education, health and other fields. Germany understands

Pakistan's security issues, he mentioned. The German Consul General said that today was Germany's national day and that along with his team, he had come to Balochistan on this special day on the Mustang tragedy. Mir Murad Baloch, Honorary Consul General of Germany in Balochistan and other high-ups were also present on this occasion.



ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi addressing the convocation of dentistry and nursing department of the Foundation University School of Health Sciences (FUSH).

No reason, logic behind any delay in general elections: Siraj-ul-Haq

LAHORE (INP): Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) Siraj-ul-Haq has said that there was no reason and logic behind any delay in upcoming general elections, adding the JI was staunchly committed to resisting any unconstitutional actions that might infringe upon the fundamental right of the people to vote.

Talking to media in Mansoorah on Tuesday, he pointed out that the constitution unequivocally stipulates the holding of elections within 90 days following the dissolution of assemblies.

Sirajul Haq stressed that stability was contingent upon upholding the constitution and conducting transparent elections.

He criticized those who advocate for prioritizing economic reforms before elections, asserting that such calls merely echo

past slogans, specifically the factors of "accountability before elections." He noted that proponents of these ideas were acutely aware of their dwindling popularity among the masses and were anticipating an impending defeat.

Underlining the responsibility of the state and its institutions to combat smuggling and corruption, the JI chief emphasized that an elected government was better equipped to address these challenges. He highlighted the people's admiration for the armed forces, attributing it to the constitutional mandate of safeguarding the nation. He emphasized that adherence to the constitution by all institutions would enhance the respect and affection accorded to them by the public. He expressed regret that the two previous coalition governments had led the

nation's economy astray in past five years, resulting in profound hardship for the people. He criticized the caretaker government, characterizing it as an extension of the previous administration, and accused it of adhering to the directives of the IMF. He also pointed out that caretaker governments in two provinces were operating beyond their constitutionally defined tenure. The caretakers, he added, also lacked the authority to increase electricity and gas tariffs.

Siraj said the JI would not enter into any electoral alliances and would contest the elections under its own symbol, the scale. He affirmed the JI's unwavering commitment to advocating for the people's rights and combating inflation until relief is delivered to the citizens.

Efforts of HWPL for global praiseworthy: Governor Punjab

LAHORE (INP): Governor Punjab Muhammad Balighur Rehman has appreciated the efforts of Heavenly Culture World Peace Restoration Light (HWPL) for peace across the globe since 2014.

The Governor Punjab was talking to a delegation of HWPL working for global peace, which led by Senator Kamran Michael called on him at Governor House Lahore on Tuesday. Balighur Rehman said that the Kashmiris in Occupied Jammu and Kashmir were still deprived of their leg-

itimate right to self-determination. He said that India was trying to suppress the legitimate right of self-determination of Kashmiris by usurping their basic human rights.

He said that international organizations should ensure the implementation of the UN resolutions to resolve the Kashmir issue. Governor Punjab said international peace organizations need to be more active and play an effective role in resolving Palestine and Kashmir issues for durable peace in the world.

Governor Punjab said that currently, most of the officers and soldiers of the armed forces of Pakistan were serving in the United Nations Peace Mission. On this occasion, the delegation informed the Punjab Governor about the aims and objectives of peace organization, Heavenly Culture World Peace Restoration Light. The delegation comprised Yang Bang sig, Park Kyung-taek, Kim Young-seung, Jun Young-woo, Lee Seungkyu, Naveed Tahir and Javed Waheed.



ISLAMABAD: Khazar Farhadov Ambassador of Azerbaijan held a meeting with Caretaker Federal Minister Health Dr Nadeem Jan.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar chairs a meeting of the Apex Committee on National Action Plan.

Senate Body to dismiss "The Promotion & Protection of Gandhara Culture Authority Bill, 2023"

ISLAMABAD (INP): Chairman Senate Standing Committee on National Heritage and Culture, Senator Afnan Ullah Khan presided over a meeting of the committee held here on Tuesday.

Senators Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Palwasha Muhammad Zai Khan, Khalida Ateeb, Fawzia Arshad, Falak Naz, Keshoo Bai and Rubina Khalid attended the meeting. Secretary Ministry of National Heritage and Culture along with other key officials graced the meeting with their presence.

During the meeting, the Committee unanimously resolved to dismiss the consideration of "The Promotion and Protection of Gandhara Culture Authority Bill, 2023," based on the committee's consensus that the bill had been previously rejected in a prior committee meeting.

The Ministry officials presented a compliance report on the recommendations made by the committee to date. Out of the 40 recommendations received, 32 were fully compliant.

The committee was also apprised of the Ministry's initiative to develop indigenous cultural educational material for

children in various mother tongues, including Urdu. Secretary Ministry of National Heritage and Culture confirmed that steps have been taken in this direction and discussions have been initiated with the Ministry of Federal Education & Professional Training. The Committee was also informed that a conference highlighting the "indigenous cultural education material for children in all mother tongues including Urdu" was held in Pakistan Academy of Letters on Sep 19-20, 2023.

Highlighting the importance of preserving culture and heritage as part of our national identity, the Committee emphasized the need to take ownership of these aspects, considering their crucial meeting points within society, particularly for the youth.

In response to concerns about language and translation, the Committee acknowledged the significance of Urdu as a unifying language for Pakistan. It was suggested to address translation errors on signboards and airports, and the DG "Idara Farogh e Qomi Zuban" pledged to pursue appropriate translations with relevant authorities.

The Committee also delib-

erated on designating the "Karonjhar Mountain Tharparkar" in Sindh as National Heritage. While recognizing its cultural and historical significance, Senator Keshoo Bai emphasized the importance of preserving this site for the Hindu community and the people of Tharparkar. The Committee called for the mountain to be protected from mining activities and recommended involving the Sindh Government in this decision.

Senator Mushahid Sayed emphasized the potential economic impact of preserving tourist sites to boost tourism, citing culture and sports as unifying factors within society.

Looking forward, the Secretary Ministry of National Heritage and Culture revealed plans for the launch of a heritage app next week and a Heritage TV channel, underscoring the Ministry's commitment to promoting Pakistan's rich cultural heritage.

Furthermore, the Committee recommended an increase in the number of stores at Kartarpur Sahib and expressed their intent to visit the Kartarpur corridor, emphasizing the enhancement of religious and heritage tourism in Pakistan.



ISLAMABAD: Caretaker Federal Minister for Railways, Shahid Ashraf Tarar chairing a meeting at Ministry of Railways.

President Alvi directs CDNS to reimburse Rs1.2m to fraud victim woman

ISLAMABAD (INP): President Dr Arif Alvi has directed the Central Directorate of National Savings (CDNS) to reimburse an amount of 1.2 million rupees with profit to a fraud victim woman.

It should be mentioned that the money was fraudulently withdrawn from the woman's account through the issuance of a fictitious cheque book and affixing her fake signatures on the withdrawal slip. Dr Arif Alvi on Monday asked CDNS to refer the matter to FIA for proper investigation so that the delinquent officials of CDNS involved in the scam may be brought to the book and punished.

The president issued these directions while deciding on a representation filed by CDNS (the Agency) against the decision of the Wafaqi Mohtasib directing CDNS to refer the matter to FIA for thorough investigation. As per details, the complainant Abida Riffat had alleged that she was maintaining a Pensioners Benefit Account with CDNS in Rawalpindi. She found out in 2021 that an amount of Rs 1.2 million had been fraudulently withdrawn from her account in 2019 through another cheque book which was never issued to her. She lodged a complaint with CDNS for investigation and recovery of her de-

frauded amount, but the matter was investigated in a superficial manner and she was informed that she could not produce any evidence in support of her claim. Feeling aggrieved, she approached the Wafaqi Mohtasib which asked CDNS to investigate the matter through FIA. CDNS then filed a representation with the President against the Mohtasib's decision.

President Alvi in his decision observed that CDNS in its letter dated 28.12.2021 had admitted that Rs 1.2 million were withdrawn from her account through the fake transaction on 23.05.2019 by affixing a fake signature on the withdrawal slip.

PTI chief's cipher case to be heard in Adiala Jail

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Ministry of Law on Tuesday issued a notification to hold Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman's trial in Adiala jail in the cipher case. The notification adds that the law and justice division says it has "no objection" to the trial being held in jail.

The notification was issued after special court judge Abul Hasan Zaidgaman wrote a letter to the Ministry of Law, asking it

to issue a notification to hold the hearing of the cipher case in the Rawalpindi prison due to security concerns. Earlier, the FIA submitted a challan of the cipher case in a special court constituted under the Official Secrets Act. PTI chairman and Vice Chairman Shah Mahmood Qureshi were indicted in the challan. The FIA pleaded to the court for trial and conviction of the Chairman PTI and former foreign minister Shah Mahmood

Qureshi. The first information report (FIR) was registered on August 15 under the Official Secrets Act. It was registered on the complaint of the Home Secretary.

Former prime minister Imran Khan and former foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi were nominated in the report, while names of former principal secretary Azam Khan and former planning minister Asad Umar were also mentioned.