

# QUETTA VOICE

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## Establishment's 'interference' in judiciary to end soon: LHC CJ

**RAWALPINDI:** The Chief Justice of Lahore High Court (LHC), Justice Malik Shahzad Ahmed, stated that the establishment's interference in the judiciary will soon come to an end.



Speaking at an event in Rawalpindi on Friday, the CJ highlighted his immediate actions upon assuming office. "I convened a full court meeting and decided that the culture of strikes would not be tolerated. On May 13, a circular was issued to the Punjab judiciary, stating that we would not acknowledge any calls for strikes. Whether there is a strike call or not, we will act according to the law," he said. On April 24, IHC judges unanimously acknowledged that intelligence agencies were "interfering" in their judicial functions. **NEWS DESK**

## Pakistan's weak debt affordability drives 'high debt sustainability risks': Moody's

**NEWS DESK:** Global rating agency Moody's on Friday said that the country's weak debt affordability drives high debt sustainability risks as it noted that the government spends more than half its revenue on interest payments.

In a comment regarding the newly finance bill for the fiscal year (FY) 2025, it said, "The budget estimated debt servicing payments to have increased by about 18pc for fiscal 2025 compared with a year ago."

"The government spends more than half its revenue on interest payments, indicating very weak debt affordability which drives high debt sustainability risks" it said, adding that "about 55pc of fiscal year 2025 revenue (Rs9.8 trillion) is earmarked for interest payments on the government's debt".



## PM announces major electricity tariff cut for industrial sector

**ISLAMABAD:** Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif announced a significant reduction in electricity tariffs for the industrial sector on Friday, cutting rates by Rs10.69 per unit. This move aims to boost exports and industrial production.

Due to the prime minister's special efforts, the new electricity price per unit for the industrial and export sector is set at Rs34.99.

According to a statement from the PM Office, the National Electric Power

Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) recommended this reduction for industries.

The PM's package is expected to provide over Rs200 billion in relief to industries, enhancing their competitiveness in the global market.

The package aims to align the country's manufacturing costs with international markets, reducing production costs for industrial and agricultural commodities.

This is anticipated to

lead to an increase in exports.

The tariff cut is also expected to accelerate industrial growth, create new job opportunities, and stimulate economic activity.

It may be mentioned that NEPRA had proposed a reduction of Rs10.69 per unit in electricity prices for industries.

Prime Minister Shehbaz's special package is set to alleviate over Rs200 billion worth of burden from industries.

Sources indicate that

this relief aims to make the cost of goods competitive in the global market. It is also expected to reduce the production costs of industrial and agricultural products, leading to a significant increase in exports.

Experts believe that the prime minister's announcement will accelerate industrial development and rapidly increase employment. The faster pace of industrial activity and the rise in exports will benefit the national economy. **NEWS DESK.**

## No point negotiating with 'powerless' govt: Imran Khan

**NEWS DESK:** Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan on Friday stated that there is no point in negotiating with a government that lacks authority. During an informal conversation with the media during the hearing of the £190 million reference at Rawalpindi's Adiala Jail, he accused the administration of pressuring judges who rule in favour of PTI and criticised the recent budget for burdening salaried individuals. Khan alleged that a judge from Sargodha informed the Lahore High Court about pressure exerted by intelligence agencies.

He claimed that the



judge's household gas supply was cut off and that judges sympathetic to PTI face immense pressure. "Journalists speaking in favour of PTI are being targeted; Raouf Hassan was at-

tacked, and Ali Zaman was tortured," Khan asserted, implicating intelligence agencies in these actions. Khan urged the Chief Justice of Pakistan Qazi Faez Isa to uphold the rule of law amidst

these interferences. Khan praised a judge from Sargodha, six judges from Islamabad High Court, and three judges from the Supreme Court for their integrity. Addressing the budget, Khan highlighted that Pakistan needs to generate Rs13 trillion in revenue, with Rs9.8 trillion allocated to debt interest payments. He predicted a necessity to borrow Rs7.5 trillion to cover the budget deficit, warning that the country is already sinking. "Investment, which hinges on the rule of law, is the only salvation, yet this year saw the lowest investment in 50 years," he stated.

## Protest Erupts In Harnai Against Killing Of A Young Man

Hanif Tareen, Staff Reporter:

**HARNAI, QUETTA:** Tensions are high in Harnai as family members protested outside the local police station, demanding justice for the killing of a young man, Muhammad Inran. Inran was fatally shot while resisting a robbery, prompting his grieving relatives and community members to stage a demonstration with his body placed prominently in front of the police station. The protesters have vowed to continue their demonstration until the perpetrators are apprehended, highlighting the urgent need for improved security and swift action by law enforcement.



In the main city nullah has added to the province's distress.

"We will not move until Muhammad Inran's killers are brought to justice," declared a spokesperson for the grieving family. The protest has drawn significant attention, with community leaders calling for immediate police intervention and better protective measures for citizens.

Meanwhile, in Quetta, the discovery of a dead body

The unidentified body was found under suspicious circumstances, raising concerns about safety and crime in the area. Authorities are investigating the incident, but the lack of immediate information has led to anxiety and speculation among residents.

These incidents underscore the pressing issue of crime in Balochistan, with citizens demanding more effective policing and justice for the victims. As the community rallies for justice in Harnai and awaits answers in Quetta, the need for enhanced security measures and rapid legal responses remains paramount.

## Protests Lead to Closure of Hana Lake and Hana Urak Road Quetta

Manan Mandokhail:

**QUETTA:** The angry local residents have closed the popular recreational spots, Hana Lake and Hana Urak Quetta, to tourists. This decisive action was taken as a protest against the rising incidents of dangerous motorcycling by visitors, which have resulted in numerous injuries among local children. "We will not allow motorcyclists to play with their lives here", Shah Zaman Kakar, one of the protesters said. The protests saw residents burning their diaries and candles at the entry points of these entertainment areas, effectively blocking access. The protesters expressed their frustration and anguish over the reckless behavior of youths from Quetta city who engage in speeding and one-wheeling on motorcycles. This perilous activity has led to several accidents, causing severe injuries to local children.



this issue with the administration multiple times, but their concerns have been met with empty promises and false assurances.

"We cannot stand by as our children become disabled for the sake of others' entertainment," one protester identified as Muhammad Khan stated. The local community has raised

The protesters emphasized that their drastic measures are a last resort after numerous attempts to resolve the situation through dialogue were ignored. They demand immediate and effective action to ensure the safety of their children and to prevent the recreational spots from becoming hotspots for hazardous activities. As the protests continue, the future of Hana Lake and Hana Urak as accessible recreational areas remains uncertain. The local administration is under increasing pressure to address the safety concerns and restore order while balancing the interests of both locals and tourists.

## Empowering Youth through Skill Development in Balochistan

Syed Ali Shah:

**QUETTA:** The landscape of Balochistan is set for a transformative shift as a wave of skill development initiatives takes root, spearheaded by the Prime Minister Youth Skill Development Program. With 8,873 young individuals currently enrolled in the first batch, this program is poised to equip the youth with essential skills for a brighter future. This initiative is more than just numbers; it symbolizes hope and opportunity for a region often overlooked. Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti stated, "This program is a beacon of hope for our youth. It signifies our commitment to providing them with the tools they need to shape a prosperous future for Balochistan."

### Fostering Inclusion and Support through UNHCR Program

Complementing this effort, the UNHCR program has also taken significant strides in fostering inclusion and support for Afghan refugees. Among its 196 trainees, 70% are Afghan refugees, and 30% hail from the host community. This blend not only enhances skill levels but also promotes social cohesion, a crucial step towards a harmonious and prosperous community. Chief Minister Bugti emphasized, "By integrating Afghan refugees and our local community, we



are not just imparting skills but also fostering unity and mutual growth. This initiative underscores the spirit of inclusivity and cooperation that is vital for our progress."

### Recognizing and Validating Existing Skills

In a significant move towards recognizing and validating existing skills, the

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) initiative has certified 269 skilled laborers in May 2024. This certification acknowledges their expertise and opens doors to better employment opportunities, thus uplifting the skilled workforce of Balochistan.

### Elevating Technological Prowess with Summer of Code

Looking ahead, the Summer of Code program is set to elevate the region's technological prowess.

The National Testing Service (NTS) will conduct a test on June 23, 2024, to select approximately 600 trainees for an International IT certification program. This initiative not only aims to enhance the digital skills of the youth but also to position Balochistan as a burgeoning tech hub.

### Empowering Women through SheFixes Program

Additionally, the SheFixes program, another remarkable initiative led by NAVTTC Chairperson Gulmina Bilal, focuses on empowering women through skill development. Scheduled for June 23, the test by

NTS will pave the way for more women to enter the technical field, breaking stereotypes and fostering gender equality.

### Launching High-Impact Training in Educational Institutions

Balochistan's educational institutions are also embracing this change. By August 2024, 13 colleges will launch high-impact training courses in Data Sciences, Artificial Intelligence, and Cloud Computing. These courses will ensure that students are well-versed in cutting-edge technologies, preparing them for the demands of the modern job market.

Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti during the launch of NAVTTC's new initiatives in collaboration with the European Union. He remarked, "These initiatives are a testament to our commitment to the youth of Balochistan. By imparting skill and technical education, we are building a foundation for sustainable growth and prosperity."

### A Shared Vision for a Resilient Workforce

The collaboration with the European Union underscores the international support and recognition of these efforts. It reflects a shared vision of uplifting Balochistan through education and skill development, fostering a resilient and capable workforce.

### A Future Brimming with Opportunities

In summary, these programs represent a beacon of hope for the youth of Balochistan. With strategic leadership and collaborative efforts, Balochistan is on a path to becoming a hub of skilled professionals, driving economic growth and social progress. The initiatives by NAVTTC, supported by local and international partners, are set to transform the region, offering its youth a future brimming with opportunities and success.

Transformative Potential Highlighted by Leadership

Gulmina Bilal, the driving force behind these initiatives, emphasized the transformative potential of these programs: "NAVTTC has opened new vistas of opportunities in Balochistan. Our focus is to empower the youth with skills that are not just relevant today but will shape the future."

### Support and Recognition from the European Union

The significance of these developments was further highlighted by Chief



### Over 400 Pakistani youth obtain technical training under CPEC

ISLAMABAD (INP): In connection with China's endeavors to groom indigenous community with job-oriented training programs under CPEC, more than 400 local students have received modern training in Huaneng Pakistan Vocational & Technical College in Sahiwal, Punjab.

Huaneng Pakistan Vocational & Technical College is operated by Huaneng Shandong Ruyi (Pakistan) Energy (Private) Limited (HSRE), the owner of Sahiwal Power Plant.

The one-month-long vocational training, ended on June 1, equipped local youth with practical employ-

ment skills in areas such as computer applications, electrical technician skills, and welding. Another stunning feature of the program is that all enrolled students receive hands-on professional training free of cost. This is a blessing for the cash-strapped and down-trodden sections of the society. Gao Guangxin, Director, Operation Department, Huaneng Shandong Ruyi (Pakistan) Energy (Private) Limited (HSRE), told Gwadar Pro that providing training to local youth will help realize localization management. He expressed his pride in witnessing Sahiwal Power Plant's journey from inception to becoming a

flagship project under CPEC. In August 2019, the Huaneng Pakistan Vocational & Technical College was established on site to provide free vocational technical training to local youth. It is officially registered with Technical Education & Vocational Training Authority of Pakistan. Four training courses, including computer, secretarial, electrician, and welding, are being taught so far.

Through a combination of theoretical teaching and on-site practice, the training has improved the participants' employment-related skills, which has been highly recognized by the trainees.

Along with training programs, upward trajectory for the professional grooming of Pakistan's young generation came to the fore when two Pakistani engineers, Fahad Ahmed and Sohail Abbas, from the 2x660MW Sahiwal Power Plant in Qadirabad, won prizes in the "Huaneng Craftsman Cup 2024" event held in China. The competition, organized by Huaneng Group Co. Ltd, featured more than 80 participants from different parts of the world. This achievement underscores the technical abilities of Pakistani engineers and strengthens the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the two nations.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Insurance Ombudsman, Mr. Mumtaz Ali Shah, called on President Asif Ali Zardari, at Alwan-e-Sadi.

### Russian nuclear submarine, navy frigate arrive in US and Cuba

HAVANA (INP): A Russian navy frigate and a nuclear-powered submarine chugged into Havana harbour, a stopover the US and Cuba said posed no threat, but which was widely seen as a Russian show of force as tensions rise over the Ukraine war.

Curious onlookers, fishermen and police lined the Malecon seafront boulevard under grey skies to welcome the ships as they passed the 400-year-old Morro castle at the harbour's entrance.

Cuba a long-time ally of Russia saluted the ships' arrival with cannon fire from the harbour, while Russian diplomats waved small Russian flags and took selfies as the vessels passed the harbour's historic fortresses.

The Admiral Gorshkov frigate, and

later the nuclear-powered submarine Kazan, half submerged with its crew on deck, were accompanied by a tugboat and fuel ship that had arrived earlier in the morning.

The four Russian vessels sailed to Cuba on Wednesday after conducting "high-precision missile weapons" training in the Atlantic Ocean, Russia's defence ministry said on Wednesday. The submarine and frigate carry Zircon hypersonic missiles, Kalibr cruise missiles and Onyx anti-ship missiles, the ministry said.

Cuba said last week that the visit was standard practice by naval vessels from countries friendly to Havana. The communist-run government's foreign ministry said the fleet carried no nuclear weapons, something echoed by

US officials.

The US has been monitoring the Russian vessels as they skirted the nearby Florida coast, but has said they pose no threat. White House national security adviser Jake Sullivan told reporters on Wednesday such naval exercises were routine.

"We have seen this kind of thing before and we expect to see this kind of thing again, and I'm not going to read into it any particular motives," Sullivan said. He added that there was no evidence of Russia transferring any missiles to Cuba, but the US would remain vigilant. "We do not expect anything like that to occur."

Havana is just 100 miles from Key West, Florida, home to a US Naval Air Station. The timing of the visit — as the Biden administra-

tion ponders how far to go in helping defend Ukraine against Russia — suggests more than "standard practice," said William Leogrande, a professor at American University.

"The visiting Russian warships are Putin's way of reminding Biden that Moscow can challenge Washington in its own sphere of influence," Leogrande said.

The stopover coincides with Cuba's worst social and economic crisis in decades, with shortages of everything from food, medicine and fuel and growing discontent on the streets.

"This [...] has echoes of the Cold War, but unlike the first Cold War, the Cubans are drawn to Moscow not by ideological affinity but by economic necessity," Leogrande said.



JEHLUM: Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi offering prayer after the funeral of the martyrs of Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF).

### Record 120 million people forcibly displaced globally: UNITED NATIONS (UN)

UNITED NATIONS (INP): A staggering total of 120 million people are living forcibly displaced by war, violence and persecution, the UN said Thursday, branding the ever-increasing number a "terrible indictment on the state of the world".

The United Nations' refugee agency UNHCR said forced displacement globally had once again smashed records, with conflicts in places like Gaza, Sudan and Myanmar forcing even more people to flee their homes.

The global displaced population is now equivalent to that of Japan, it pointed out in a statement.

"Conflict remains a very, very big driver of mass displacement," UN refugee chief Filippo

Grandi told reporters.

At the end of last year, 117.3 million people were displaced, UNHCR said in a report.

And by the end of April, the number had swelled further, with an estimated 120 million people around the world living in displacement.

The number is up from 110 million a year ago, and has been rising for 12 consecutive years — nearly tripling since 2012 amid a combination of new and mutating crises and a failure to resolve long-standing ones, UNHCR said.

Grandi told media he had been shocked at the high displacement figure when he took the job eight years ago.

Since then it has "more than doubled", he said, describing this as "a terrible indictment on the

state of the world".

Grandi pointed to a palpable increase in crises, and also highlighted how climate change is impacting population movement and driving conflicts.

UNHCR last year declared 43 emergencies across 29 countries — more than four times what was common just a few years ago, he told reporters.

In particular, Grandi noted "the way conflicts are conducted... in complete disregard of international law, and often with the specific purpose of terrorising people". "This of course is a powerful contributor to more displacement," Grandi acknowledged there currently seemed to be little hope of bucking the trend.

"Unless there is a

shift in international geopolitics, unfortunately, I actually see the figure continuing to go up," he said.

Of the 117.3 million displaced at the end of 2023, 68.3 million people were internally displaced within their own country, Thursday's report showed. The number of refugees and others in need of international protection meanwhile climbed to 43.4 million, it said. UNHCR countered the perception that all refugees and other migrants go to wealthy countries. "The vast majority of refugees are hosted in countries neighbouring their own, with 75 percent residing in low- and middle-income countries that together produce less than 20 percent of the world's income," it said.

### Hezbollah fires most rockets yet in war after Israel kills a top commander

GAZA (INP): Hezbollah fired the most rockets it has launched in Israel in a single day since cross-border hostilities broke out eight months ago, as part of its retaliation on Wednesday for an Israeli strike which killed a senior Hezbollah field commander.

Hezbollah and Israel have been trading

fire since the eruption of the Gaza war in October, in steadily intensifying hostilities that have fuelled concern of a bigger confrontation between the heavily armed adversaries.

The Israeli strike in the south Lebanon village of Jouaiyya late on Tuesday killed three Hezbollah fighters along-

side the senior field commander Taleb Abdallah, also known as Abu Taleb, Israel and three security sources in Lebanon said.

He was the most senior Hezbollah commander killed during eight months of hostilities, one of the sources said.

The Israeli military

confirmed that it had killed him as well as the three other Hezbollah fighters in a strike on a command and control centre.

The sources in Lebanon said he was Hezbollah's commander for the central region of the southern border strip. Hezbollah said it carried out at least 17.

### Common man, business community not satisfied with budget: Shahid Rasheed

ISLAMABAD, June 13 (INP): Former president of the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), Dr. Shahid Rasheed Butt has termed the overall budget as disappointing saying that it hasn't fulfilled the expectations of common man and business community.

In a statement issued here on Thursday, he said that there were nothing in the budget 2024-25 to improve the economy and many important reforms had been ignored.

Shahid Rasheed Butt further stated that getting tough on non-filers will affect the economy while eliminating tax exemptions on

industries in FATA will save fifty billion rupees.

He said that in the current situation, a 3.6 percent growth rate and a 38% increase in revenue seems impossible.

The business leader was of the view that the budget will not be able to cure the economic problems and the country will continue to be run on debt.

The budget has done nothing to control inflation, revive investment, or bring the underground economy into the mainstream, he observed.

Shahid Rasheed Butt said that exports have not been encouraged much, to the dismay of exporters.

However, removing

tax concessions for the erstwhile FATA and PATA industries is a positive step in reducing smuggling.

Hundreds of factories in the rest of the country will start running, and the revenue will increase by at least fifty billion rupees, but exemptions to the tune of 3.9 trillion rupees are still intact.

The 2.25 percent advance tax on wholesalers and retailers will only affect registered manufacturers and will increase the prices the public will bear. Registered businesses will find it difficult to compete with those selling smuggled and unregistered products.

The former ICCI president said that the salaries of federal employees have been increased, which was a good step.

The wages of provincial employees will also increase, and it will impact the private sector, but it will also increase inflation and business costs.

Shahid Rasheed said that no suggestion has been made in the budget to stop intelligent people from leaving the country, and no attempt has been made to increase investment.

This time, too, the budget has tried to give all possible facilities to the elite while further squeezing the public.



ISLAMABAD: Former Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Managing Director Pakistan Sweet Homes Zamurad Khan, Ambassador of the Philippines Maria Agnes Cervantes, Heads of Missions of the ASEAN countries cutting cake to celebrate the National Day of the Philippines at local hotel.



ISLAMABAD: Zamurad Khan (Hila-4 Imtaz) addressing the audience on the occasion of Blood Donor Day at PIMS Hospital.

**TENDER NOTICE**

TSE-232406481123 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 BPPRA GOB. The EXECUTIVE ENGINEER BELA IRRIGATION DIV: invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates.

Tender Fee Rs. 3000/- and Bid Security 4%

S.No	Name of Work	E/Cost
1	CONSTRUCTION OF PACQAMORFOR FOR THE FARMERS OF NAKAIOHARRALI, CHOOR, SONWANI DAMS WINDER.	14,000,000

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Payer List. The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required. The bidder must have completed 1 Assignment of similar nature of work. Turn over of at least 8,000,000 PKR Amount in subsequent previous years, showing financial capacity of the firm. Registration with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) C-6 and above (Up to 25 million) (Relevant Category And Specialized Code is CED4(i) (Irrigation & Flood Control Systems), CED4(v) (Irrigation Only). Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage One Envelope Bidding Procedure. Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Guarantee, Deposit at Call of 4% specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the under-signed 3,000 PKR Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 27 June, 2024 during office hours on working days. Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted latest by 27 June, 2024 at 11:00 AM. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the under-signed at 12:00 PM. Address: RCD Highway Uthal. Phone no: 0653920272. Fax no: 0653920272. Email: gmbadiri@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IRRIGATION DIVISION BELA AT UTHAL

PRQ No.2990/13-06-2024

**TENDER NOTICE**

TSE-232406481743 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 BPPRA GOB. The EXECUTIVE ENGINEER BELA IRRIGATION DIV: invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2018 on Percentage Rates.

Tender Fee Rs. 3500/- and Bid Security 4%

S.No	Name of Work	E/Cost
1	Flood Protection (Bund) Raising Wall For Goth Mr Muhammad Jamol Sarbanan Uthal District. Uthal.	43,000,000

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2014. Eligibility of Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Payer List. The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required. The bidder must have completed 3 Assignment of similar nature of work. Turn over of at least 31,500,000 PKR Amount in 3 subsequent previous years, showing financial capacity of the firm. Registration with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) C-6 and above (Up to 95 million) (Relevant Category And Specialized Code is CED4(i) (Irrigation & Flood Control Systems), CED4(v) (Irrigation Only). Procedure Of Procurement: Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure. Bid Security: The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Guarantee, Deposit at Call of 4% specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. Tender Documents: The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the under-signed 3,500 PKR Issuance of tender Documents: From the date of publication of NIT to 28 June, 2024 during office hours on working days. Last Date of bid submission: The Tenders must be submitted latest by 28 June, 2024 at 11:00 AM. Tender opening: All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the under-signed at 12:00 PM. Address: RCD Highway Uthal. Phone no: 0653920272. Fax no: 0653920272. Email: gmbadiri@gmail.com

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IRRIGATION DIVISION BELA AT UTHAL

PRQ No.2998/13-06-2024

## TTP's Attempt to Establish Centers in Balochistan Foiled: (CTD)

Mauan Mandokhail:

QUETTA: Law enforcement agencies and the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) of Balochistan have successfully thwarted an attempt by the banned terrorist organization Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) to establish its centers in Balochistan, the CTD Spokesman said on Thursday.

Recent intelligence revealed that the most dangerous and wanted terrorist commander, a Shura member, had reached Balochistan with the aim of setting up a terrorist network, he informed.

Further investigation exposed a complex network involving both local and foreign terrorists. Acting on this critical information, the CTD and law enforcement agencies have launched a comprehensive operation against the network. This operation is expected to lead to the arrest of key



terrorists and the detention of several facilitators, he revealed.

All the gathered information has been thoroughly verified, and additional intelligence continues to be obtained. Officials are confident that the main terrorists of the group will soon be apprehended and brought to justice.

Due to the ongoing opera-

tion, terrorists' plans have been significantly disrupted, preventing them from achieving their malicious objectives. The law enforcement agencies are employing their full professionalism and expertise to ensure the success of this mission and maintain peace and security in the province, he said.

## Police Constable Martyred In Quetta Attack

Staff Reporter:

QUETTA: In a tragic incident, a police constable was martyred in a firing incident in Quetta's Nawan Killi area. According to police sources, the assailants opened fire on the constable and managed to escape the scene. The victim, identified as Zia ur Rehman, succumbed to his injuries.

The incident has prompted an immediate investigation by the police. Zia ur Rehman was rushed to a nearby hospital, where medical staff confirmed his passing.



Law enforcement agencies have launched a manhunt to capture the culprits responsible for this heinous act.

The police are appealing to the public for any information that might assist in apprehending the attackers.

The martyrdom of Constable Zia ur Rehman has sparked outrage and grief within the community and the police force. Authorities are determined to bring the perpetrators to justice and ensure the safety and security of the area.

## Major Drug Bust in Dalbandin: SP Chagai Vows to Eradicate Drug Dens

Riaz Baloch:

CHAGHAI: As a part of the continued crackdown against drug-related crime, the Superintendent of Police (SP) Chagai, Hussain Ahmed Lehri, alongside SHO Dalbandin Abdul Sattar Muhammad Hosni and other officials, announced the successful raid of notorious drug dens in Dalbandin city. Addressing a press conference, the officials revealed that a substantial amount of drugs and weapons were seized during the operation. Two key drug dealers, Maqsood and Ali Ahmed, managed to escape but are expected to be apprehended soon. Ali Ahmed, who is serving a 25-year prison sentence, is known for running a prominent drug den in the area.

Additionally, a raid was conducted at the base of a female drug dealer named Hijani in Faisal Colony, leading to her arrest. SP Chagai emphasized that these individuals are a blight on the community of Dalbandin and will face stringent action without exception. He stated, "The administra-



tion does not care about the protection or status of these drug dealers because they have no respect in society. They stay in their homes, self-intoxicate, and lead our youth into addiction."

The officials urged the public and media to collaborate with law enforcement to identify and target those who use houses in densely populated areas for illegal drug activities. SP Chagai reiterated,

"There will be no compromise

on drug peddlers and street crime. Together with the people of the area, we will suppress these crimes."

The successful raid and continued efforts to dismantle drug networks reflect the administration's commitment to restoring safety and order in Dalbandin. The law enforcement agencies are determined to bring all perpetrators to justice and safeguard the future of the community's youth.

## SECP issues ESG Disclosure Guidelines, strengthens Code of Corporate Governance

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) has taken a major stride towards promoting responsible business practices and environmental stewardship with the issuance of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Voluntary Disclosure Guidelines for listed companies.

Furthermore, amendments in Listed Companies (Code of Corporate Governance) Regulations, 2019 (Corporate Governance Regulations) have been made to strengthen oversight responsibilities of the board regarding sustainability priorities.

The issuance of ESG Guidelines marks the achievement of a key milestone under the SECP's ESG regulatory roadmap issued in 2022. These Guidelines, voluntary in nature and in alignment with globally recognized sustainability reporting frameworks provide

baseline guidance to listed companies. Other companies are also encouraged to adopt the Guidelines. It has been ensured that the Guidelines encourage transparent disclosures under the E, S and G pillars such as environmental impact, social responsibility practices and effective corporate governance structures. Companies are also provided the autonomy to disclose their ESG performance through a separate sustainability report, integrate the ESG information into their existing annual report, or publish it directly on their website.

Additionally, in order to ensure a safe and respectful work environment, the SECP has introduced significant amendments in the Corporate Governance Regulations requiring listed companies to develop comprehensive anti-harassment policies and ensuring compliance with relevant Gov-

ernment legislation of Protection Against Harassment of Women at the Workplace Act, 2010. Further, the boards of listed companies have been made accountable for setting sustainability priorities for companies, by proposing formation of sustainability committee and alignment with the SECP's ESG Disclosure Guidelines.

The SECP actively pursued a consultative approach for finalizing the ESG Guidelines and amendments in Corporate Governance Regulations to incorporate feedback of all key stakeholders.

The ESG Disclosure Guidelines and amendments in Code of Corporate Governance are now available on the SECP website at <https://www.secp.gov.pk/document/secp-esg-disclosure-guidelines-for-listed-companies>.

The Notification to amendments in the Code of Corporate Governance is available.



ISLAMABAD: Mr. Mohamed Yahya the United Nations Resident newly designated Coordinator in Pakistan paid a courtesy call on Federal Minister for Planning Development & Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal in his office.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif meet President of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (F), Maulana Fazal Ur Rehman at his residence. INP

## Fiscal year 2024-25 budget adjusts income tax rates: salaried class faces changes

ISLAMABAD (INP): The budget for the fiscal year 2024-25 has introduced significant adjustments to income tax rates, affecting various brackets of the salaried class.

Under the new budget, individuals earning a monthly income of Rs 50,000 or less have been exempted from income tax, providing relief to lower-income earners.

For those earning between Rs 600,000 and Rs 1.2 million annually, the income tax rate has been reduced to 5%. Similarly, the tax on monthly incomes up to Rs

100,000 has also been set at 5%, with the monthly tax

increased from Rs 1,250 to Rs 2,500.

Individuals earning between Rs 1.2 million and Rs 2.2 million annually will now face a 15% income tax rate. This translates to a tax rate of 15% for those earning Rs 183,344 per month,

up from Rs 11,667 to Rs 15,000 per month.

Those with annual incomes ranging from Rs 2.2 million to Rs 3.2 million will be taxed at a rate of 25%. For example, individuals earning Rs 267,667 per month

will now pay 25% tax, increased from Rs 28,770 to Rs 35,834 per month.

The highest tax bracket, applying a 30% rate, affects individuals earning between Rs 3.2 million and Rs 4.1 million annually.

This translates to a monthly tax of Rs 53,333 for those earning up to Rs 341,667 per month, increased from Rs 47,408. Furthermore, a 35% tax rate will be applied to annual salaries

exceeding Rs 4.1 million. These changes reflect the government's efforts to streamline income tax structures while ensuring equitable contributions from different income groups towards national development.

## Next budget revolves around five key principles: Aurangzeb

ISLAMABAD (INP): Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb has stated that budget for the next fiscal year revolves around five principles, including

widening tax base and digitizing economy.

Addressing the post budget news conference in Islamabad on Thursday, he said implementing a progressive income tax regime, eliminating non-filers, and

protecting low-income groups are other points emphasized in the budget.

The Finance Minister said below ten percent tax to GDP ratio is not sustainable. He emphasized enhancing it to thirteen percent in the next three years.

Muhammad Aurangzeb announced that tax on retailers and wholesalers will be applicable from the 1st of July. He said the Federal Board of Revenue has so far

registered thirty one thousand retailers and the process of registration will continue.

Muhammad Aurangzeb said end to end digitization in

FBR is aimed at minimizing human intervention and improving transparency and client service.

He said nobody should have any objection on progressive income tax as the affluent class needs to pay more taxes.

The Finance Minister said that tax has been enhanced on business transactions of the non-filers. He said this is the first step towards doing away with non-filers in the country.

Replying to a question, the Finance Minister said record allocations have been made for the IT sector to facilitate IT exports and youth in their startups.

Regarding the Small and Medium Enterprises, he said banks are back to finance SME's, IT and agriculture sectors.

Answering another question, Muhammad Aurangzeb said 81 percent of Public Sector Development Programme spending has been reserved for ongoing projects, while rest of the amount will go for new projects.

The Finance Minister said all the stakeholders including the allied parties are being taken on board on the privatization process. He said transactions regarding the privatization of PIA and outsourcing of Islamabad Airport will be completed by August. He said this will follow the outsourcing of Lahore and Karachi airports.

Regarding relief measures, Minister of State for Finance Ali Pervaiz Malik said significant allocations have been made in this respect under the Benazir Income Support Programme. Similarly, the largest chunk of subsidies will go for power sector to facilitate electricity consumers, including the protected customers using up to 200 units.

The Minister of State further said additional amount has been reserved for the Utility Stores Corporation to provide essential kitchen items to the deserving people at subsidized rates. The Minister of State said there is no tax on the employees earning up to fifty thousand rupees.



ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb addressed the media persons at the Post Budget 2024-25 Press Conference along with Minister of State for Finance & Revenue Mr. Ali Pervaiz Malik.

## Speakers discuss Gender-based violence, legislation in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, June 13 (INP): The speakers on Thursday said that the level of discrimination and marginalisation prevalent in the society was more owing to the adverse impact of culture, and the medieval mores of patriarchy that spike up gender-based violence in the contexts of sexual, psychological and physical realms with no legislation and good governance that can control it.

A Roundtable Conference on "Gender-Based Violence and Legislation in Pakistan," was conducted by Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) in Collaboration with Chief Commissioner Office Islamabad, on Wednesday and was participated by Additional Commissioner and Director

Women Development Islamabad Administration, Nishaa Ishtiaq; Valeria Khan of ASF; DIG Operations Islamabad Syed Mustafa Tauveer; Nabeela Malick, chairperson INGAD; and Hafiz Ahsan Khokhar, lawyer, a news release said. President IPRI Dr Ambassador Raza Muhammad opened the debate by highlighting the importance that Islam has laid on gender equality, and the values that Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) preached in terms of women empowerment.

It was underscored that there are a plethora of laws to deal with any of the eventualities in terms of violence in the gender proximity, but either they lack implementation mechanisms or

the will of the concerned administrations.

It was pointed out that laws are free from gender contextualisation, and anyone either it is a woman or a man can be a victim of abuse and violence, and the law is equally applicable.

The roundtable delegates agreed that violence exists in our society, and cannot be denied under any assumptions.

The scale of domestic violence, it was noted, is mostly under reported, and women at times shy away from standing out to be recognised fearing reprisal. This phenomenon can only be checked by educating the society and creating more awareness in strata across the board.



Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti

Our government is fully committed to constructing dams across Balochistan to regulate the water table and ensure a sustainable water supply. These initiatives will significantly improve the socio-economic conditions of our people, fostering growth and development in our region. By harnessing and storing rainwater, we can prevent its wastage and utilize it for agricultural and domestic purposes. The construction of these dams will create jobs and boost local economies, providing much-needed relief to our rural communities. Together, we can transform Balochistan into a region of prosperity and stability.

Construction of Gish Kaur Storage Dam, Kech (SB)

Location	The proposed dam site is located on Gishkaur River, some 53.8 kms from Turbat city, which is the district Headquarters. The coordinates of the dam site are Longitudes 26° 5' 17.8" North Latitudes 69° 29' 36.2" East
Approved Cost	11,789.59 Million (Provincial Share Rs. 254.17 Million)
Expenditure up to 30-06-2023	2050.0 Million
Allocation 2023-24	3500.0 Million
Release 2023-24	900.0 Million
Expenditure 2023-24	900.0 Million
Total Expenditure up to date	2950.0 Million
Overall Financial Progress	25.00 % (Advance Mobilisation 15.0% paid to contractor)
Overall Physical Progress	35.0 %
Dam Type	Zoned Earth-Fill
Catchment Area	5749.2 Sq.Km
Height	95 M
Dam Length	1200 M
Gross Storage	794500 Acre Ft
Spillway	Labyrinth Type

Construction of Gish Kaur Storage Dam, Kech (SB)

Spillway Width	360 m
Design Discharge	2931.50 m <sup>3</sup> /s or 103525 Cusec
Outlet Structure	RCC Intake Tower
Designed Discharge	83 Cusecs
Irrigation System	348 Km
Command Area	13800 Acres
Provision of Drinking Water Availability	0.075 MCM will be available for Turbat City and adjacent villages
Project Duration	04 Years
Dam Life	54 Years

After the completion of this project the water table will increase and there is a provision of 0.075 MCM water for drinking to Turbat city and surrounding areas. By this the intensity of boring will be reduce. Also by this project the life of Mirani dam will be increase because Gishkaur dam is being constructed on the upper side of the mirani dam and the initial flow of flood water having maximum silt first will enter in Gishkaur dam. Reservoir after that will flow to mirani dam with minimum silt. By this the life of mirani dam will be increase.

DAMS FOR PROSPERITY: TRANSFORMING BALOCHISTAN'S WATER FUTURE



BALOCHISTAN IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT



Irrigation Minister, Mir Sadiq Umrani

Building dams in Balochistan is a top priority for our government to address the critical issue of water scarcity. These dams will play a crucial role in managing the water table, ensuring that our agriculture sector thrives even in dry seasons. By capturing and storing rainwater, we can reduce wastage and ensure its optimal use for irrigation and other needs. This project is not just about water conservation; it is about improving the livelihoods of our people and driving socio-economic development. Our commitment to this cause is unwavering, and we are dedicated to seeing it through.



Secretary Irrigation, Hafiz Abdul Majid

The initiative to build dams in Balochistan is a monumental step towards securing our water resources and enhancing the quality of life for our citizens. These dams will effectively check the water table, providing a reliable water source throughout the year. By preventing the wastage of rainwater, we can ensure it is available for vital uses, such as agriculture and daily consumption. This project will stimulate socio-economic growth, creating opportunities and improving the standard of living for many. Our focus remains steadfast on delivering these benefits to the people of Balochistan, ensuring a brighter and more sustainable future.

Project Benefits (primarily aimed at achieving conservation of flood water resources)

- The direct benefit of this project is to tap 53,000 Acre-Ft of flood water, which was otherwise wasted.
- Provide irrigation water to 12,500 acres of arid land for improved agricultural development through sustained and regulated irrigation.
- Other ancillary benefits include flood mitigation, provision of drinking water for the population in the command, groundwater recharge, fisheries production, creation of recreation facility, socio-economic uplift and poverty reduction in the area.
- Drinking water supply for Kharan City has been estimated @ 20 gallon /capita per day through a pipe network. This amounts to annual drinking water supply of 1,738 million gallons to local population & Kharan Town for a total projected population of 216,437 persons.
- The provision of drinking water supply shall complement as an additional reliable source of fresh water to the existing drinking water wells tapping the already receding ground water table.
- The fish production is estimated to be 26 tonnes per year on an average.



Construction of Gish Kaur Storage Dam, Kech



SECURING WATER, BOOSTING LIVES: THE IMPACT OF NEW DAMS IN BALOCHISTAN



- Direct employment during present stage is around 450 persons, whereas the indirect employment is expected to boost at around 8,950 persons.
- **GROUND WATER WITHIN THE KHARAN CITY AND PERIPHERY** is not available due to the geological formation of the area, comprising clayey deposits, except some places, where salinity of the water is too high to be fit for drinking. The overall quality of the available ground water is marginal.
- Overuse of groundwater resources for agriculture and drinking purpose have led to the depletion of the local aquifers. As a result, the water table has lowered, average of 80ft in a half decade period from 120ft to 200ft.
- The Ground water within the Kharan town is not suitable for drinking purpose, and is conveyed from 3 to 5 km, similar situation exists in the villages of Kharan.
- The number of active tubewells of PHE Department, pumping out water from surrounding of Kharan are 38, along with a number of community and private tube wells supplying potable water to the beneficiaries of the area.
- Average annual O&M and Electricity Budget of Kharan is more than Rs. 100 Million.
- Almost 3500 to 4000 tube wells have been dug to draw water for both agriculture



COMMUNICATION & WORKS DEPARTMENT

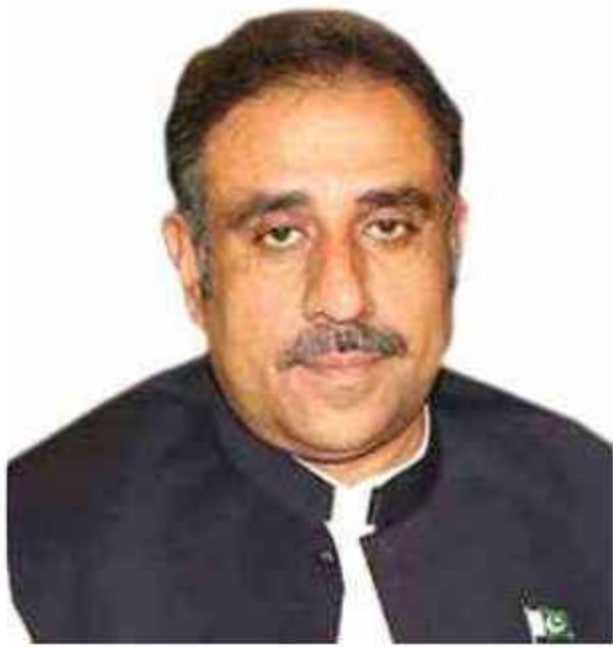
CONNECTING BALOCHISTAN: ROADS PAVING THE WAY TO PROGRESS

GOVERNMENT OF BALOCHISTAN  
COMMUNICATION, WORKS, PHYSICAL PLANNING  
& HOUSING DEPARTMENT  
DEPARTMENTAL BRIEFING



CONNECTING BALOCHISTAN:  
ROADS PAVING THE WAY TO PROGRESS

EMPOWERING CONNECTIVITY, BUILDING FUTURES



Communication and Works  
Minister, Saleem Khan Khoso

The construction of new roads in Balochistan is a testament to our commitment to enhance connectivity and improve the quality of life for our people. By linking remote areas with major cities, we are opening up new opportunities for trade, education, and healthcare. These roads will not only reduce isolation but also stimulate economic growth, creating jobs and boosting local economies. Improved infrastructure will attract investment and facilitate the efficient movement of goods and services. We are dedicated to building a robust transportation network that supports the sustainable development of Balochistan.



Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir  
Sarfraz Bugti

Our government is dedicated to constructing new roads that will link all the far-flung areas of Balochistan, fostering greater connectivity and accessibility. This ambitious infrastructure project is key to improving the socio-economic development of our province, enabling better access to markets, education, and healthcare. By reducing travel time and transportation costs, we will facilitate economic activities and boost local businesses. The new roads will also promote tourism, showcasing the natural beauty and cultural heritage of Balochistan. Our commitment is to ensure that no region is left behind as we pave the way for a brighter, more connected future.



Secretary C&W Balochistan, Lal Jan Jaffar

Our mission to construct new roads throughout Balochistan is a crucial step towards connecting our diverse regions and promoting socio-economic development. These roads will bridge the gap between urban centers and remote areas, ensuring that all citizens have access to essential services and opportunities. By enhancing transportation infrastructure, we aim to reduce travel times, lower costs, and improve safety for all commuters. This project will also encourage economic activities, from agriculture to commerce, fostering a thriving and inclusive economy. We are fully committed to realizing this vision, ensuring a well-connected and



BRIDGING DISTANCES:  
TRANSFORMING LIVES WITH NEW ROADS IN BALOCHISTAN

Federal Funded Road Projects



ALMO CHOWK



CHALLENGES

- Imposition of BAN on CFY PSDP due to General Elections
- Imbalance release of Allocated funds of on-going schemes
- Price hiking and inflation in recent past years on on-going schemes. No mechanism formulated in CSR / Approvals to accommodate inflation / price increases. This creates significant challenges in maintaining successful execution of projects
- Inadequate financial coverage of schemes within the approved timeframe. This results in non completion, delay, cost increase, court litigations, stakeholders disappointments etc.
- Inadequate funds / with held releases for Roads Maintenance.
- Distribution of mandate of CWPP&H department as per Rules of Business 2012 to various departments without appropriate approval of the Government.
- Shortage / illegal occupation of Residential & Non-Residential Accommodations in fields.



HIGHWAYS TO PROSPERITY:  
BOOSTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC GROWTH IN BALOCHISTAN



## GREENING BALOCHISTAN: SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Balochistan's Agricultural Renaissance: Government Initiatives & Research Achievements

### Empowering Growers, Enhancing Lives

The present government has undertaken various initiatives to promote the agriculture sector, addressing the grievances of the grower community. With over 70% of our population relying on agriculture, we are dedicated to improving their socio-economic conditions through targeted programs and innovative research.

### GREEN GROWTH: THE VITAL ROLE OF AGRICULTURE IN BALOCHISTAN'S DEVELOPMENT

**Tomato & Onion Innovations** Our Agriculture Research Institute has developed high-yield varieties like Shalkot and Bolan-19 for tomatoes, and Chiltan-89, Chiltan Red, Sariab Surkh, and Quetta Red for onions. These advancements promise enhanced productivity and resilience, **Pioneering Vegetable Varieties** We've introduced standout varieties in vegetables, including Liza Red carrots, Surkhah turnips, Bolan-90 spinach, and Sarawan eggplants. Additionally, Harboi White radish, Hazarganji okra, and Maran peas have been developed, bringing diversity and improved crop quality to our fields.

**Breakthroughs in Grains & Pulses** Our research has yielded exceptional wheat varieties such as Aghaz, Khosa, Umeed-e-Khas, Umeed, Raskoh, Zarlashita, Sariab, Zardana, and Makai-e-Khas. Recommended maize varieties include Noor, Shan, Armia, Hadaf, and Sarsabz. For rice, we endorse IRRI-6, IRRI-8, KS-282, DR-82, and GYN-53, ensuring robust yields in diverse conditions.

### HARVESTING PROSPERITY: AGRICULTURE AS THE BACKBONE OF BALOCHISTAN'S ECONOMY

For apples, we've recommended early-season cultivars like Anna, Modial Gala, Summer Red, Katja, Tydesman, Early Gold, and Kidds Orange. Mid-season varieties include Golden, Top Spur, Starkermesen, Bel Gold, Starking Delicious, and Red Delicious. Late-season apples such as Ped Chief, Dixi Red, New Golden Delicious, Ultra Red, Somothech, Bluish Golden, Dilbur Jubilee, and Braeburn highlight our year-round productivity efforts. **Oilseeds & Specialty Crops** In sunflower, Hysun, Suncross, and Baimisal lead the way, while Dunkled and Bulbul are top canola varieties. We recommend S-9, Poorbiraya, Yellow Raya, and B.M-1 for mustard. Our sesame varieties—S-17, P-19,

### SOWING SUCCESS: HOW AGRICULTURE FUELS BALOCHISTAN'S FUTURE

**Pipeline Projects** Our ongoing research promises future breakthroughs with upcoming varieties like Dusht Pink onion, Raskoh Sweet muskmelon, Takatu tomato, and Kech-I broad bean. These innovations are set to revolutionize agriculture in Balochistan. Join us in celebrating these milestones that drive Balochistan's agricultural prosperity and sustainable growth.



Message from Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfaraz Bugti

As the Chief Minister of Balochistan, I am deeply committed to revitalizing our agriculture sector, recognizing it as the backbone of our economy. Our government is prioritizing investments in modern irrigation systems, high-quality seeds, and sustainable farming practices. We aim to empower our farmers with the latest technologies and resources to boost productivity. Together, we will ensure food security, create jobs, and enhance the livelihoods of our rural communities. Balochistan's agricultural renaissance is underway, and our future is bright.



Message from Agriculture Minister Balochistan, Ali Madad Jattak

As Agriculture Minister, I am dedicated to fostering an environment where our farmers can thrive. Our primary focus is on introducing innovative agricultural techniques and expanding access to credit and financial services for farmers. We are also launching training programs to educate farmers on climate-resilient practices and crop diversification. By prioritizing these initiatives, we aim to increase agricultural output and ensure a sustainable future for Balochistan. The prosperity of our agriculture sector is essential for the overall development of our province.



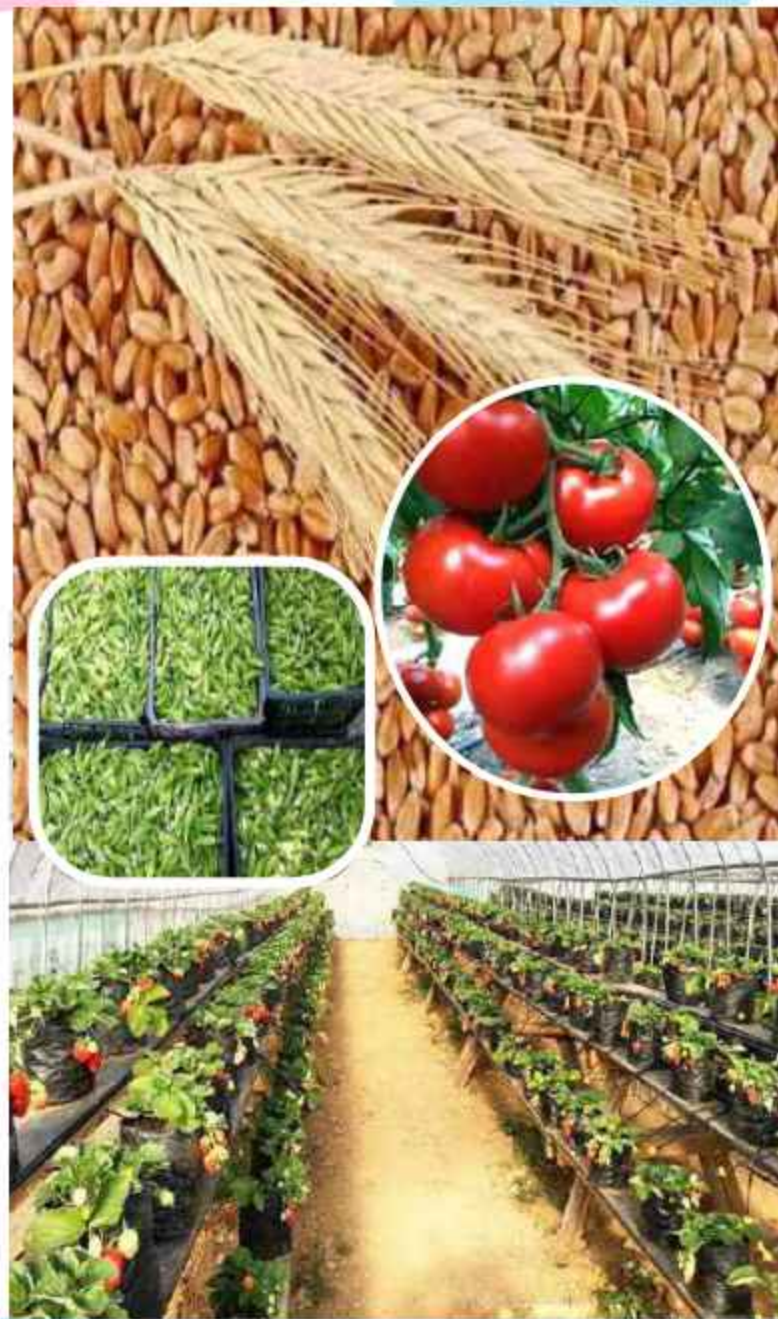
Message from Secretary of Agriculture, Dawood Bazai

In my capacity as Secretary of Agriculture, I am proud to support the government's strategic vision for the agriculture sector in Balochistan. Our efforts are centered around enhancing supply chain efficiencies, improving market access for farmers, and promoting organic farming. We are also committed to addressing water scarcity through advanced irrigation techniques and infrastructure development. By aligning our policies with the needs of our farmers, we aim to achieve significant growth and stability in the agriculture sector. Together, we are building a robust agricultural foundation for the prosperity of Balochistan.

### Project Components.

The project will achieve its objectives through execution of the following components:-

1. Date Plant Panjur including date processing and grading, cold store & value addition of Dates
2. Agro-Market Development Including Cold Store and value addition of Dates in Panjur
3. Agro-Market Development Including Cold Store, Processing, Grading Packing of Vegetables in Hub
4. Agro-Market Development Including Cold Store, Processing, Grading Packing of Vegetables in Uthal
5. Agro-Market Development Including Cold Store, Processing, Grading Packing of Vegetables in Kharan
6. Agro-Market Development Including Cold Store, Processing, Grading, Packing of Dates, Value addition of Onion in Awaran
7. Agro-Market Development Including Cold Store Processing, Grading, Packing of Dates, Value addition of Onion in Washuk
8. Establishment of Cold Store, Processing, Grading, Packaging of Vegetables facilities in Khuzdar
9. Establishment of Value addition of Date plant in Trubhat
10. Agro-Market Development Including Cold Store Facility in Gwadar
11. Agro-Market Development Including Cold Store Facility in Nushki
12. Agro-Market Development in Dalbandin
13. Agro-Market Development including Processing, Grading, Packaging, Value addition of Apples and Cold Storage Facility in Quetta
14. Agro-Market Development including Processing, Grading, Packaging, Value addition of Apples and Cold Storage Facility in Pishin
15. Agro-Market Development including Processing, Grading, Packaging of Apples and Cold Storage Facility in Killa-Abdullah
16. Agro-Market Development including Processing, Grading, Packaging of Apple and Cold Storage Facility in Kalat
17. Agro-Market Development including Cold Storage Facility in Khaliq-Abad
18. Agro-Market Development including Processing, Grading, Packaging and value addition of Apples in Killa-Saifullah
19. Agro-Market Development including Processing, Grading, Packaging and value addition of Apples in Zhob
20. Agro-Market Development including Processing, Grading, Packaging and value addition of Apples in Mastung
21. Agro-Market Development including Processing, Grading, Packaging and value addition of Apples in Ziarat
22. Agro-Market Development including value addition of Apples in Loralai
23. Establishment of PMU

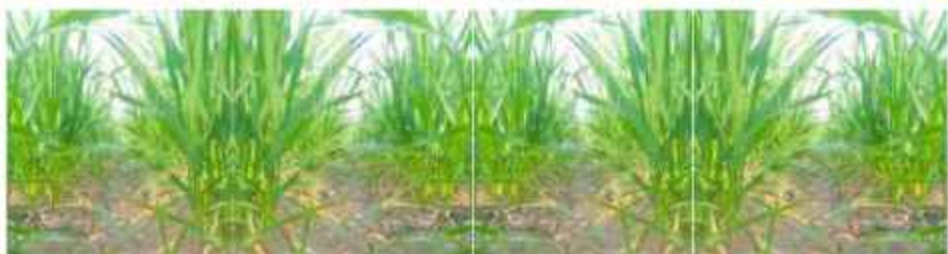


### UpToDate Progress of the Project: -

The execution of schemes of the project through remained slow at the onset however, with the advent of GPI and takeover of the projects by the Joint Cell, the pace of execution of the project increased. Currently the work on 13 sites is on-going and the progress is briefly outlined as under: -

- a) Advanced Stage of Completion:
1. Date Plant Panjur including date processing and grading, cold store & value addition of Dates
  2. Agro-Market Development Including Cold Store and value addition of Dates in Panjur
  3. Agro-Market Development Including Cold Store, Processing, Grading Packing of Vegetables in Hub
  4. Agro-Market Development Including Cold Store, Processing, Grading Packing of Vegetables in Uthal
  5. Agro-Market Development Including Cold Store, Processing, Grading Packing of Vegetables in Kharan
  6. Agro-Market Development including Processing, Grading, Packaging, Value addition of Apples and Cold Storage Facility in Quetta
  7. Agro-Market Development including Processing, Grading, Packaging, Value addition of Apples and Cold Storage Facility in Pishin
  8. Agro-Market Development including Processing, Grading, Packaging and value addition of Apples in Mastung
- b) Mid way to complete
9. Agro-Market Development Including Processing, Grading, Packing of Dates, Value addition of Onion & Cold Store in Awaran

10. Agro-Market Development including Processing, Grading, Packaging of Apples and Cold Storage Facility in Killa-Abdullah
  11. Agro-Market Development including Processing, Grading, Packaging of Apple and Cold Storage Facility in Kalat
  98. Initial stage of execution
  12. Agro-Market Development including Processing, Grading, Packaging and value addition of Apples in Killa-Saifullah
  13. Agro-Market Development including Processing, Grading, Packaging and value addition of Apples in Zhob
- Anticipated benefits of the project:
- Availability of 10,000 MTs of Cold Storage facilities in Southern Balochistan districts for Dates, Fruits and Vegetables.
  - Availability of 5,000 MTs of Cold Storage facilities in 5 apple growing districts
  - Facility for production of app: 150 MTs of Date Paste during each date fruiting season.
  - Availability of additional facilities for processing, grading of app: 3 million Kgs of dates during date fruiting season in Panjur, Awaran and Washuk.
  - Availability of app: 500 MTs of Onion drying and Frying facility in Awaran and Washuk
  - Availability of facility for processing and grading app: 3 million Kgs of vegetable and fruits in Kharan, Khuzdar, Uthal and Hub.
  - Availability of apple Juice and Jam Production facility with production capacity of 2000 Kgs per day.
  - Availability of facilities capable of apple grading, waxing and packing at a rate of 1000 Kgs per hour in 9 apple growing districts.
  - Direct benefit to app: 16000 apple, dates, onion and vegetable growing farm families of the project district.
  - Improved access to marketing facilities and regulated sale of agriculture produces.



BALUCHISTAN IRRIGATION DEPARTMENT



Secretary Irrigation, Hafiz Abdul Majid



Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti



Irrigation Minister, Mir Sadiq Umrani

GARUK DAM

The initiative to build dams in Balochistan is a monumental step towards securing our water resources and enhancing the quality of life for our citizens. These dams will effectively check the water table, providing a reliable water source throughout the year. By preventing the wastage of rainwater, we can ensure it is available for vital uses, such as agriculture and daily consumption. This project will stimulate socio-economic growth, creating opportunities and improving the standard of living for many. Our focus remains steadfast on delivering these benefits to the people of Balochistan, ensuring a brighter and more sustainable future.

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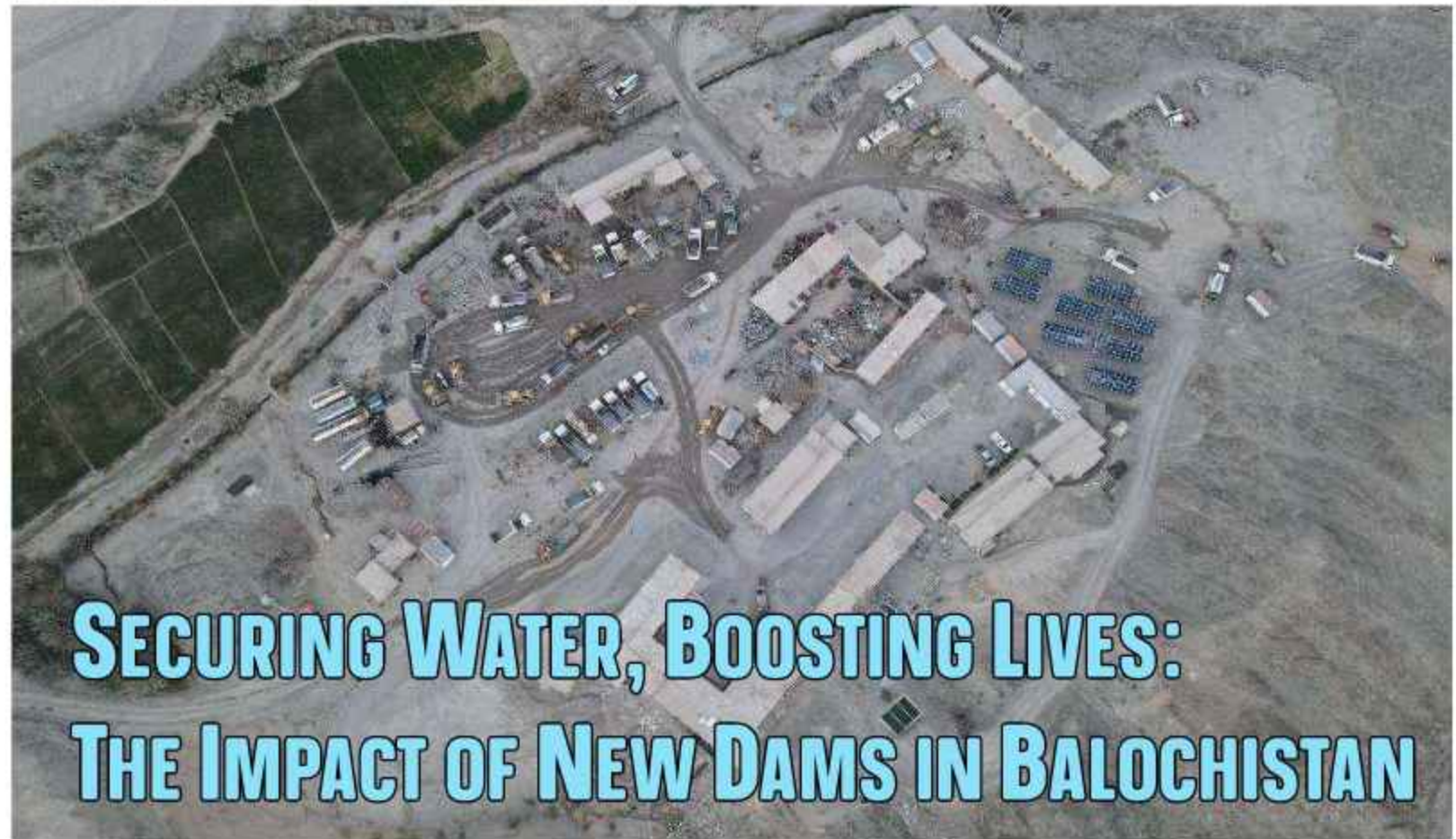
Project Benefits

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- Provide irrigation water to 12,500 acres of arid land for improved agricultural development through sustained and regulated irrigation.
- Other ancillary benefits include flood mitigation, provision of drinking water for the population in the command, groundwater recharge, fisheries production, creation of recreation facility, socio-economic uplift and poverty reduction in the area.
- Drinking water supply for Kharan City has been estimated @ 20 gallon /capita per day through a pipe network. This amounts to annual drinking water supply of 1,738 million gallons to local population & Kharan Town for a total projected population of 216,437 persons.
- The provision of drinking water supply shall complement as an additional reliable source of fresh water to the existing drinking water wells tapping the already receding ground water table.
- The fish production is estimated to be 26 tonnes per year on an average.
- The project development shall improve the rural economic growth by increasing the farming, livestock holding and trade sector.
- **DIRECT EMPLOYMENT DURING PRESENT STAGE IS AROUND 450 PERSONS, WHEREAS THE INDIRECT EMPLOYMENT IS EXPECTED TO BOOST AT AROUND 8,950 PERSONS.**
- Ground water within the Kharan city and periphery is not available due to the geological formation of the area, comprising clayey deposits, except some places, where salinity of the water is too high to be fit for drinking. The overall quality of the available ground water is marginal.
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DAMS FOR PROSPERITY: TRANSFORMING BALUCHISTAN'S WATER FUTURE



SECURING WATER, BOOSTING LIVES: THE IMPACT OF NEW DAMS IN BALUCHISTAN



HARNESSING RAINWATER: BALUCHISTAN'S PATH TO SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

