

QUETTA VOICE

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Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, in his address to the Balochistan High Court Bar Association

Man Shot Dead in Khuzdar's Wadh Tehsil

From Our Correspondent:

KHUZDAR: Armed men opened fire and killed one person in the Wadh Tehsil of Khuzdar district on Tuesday. The victim, identified as Haji Noor Ahmed Shahizai, was shot dead on the spot.



Police sources confirmed that Shahizai's body was shifted to a nearby hospital for a post-mortem. Authorities arrived at the scene shortly after the incident, but the assailants had already fled. So far, the motive behind the attack remains unclear, and the investigation is ongoing.

Punjab govt imposes Section 144 in Faisalabad, Bahawalpur, Mianwali ahead of planned PTI protests

PUNJAB: The Punjab government on Tuesday imposed Section 144(6) in Faisalabad, Bahawalpur and Mianwali, prohibiting all forms of public gathering as PTI prepared for a rally in the southern Punjab district.

PTI has carried out multiple rallies across the country, protesting against the "illegal" imprisonment of the party founder, EC's delay in following the Supreme Court verdict on the reserved seats and "save the constitution".

Each time, the government has issued a set of strict guidelines ahead of the rallies, sparking clashes between PTI workers and the authorities. Incarcerated PTI founder Imran Khan gave a fresh call for countrywide protests yesterday for the "independence of [the] judiciary", including a demonstration in Islamabad where all such gatherings are banned.

As per the PTI founder's announcement, the party will hold protests in Mianwali, Faisalabad, and Bahawalpur tomorrow.

Bilawal Calls for Constitutional Courts, Faces Criticism from BHC Bar President

Syed Ali Shah:

QUETTA: Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, in his address to the Balochistan High Court Bar Association, recalled the deep emotions he experienced when condoling with the legal community after the devastating terrorist attack in Quetta that claimed the lives of many lawyers. "I remember when tears ran down my face as I came to share the grief of a generation of lawyers lost," he said, emphasizing his connection with the people of Balochistan.

"I have not come from Lahore or Islamabad, I am one of you. We have been fighting this struggle at the cost of life for the last

three generations," he added. Bilawal criticized former Chief Justice of Pakistan, Ifrikhar Muhammad Chaudhary, and highlighted the sacrifices of PPP leaders who spent years behind bars for the supremacy of parliament and the constitution. He asserted that the lawyers' movement was a planned one, and lamented that his party could not form constitutional courts due to external pressures while signing the Charter of Democracy.

Bilawal stressed that parliamentary democracy offers solutions to societal issues, with the Senate ensuring fair representation for all provinces. He advocated for the formation of constitutional courts to safeguard democratic values. However, his proposal faced pushback from Afzal Harifal Advocate, President of the BHC Bar Association, who disagreed with the notion of parallel courts. He questioned why the idea of constitutional courts was raised now, before October 25, and not during the announcement of the Charter of Democracy in 2006 or the passage of the 18th Amendment.

Harifal urged the PPP Chairman to uphold the existing constitution and avoid creating parallel judicial systems.

Article 63-A verdict apparently intended to weaken no-confidence motions: CJP Isa

NEWS DESK: Chief Justice Qazi Faez Isa on Monday raised concerns over the inconsistent interpretation of Article 63-A, which governs the disqualification of lawmakers, during a Supreme Court hearing on review petitions related to the disqualification of defecting members of the National Assembly.

The chief justice called for adherence to the constitution's text, emphasising the need for clarity in the application of the law. Presiding over a five-member bench, Chief Justice Isa questioned the contradiction in rulings that suggest a lawmaker should be de-seated upon defection while also leaving it to Parliament to decide the duration of the disqualification.

"If the constitution clearly states that a disqualified member will be de-seated, then that is the action that must be followed," Isa said, highlighting that there should be no ambiguity in implementing the constitution's provisions.

The case revolves around Article 63-A, which deals with the disqualification of members of Parliament for defying party directions during critical votes. The Supreme Court is reviewing its earlier decision in the case, which ruled that the votes cast by dissenting lawmakers would not be counted, and left it to Parliament to legislate on the duration of their disqualification.

The hearing began with Barrister Ali Zafar, representing the petitioner, raising objections to the formation of the bench. He expressed concerns about the replacement of Justice Muneeb Akhtar with Justice Naeem Akhtar Afghan in the five-member bench. Chief Justice Isa assured the counsel that his concerns would be heard at a later stage in the proceedings, urging him to proceed with the arguments. Chief Justice Isa also stressed that the Supreme Court is operating transparently, with no decisions being made behind closed doors. "These days, nothing is happening behind closed doors in the Supreme Court. The larger bench is now complete, and we can begin the proceedings," he stated. During the hearing, Chief Justice Isa pointed out a significant contradiction in the previous ruling. He remarked that the decision to de-seat a lawmaker for defying



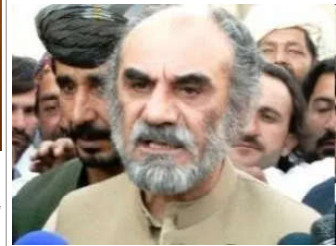
party directions should be straightforward, but the involvement of Parliament in determining the disqualification period adds complexity. He questioned how the decision-making process could be left to both the judiciary and Parliament, calling it a "clear contradiction." "On one hand, the ruling states that a defecting member should be de-seated, but on the other hand, it allows Parliament to decide the length of disqualification. This is contradictory," the Chief Justice said, arguing that the constitution's wording should be the sole basis for such decisions. The case has its roots in the presidential reference filed by President Arif Alvi in March 2022, during the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government.

Nawab Raisani Opposes New Assembly Hall Construction

Staff Reporter:

QUETTA: In a recent statement, former Chief Minister of Balochistan, Nawab Muhammad Aslam Raisani, expressed his strong opposition to the Balochistan government's decision to demolish the historic Assembly Hall and construct a new one. Raisani advised the government to renovate the existing building instead and allocate the proposed PKR 5 billion budget towards uplifting the social sector. He emphasized that this substantial amount should be invested in the welfare of the people, addressing critical needs such

as education, healthcare, and infrastructure development. The Balochistan government has decided to proceed with the demolition of the historic Assembly Hall, a move that has sparked significant debate and concern among various stakeholders. Raisani's stance highlights the importance of preserving historical landmarks while prioritizing the immediate needs of the population. His call for a more prudent allocation of resources resonates with many who believe that the welfare of the people should take precedence over new construction projects.



Balochistan to Reopen 3700 Schools with New Teacher Recruitment Drive

Syed Muhammad Qasem:

QUETTA: In a significant move to address the educational crisis, the Balochistan government has announced the recruitment of teachers on a contract basis to ensure the immediate functioning of 3,700 non-functional schools across the province. This initiative aims to revitalize the education sector, particularly in the districts of Pishin and Awaran, where the majority of schools have been closed. According to sources within the education department, the recruitment process has already commenced with the publication of advertisements inviting applications from aspiring candi-

dates. The Deputy Commissioners of all districts have been directed to ensure a merit-based and smooth recruitment process. So far, 40 schools have been successfully reopened in the Pishin district, marking the beginning of this ambitious project.

The government's swift action underscores its commitment to improving educational access and quality for the children of Balochistan. This development is expected to bring a positive change in the region, providing much-needed educational opportunities and fostering a brighter future for the youth.



Sindh govt implements measures to combat extremism, prevent radicalisation: CM Murad

SINDH: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah on Tuesday said that his government has implemented measures to combat extremism and terrorism, including intelligence sharing and coordinated operations with law enforcement agencies. His comments came while addressing participants of the National Security and War Course 2024-25 at the Chief Minister House in Karachi. In attendance at the event were 240 officers of the armed forces, civil servants, and military officers from 24 friendly countries led by Chief Instructor Major General Mohammad Akhtar. "Community engagement and outreach programmes have been initiated to prevent radicalisation and promote peace and harmony," CM

Murad said. He stated that the Sindh government has implemented various initiatives to strengthen the police force, including training programmes and infrastructure development. Some of the initiatives include the degradation of the Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) and special branch of the police, as well as the launch of the Karachi Safe City Project. Additionally, he highlighted the Sindh Smart Surveillance System (S4S) project, which involves the installation of automatic number plate recognition and facial recognition cameras at 40 toll plazas in Sindh. The CM revealed that the investment in the project has been increased, and police stations have been allocated a direct budget of Rs4.8 billion.

UNDP Empowers Balochistan: Education, Climate, and Healthcare Initiatives

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The Persistent Polio Challenge in Balochistan

Continued to page 2

Joint efforts needed to eliminate narcotics, protect youth: Senator Hidayatullah

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Olympian Sadaf selected for International Coaching Course (IOC) course abroad

ISLAMABAD: POA Secretary General Muhammad Sadaf Siddiqui has been selected for the International Coaching Course (IOC) in General Conditioning starting in the first week of October at the Hungarian University of Sport Sciences, Hungary.

practical aspects of that this experience will allow her to attain key skills and qualities such as leadership, teamwork and a deep commitment for the development of women's sports in Pakistan.



Grand ceremony takes place to mark 75th anniversary of China

BEIJING (INP): Around 120,000 people gathered here at Tian'anmen Square on Tuesday morning, braving the brisk autumn air to witness the national flag-raising ceremony commemorating the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

130 dead in Hurricane Helene, Biden defends government response

VALDOSTA (INP): The death toll from a devastating storm that battered the southeastern United States climbed to at least 130 on Monday, as the disaster became a hot topic in an already bitter election campaign.

the federal response. "Over the past few days, our nation has endured some of the worst destruction and devastation that we have seen in quite some time," Harris said.

Pakistan's first space applications and research center inaugurated in GB

GILGIT (INP): Pakistan's first Space Applications and Research Center (SUPARCO) will feature a significant milestone in the country's space and environmental efforts.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR THE Chief Officer District Council Musahral... Includes details for various construction and maintenance work.

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At least 130 people were killed by the storm and associated flooding... Emergency workers continued a grim search for hundreds of people still unaccounted for across the affected states.

The sheriff of Pinelands County, Florida published a grim tally of the nine people left dead there so far, almost all of whom were found in their homes.

In Georgia, residents faced power cuts, supply shortages, blocked roads and broken communication lines in often mountainous terrain.

"The federal government is not being responsive," he told reporters. "The vice president, she's out some place, campaigning, asking for money."

"We're not talking about politics now," he said later, wearing a bright red "Make America Great Again" hat while standing in the rubble of a furniture store.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Denmark Jakob Linulf meeting with Coordinator to PM on Climate Change, Romina Khurshid Alam, Chairperson of Senate Standing Committee on Human Rights, Senator Samina Mumtaz Zehri is also present in the meeting.

A grid of 24 small notices, each with a title and brief description of a tender or public notice.

PBF unanimously rejects PSB decision of ban on officials

ISLAMABAD (INP): Pakistan Boxing Federation (PBF) has unanimously rejected the Pakistan Sports Board (PSB) ban imposed on officials under the guise of a boxer hiding abroad on the official passport along with departmental NOC and termed the PSB inquiry report completely biased.

Chaired by President PBF Muhammad Khalid Mahmood, a meeting of the Executive Committee and General Council of PBF was held on Tuesday during which all stakeholders showed full confidence on the existing office bearers.

The house also ratified the amendments of the Constitution of the Pakistan Boxing Federation that were principally agreed to during the last General Council of Pakistan Boxing Federation members on the on-going developments and role of the

Audit Report for the fiscal year of 2023-24.

The PBF Executive Committee and General Council expressed disappointment and rejected the unilateral baseless report related to a boxer who travelled to Italy for Olympic Qualifiers on Official Passport having a valid visa and NOC of his parent department.

The house noted with grave concern that the report violates basic legal principles and fundamental rights.

During the meeting the house also confirmed the election of Begum Ishrat Ashraf as the Chairperson of the Pakistan Boxing Federation. She thanked the house and assured the house of her complete support while president PBF Khalid Mahmood also updated the members on the on-going developments and role of the

Pakistan Boxing Federation in securing the sports of the Boxing as an Olympic Sports.

The house reiterated that all efforts should be made to keep the sports of Boxing in Olympic Games by joining World Boxing.

The forums applauded Ayesha Mumtaz for securing a Bronze Medal in the ASBC Asian Junior (Boys and Girls) Boxing Championship 2024 at Abu Dhabi. PBF awarded the boxer Rs. 100,000 for this commendable performance and also appreciated the Army's boxer for fantastic performance.

The members also thanked Pakistan Army for organizing 4th Inter-Department National Elite Men/Women Boxing Championship 2024 at Abbottabad in a befitting manner.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar addressing a Press Conference.

Stability impossible without recognizing Imran's political role: Fawad Chaudhry

ISLAMABAD (INP): Former Federal Minister Fawad Chaudhry has emphasized that political stability in Pakistan cannot be achieved without acknowledging the political stature of PTI founder Imran Khan.

Speaking to the media outside the accountability court, Chaudhry criticized the ongoing political environment, stating that baseless cases are being used to tarnish reputations and further increase tensions. Chaudhry remarked that the investigation into the case has been dragging on for eight months, accusing authorities of creating fabricated cases.

He warned that the current political tension in the country will only escalate following Imran Khan's recent call, which he believes will raise the political temperature further.

He also voiced concerns about the way the Chief Justice is running the Supreme Court, stating that this approach is not conducive to a stable Pakistan. Chaudhry stressed that trampling over others for political gain will only lead to further instability, emphasizing the importance of the PTI founder's upcoming call on Friday.

Chaudhry called for the initiation of a grand political dialogue, involving all political parties and the establishment, to find a solution for the nation's challenges.

He firmly stated that the country cannot function without recognizing Imran Khan's political influence, adding that two-thirds of Pakistan's population supports the PTI founder.

Regarding the situation in the Supreme Court, Chaudhry

pointed out growing divisions, hinting that the Chief Justice is seeking an extension at all costs, which is only adding to the court's internal tensions.

When questioned by a journalist about his absence from PTI's political rallies, Chaudhry responded by saying, "We are present everywhere."

Earlier in the day, an accountability court in Islamabad held a hearing in the corruption scandal related to the Pind Dadlan Khan Road project, involving Fawad Chaudhry. Accountability Court Judge Nasir Javed Rana presided over the session, where Chaudhry appeared with his legal team.

The court directed the NAB investigation officer to submit a complete report under the new law before the next hearing, which was adjourned until October 17.

Govt utilizing all resources to provide health facilities to people

QUETTA (INP): Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Health Card Balochistan Dr. Samiullah Kakar on Tuesday said that the government is utilizing all available resources to provide health facilities to the people.

He expressed these views while chairing a meeting with MS Dr. Sultan Lahr of Helper Eye Hospital, MS Dr. Ishaq Panizai of Civil Hospital Quetta, consultants of the medical faculty, cardiology, gynecology and surgery departments.

Dr. Samiullah Kakar said that the process of treating patients through health card in Helper Eye Hospital Quetta was stalled for the last 8 months which has been started.

He said that Cardiac Department and other 11 specialties in Civil Hospital Quetta have com-

mitted to continue providing quality health services to the poor and deserving people of Balochistan through Health Card Program.

He also assured the consultants that the health card program would provide full support to the consultants saying that collective efforts are very important for the success of the health card program. Dr. Sami said that the misunderstandings regarding the health card have been removed in Bolan Medical Hospital and treatment of patients through health card has been formally started.

Soon 24/7 services at BMCH will be fully available for patients on health card, he noted.

He said that health services would be provided absolutely free through the health card so that every individual, especially the poor and needy could easily ac-

cess the best treatment.

This project is a significant step towards strengthening and stabilizing the health system of the province which will improve the lives of thousands of patients, he said.

He said that free treatment facility has been provided to more than 90 thousand patients in more than 1200 hospitals across the country through health card.

The provincial government has doubled the health budget to provide basic health facilities to the people, he maintained.

He said that health card services would be extended to all hospitals in the province soon, people should take full advantage of the facility of health card and in case of any complaint, register their complaint on the health card helpline.



MOSCOW: Federal Minister for Board of Investment, Privatization & Communications, Abdul Aleem Khan addressing Pakistan-Russia Trade & Investment Forum.



ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif offering condolences to Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on the demise of his elder brother.

Joint efforts needed to eliminate narcotics, protect youth: Senator Hidayatullah

ISLAMABAD (INP): Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Narcotics Control, Senator Hidayatullah Khan has invited the Anti-Narcotics Force. The national funds balance was reported as Rs. 401.133 million.

The Director General of the Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) highlighted the department's shortage of manpower, a concern that has been raised with the government but has yet to be addressed. Emphasizing the importance of collaborative efforts to protect future generations, he stressed that combating the spread of narcotics should be treated as a national emergency. With political support, he noted, the issue can be controlled.

Furthermore, Senator Abdul Shakoorkh Khan expressed concern that Gulistan Tehsil has become a hub for narcotics, with the prevalence of drug use now 1,000 times higher than it was three years ago. He recommended that the Committee request a five-year record detailing how many offenders were apprehended and punished in both session court and high court.

The Director of the ANF also briefed that in coordination with the Higher Education Commission (HEC), efforts have been initiated to curb the prevalence of narcotics in universities, with a total focus on 255 institutions. He further reported that a special campaign to control narcotics was conducted in September 2024. Presenting statistics on actions taken from 11 September to 29 September 2024, he stated that 56 culprits have been arrested from various universities. Ad-

ditionally, he mentioned that each of the listed universities has established a separate anti-drug and tobacco committee.

The Director also provided an update on initiatives for drug demand reduction, highlighting that they are offering free-of-charge rehabilitation treatment and approximately 27,000 patients have already been treated at the rehabilitation centers.

Chairman Committee, Senator Hidayatullah Khan remarked that we should all pledge to rid the country of all forms of narcotics, and we must strive to eliminate this menace as it causes significant harm to our nation. It is particularly damaging to our youth, who, as a result, lose their ability to understand or comprehend anything.

He also stated that we must take responsibility to protect our capable children, those who aspire to become doctors or engineers from falling into the trap of narcotics. He emphasized that this is one of the greatest challenges we face.

In his concluding remarks, Senator Hidayatullah added that we should address this issue with the spirit of jihad. In universities, even our youth are no longer able to perform to their potential due to the influence of drugs.

This is a challenge we must confront and eradicate. He further stated that he would urge the Prime Minister to provide the Anti-Narcotics Force with all necessary facilities to effectively curb this problem. Moving forward, we will make every effort to combat this menace.



Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) plane suffers tyre burst, all passengers safe

MULTAN (INP): A Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) flight from Dubai to Multan faced a technical issue when all the tyres of the aircraft burst during takeoff. The flight, carrying 172 passengers, was forced to abort its departure due to this unexpected problem.

The Airbus A320 was accelerating on the runway when a warning of an engine malfunction was received, said the PIA spokesperson. The captain employed the emergency brake system, bringing the aircraft to a safe halt.

However, this sudden braking caused all the tyres to burst, necessitating the immediate transfer of passengers to the airport lounge for their safety. The PIA engineering department dispatched a team from Karachi to Dubai on October 25, 2024, while the deadline for submitting advance money has

been moved to October 28, 2024.

The sudden decision to extend the bidding deadline has left companies interested in PIA's privatisation surprised.

Aviation sources warn that this extension could negatively impact the privatisation process.

The Privatisation Commission has not provided a clear explanation for the abrupt change, though advance deposits were initially due by September 27, 2024.

Despite the extension, all preparations for the bidding were reportedly in place for the original deadline of October 1. A consortium of six private companies, including Blue World City, Air Blue, Air Habib, Fly Innah, Pak Ehtanol, and YB Holdings, remains in the race for PIA's privatisation.