

# QUETTA VOICE

Editor: Asim Khan

Sunday, November.03.2024.

quettavoice@gmail.com



**A Policeman stands alert after the Mastung blast**

**FIR Registered in Mastung Girls' School Blast Case Against Unknown Terrorists**

**From Our Correspondent:**

An FIR has been registered against unknown terrorists at the Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) police station in connection with the recent blast outside a girls' school in Mastung. The FIR was filed following an application from the Mastung Station House Officer (SHO).

The tragic explosion claimed nine lives, including five children, and caused significant panic in the area.

The attack underscores security challenges faced by educational institutions in Balochistan, with authorities intensifying efforts to identify and apprehend those responsible.

**100 Levies Personnel Deployed to Combat Illegal Trawling in Gwadar**

**Behram Baloch:**

**GWADAR:** In response to rising illegal trawling activity in the Arabian Sea off Gwadar, 100 levies personnel have been assigned to the Fisheries Department. This action follows a request by the Director General Fisheries Balochistan after a recent attack on a fisheries raiding team by armed illegal trawlers. Illegal trawling has severely impacted marine resources and disrupted the livelihoods of local fishing communities. The additional security is expected to enhance enforcement efforts, ensuring the safety of fisheries personnel during anti-trawling operations. The Fisheries Department, supported by law enforcement, has committed to intensified crackdowns on illegal trawling, aiming



This deployment marks a decisive move towards restoring order in Balochistan's coastal waters.

**Call for Immediate Launch and Expansion of Pink Bus Service in Quetta**

**Syed Ali Shah Analysis:**

**QUETTA:** The Balochistan government's recent approval of the Pink Bus Service in Quetta is a landmark step toward providing women with safe, reliable, and dignified public transportation. Led by Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Bugti and executed by Dr. Faisal Ahmed Khan, Chief of Public-Private Partnership, this initiative marks a first in Balochistan and follows the successful model implemented in Sindh. Launching this women-only service with three buses is a promising start, but Quetta's growing demand calls for a larger fleet. To effectively address the transportation challenges women face, the government should expand this service to include at least a dozen pink buses. A more extensive fleet would significantly enhance women's mobility, providing not only a safe travel option but also empowering access to education, employment, and healthcare facilities. Female commuters often encounter issues like overcrowding, harassment, and long wait times. A larger pink bus fleet would offer them timely, comfortable, and safe transportation, reducing the daily struggles they face on public transport. Such an expansion aligns with



the provincial government's agenda for social inclusion and gender-focused urban development, creating a supportive environment where women can travel freely. The Pink Bus Service represents more than just transportation; it's an investment in women's empowerment and

independence. By increasing the fleet, Balochistan can set a strong precedent for gender-responsive policies that promote equal access to public spaces. Expanding this service in Quetta can serve as a model for other cities, creating a

safer, more inclusive society for women across the province. Let's call on the Balochistan government to enhance this project by committing to a dozen buses, meeting the demand for decent and secure transportation for women in Quetta.

**President Asif Ali Zardari Injured While Arriving in Dubai, Undergoes Treatment**

**News Desk:**

President Asif Ali Zardari suffered a foot fracture while disembarking from an aircraft upon his arrival at Dubai International Airport late Wednesday, as confirmed by an official statement from the President's office on Thursday.

In a show of solidarity, the Pakistan Peoples Party Balochistan chapter extended heartfelt prayers for President Zardari's swift recovery. Party members expressed their hope for his timely healing and good health, recognizing his resilience amid recent health challenges. Following the incident, he was swiftly transported to a nearby hospital for a medical evaluation. Medical staff examined the injury and applied a cast, which will remain in place for the next

four weeks to aid recovery. After treatment, President Zardari was discharged and advised to rest completely.

At 69, Zardari has faced various health challenges over the past few years. In early 2023, he had eye surgery in the UAE. In 2022, he was admitted to Dr. Ziauddin Hospital in Karachi for a chest infection, and in July of that year, he tested positive for COVID-19, with his son, Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, mentioning mild symptoms at the time. Additionally, in 2021, he was hospitalized in Karachi for "exertion and exhaustion" due to extensive travel.

With this recent injury, medical experts recommend a full rest period for the former President to ensure a smooth recovery.



**Teacher Convicted for Torturing Student in Quetta Private School**

**Syed Kaleem Shah:**

**QUETTA:** A local court in Quetta has sentenced a private school teacher to three months imprisonment and fined him Rs. 30,000 for torturing a student. Judicial Magistrate Sariaab, Sherina Dawood.

Delivered the verdict against the teacher, identified as Rehmatullah, who was immediately arrested and sent to prison following the ruling.

The court's judgment came after evidence was presented showing the teacher's misconduct towards a student under his care, sparking concern among parents and the community. This case highlights the ongoing challenges in ensuring safe environments in educational institutions and enforcing legal standards against abuse in Balochistan.



**Air monitor records pollution level in Lahore 80 times above WHO limit**

**NEWSDESK:** Air pollution in Lahore soared on Saturday more than 80 times over the level deemed acceptable by the World Health Organisation (WHO), with an official calling it a record high.

For days, Lahore has been enveloped by smog, a mix of fog and pollutants caused by low-grade diesel fumes, smoke from seasonal agricultural burning and winter cooling.



official in Lahore told AFP.

"The air quality index will remain high for the next three to four days," Anwar said. Commuters make their way amid smog in Lahore on November 2. —AFP

On Wednesday, the Punjab Environmental Protection Agency announced new restrictions in four "hot spots" in the city. The next day, it also ordered all "Schools of Special Education" in Lahore to send their students, who had medical conditions that could get triggered by poor air quality, on a three-month compulsory leave from Friday. As the Punjab Assembly continued the debate on smog and water scarcity issues in the province for the third day on Friday, members from the treasury as well as opposition suggested curbs on industrial and vehicular emissions, besides strict implementation of laws to check environmental pollution.

Tuk-tuks equipped with polluting two-stroke engines are banned, as are restaurants that barbecue without filters.



## Several wounded in northern Israel rocket attack

GAZA (INP): A rocket strike wounded several people in the central Israeli city of Tira, Israel's emergency medical service said early Saturday.

Seven people were taken to hospital with moderate or mild wounds, including "a male around 20 with shrapnel injuries", the Magen David Adom (MDA) service said in a statement on social media platform X.

The MDA also shared a picture and video that showed a badly damaged building cordoned off while

emergency responders swarmed the street. A video published by the Israeli military radio station Galatz on X showed a large explosion.

The Israeli army said on Telegram that it had identified three projectiles fired from Lebanon towards the centre of Israel and intercepted several of them.

Tira, a predominantly Arab town, is located around 25 kilometres (15 miles) northeast of Tel Aviv, near the border with the occupied West Bank.

The war that has been raging in the Gaza Strip since October 7, 2023, has spread to Lebanon, where Israel has been carrying out massive air strikes against Hezbollah, an ally of Palestinian group Hamas.

According to Israeli official figures, at least 63 people have been killed on the Israeli side since cross-border exchanges with Hezbollah erupted in October last year following Hamas's deadly attack on Israel.

On Thursday,

rocket fire from Lebanon killed seven people in Metula, northern Israel, including four Thai farmers.

Hamas's October attack on Israel resulted in 1,206 deaths, mostly civilians, according to an AP tally of Israeli official figures.

Israel's response has led to the deaths of 43,163 Palestinians in Gaza, most of them civilians, according to figures from the territory's health ministry considered reliable by the United Nations.



ISLAMABAD: Minister for Kashmir Affairs, Gligit Baltistan and SAFRON Engineer Amir Muqam in a meeting with President Azad Jammu Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mehmoed Chaudhary at Kashmir House.

## Trump, Harris trade barbs as they battle for swing state votes

MILWAUKEE (INP): US Vice President Kamala Harris and election rival Donald Trump traded barbs across battleground states before converging on Wisconsin's biggest city for competing rallies, a dramatic split-screen image in the final days of a volatile presidential race.

With political heat reaching a boil ahead of Election Day November 5, Trump faced criticism for violent rhetoric targeting a high-profile Republican supporter of Harris, who lambasted him for the provocative attack.

More than 70 million Americans have already cast their ballots — 45 percent of the 2020 total — ahead of Election Day on Tuesday. Opinion polls show Trump and Harris running dead even, with victory depending on who prevails across the seven swing states.

Both held a full day of campaign events, with Harris attending rallies and visiting a union hall in Wisconsin while Trump stumped for votes in neighboring battleground Michigan.

"Everything we have been fighting for these past four years comes down to the next four days," Trump told supporters in Warren, Michigan.

Later Friday the rivals rallied just miles apart in Milwaukee, where Trump boomed, "I don't want your money, I want your damn vote!"

The former president was addressing the same venue where he earned the Republican Party nomination over the summer and gave a triumphant acceptance speech just days after surviving an assassination attempt in Pennsylvania.

Harris defended Cheney as a "true patriot" and accused Trump of being "permanently out for revenge."

But Trump did not back down, saying Cheney "doesn't have the guts to fight."

Adding to tensions, social media is awash with disinformation that authorities say has been stirred by Russian operatives and amplified by prominent right-wing voices including Trump ally Elon Musk, the world's richest man and owner of the X platform.

Trump notably campaigned Friday in Dearborn, Michigan, home to the nation's largest Arab-American community, where outrage over Israel's war in Gaza has alienated many Muslims from the Democratic Party.

After meeting supporters at a halal restaurant, Trump confirmed to reporters that vaccine skeptic Robert F. Kennedy Jr would play a "big role" in health care if he were elected.

Much of Musk's effort has involved pushing lies about non-citizen immigrants voting. Trump notably campaigned Friday in Dearborn, Michigan, home to the nation's largest Arab-American community, where outrage over Israel's war in Gaza has alienated many Muslims from the Democratic Party.

After meeting supporters at a halal restaurant, Trump confirmed to reporters that vaccine skeptic Robert F. Kennedy Jr would play a "big role" in health care if he were elected.

Trump's strategy is to win over voters who feel disaffected by the Biden administration's handling of the war in Gaza and the economy.

Trump's strategy is to win over voters who feel disaffected by the Biden administration's handling of the war in Gaza and the economy.

Trump's strategy is to win over voters who feel disaffected by the Biden administration's handling of the war in Gaza and the economy.

Trump's strategy is to win over voters who feel disaffected by the Biden administration's handling of the war in Gaza and the economy.



ISLAMABAD: MNA Anjum Aqeel Khan giving school book during a ceremony of National Commission of Human Rights.



ISLAMABAD: Governor Punjab, Sardar Saleem Haider Khan, called on Acting President Syed Yousuf Raza Gillani, at Aiwaz-e-Sadr.

## 'Entire population in north Gaza' at risk of dying, UN chiefs warn

GENEVA (INP): The unfolding situation in the northern Gaza Strip is "apocalyptic", United Nations chiefs said on Friday, warning that its entire population was at "imminent risk" of death.

They said the entire Middle East region was now on a precipice and called for an immediate cessation of hostilities.

Israel launched a major air and ground assault in northern Gaza last month, saying it wanted to stop Hamas regrouping there.

"The situation unfolding in north Gaza is apocalyptic," said the joint statement from heads of organisations that form the UN Inter-Agency Standing Committee.

"The area has been under siege for almost a month, denied basic aid and life-saving supplies while bombardment and other attacks continue.

Just in the past few days, hundreds of Palestinians have been killed, most of them women and children, and thousands have once again been forcibly displaced.

"The entire Palestinian population in north Gaza is at imminent risk of dying from disease, famine and violence," they said.

"Humanitarian relief must be facilitated, and we urge all parties to provide unimpeded access to affected people," while hospitals "should not turn into battlegrounds".

The statement was signed by the heads of the UN humanitarian, health, food, rights, migration, refugee, development, children and women's agencies, among others.

are not safe to do their work and are blocked by Israeli forces and by insecurity from reaching people in need," they said.

"Humanitarian relief must be facilitated, and we urge all parties to provide unimpeded access to affected people," while hospitals "should not turn into battlegrounds".

The statement was signed by the heads of the UN humanitarian, health, food, rights, migration, refugee, development, children and women's agencies, among others.

## B2B road shows to enhance trade between China and Pakistan: Hayat Qureshi

BEIJING (INP): Business to Business (B2B) road shows will enhance leather and fisheries trade between China and Pakistan, said Secretary Board of Investment (BOI), Rahim Hayat Qureshi.

The inaugural B2B Roadshow focusing on fisheries was successfully held in Qingdao on October 29, and the next Roadshow, on leather and footwear, is scheduled for November 5, in Guangzhou.

The Board of Investment Pakistan, in collaboration with the Embassy of Pakistan and the Consulates General in China, have arranged the shows, as has been directed by the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Gwadar reported on Saturday.

Meanwhile, the Secretary of the Board of Investment, Rahim Qureshi visited the upcoming Canton Fair on October 31, where he received a warm welcome from the organizers.

provided with an overview and history of the Canton Fair, recognized as one of the world's leading trade fairs.

During his visit, he toured the Pakistan Pavilion and informed exhibitors about the investment potential and joint ventures in priority sectors of Pakistan, including textiles. He encouraged prominent textile exporters to participate in the Roadshow on Textile to explore opportunities for collaboration with Chinese firms.

Prominent Pakistani companies, including 30 representatives from 17 fisheries companies and 16 executives from 10 institutions are to participate in the Leather Show. Pakistan has evolved an integrated strategy to cooperate with business enterprises in China and with this initiative the Pakistani business community can access to the American and European markets through global road shows.



ISLAMABAD: Chairman Prime Minister's Youth Programme Rana Mashhood Ahmed Khan witnessed the letter of intent signing ceremony between Prime Minister's Youth Programme and Social Innovation Academy.

## Clashes between drug gangs rock French city

PARIS (INP): France's struggle with drug-related violence is at a "tipping point" after a bloody shootout gravely wounded one teenager and left four more hurt, Interior Minister Bruno Retailleau said.

Police were called out around 10:45pm on Thursday night in response to gunshots outside a restaurant in a working-class neighbourhood of western city Pontivy, a security source said.

Hundreds of people were in the area and a fight broke out, with some of the youths accusing others of being close with the suspected perpetrator of the shooting.

Responders found a 15-year-old lying on the ground with a bullet wound to the head, the police source said.

He was brought to hospital while paramedics treated two more — a 15-year-old and a 16-year-old — for serious gunshot wounds.

Another two 16-year-olds came to hospital themselves with lighter wounds, one to the scalp and another to a foot.

Police said they found around 10 bullet casings, five 22-calibre ammunition on the scene.

"The 'narco thugs' have no limits any more... These shootouts aren't happening in South America, they're happening in Rennes, in Pontivy... we're at a tipping point," Retailleau told BFMTV.

**TENDER NOTICE**

TSE-042910383493 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 SPPRA GOB. The EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PROVINCIAL Government, SIKR KILA ABDULLAH invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2024 based on Composite schedule rates 2023 on Percentage Rates Tender Fee Rs. 10000/- and Bid Security 2%.

S.No.	Name of Works	E/Coat
1	Construction of Indoor Sports Complex & Fitness Center at/for Gulistan/Govt Kila Abdullaha PPSIP	49-523,779
	#8610/2024-2665	

Procurements shall be made under the Bactochistan Public Procurement Rules - 2011. Eligibility of Bidders: Presence in Active Tax Payer List. The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan. Bactochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required. The bidder must have completed 3 Assignment of similar nature of work Turnover of at least 34,656,645 PKR Amount in 2 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm. Procedure of Procurement: Single Stage One Envelope Bidding Procedure. Bid Security: The bids must accompany the Security in the form of Deposit or Call of 2% 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 1:00 PM because of tender Documents: From the date of publication of HIT to 19 November 2024 during office hours on working days. Last Date of bid submission: 20/11/2024 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: Jangal prajazai Road Kila Abdullaha

Phone no: 9829602040 Email: baktarqpp11@gmail.com

**Executive Engineer (Buildings)**  
Civil Public Department  
District Kila Abdullaha

PRO No. 1744/01-11-2024

### Balochistan CM Pledges Education Support and Resilience Against Terrorism at Laptop Distribution Ceremony

Staff Reporter:

QUETTA: At a recent laptop distribution ceremony, Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Bugti delivered a passionate address, highlighting the provincial government's commitment to education and its resilience in the face of terrorism. He emphasized ongoing efforts to uplift youth by offering substantial educational support, including the Benazir Bhutto Scholarships and a new initiative that promises 16 years of free education for the top matriculation students in each district. Addressing recent terrorist attacks on girls in Mustang, CM Bugti condemned the targeting of youth, vowing not to let fear deter educational development in the province. "We will fight terrorism with education and send a message of defeat to those who seek to harm our future," he stated. 40 days back, I promised constructing Professor Nazima Falih block, he recalled.



He urged the youth to resist misleading narratives on social media and emphasized the importance of staying focused on education as a powerful tool against extremism. Bugti also announced scholarships for minority students and free education for children of civilian martyrs, underscoring the government's investment in a prosperous future. Addressing corruption, he noted it as one of Balochistan's greatest challenges, advocating for urgent action to combat this pervasive issue.

### Balochistan Agriculture Department Engages Fully in Agriculture Conference 2024 in Karachi

News Desk:

KARACHI: The Balochistan Department of Agriculture actively participated in the two-day Agriculture Conference 2024 in Karachi, led by Special Secretary Agriculture Jehangir Khan Kakar. Organized by the Pakistan Media Development Foundation, Ripple Concept, and Exhibitor TV, with support from the Green Pakistan Initiative, the event attracted key stakeholders from across the agriculture sector. The Balochistan Department's Research Wing, Water Management, and Extension Wing, supported by WWF, set up a well-received stall showcasing advancements and strategies in sustainable agriculture and water conservation. Attendees appreciated the exhibit, which highlighted the unique agricultural challenges and opportunities in Balochistan. The conference featured a panel discussion covering essential topics such as sustainable agriculture, organic farming, and water management. Officers from the Balochistan Agriculture Department provided insights into the province's agricultural landscape and discussed the potential for sustainable practices in the region. In addition to Special Secretary Jehangir Khan Kakar, notable attendees included DG Research Wing Abdul Rauf Khan Kakar, DG Water Management Mehboob Ali, Director of Green Pakistan Initiative Balochistan Irfan Bakhtari, and Syed Rehman Etesed, Deputy Director Extension Wing Lasbela. The conference took place at a pivotal time when agriculture has been prioritized as a key sector by the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC), and green corporate initiatives are being explored to boost agricultural productivity across Pakistan.



### Medical report confirms torture as MPA Hina Pervez assures Nargis of legal support

LAHORE (INP): Member of the Punjab Assembly (MPA) and Women Protection Authority Chairperson Hina Pervez Butt visited a popular stage actress Nargis's home in Lahore and assured her the provision of complete legal aid by the Punjab government. Speaking on the occasion, the MPA said that violence against women was a serious offence and that the provincial government would bring the actress's husband

to justice. "The Authority will not compromise on incidents of violence against women," Hina said, adding "This is a Red Line for the government." She announced that a protection officer would accompany the actress during her visit to different places. Defence police obtained complete medical report of actress Nargis which confirmed physical torture on the actress. Police sources said that

medical report showed that Nargis received severe wounds on her face, neck and on her back due to physical torture. Investigation police also recorded statements of actress Nargis, her domestic workers and nephew Umar who was present at her residence at the time of incident. Last night Defense C police tried to arrest Nargis husband Inspector Majid Bashir but he secured his pre-arrest bail from a local court.

### BUIITEMS Students Highlight Critical Campus Issues, Urge University to Act

Staff Reporter:

QUETTA: Students at Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering and Management Sciences (BUIITEMS) have brought pressing issues to light, demanding action from university officials. At a recent press conference, student representative Haseebullah voiced concerns about the lack of basic facilities and rising costs. Which he said are "making it increasingly difficult for students to focus on their studies." High fees and soaring food prices at the university canteen are creating financial strain, according to Haseebullah. "Students are already stretched thin; reducing costs here would be a significant relief," he stated. Students also raised concerns about the lack of drinking water facilities, with limited



water coolers outside classrooms. The administration needs to ensure drinking water access outside every block," another student remarked, emphasizing that the issue becomes critical during peak summer months. With winter approaching, students called for gas heaters in classrooms, noting that harsh temperatures impact their ability to study comfortably. Additionally, they demanded an increase in scholarship options to support financially challenged students. "Without scholarships, some of us are forced to take on extra jobs," a student said. Students urged the administration to address these needs promptly, ensuring BUIITEMS offers an environment conducive to academic success.

### Mastung Blast: Deadly Explosion Kills 9, Injures Over Two Dozen in Balochistan

Syed Ali Shah, Munir Shahwani, News Desk:

Balochistan, Mastung: A tragic explosion near Mastung Civil Hospital on Friday morning has claimed nine lives, including five children and a police officer, while leaving over two dozen injured. The blast, confirmed to be an improvised explosive device (IED) attack, detonated near a police mobile unit, causing devastation across the area.



**Incident Details and Immediate Response**  
Kalat Division Commissioner Naeem Bazar reported that the blast occurred at approximately 8:35 am. Following the explosion, the wounded were rushed to nearby hospitals, including Nawab Ghous Baksh Raisani Memorial Hospital and Mastung District Headquarters Hospital. Due to the severity of the injuries, eleven critically injured victims were later moved to the Quetta Trauma Centre (QTC) for advanced medical treatment. Secretary Health Balochistan, Mujeeb ur Rehman Panzari, confirmed that the death toll had risen to nine with ongoing emergency responses in hospitals across the province to provide immediate care.

**Public Reaction and Official Condemnation**  
Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfaraz Bugti, condemned the "brutal act" that targeted innocent civilians, including students, calling it an unforgivable offense. Bugti assured the public that all necessary actions would be taken to apprehend those responsible for the attack, vowing swift justice.

**Heightened Security and Investigation**  
Following the incident, security measures in Mastung and surrounding areas have been intensified to prevent further attacks, with law enforcement agencies actively monitoring the situation as investigations continue to identify those behind the blast. This tragic event underscores the ongoing security challenges in Balochistan, sparking renewed calls for enhanced safety measures and vigilance across the region.

### Ex-Sindh Governor criticizes Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) auction process

ISLAMABAD (INP): Former Sindh Governor Muhammad Zubair expressed strong criticism of the Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) auction held, labeling it a "mockery" rather than a legitimate bidding process. While taking to a private TV channel, Zubair highlighted concerns about the conditions set for the auction, which he argued were so onerous that no serious buyers were willing to participate. Zubair took particular aim at the Minister of Privatization, questioning his absence during the bidding and emphasizing the government's lack of focus on effective privatization strategies. "While the minister is engaged in successful housing projects, the critical issue of privatization has been neglected," Zubair stated. He pointed out that despite the appointment of financial advisors to attract foreign interest, no investors showed up, leading him to express his surprise at the government's handling of the situation. Zubair noted that not a single roadshow was conducted to promote the auction, raising further doubts about the government's commitment to the process. The former governor explained that PIA's financial situation was presented in a way that could be appealing to potential investors, with the total debt amounting to 825 billion rupees. He mentioned that 625 billion rupees of this debt was transferred to a holding company, leaving potential buyers with a supposedly manageable debt of only 200 billion

rupees. Despite these adjustments, Zubair observed that major investors stayed away from the auction, with only a real estate businessman participating. Zubair lamented the government's reckless attitude towards PIA's privatization, contrasting the current failure with past privatization efforts. He recalled how previous administrations faced opposition during their privatization programs, yet this time, even in the absence of opposition, the process has resulted in a significant setback. The former governor's comments raise critical questions about the future of PIA and the effectiveness of the government's privatization efforts. As the situation unfolds, stakeholders in the aviation sector will be watching closely for any developments.

ISLAMABAD: Secretary Economic Affairs Dr. Kazim Niazand Director of the German Development Bank (GIZ) Esther Gravenkotter signing the second phase of Billion Tree Afforestation Project.



### Lahore air pollution reading hits to above 1000 level

LAHORE (INP): Punjab's capital city passing through dangerously high air quality index (AQI) reading of 1067 on Saturday morning that later improved to 702. Lahore has been on the top of the hazardous air quality list in the world as India's Kolkata with 253 AQI reading, Delhi, 238, Mumbai 199 and Tashkent in Uzbekistan with 181 reading much behind. Smog in Lahore causing serious health problems for residents toiling in polluted air and reported to have breathing difficulties, coughing and burning eyes. AQI as high as 151-200 is

considered unhealthy, while an AQI rating between 201 to 300 is more harmful and AQI over 300 has been extremely hazardous. Lahore had the worst air quality of 1.067 at 9:30 in the morning Swiss air quality watchdog's real-time list of most polluted cities in the world, despite provincial government's desperate attempts to fight off smog. Air pollution level goes upward in the city on the onset of winter, change in the wind speed, wind direction and sliding minimum temperature increases air pollution.

The air becomes heavier in the winter and traps poisonous particles in the atmosphere to downward and making the atmosphere polluted. As a result, a layer of polluted particles, including large amounts of carbon and smoke, covers an area. The smoke produced by burning crop remnants, factories and burning coal, garbage, oil or tyres enters in the atmosphere and the impact of it appears at the onset of winter and remain till the season's end. Thus, air pollution reaches to extremely dangerous levels, severely compromising the air quality.



QUETTA: Polio worker administering polio drops to a child during anti-polio vaccination campaign in Provincial Capital.