

QUETTA VOICE

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A view of Quetta city with clear blue sky: Photo Muhammad Ismail

Levies Recover Kidnapped Tribesman Haji Qasam Panezai in Pishin

Asmat Hanafi:
PISHIN: Haji Qasam Panezai, who was abducted near Khanozai, has been recovered in Pishin district during an operation by Levies forces, Deputy Commissioner Pishin Zahid Khan Khilji confirmed on Tuesday.

The recovery came after mounting public pressure, with political parties and locals threatening to intensify protests for Panezai's safe return. Acting on intelligence, the Levies force conducted a successful operation to rescue the kidnapped tribesman.



The incident had triggered widespread concerns over security in the region. Community members praised the Levies team for their swift action, urging authorities to ensure stricter measures to prevent such incidents.

Authorities stated that efforts are ongoing to apprehend the culprits behind the abduction. Haji Qasam Panezai's recovery has brought relief to his family and the residents of Pishin district.

Fire at Karachi's Rimpia Plaza brought under control, cooling work underway: rescue official

NEWS DESK: Firefighters brought under control a blaze that engulfed two floors of a 13-story commercial building at M.A. Jinnah road in Karachi on Tuesday, with no casualties reported.

In a statement, Rescue 1122 had said its fire and rescue team — along with two ambulances, four firetrucks, and a snorkel — reached the site as soon as they received an alert about the blaze at Rimpia Plaza. The fire started from the fourth floor of the 13-story building, the rescue service said, adding that difficulties were being faced to douse the fire "due to improper ventilation" in the building. After a few hours of effort, the fire was successfully put off.

"The fire has been controlled and cooling work (extinguishing remaining hot spots) is underway.

Quetta's Air Quality: A Beacon of Hope in Pakistan's Pollution Crisis

Syed Ali Shah:

QUETTA: Quetta has earned recognition as the city with the best air quality in Pakistan, with an Air Quality Index (AQI) of 31, marking it as "good" and healthier according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Amid worsening air pollution and dense smog in urban centers like Lahore and Karachi, Quetta's clean air serves as a shining example of environmental resilience.

While Quetta's clear skies owe much to its geographical location, lower population density, and fewer industrial emissions, sustaining this air quality presents a significant challenge. Environmentalists emphasize that the focus must shift from temporary measures to sustainable strategies to preserve Quetta's atmosphere and

mitigate the impacts of global warming. **Green Initiatives Must Be Long-Term** The Forest Department and local NGOs have launched tree plantation drives to beautify Quetta and improve its air quality. However, most of the saplings planted along roads have dried up within weeks due to inadequate care. This highlights the need for a sustainable approach where plants are nurtured consistently, rather than short-lived initiatives centered around photo sessions. To truly maintain Quetta's air quality, authorities must prioritize: Sustainable afforestation: Ensure saplings are planted in suitable areas and looked after until maturity. Vehicular emission controls: In-

roduce stricter policies to reduce pollution from vehicles. Community involvement: Engage citizens in green initiatives to create awareness and responsibility. **A Call to Action** Quetta's achievement is a reminder that clean air is possible, even in challenging conditions. However, it requires a committed and focused approach. Policymakers, environmentalists, and citizens must work together to implement effective green initiatives that go beyond temporary fixes. As Pakistan battles the adverse effects of climate change, Quetta's example underscores the importance of sustainable practices to ensure a healthier future for all.

South Korea Declares Martial Law: President Yoon Vows to Tackle "Anti-State Forces"

Monitoring Desk:

SEOUL: In a rare and unexpected move, South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol announced martial law late Tuesday night, vowing to eliminate "pro-North Korean anti-state forces." This marked the first imposition of martial law in the country since 1980.

The announcement, delivered during a live broadcast on YTN television, has sparked widespread concern across South Korea. President Yoon claimed the measure was necessary to protect the nation's free and constitutional order, accusing opposition parties of undermining parliamentary processes and pushing the country into turmoil.

Restrictions Under Martial Law

Yonhap News Agency reported that martial law regulations include halting parliamentary activities, banning political party operations, and placing media outlets under strict military control. However, Yoon did not cite any immediate threats from North Korea, focusing instead on domestic political challenges.

Economic and Political Impact

The surprise declaration rattled financial markets, with the Korean won sharply losing value against the US dollar.



The central bank is reportedly preparing measures to stabilize the economy if necessary.

The White House has yet to issue a statement on the development. Meanwhile, US military officials in South Korea, where 28,500 troops are stationed as a deterrent against North Korea, have not responded to inquiries.

President Yoon's Justification

"I am taking this step to protect the Republic of Korea from North Korean communist threats and to eradicate those who undermine the freedoms and happiness

of our people," Yoon said during his address.

This historic decision has raised concerns about South Korea's democratic institutions, which have been a cornerstone of the nation's progress since transitioning from authoritarian rule in the 1980s.

Global and Domestic Reactions

The martial law declaration has sent shockwaves through South Korea and the international community, with many questioning its implications for the country's democratic future.

CM Balochistan Announces 100% Scholarship Increase for Disabled Individuals

Staff Reporter:

QUETTA: In a landmark move, Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti announced a 100 percent increase in scholarships for disabled persons, aiming to enhance their educational opportunities and inclusion in society. The announcement was made during a ceremony celebrating the International Day of Persons with Disabilities in Quetta. Chief Minister Bugti outlined several initiatives to support disabled individuals, including expanding the "Kank Program" for their benefit and allocating a dedicated budget for their welfare in the next financial year. He emphasized the government's commitment to ensuring their active participation in policymaking. "The doors of the Chief Minister

House are always open for the disabled. We will fully support them and prioritize their needs," he stated. Bugti also announced the provision of pink scooters for disabled women and ordered the removal of unnecessary speed breakers to improve accessibility. Additionally, the Chief Minister assured the finalization of laws for disabled persons within 20 days. He pledged the government's full patronage and reiterated, "We will not leave disabled people alone." These initiatives have been lauded as a significant step toward creating an inclusive society in Balochistan, with the potential to inspire similar efforts across Pakistan.



Chief Minister Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti taking selfie with a disabled young man in Quetta: Photo provided by DGPR

FIA Balochistan Identifies 924 Social Media Accounts for Anti-State Content

Syed Ali Shah:

QUETTA: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) Balochistan has uncovered 924 social media accounts allegedly involved in disseminating anti-state content. The investigation revealed that 487 Facebook accounts, 190 TikTok profiles, 147 Twitter handles, and 88 Instagram accounts were flagged for spreading such material. Additionally, 12 other applications were identified as platforms being misused for similar activities within Balochistan. Sources disclosed that 14 inquiries have already been initiated to probe the involvement of

these elements, many of whom are suspected of operating under fake identities backed by external forces. "These individuals have been spreading anti-state materials with malicious intent. No leniency will be shown, and all available resources are being utilized to apprehend those responsible," the FIA sources emphasized. The agency has intensified its crackdown on such activities to ensure national security and maintain social harmony. This development highlights the ongoing efforts of FIA Balochistan to curb digital threats in the province.



Govt to block terrorists' accounts on social media, curb illegal SIM usage

NEWS DESK: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi has said that comprehensive measures would be taken to curb the activities of banned terrorist organizations on social media platforms, Express News reported. In collaboration with the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA), the government will work to block the accounts of terrorist groups. Provinces are also expected to implement a cohesive strategy to prevent the usage of illegal SIM

cards. The decision came during a crucial meeting of the National Action Plan (NAP) Coordination Committee on Tuesday. In the briefing, it was revealed that, as of October this year, a total of 7,984 intelligence-based operations had been conducted, resulting in the elimination of 206 terrorists. During the meeting, it was decided to enhance collaboration between the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) and the provinces.

Terrain, water, geography and culture

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School Meal Program in Balochistan – A Step Towards Better Education and Nutrition

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PTI trying to hoodwink people through fake narrative, lies: Tarar

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Al Nasser fails to deliver without Ronaldo, suffers first ACL loss this year

DUBAI (INP): Cristiano Ronaldo watched on from the stands as already-qualified Al Nasser lost for the first time in this year's Asian Champions League (ACL) Elite as they were beaten 2-1 in injury time by Qatar's Al Sadd on Monday.

the Year raced from the halfway line onto a long ball. Afif outpaced defender Mohammed Al Fatil and finishing low past Brazil goalkeeper Bento. Al Nasser drew level on 80 minutes, once Brazilian youngster Wesley's low cross was turned into his own goal by Al Sadd defender Romain Saiss.



QUETTA: Abdul Bari Kuri profane office SCAP giving shield to a disable woman during a ceremony to mark International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

Pakistan's blind team becomes T20 World Cup champions

MULTAN (INP): Pakistan clinched trophy of the Blind T20 Cricket World Cup after beating Bangladesh by 10 wickets in the final at the Multan Cricket Stadium on Tuesday.

(47) unbroken partnership guided the Green Shirts towards a 10-wicket win. This victory marks a historic achievement for Pakistan, as they lift the Blind T20 World Cup for the first time in the tournament's history.

Vietnam court upholds death sentence for tycoon Truong My Lan in \$12bn fraud case

HANOI CITY (INP): A court in Vietnam on Tuesday upheld a death sentence for real estate tycoon Truong My Lan after rejecting her appeal against a conviction for embezzlement and bribery in a high-profile \$12 billion fraud case, state media reported.

view under Vietnam's cassation or retrial procedures. Lan's arrest in 2022 sparked a run on one of the country's largest private banks by deposits, Saigon Joint Stock Commercial Bank (SCB), which was at the centre of the fraud and largely owned by Lan through her proxies.



ISLAMABAD: Chaudhry Salik Hussain Federal the Minister for Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, met with Chinese delegation led by Scarlet head of OPH Health Care Project.



ISLAMABAD: Parliamentary Leader of Minima League (M), Provincial Minister of Transportation and Repairs, Mir Saleem Ahmed Khosro's meeting with Federal Minister of Industry and Crafts, Jam Kamal Khan.

Hamas, Fatah agree joint committee to run post-war Gaza

CAIRO (INP): Palestinian movement Hamas and Palestine president Mahmud Abbas's Fatah party have agreed to create a committee to jointly run post-war Gaza, negotiators from both sides said Tuesday.

at a time of renewed diplomatic efforts to end the Gaza war, which was sparked by Hamas's unprecedented October 7, 2023, attack on Israel. These efforts, led by the United States together with Egypt, Qatar and Turkey, come nearly a week after a fragile ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah came into force in Lebanon.

Marsh 'hopefully right and ready to go' but questions around bowling remain

PERTH (INP): It remains unclear how much of a role Mitchell Marsh will be able to play with the ball in Adelaide even if he is passed fit to remain in the Test XI as Australia look to square the sides under the lights on a ground where they are unbeaten in day-night Tests.

Although Marcus Labuschagne's unconvincing medium pace would remain on tap, as well as Travis Head's very serviceable offspin, not having a genuine fourth-seamer option could be a significant gamble if there is a considerable workload for the frontline quicks given the next two Tests in Adelaide and Brisbane are back-to-back.

Congress IIOJK leader urges Modi regime to protect minority rights

JAMMU (INP): Amid rising anti-Muslim tension in an illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir and across India, Congress leader Ghulam Ahmad Mir reiterated that governments are constitutionally bound to safeguard the rights of minorities.

ally defined, whether or not they are deemed "Muslims" is another. "There is no doubt that Muslims are feeling unsafe. I urge the government to address this. With 24 crore Muslims in the country, they cannot be ignored or thrown into

NOTICE INVITING TENDER. The Executive Engineer-Buildings CWP/PAH Department District Sialkot Pw. invites sealed percentage rate tender based on composite schedule of work for 2023. Government of Balochistan amended up-to-date from interested contractor/firms for the works listed below: Earnest Money 2% , Time limit 24 Months.

Punjab traffic police penalize over 181,000 smoke-emitting vehicles in November

LAHORE (INP): The Punjab traffic police have released its performance report for November, highlighting extensive measures taken against vehicles contributing to smog and environmental pollution.

As per details shared by the Punjab traffic police, over 181,000 smoke-emitting vehicles were penalized in the month of November, with fines exceeding Rs341.5 million.

In addition, fitness certificates for 4,371 vehicles were suspended, while 682 smog-producing vehicles had their route permits revoked.

The crackdown also led to

260 FIRs being registered against violators, while over 31,000 vehicles were taken off the road due to excessive emissions. Moreover, more than 29,000 sand and debris-laden tractor trolleys were fined for failing to comply with regulations.

The spokesperson emphasized that vehicles emitting smoke face fines of up to Rs2,000 and stern legal actions as part of efforts to combat smog and protect public health.

The Punjab traffic police reaffirmed its commitment to maintaining a cleaner and safer environment through strict enforcement.

Read more: Restrictions case in Lahore as smog levels drop

Bad air continuing to haunt Lahore and several other cities of Punjab despite authorities' taking various steps to curb polluted air.

Punjab government also announced closure of schools upto higher secondary level in smog hit districts of the province till 24 November.

The decision was made as the province grappling with severe air pollution, which have soared to alarming levels, affecting the public health.



MASHHAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar holds talks with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Kazakhstan Murat Nurtuev on the sidelines of ECO, Council of Ministers meeting in Iran.

Pakistan's first electric SUV launched to echo new ambitious policy

ISLAMABAD (INP): Regal Automobiles Industries Ltd, a trailblazer in Pakistan's automotive sector, has made history with the unveiling of the country's first locally assembled electric SUV, the Seres 3. Adeel Usman, Managing Director of RAIL, highlighted that the Seres 3 would redefine the local automotive landscape, positioning the nation as an emerging hub for electric mobility innovation, China Economic Net (CEN) reported on Tuesday.

Not long ago, Privatization Minister Abdul Aleem Khan announced that 30% of vehicles in Pakistan would be converted to electric by 2030, as the South Asian country takes step to combat air pollution and other climate change effects.

The minister was echoing the government's New Energy Vehicle (NEV) policy Hybrid EV sales in Pakistan have more than doubled in the past year.

BYD Pakistan, a partnership between China's giant BYD and Pakistani auto group Mega Motors, said in this September up to 50% of all vehicles bought in Pakistan by 2030 will be electrified in some form.

"The new vehicle policy is timely, addressing critical issues

like the high oil import bill, underutilized power plants increasing capacity payments, and transportation-related smog and greenhouse gas emissions," told Dr. Naveed Arshad, associate professor and co-director of the LUMS Energy Institute.

Unlike the earlier policy a few years ago, the updated version is more robust, offering clear targets, tax breaks and government funding for EV projects.

Dr Arshad added that traditional automakers must adapt to the changing electric vehicle landscape. The current business model relies heavily on after-sales services such as engine maintenance, which is incompatible with EVs due to their extremely low maintenance requirements.

He suggested that automakers should turn to charging infrastructure, software R&D and other areas of innovation.

In order to fully promote the energy transformation in the transportation sector, new policy emphasizes the establishment of extensive charging infrastructure across Pakistan.

Charging stations will be installed in public areas and along

major highways, and oil marketing companies are required to set up level 3 charging stations at 10% of their locations.

Private charging service providers will receive incentives such as tax exemptions, reduced land costs, and simplified licensing procedures to facilitate installation and power supply.

In addition, an important aspect of the NEV policy is the focus on environmental protection. It introduces safety and recycling standards for batteries and components, while financial incentives will encourage companies to invest in the recycling field and recycling centers will be established across the country.

When asked about the potential dominance of Chinese NEVs in the market, Dr Arshad emphasized that "the policy aims to leverage China's strengths in EV technology to benefit Pakistan."

While Chinese brands may dominate initially, the policy emphasizes localized production, especially for smaller vehicles such as two- and three-wheelers.

Such a targeted approach will increase exports while reducing reliance on imports."

FIA prevents two passengers at Islamabad airport from traveling abroad using forged documents

ISLAMABAD (INP): Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) Immigration Unit carried out a major operation at Islamabad International Airport, successfully preventing two passengers from traveling abroad using forged documents.

The suspects, identified as Wajid Ali and Irfan Khan, were attempting to board flight QR633 to Poland with counterfeit visas affixed to their passports. Forensic analysis conducted by the Second Line Office revealed that the visas lacked essential security features, confirming their fraudulent nature.

The suspects, residents of

Islamabad and Rawalpindi, were immediately offloaded and handed over to the Anti-Human Trafficking Circle for further investigation. The FIA spokesperson confirmed that a thorough inquiry is underway to identify potential accomplices in the human trafficking network.

Meanwhile, in a separate operation, the FIA Anti-Corruption Circle arrested three former officials of the Rawat Union Council, including chairman Azhar Mahmood, ex-secretary Mirza Tanveer, and former daily wage employee Sajid Muhammad.

The arrests were made on

charges of corruption and misuse of authority, resulting in a loss of over 40 million rupees to the national treasury.

The suspects were found guilty of illegal recruitments, including hiring 116 daily wage workers and unauthorized teachers. They also engaged in unlawful professional tax agreements.

The FIA has initiated further investigations to uncover the full extent of the corruption and ensure accountability.

The FIA spokesperson reiterated the agency's commitment to combating fraud, human trafficking, and corruption to safeguard public interests.



ISLAMABAD: H.E. Irfan Neziroglu, Ambassador of Turkey called on Minister for Defence & Defence Production Khawaja Muhammad Asif.



RIVAD: Deputy Governor of Riyadh Prince Muhammad Bin Abdul Rehman Bin Abdul Aziz receives Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif upon his arrival in Saudi Arabia.

PTI trying to hoodwink people through fake narrative, lies: Tarar

ISLAMABAD (INP): Federal Minister for Information, Broadcasting, National Heritage and Culture Attaullah Tarar said on Tuesday that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf was trying to hoodwink the people through fake narrative and lies.

Lambasting Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, in a media talk, he said that the party was creating a false narrative of firing on the protesters.

He once again challenged the PTI to present a single piece of evidence showing a law enforcement agencies personnel firing bullets directly on the protesters.

There is not a single video in which law enforcement agencies person can be seen directly firing upon protesters. They have all kinds of videos but there is no video evidence (of direct firing) as this never took place", he maintained.

The minister said that a video of a man running away in which he was saying that he hit by a gunshot, went viral. Attaullah Tarar said the same person in another video was claiming that he had got an injury on his hand.

However when in the video, he opened the bandage on his hand, no bullet mark was visible on his hand.

Tarar stated that the PTI was defaming the state through their concocted stories based on lies.

The PTI is spreading lies about bodies and different figures of fatalities ranging from a dozen to 4000. A senior leader of the PTI Lateef Khosa claimed that over 150 bodies were lying at his residence.

He said even the PTI Chairman, Barrister Gohar remarked that there were only

12 bodies and all other claims were bogus. He said there was no dead, if the PTI had any dead bodies they should present in front of the media.

Taking a dig on the PTI, he said these bodies were found on Tik Tok, Facebook, X, WhatsApp and other social media platforms, but in reality, there were no dead bodies. He said the PTI was trying to hoodwink the nation through its lies and misleading statements. He said that it was unfortunate that such people form political parties who had no sense.

He also pointed out four Rangers personnel and a police officer were martyred, but no one from the PTI expressed sympathy with the bereaved families.

The PTI misrepresents target security forces and police personnel but later claim of make hue and cry of killing of their party workers.

Peshawar High Court (PHC) grants transit bail to Bushra Bibi till Dec 23

PESHAWAR (INP): The Peshawar High Court (PHC) granted transit bail to Bushra Bibi, the wife of PTI founder Imran Khan, until December 23, 2024.

Justice Waqar Ahmed, who was presiding over the case, approved her transit bail application after hearing the petitioner's lawyer.

According to the petitioner's lawyer, Bushra Bibi has filed transit bail applications in 27 different cases, and the court's decision will allow her to appear in relevant courts.

The Additional Attorney General argued that Bushra Bibi should be required to appear in the courts handling the respective cases.

However, Justice Waqar Ahmed clarified that the purpose of transit bail is to ensure

her appearance in the relevant courts.

The lawyer representing Bushra Bibi requested an extension of the time, citing her need to appear in over 50 cases. However, Justice Waqar Ahmed declined the request, explaining that more time could not be granted due to the upcoming winter vacations.

In a related development, a Rawalpindi accountability court hearing the 190 million-pound reference against Bushra Bibi and Imran Khan issued fresh notices to the bailiff while maintaining her non-bailable arrest warrant.

Bushra Bibi did not appear in court during the hearing, where Imran Khan was present. Her lawyer, Salman Saif, submitted an undertaking to assure the court that she

would attend the next hearing.

The court acknowledged the assurance, while the prosecution, represented by NAB lawyers, did not oppose the submission.

The court had previously granted multiple opportunities for the defense to present statements and cross-examine witnesses, with NAB's report indicating that Bushra Bibi was not present at her last known address despite efforts to serve her.

Additionally, a petition was filed for her exemption from attending the court, though this was met with objections from NAB.

The accountability court has adjourned the further hearing of the case until December 5, 2024, and has issued a show-cause notice to her guardian.



ISLAMABAD: Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi chairing National Action Plan's Coordination Committee meeting.

Govt for enhancing coordination b/w NACTA, provinces

ISLAMABAD (INP): A meeting of National Action Plan's Coordination Committee chaired by Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi in Islamabad has decided to enhance coordination between National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA) and provinces.

In his remarks on the occasion, Mohsin Naqvi said a National Fusion Center has been established for effective coordination. The Interior Minister said NACTA will play a leading role in the fight against terrorism.

Reforms have been initiated in NACTA, and its original role is being restored.

The meeting decided to

take comprehensive measures to curb the activities of banned terrorist organizations on social media including blocking their accounts with the cooperation of PTA.

The meeting decided that the provinces will take steps under a comprehensive strategy to prevent illegal SIM cards.

Condemning the recent acts of terrorism in Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the Interior Minister said the federal government will fully cooperate to enhance the professional capabilities of the Counter-Terrorism Force in the two provinces to combat terrorism.

Mohsin Naqvi said police and frontier constabulary will be strengthened to deal with terrorism.

He said apart from capacity building, the provinces have to equip police with the latest technology.

The Interior Minister announced to meet requirements of law enforcement agencies on priority basis.

The meeting also reviewed steps taken for the security of Chinese nationals.

Mohsin Naqvi directed full implementation of foolproof security plan chalked out for the safety of Chinese nationals.