

QUETTA VOICE

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Balochistan Doesn't Need New Buildings—It Needs a Future

Syed Ali Shah Analysis:

QUETTA: The decision to demolish the historic Balochistan Assembly building and construct a new one for Rs. 5 billion is not just unwise—it is outrageous. At a time when the province is struggling with extreme poverty, a failing education system, and a collapsing healthcare sector, prioritizing infrastructure over people's well-being raises serious questions about governance and leadership.

Balochistan has the highest child mortality rate in Asia, with maternal mortality also at alarming levels. According to the Directorate of Nutrition Cell, 54% of children suffer from stunting, while over 60% of women are anaemic. Hidden hunger, a silent crisis, is worsening health conditions, especially among women. The province's female literacy rate has hit a historic low, and over 3 million children remain out of school. Given these grim realities, how can any rational mind justify spending billions on a new building while millions of people suffer from malnutrition, disease, and illiteracy?

The existing assembly building is not just a structure; it is a part of Balochistan's history and



culture. It stands in a secure zone with ample space to function effectively. There is no logical rea-

son to shift it elsewhere. More importantly, in a province where resources are scarce, this massive

sum should be directed towards improving the Human Development Index (HDI). Balochistan

doesn't need more concrete structures—it needs a healthy and educated population capable of

facing the growing global challenges.

The priorities of the government must be questioned. Should Rs. 5 billion be wasted on a new assembly building or should it be used to improve healthcare, provide clean drinking water, ensure food security, and address the devastating impacts of climate change? The answer is clear to anyone who values human lives over political vanity projects.

Shockingly, most of the opposition has chosen to remain silent on this reckless decision—except for Jamaat-e-Islami chief Maulana Hidayat ur Rehman, who has voiced his opposition. This silence is both disappointing and alarming. If those who claim to represent the people do not stand against such misplaced priorities, who will?

Balochistan does not need another building—it needs a future. It needs leadership that understands the struggles of its people. It needs investment in its children, its women, and its environment. If Rs. 5 billion is to be spent, let it be on human lives, not on another structure that adds no real value to the province's future.

Gas Leakage Explosion in Quetta's Pashtoonabad Kills Two, Injures Five

Staff Reporter:

QUETTA: A gas leakage explosion in Quetta's Pashtoonabad area claimed two lives, including a girl, while five others sustained injuries, police confirmed.

According to officials, the explosion occurred around 3 AM due to gas lead shedding. The bodies and injured were shifted to Civil Hospital Quetta, and after necessary formalities, the deceased were handed over to their families. Police further stated that children were also among the injured.

The Balochistan government has ordered an inquiry into the incident to determine the causes and prevent future tragedies. Meanwhile, the government spokesperson expressed condolences to the affected families but did not confirm the inquiry.

This is not the first time a gas leakage explosion has resulted in casualties in Quetta. Over the past few months,

multiple such incidents have occurred, mainly due to unannounced and prolonged gas

lead shedding, which forces residents to leave gas stoves open, leading to deadly bles.



COAS urges youth to focus on duties, avoid baseless criticism



NEWS DESK: Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Asim Munir has urged Pakistan's youth to prioritise their duties and self-responsibility over engaging in baseless criticism, the state-run Radio Pakistan broadcaster reported on Sunday.

Addressing students at the CMH Institute of Medical Sciences in Bahawalpur, Gen Munir emphasised the importance of academic excellence and equipping young people with the skills to contribute to national development.

The army chief praised the youth's role in shaping Pakistan's future and reiterated the army's commitment to supporting initiatives that empower young talent.

Gen Asim Munir cautioned that false narratives were being spread to undermine the state's efforts against terrorism. During the visit, the army chief also inaugurated the Innovista Cholistan project and the Integrated Combat Simulator Arena, which ISPR described as key steps in advancing medical education, information technol-

ogy, and combat readiness. Earlier, upon his arrival, the Bahawalpur Corps commander, COAS was received by the Bahawalpur Corps commander. During his visit, General Munir addressed officers and troops, commending their dedication, high morale, and combat readiness.

He emphasised that rigorous training remains fundamental to a soldier's professional development and should continue to be a defining characteristic of the Pakistan Army in tackling modern warfare challenges.

CM Bugti Challenges Omar Ayub to Name No-Go Areas Without Asking Mahmood Achakzai

Staff Reporter:

QUETTA: PTI leader Umar Ayub has claimed that certain districts in Balochistan are no-go areas, but Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti has strongly dismissed his statement. Bugti challenged Ayub to name a single no-go area without consulting Mahmood Khan, questioning the credibility of his claims. He also accused the previous government of releasing separatist commanders, who later joined terrorist camps.

Meanwhile, the Balochistan government has launched a Ramadan Ration Program under the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) to provide relief to 250,000 people. Chief Minister Bugti officially inaugurated the program, which includes the distribution of 48kg ration bags.

The launch event was attended by Parliamentary Secretary Wali Muhammad

Noorzai, Provincial Minister Bakht Muhammad Kakar, DG PDMA Jhanzaib Khan, Faisal Tariq, Faisal Panezai, Attaullah Mengal, and other senior officials.

During his media talk, Bugti announced that deputy commissioners who failed to reopen national highways would face immediate depart-

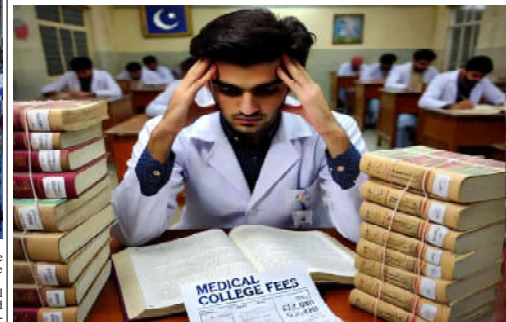
mental action. He criticized the use of women as human shields during protests, stating that it complicates administrative actions.

Bugti further warned that terrorists operate under the cover of darkness, adding that if they dared to attack in daylight, they would face severe consequences.



PMDC Yet to Finalize Private Medical Colleges Tuition Fees Amid Dispute

Health Desk:



The Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PMDC) has yet to finalize the tuition fee structure for private medical colleges after rejecting the committee's recommendation of an annual fee of Rs1.2 million.

The Pakistan Association of Private Medical and Dental Insti-

tutions (PAMI) has refused to comply with any proposed fee cap, asserting that the PMDC Act does not authorize the council to regulate private medical college fees. In response, the PMDC Council has directed the committee to reassess the fee structure

of private medical and dental colleges within a week to determine its legitimacy and reach a consensus.

The ongoing dispute has sparked concerns among students and parents awaiting clarity on the private medical college fee policy for 2025 admissions.

Pakistan's Climate Crisis: Rising Heat, Devastating Floods, and the Human Struggle

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Police Raid Quetta Press Club, Arrest SBK Teachers' Candidates

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Three Killed in Chagai Road Accident on RCD Highway

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Asad Qaiser vows PTI to launch massive protest after Eid

SWABI (INP): Former Speaker Asad Qaiser has strongly criticized the current parliament, calling it "fake" and demanding transparent elections.

Speaking to the media, Qaiser expressed his deep concerns regarding the security situation in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, referring to the province as being "at war."

He emphasized that the people of the province are desperate for peace and stability.

Qaiser also condemned the federal government's continued efforts to suppress the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), assailing the federal authorities that are not addressing the pressing issues of peace and security that the country faces.

He further urged the government to re-

visit its Afghan policy, stressing the need for comprehensive and effective strategies for peace.

In a separate statement, Qaiser expressed sorrow over the recent bomb blast incident, noting that it was the result of flawed policies.

He reiterated that the focus should be on creating a safe environment for all citizens and emphasized that transparent elections must take place to resolve the ongoing political crisis.

Provincial Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to Withdraw Illegal Cases

In a related development, the provincial government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has announced its decision to withdraw all ongoing cases, including those involving PTI members.

Yousafzai, the Additional Advocate General of the province, confirmed that anyone facing unfavorable FIRs in the region will have their cases revoked.

Chief Minister Amin Gandapur has instructed authorities to ensure that illegal and politically motivated cases be withdrawn. The aim, according to Gandapur, is to relieve the burden on the courts while ensuring that cases are assessed on their merits.

The move has been hailed as a step towards reducing the backlog of cases in the judicial system.

Yousafzai further stressed that prosecutors are expected to act independently and without external pressures, ensuring that only legitimate charges are pursued.

In a related legal development, Syed Kausar Ali Shah, the Additional Advocate General of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, recently resigned from his post, citing discrimination and previous service.

Shah had been nominated for a position as an Additional Judge in the Peshawar High Court, but his nomination was not advanced, reportedly due to his continued membership in PTI.

He expressed his gratitude to PTI founder Inran Khan and lawyer Quzi Anwar for their support in his legal cases, announced his intention to return to private practice as a lawyer.



NOWSHERA: Federal Minister & president PML-N KP Engr Amir Muqam visited Darul Uloom Haqqania, Nowshera offered fatiha for the martyrs of the blast, and expressed deep sorrow over the martyrdom of Maulana Hamidul Haq.

Ramazan provides opportunity to strengthen our faith, seek forgiveness: PM

ISLAMABAD (INP): Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif extended greetings to Muslims in Pakistan and around the world at the start of Ramadan.

In a message on X, he said, "As the blessed month of Ramadan begins, I extend my heartfelt greetings to Muslims in Pakistan and around the world.

This sacred month is a time of reflection, self-discipline, and spiritual renewal, reminding us of the values of compassion, patience, and unity."

"Ramazan provides us with an opportunity to strengthen our faith, seek forgiveness, and

show kindness to those in need. "At its core, Ramazan calls us to look beyond mere rituals and engage in deep self-reflection. Fasting is not just about abstaining from food and drink—it is about humbling the ego and restraining greed."

It is an act of submission, reminding us that while we are weak, Allah SWT is the Almighty," he added.

The prime minister said, "It is a month of immense blessings, reminding us to be grateful for Allah's mercy and to embrace the true spirit of empathy and generosity while recognizing our responsibility to care for

the less fortunate."

"I pray to Almighty Allah to accept our fasts, prayers, and good deeds and to bless Pakistan with progress and prosperity. May this Ramazan be a source of immense blessings and guidance for us all," he added.

Meanwhile, President Asif Ali Zardari extended greetings to the nation over the beginning of the holy month of Ramazan and said this is the month of mercy, forgiveness and salvation from hell.

In his message to the nation on the beginning of the month of Ramazan, the President said that Ramazan teaches self-purification, patience, perseverance, compassion, equality and the unity.

He said that Ramazan is the best opportunity to attain piety, sincerity and closeness to Almighty Allah.

President Zardari said that in this blessed month, the needs of the poor and needy should be met and the spirit of selflessness and sacrifice must be promoted in the society.

He said that Ramazan provides the best opportunity for Muslims to start their lives anew by creating an environment of reform at the individual and collective levels.

Six Ramazan Bazaars, 17 fair price shops established during Ramadan across Islamabad

ISLAMABAD (INP): As the holy month of Ramadan begins, the district administration of Islamabad has taken significant steps to ensure the availability of essential food items at affordable prices and established six Ramazan bazaars and 17 fair price shops across the city, offering relief to residents during this sacred time.

The initiative aims to provide easy access to groceries, vegetables, and fruits at reduced rates, ensuring that citizens can observe Ramadan without financial strain, said the spokesman of ICT administration here.

The district administration has set up Ramazan markets in key areas, including G-6, H-9, and G-11. Addition-

ally, Ramazan bazaars have been established in I-8, Bahria Town, and Pakistan Town, ensuring widespread coverage. These bazaars are designed to cater to the needs of residents by offering a variety of essential items at lower prices.

Meanwhile, fair price shops have also been opened in prominent locations such as G-9 Markaz, I-8, F-8, and E-11. Other areas like F-10, F-11, G-13, and Barakahu will also host these shops, making affordable groceries accessible to a larger population. The list of locations extends to Bari Imam, Bhara Kahu, Pakistan Town, F-7, and F-6, ensuring that no neighborhood is left out. At the fair price shops, residents can purchase 15 different

types of vegetables and fruits at reduced rates. This initiative is part of the administration's broader plan to provide financial relief to citizens during Ramadan. By offering essential items at lower prices, the district administration hopes to ease the burden on households, particularly those with limited incomes.

In this regard, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Islamabad, Irfan Nawaz Memon has instructed all assistant commissioners to personally visit the stalls and ensure the smooth operation of these markets. This oversight is intended to maintain quality and fairness, ensuring that residents receive the benefits of the initiative without any is-

suues. The establishment of Ramazan markets and fair price shops reflects the district administration's commitment to supporting residents during the holy month. By setting up these facilities in multiple locations, the administration has made it easier for people to access affordable groceries without traveling long distances.

The initiative has been welcomed by residents, who appreciate the effort to provide relief during a time when food prices often rise. The DC of Islamabad emphasized that the primary goal is to ensure that all citizens, regardless of their financial situation, can observe Ramazan with dignity and ease.



QUETTA: Daily wages workers waiting for work on the first day of Ramadan at Bacha Khan Chowk.



BEIJING: Ambassador of Pakistan to China H.E. Mr. Khalid Hashmi speaking at the opening ceremony of the Light of Integration: China-Pakistan Contemporary Art Exchange Exhibition hosted by Tsinghua University's Academy of Arts & Design.

Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) militants declare immediate ceasefire

BAGHDAD (INP): The outlawed Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) militant group declared an immediate ceasefire, a news agency close to it said, heading jailed leader Abdullah Ocalan's disarmament call, in a major step toward ending a 40-year insurgency.

Ocalan, held in the prison on Thursday, called on the PKK to lay down its arms and dissolve, a move that President Tayyip Erdogan's government and the opposition pro-Kurdish DEM party voiced support for. The ceasefire could have wide-ranging implications for the region if it succeeds in ending a conflict that has killed more than

40,000 people since the PKK — now based in the mountains of northern Iraq — launched its armed insurgency in 1984.

It could also give Erdogan a domestic boost and an historic opportunity to bring peace and development to southeast Turkey, where the conflict has killed thousands and severely damaged the economy. The group said it hoped Ankara would give Ocalan, held in a near total isolation since 1999, more freedoms so he can lead a disarmament process, adding that the necessary political and democratic conditions must be established for it to succeed.

"We, as the PKK, fully agree with the content of the call and state that, from our front, we will heed the necessities of the call and implement it," the group said in a statement, according to the Firat news agency. "Beyond this, issues like laying down arms being put into practice can only be realised under the practical leadership of Leader Apo," the group said, using its nickname for Ocalan, adding it would halt all hostilities immediately unless attacked.

The PKK, designated a terrorist group by Turkey and its Western allies, said it was ready to convene a congress, as Ocalan urged, but the necessary security condi-

tions should be established for him to personally direct and run it.

Speaking at a fast-breaking event with martyr families in Istanbul on the first day of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan on Saturday, Erdogan said Turkey will resume operations against the PKK if the disarmament process is stalled, and assured families that the process would not hinder counter-terrorism.

"If the promises that are made are constantly stalled, if an attempt to turn to trickery by eyewitness changing names, and doing as you please, we can't be blamed for what happens," he said.

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Most European leaders back Zelenskyy as he joins crisis talks in London

LONDON, March 02 (INP): Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy thanked the American people and leadership and voiced hope for "strong relations," a day after an astonishing Oval Office blow-out with US President Donald Trump that left many uncertain where the once staunch allies stood.

Zelenskyy on Saturday arrived in London ahead of a summit on Sunday organised by British Prime Minister Keir Starmer with other European leaders.

The summit will also include leaders from France, Germany, Denmark, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Spain, Turkey, Finland, Sweden, Czechia and Romania, as well as the NATO secretary-general and the presidents of the European Commission and European Council.

The meltdown that unfolded on Friday in the final minutes of the highly anticipated meeting at the White House between Trump and Zelenskyy seemed to dash, at least for now, Ukrainian hopes that the United States could be locked in as a reliable partner in helping fend off, and conclude, Russia's three-year

onslaught. NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte said he told Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy that he had to "find a way to restore his relationship with the American president" after the two leaders engaged in an extraordinary meltdown at the White House on Friday.

Rutte told the BBC on Saturday that he told Zelenskyy that "he really had to respect what President Trump has done so far for Ukraine." He was referring to the first Trump administration's decision in 2019 to supply

Ukraine with Javelin antitank missiles that Ukraine used to deadly effect against Russian tanks in the first wave of the 2022 invasion. Calling the Friday meeting between Trump and Zelenskyy "unfortunate," Rutte said he "knew as a fact that the American administration is extremely invested in making sure that Ukraine gets to a durable peace" with Russia. Rutte said he expected European leaders, who were meeting in London on Sunday, to help secure a future peace deal by providing Ukraine with security guarantees.



PESHAWAR: Activists of Customs clearance agents hold protest in favor of their demand outside Peshawar Press Club (PPC).

Ticket refunds announced for abandoned Champions Trophy fixtures

LAHORE (INP): The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has outlined the ticket refund process for two ICC Men's Champions Trophy 2025 matches that were abandoned without a single ball being bowled at Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium.

A total of three matches in the ongoing tournament were washed out due to rain in Rawalpindi and Lahore. However, refunds have been announced only for two fixtures — Aus-

tralia vs South Africa on 25 February and Bangladesh vs Pakistan on 27 February.

Thus, the tickets for the Group B match between Australia and Afghanistan will not be refunded as the PCB Ticket Refund Policy for ICC Champions Trophy 2025 states that ticket holders are eligible for a refund if the match gets abandoned before the toss. The cricket board further shared that the tickets for Hospitality boxes and PCB gallery are also

not available for refunds.

According to the PCB, the eligible ticket holders can claim their refunds from 10 designated outlets of a private courier company from March 10 to 14. For the unversed, the ongoing ninth edition of the Champions Trophy is nearing completion as all four berths in the semi-final have been occupied by India, New Zealand, South Africa and Australia.

However, the final match-ups for the knockout matches are not yet confirmed as it is dependent on the outcome of the last group-stage fixture between India and New Zealand, scheduled to be played at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium in Dubai on Sunday.

After the completion of the group stage, the top side from Group A will take on the second-placed Group B team, while the Group B toppers will lock horns with the second-placed Group A side.

Three Killed in Chagai Road Accident on RCD Highway

Riaz Baloch:

CHAGAI: A tragic accident on the Pak-Iran RCD Highway at Koh Daleel claimed the lives of three people, including two brothers, when a passenger bus collided with a double-cabin pickup.

According to details, the passenger coach was traveling from Taftan to Quetta when it crashed into the pickup, resulting in the deaths of all three occupants of the smaller vehicle. The deceased have been identified as Aqil, son of Abdul Rahman, Zahad, son of Abdul Rahman, and Nawroz Khan, all residents of Tehsil Nokkundi.



Their bodies were shifted to Nokkundi Hospital, while local authorities have launched an investigation into the incident.

Police Raid Quetta Press Club, Arrest SBK Teachers' Candidates

Staff Reporter, Manan Mandokhail:

QUETTA: A heavy contingent of police stormed the Quetta Press Club and arrested candidates who had gathered for a press conference regarding government job recruitments.

According to reports, the arrested individuals were shortlisted candidates under the SBK Testing Service for education department vacancies.

"Police arrested 32 teachers in violation of article 144", Muhammad Baloch, the Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Quetta said.

The Balochistan Union of Journalists and Quetta Press Club condemned the police raid on Quetta Press Club and the arrest of SBK candidates, calling it an attack on press freedom. They urged CM Mir Sarfaraz Bugti to suspend the responsible officers, warning of strong protests if action is not taken.

KP Govt urges federal approval of TORs for talks with Afghanistan to address rising terrorism

PESHAWAR (INP): The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) government has called on the federal government to promptly approve the proposed Terms of Reference (TORs) for talks with Afghanistan, citing the urgent need to address the escalating terrorism in the region.

In a statement, Barrister Muhammad Ali Saif, Information Advisor to the KP government, emphasized that the federal government should avoid further delays in approving the TORs to enable the provincial government to take immediate action. He revealed that KP is seeking to send a delegation to Afghanistan on an emergency basis to curb the growing terrorist activities in the region.

Hoarding, profiteering continue unchecked in Punjab, Sindh, and Balochistan

MULTAN (INP): As the holy month of Ramadan begins, the prices of essential commodities have skyrocketed across major cities, leaving citizens struggling to afford basic food items.

Despite the government's promises to curb inflation, profiteers and hoarders continue to exploit the situation, causing an artificial shortage and price manipulation. How Punjab's price control magistrates failed to deliver on first Ramadan.

According to media reports, Lahore's model bazaars, set up to provide relief to consumers, have also failed to meet expectations, with buyers complaining about both the quality and high prices of food items. Meanwhile, Islamabad residents report a drastic increase in fruit prices compared to just three days ago, further exacerbating concerns about affordability.

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz has ordered an immediate crackdown on

hoarders and profiteers, directing all commissioners and deputy commissioners to enforce strict price monitoring. She has emphasized the need for transparent price display, real-time tracking of demand and supply, and legal action against those violating price controls.

Despite these directives, traders and vendors continue to defy official price lists, citing supply chain issues and global wholesale costs. Consumers lament that while grocery markets offer Ramadan discounts, local retailers are driving prices higher, making it nearly impossible for low-income families to observe the holy month without financial strain.

With inflation already at record highs, the government's failure to regulate essential commodity prices raises serious concerns about its ability to provide relief during this critical period. If immediate action is not taken, the un-

checked profiteering could further burden struggling households across the country. In Hyderabad, fruits and vegetables are being sold at exorbitant rates, with bananas priced at Rs150 per dozen against the official rate of Rs148, and golden apples retailing at Rs300 per kg instead of Rs219. Similarly, in Hyderabad, vendors have arbitrarily raised prices, making it increasingly difficult for the public to afford fresh produce.

In Quetta, the much-hyped Ramadan Sasta Bazaar has failed to provide the promised relief to citizens. Many stalls remain empty, forcing disappointed shoppers to return home without essential items. Vegetables, meat, and bakery products are still being sold at regular market rates, contrary to government claims of subsidized prices. Frustrated shoppers have expressed their disappointment, stating that the initiative has not lived up to expectations.

issues like smog, stating that if such diplomatic initiatives were deemed important, the KP government should also be given the opportunity to engage with Afghanistan on a crucial matter like terrorism.

Barrister Saif cautioned that the federal government's dual policy approach was fostering a growing sense of deprivation among the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. He warned that this could have negative repercussions for national unity and stability. The provincial government has called on the federal authorities to rise above politics and take immediate, practical steps to combat terrorism in KP, with hopes for a swift resolution to the matter.

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QUETTA: Chairman PML-N (Nazriyati) Jahangir Khan Khattori addressing a press conference.



LAHORE: Sheikh Waseem, former Member of the National Assembly along with Saad Waseem Member of the National Assembly call on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif.

NHSRC assigns another significant responsibility to Health Services Academy

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination (NHSRC) has assigned another significant responsibility to the Health Services Academy (HSA), recognizing its transparency, efficiency, and merit-based recruitment processes. Under the Public Sector Development Program (PSDP), HSA has been tasked with recruiting for 423 positions, ranging from PPS-1 to PPS-22, across 10 different public health projects.

According to Nadeem Sajjad Kayani, Controller of Examinations and Focal Person for PSDP Projects at HSA, the academy has already successfully conducted recruitment for five major teaching hospitals in the federal capital, where over 150,000 candidates underwent screening tests in a transparent manner.

Based on this success, the Ministry of Health has further strengthened its trust in HSA

by assigning another large-scale recruitment task.

This new recruitment drive involves conducting screening tests, psychological assessments, skill and trade tests, and other evaluation tests for 71,487 applicants.

Speaking to the media, Nadeem Sajjad Kayani stated that under the leadership of Vice-Chancellor Dr. Shehzad Ali Khan, HSA will conduct the recruitment process using modern technology, including Optical Mark Recognition (OMR) systems, and transparent policies.

He emphasized that all testing phases will be conducted according to international standards, utilizing advanced assessment technology to eliminate any possibility of error or malpractice.

The use of OMR systems will not only ensure transparency in written examinations but will also facilitate an effective evaluation of candi-

dates' actual skills in skill and trade tests. The academy aims to ensure merit-based selection, bringing qualified and skilled professionals into public health projects.

These recruitments are part of various prime ministerial public health initiatives, including the elimination of Hepatitis C, the National Health Support Project, the establishment of Jimah Medical Complex & Research Center, diabetes prevention programs, quality medicine supply chains, community health centers, and primary healthcare facilities.

The Ministry of Health and the Health Services Academy have already initiated the screening process, ensuring transparency in the recruitments. A final list of selected candidates will soon be submitted to the ministry for swift deployment of successful applicants. This initiative marks a significant milestone in strengthening Pakistan's public health system.

Chinese company, NEVs begins vehicles' deliveries in Pakistan's major cities

ISLAMABAD (INP): China's BYD, a global leader in New Energy Vehicles (NEVs), and Pakistan's Mega Motor Company (MMC) Private Limited have commenced vehicle deliveries in Karachi, Lahore, and Islamabad.

According to an official statement, the companies plan to roll out 100 units within the first 48 hours.

BYD Pakistan also announced showroom locations in the three cities, emphasizing its commitment to advancing sustainable mobility in the country.

In April, BYD partnered with MMC to introduce innovative NEV solutions to Pakistan.

By June 2024, HUBCO, through MMC Private Limited, expanded into the electric vehicle sector in collaboration with BYD Auto Industry Limited, the development was shared by HUBCO in a notice to Pakistan Stock Exchange.

With the launch of the SEAL.

SNGLP issues new schedule for gas supply during Ramadan

ISLAMABAD (INP): The Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGLP) has issued a new schedule for the supply of gas to different parts of Lahore during Shri and Itari in the holy month of Ramadan.

Residents of the city will be supplied gas for Shri between 7:30 AM and 8:00 AM, while for Itari between 2:30 PM and 10:00 PM. In order to ensure a non-stop of supply of gas during the holy month, the SNGLP has formed 100 committees.

Rashid Hayat, General Manager Lahore East, has said that the teams will perform their duties 24/7.

On the other hand, Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC) failed to fulfill its promise of the provision of gas to consumers in Karachi during Shri, as there was no supply of gas at the time of the first Shri of the holy month of Ramadan in the Old City area of the provincial capital, prompting the people to use LPG cylinders instead.



HYDERABAD: Senior Minister and Minister for Transport Sharjeel Inaam Memon distributed the Solar system to people during the Solar distribution ceremony, organized by Sindh Solar Energy at Rawal House.

FIA arrests four suspects involved in human trafficking, visa fraud

LAHORE (INP): Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) Lahore Zone claimed on Sunday to have arrested four suspects involved in human trafficking and visa fraud from Model Town, Rehman Garden, and Shama here.

FIA spokesperson told the media that suspects Raheel Parvez, Muhammad Umar, Yameen Nadeem and Rohan Mahmood were operating fraudulent travel agencies and deceiving citizens with false promises of overseas employment. Raheel Parvez had been on FIA's radar since 2019 for fraudulently collecting Rs 9 million from citizens, claiming

to facilitate their immigration to Canada.

Investigations revealed that the suspects were running unauthorised travel agencies and were illegally collecting passports from citizens.

They allegedly committed visa fraud, extorting millions of rupees while luring individuals with promises of jobs abroad. During the raids, FIA officials recovered 12 Pakistani passports, educational documents, and multiple mobile SIM cards.

The suspects failed to justify possession of the recovered passports.

Authorities also reported

that they would vanish after receiving payments, leaving victims stranded.

FIA Director Sarfaraz Khan Virk said that operations against human trafficking networks had been intensified and strict legal action would be taken against the arrested individuals. He added that FIA was committed to dismantling international human trafficking networks and ensuring strict punishment for offenders under the law.

Investigation was ongoing, and authorities were working to trace additional links to the human smuggling network, he added.