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QUETTA VOICE

Pakistan calls for release, repatriation of 97 prisoners who have completed sentences in Indian jails

NEWS DESK:

India urged Pakistan on Wednesday to release and repatriate 97 Pakistani prisoners who have completed their sentences, according to a statement issued by the Foreign Office (FO).

These prisoners include 64 civilians and 33 fishermen, the FO said, as it detailed the exchange of prisoner lists between India and Pakistan — a biannual practice that takes place in pursuance of the Agreement on Consular Access, 2008.

The agreement requires both sides to share the lists of prisoners in each other's custody on January 1 and July 1 every year.

The FO said the "government of Pakistan handed over a list of 250 Indian prisoners in Pakistan (52 civilians and 198 fishermen) to the Indian High Commission in Islamabad."

It added that the Indian government shared a list of

439 prisoners who were "Pakistani or believed to be Pakistani", including 386 civilian prisoners and 53 fishermen.

It added that India was also urged to ensure the safety, security and well-being of all prisoners who were Pakistani or believed to be Pakistani.

Pakistan also called for "expeditious consular access" to all the prisoners believed to be Pakistani in order to confirm their nationality.

"The government of Pakistan will continue its efforts to ensure the early return of all Pakistani prisoners," the statement said.

The issue of prisoners remains a sensitive humanitarian concern in the strained bilateral relations.

The Pakistan-India Judicial Committee on Prisoners, established in 2007 to address such matters, has been inactive since its last meeting in 2013 due to heightened tensions and the suspension of comprehensive bilateral dialogue by India.



Quetta: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti visited Girls Cadet College Quetta along with Corps Commander Balochistan Lt Gen Rahat Naseem Ahmed Khan

Balochistan CM Mir Sarfraz Bugti Announces Rs12 Million Grant During Visit to Girls Cadet College Quetta

News Desk

Quetta: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti visited Girls Cadet College Quetta along with Corps Commander Balochistan Lt Gen Rahat Naseem Ahmed Khan, where they reviewed the institution's academic departments, modern teaching facilities, and training programs.

During the visit, the Chief Minister and the Corps Commander commended the college's high educational standards, disciplined environment, and professional administration, describing it as one of Pakistan's leading institutions for girls' education.

Addressing the students, Mir Sarfraz Bugti said that Girls Cadet College Quetta is producing confident, capable young women who represent the bright future of Pakistan. He expressed

confidence that the graduates of the institution would excel in diverse fields and contribute significantly to Pakistan's development, national progress, and public service.

The Chief Minister encouraged students to promote unity, patriotism, and national identity wherever they go, emphasizing that the State of Pakistan provides its citizens with identity, dignity, and opportunities.

He urged them to serve as responsible ambassadors of the country throughout their academic and professional careers.

Highlighting the importance of critical thinking, Bugti advised students to distinguish facts from fake propaganda and disinformation, stating that anti-state narratives are designed to mislead young people through organized misinformation campaigns.

He also warned students against groups that, under the guise of nationalism, attempt to influence and misguide young people on university campuses. Instead, he urged them to dedicate their talents and energy to the peace, stability, and prosperity of the province.

As part of his visit, the Chief Minister announced a special grant of Rs12 million for Girls Cadet College Quetta.

He pledged his continued personal support for the institution and said the Government of Balochistan would provide all possible resources to further strengthen the college's academic excellence and infrastructure, with the goal of making it one of the region's premier educational institutions. The visit concluded with Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti and Corps Commander Lt Gen Rahat Naseem Ahmed Khan planting a commemorative tree on the college campus.

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High-profile attacks persist in June despite overall decline in terrorism: PICSS



NEWS DESK:

Despite several high-profile attacks, Pakistan witnessed a decline in overall anti-state violence and related security incidents during June, according to the Pakistan Institute for Conflict and Security Studies (PICSS), an Islamabad-based think tank.

According to PICSS — an Islamabad-based think tank that monitors terrorism, anti-state violence and related security trends — 194 terrorists were killed in operations by Pakistani security forces, accounting for the largest share of the total 262 fatalities.

On the other hand, 52 civilians and 26 security forces per-

sonnel lost their lives during the month.

The breakdown of the injured showed that 63 civilians, 50 security forces personnel, 18 pro-government peace committee members and three terrorists were wounded.

Made with Flourish • Create a chart Compared with May, fatalities among Pakistani security forces declined by 62 per cent, while civilian deaths dropped by 27pc.

Terrorist deaths also registered a 32pc decrease.

Among the injured, PICSS recorded a 43pc decline in security forces casualties, a 57pc decrease among civilians and a 67pc reduction among terrorists.

PICSS also noted a 50pc reduction in kidnappings, with 27 people kidnapped in June compared with 54 in May.

Pakistani security forces also arrested at least 27 suspected terrorists during the month.

The number of terrorist attacks also declined, falling from 128 in May to 108 in June, a reduction of around 16pc.

However, PICSS noted, the country continued to face "high-impact attacks, including at least four suicide attacks."

Three of these were vehicle-borne suicide bombings, including the "high-profile attack" targeting Sindh Rangers in Karachi on June 27, which claimed the lives of three security personnel.

Armed Attack on Construction Machinery in Duki; Two Road Rollers Set Ablaze

Hussain Zarkoon:

DUKKI: Unknown armed men launched an attack on a construction company's machinery near the Duki city cross electricity grid station, police sources reported.

According to the police, the assailants set fire to two road roller machines belonging to the construction company. Due to the intense blaze, both

machines were completely destroyed and reduced to ashes. The attackers managed to flee the scene successfully after executing the raid.

Location of the Incident

Police stated that the incident took place on Kohlu Road, approximately 15 kilometers south of Duki city. The site of the attack is located about

three kilometers from the Ghrwasa police station.

Current Status

The construction company is currently working on the 105-kilometer-long road project connecting Duki to Chamalang.

Following the incident, law enforcement agencies reached the spot and initiated a thorough investigation.

A search operation is underway to track down and apprehend the fleeing attackers.



QUETTA VOICE

Editor: Asim Khan

Artificial Intelligence Just Taking Baby Steps

Syed Muhammad Qaseem:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the simulation of human intelligence in computer systems. In simple words, AI enables machines to perform tasks that require human intelligence. Those tasks can be learning from past experiences, solving problems, and making predictions based on provided data. Until now, AI has just started taking baby steps but it is growing at a much rapid rate.

Every invention had various positive and negative impacts on human civilization. According to Google's CEO, Sundar Pichai "AI will have a more profound impact on human beings than fire, electricity, and the internet". This innovation also has both positive and negative impacts on human beings. If it is left unchecked it will have adverse impacts on human creativity, the job market, and the flow of information. However, the positive use of AI will bring major advancements in medical science, education, agriculture, etc. In the following paragraphs, the impacts of AI on humans are described.

Negative Impacts of AI:
AI is a technological tool and its use can be both positive and negative, although, it is in the hands of human beings on how to use it. Following are some negative impacts of AI on humans.

Deep Fakes Through Generative AI:
In the age of information technology, misinformation is a major issue.

The introduction of generative AI into public space has further worsened the predicament of information flow. Through generative AI, deep fakes are generated.

These deep fakes are original or fake, for a person who has no knowledge of AI.

The deep fakes can be an image, a video, or a voice note. Recently, in Slovakia's 2023 elections, a fake voice of a party's leader and a journalist was shared on social media, in which they were talking about purchasing votes from the poor population. This voice badly reduced the vote bank of that party during elections.

Another example of the deep fakes that created uncertainty was pictures of the former US president, Donald Trump's arrest, which provoked his supporter's sentiments against the state. Therefore, the use of generative AI is left unchecked, bad actors in society will use it for their own purposes and spread wrong information.

AI's use in War
Using AI for the purpose of AI will have ferocious results. Because AI unlike humans has no fear, doesn't commit mistakes, doesn't get tired, and has no mercy. So, it can fight much better than a soldier.

Thus, Countries are trying to develop AI fighters, robots, and drones for the maximization of power. This will attract the attention of their rival countries to build AI war machines for the balance of power. Hence, like nuclear weapons, AI will further worsen security dilemmas if used for the purpose of war.

AI is a Major Threat to Human Creativity
Creativity is a unique characteristic of human beings due to which they bring development, prosperity, modernization, and ease in their lives. But man-made intelligence is growing so rapidly that

it has posed a grave threat to the creativity of God's humankind. With only a few clicks and in some seconds, an AI program can write a book, a novel, a poem, an assignment and an article. Furthermore, it can sing a song, draw a painting, solve a problem, and make a prediction. On the other side, it takes much effort and time for a human to do all these tasks. Due to the lazy and comfort-seeking nature of human beings, now they mostly rely on AI to perform these tasks. With the passage of time AI is learning more skills and human's reliance on AI is further increasing. This increase in reliance on AI will cause the death of creativity in humans.

AI and Job Market
"AI is coming to take your job", this news was seen on many news platforms when



ChatGPT was launched in Nov 2022. As stated earlier, AI is efficient and less time-consuming in performing a task. Therefore, it has made millions of people jobless in almost every field, whether they are hotel waiters, drivers, journalists, software engineers and content writers etc.

AI-driven cars neither cross the speed limit nor have sleep problems, consequently, companies are manufacturing AI-driven cars to avoid road accidents. Journalists and content writers demand huge salaries for their work, while ChatGPT is a free AI app that can do the same tasks freely and quickly.

More interestingly, AI will replace its own founders (Software Engineers) who developed AI, as AI can write code and find errors in it. To sum up, AI has much potential to replace the human workforce.

Positive Impacts of AI
Along with negative impacts, AI can also be advantageous for humans if used for welfare purposes. In the following paragraphs, some advantages of AI are described if AI is used positively.

AI can Revolutionize the Medical Field
AI along with synthetic biology can transform the world shaped until now. AI and synthetic biology can eradicate debilitating diseases, and find treatments for pandemics, thus providing health benefits. AI has also made a lot of achievements in the field of surgery. Last year, an AI robot performed a successful egg surgery in which the inner layer of an egg was stitched. Additionally, an AI Chatbot

can also prescribe medicines and treatment for a disease based on the provided symptoms. In the coming years, AI will further advance itself in the medical field and people will take numerous benefits from it.

Prediction Based on Provided Data
Humans remain curious to predict things or the outcome of events. If data is fed to an AI, it can find patterns in that data, and based on those patterns it can give predictions. For example:

AI can predict election results, market demand for a product, predict weather etc. In the US 2020 presidential elections, an AI model was trained to predict the outcome of elections.

Tweets and Facebook posts were fed to the model from which AI separated positive and negative sentiments

about former US President Trump and current US President Joe Biden. Based on the high number of positive sentiments, the AI model predicted that Trump would win the elections, and he won. So, humans can take advantage of this feature of AI and can reap its benefits.

Boosting Agricultural Through AI
Pakistan is an agriculture-based country, and enhancing the agriculture sector will boost the country's economic performance.

AI can increase agricultural production by predicting the best time to cultivate and harvest a crop.

It is also capable of identifying soil conditions, plant diseases, weather forecasts, and when plants need to be irrigated. Moreover,

AI can analyze the market's supply and demand chain. AI will be ef-

icient in saving the loss of water during irrigation. Secondly, it will provide a suitable environment for the plants to grow through maintaining soil fertility and water needs.

To sum up, equipping agriculture with AI systems will boost agricultural production and prevent heavy water losses.

Recommendations for the Pakistani Government
The world has entered into the race of AI development. Fortunately, Pakistan has a huge human resource, but making them skillful in the field of AI is a hard task to do. All provincial governments should include AI in the school curriculum.

There should be an AI portal for students, from where they can get updates about AI developments around the globe and jobs announced by the government. Furthermore, universities must be directed to increase practical work in AI rather than theoretical.

Conclusion
In conclusion, AI nevertheless advantageous, poses a grave threat to human civilization. If AI is left unchecked, it can spread misinformation through deep fakes, worsen the status quo of security dilemmas, cause the death of human creativity, and take jobs. So, all countries should sit on a single platform and form laws to control the development and introduction of AI tools in public space. In addition, AI companies should include a watermark to the content generated through AI to cope with misinformation. In the end, AI will be more hazardous if it gets consciousness and moves physically freely without being dependant on humans.

Balochistan: Qila Saifullah Hailstorm Destroys 7M Fruit Trees, 18,000 Farmers Hit

Atta Kakar:
A devastating hailstorm accompanied by powerful winds has caused widespread destruction across Qila Saifullah district in Balochistan, damaging more than 7 million fruit trees and affecting nearly 18,000 farmers and landowners.

The storm struck on April 18, severely impacting one of the province's most important horticultural regions and leaving thousands of rural families facing major economic uncertainty.

The disaster caused extensive damage to orchards, agricultural land, and seasonal crops, particularly apple, apricot, and grape farms that form the backbone of the local economy.

Farmers say years of hard work and investment were wiped out within minutes as hail and strong winds tore through villages and farming areas across the district.

Local growers have described the situation as catastrophic,



warning that many families may struggle to survive financially without immediate government assistance. Agriculture remains the primary source of income for a large portion of Qila Saifullah's population, and the destruction of fruit orchards is expected to have long-term economic consequences for the region.

Residents and farming communities have expressed frustration over delays in relief and compensation efforts.

Many affected farmers claim that official assessment and rehabilitation measures have been slow despite the scale of destruction. Calls are growing for the provincial and federal governments to announce emergency compensation packages, interest-free agricultural loans, and recovery support for affected communities.

Farmers and local representatives are also demanding restoration of damaged irrigation systems and the introduction of crop insurance mechanisms to help

rural communities recover from climate-related disasters. They argue that without urgent intervention, the crisis could deepen poverty and unemployment across the district.

The Qila Saifullah hailstorm has once again highlighted the vulnerability of Balochistan's agriculture sector to extreme weather events. Experts warn that climate-related disasters, including hailstorms, droughts, and flash floods, are becoming increasingly frequent in the province, placing additional pressure on farmers already struggling with limited infrastructure and rising production costs.

Analysts say stronger disaster management systems, climate-resilient agricultural policies, and faster emergency response mechanisms are essential to protect rural livelihoods and ensure long-term stability in Balochistan's farming sector.

Governor Balochistan Praises University of Gwadar's Progress, Sets Vision for World-Class Coastal University

QUETTA: Governor of Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has said that through prudent planning and strict oversight, the provincial government has successfully maintained a balance between limited resources and growing challenges across all public sector universities in Balochistan.

Chairing the third Senate meeting of the University of Gwadar, the Governor stated that the university's achievement of an 88.79% performance score is a matter of pride for the province.

He congratulated Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Abdul Kazzaz Sabir and his entire team for their dedication and outstanding performance. The meeting was attended by Vice Chancellor of the University of Gwadar Prof. Dr. Abdul Kazzaz Sabir, Vice Chancellor of the University of Balochistan Dr. Zahoor Ahmed Bazi, Balochistan High Court Justice Naimuddin Mengal, Additional Secretary for Higher Education



form the University of Gwadar into one of the world's leading coastal belt universities.

He highlighted that the university's Strategic Plan 2026-2030 focuses exclusively on coastal and marine-related disciplines, including Blue Economy, Marine Sciences, Fisheries, Coastal Belt Management, and Environmental Studies, ensuring the institution develops a unique academic identity.

He stressed that the core mission of any university is to produce research that contributes to knowledge and society. He commended the University of Gwadar for its growing number of research publications and urged that every research paper should be utilized for the region's economic development.

The Governor further praised the university for introducing vocational training and diploma programs alongside quality higher education. He noted that these skill-based programs are crucial for creating employment opportunities for unemployed youth and supporting the region's economic development.

He added that experts from various fields are also being consulted to help achieve this ambitious vision. The third Senate meeting concluded with the approval of several important decisions based on recommendations and proposals presented by the Senate members, aimed at further strengthening the university's academic and institutional development.

Balochistan Investment and Trade Expo to Boost Investment, Entrepreneurship, and Youth Employment, Says Vice Chairman

QUETTA: Vice Chairman of the Balochistan Board of Investment and Trade (BBoIT), Bilal Khan Kakar, has announced that the provincial government will organize the Balochistan Investment

The event was attended by BBoIT Chief Executive Officer Qaim Lashari and Trade Vice Chancellor Dr. Mir Wais Kasi, Registrar Dr. Ahsan Achakzai, faculty members, and a large number of students.

and institutional support to help young entrepreneurs succeed. The Vice Chairman added that the Government of Balochistan is taking practical measures to facilitate investors, simplify investment



and Trade Expo next month in collaboration with the Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering and Management Sciences (BUIEMS) to attract investment, trade, industrial development, and entrepreneurship across the province.

Addressing volunteer students at BUIEMS, Bilal Khan Kakar said the initiative is being launched in line with the vision of Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti, who has prioritized creating a business-friendly environment to attract domestic and foreign investment and accelerate economic growth.

Bilal Khan Kakar said the upcoming expo is expected to become a major milestone in Balochistan's economic development by attracting investors, promoting trade and industry, and creating new employment and business opportunities for young people.

He emphasized that the government alone cannot provide jobs to every young graduate and encouraged youth to embrace entrepreneurship and business ventures instead of relying solely on public sector employment. He assured students that the provincial government is committed to providing training, opportunities,

and encourage private sector participation, enabling local and international investors to invest confidently in the province's key economic sectors.

According to Bilal Khan Kakar, the Balochistan Investment and Trade Expo will bring together national and international investors, business leaders, industrial organizations, and development partners, diplomatic representatives, academic institutions, and experts from various sectors.

The expo will showcase Balochistan's vast investment potential, including opportunities in mineral resources, industry,

Balochistan C&W Department Appoints 192 Sub Engineers Through BPSC to Strengthen Development Projects

QUETTA: The Communication and Works (C&W) Department, Government of Balochistan, has issued appointment orders for 192 Sub Engineers selected through the Balochistan Public Service Commission (BPSC), marking a significant milestone in strengthening the province's engineering workforce and expanding employment opportunities for qualified youth.



According to official sources, the appointments represent a major achievement for the department and are expected to significantly enhance its technical capacity.

The newly recruited Sub Engineers will contribute to the province's infrastructure development, supervision, and timely completion of ongoing and future development

projects across Balochistan. Officials stated that the increase in technical staff will improve the execution of infrastructure projects, including the construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, and other public development schemes, ensuring better quality and faster delivery of essential public services throughout the province.

The government emphasized that the recruitment process was carried out transparently and strictly on merit through the Balochistan Public Service Commission (BPSC), reflecting the provincial government's commitment to good governance, transparency, and merit-based recruitment.

The appointments are being viewed as part of the vision of Chief Minister Balochistan Mir Sarfraz Bugti and Provincial Minister for Communication and Works Mir Saleem Khosa, aimed at creating employment opportunities for educated youth while strengthening the province's development sector.

Chaman Administration Warns Against Renting Property to Illegal Foreign Nationals

CHAMAN: The district administration in Chaman has intensified its efforts to identify and monitor illegally residing foreign nationals, who are urged to fully cooperate with authorities in maintaining law and order.

As part of the ongoing campaign, administrative teams visited remote areas of the district to identify and identify undocumented individuals and raise public awareness about compliance with government directives.

During the visits, residents were instructed to report any suspicious

other type of property to foreign nationals residing illegally in Pakistan. Officials emphasized that providing accommodation or business premises to undocumented foreigners constitutes a violation of government orders.

The district administration warned that strict legal action will be taken against anyone found violating these directives in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations.

Authorities also appealed to the public to cooperate with the administration by complying with legal requirements and promptly reporting any suspicious

or illegal activities to the relevant departments.

The administration reiterated that public cooperation is essential to strengthening law and order, ensuring effective implementation of government policies, and maintaining peace and stability across District Chaman.

Chaman District Administration, Illegal Foreign Nationals, Undocumented Foreigners Pakistan, Chaman Security, Property Rental Rules,

Law and Order Chaman, Balochistan Administration, Public Safety, Immigration Enforcement, Chaman News.

NAB Balochistan Holds Anti-Corruption Awareness Seminar at Islamia Boys College Quetta

QUETTA: The National Accountability Bureau (NAB) Balochistan organized an awareness seminar at Islamia Boys College Quetta on the theme "NAB's Working Mechanism and the Role of Students in Eliminating Corruption" as part of its ongoing anti-corruption awareness campaign.

The seminar aimed to educate students about the harmful effects of corruption and encourage collective efforts to build a transparent, accountable, and corruption-free society.

A delegation of NAB Balochistan officials, led by Deputy Director NAB Farhan Yousaf Khan, interacted with students and faculty members, highlighting NAB's vision, mission, legal framework, and the important role young people can play in promoting integrity and accountability.

The event was attended by Additional



Director Colleges Syeda Aftab, Principal Islamia Boys College Abdul Rasheed Khan Alizai, faculty members, and a large number of students.

He identified bribery, nepotism, favoritism, undue influence, and abuse of authority as major forms of corruption and expressed concern that such practices have increasingly become normalized in society.

He encouraged students to develop a strong understanding of anti-corruption principles and actively promote honesty, transparency, and accountability within their communities.

and that corruption in any form is unacceptable. The speaker emphasized that students, as future leaders of the nation, have the potential to play a decisive role in eradicating corruption-free society through collective awareness and responsible citizenship.

During the seminar, Additional Director Colleges Syeda Aftab and Principal Abdul Rasheed Khan Alizai also addressed the participants, appreciating NAB Balochistan's awareness initiatives and assuring the Bureau of their continued cooperation in future anti-corruption campaigns.

An anti-corruption awareness walk was also organized on the college campus, with participants holding banners and distributing pamphlets.

NAB Balochistan, Islamia Boys College Quetta, Anti-Corruption Seminar, Farhan Yousaf Khan, National Accountability Bureau, Anti-Corruption Awareness, Students Against Corruption, Quetta News, Integrity and Transparency.

Borshoor Administration Holds Open Public Forum to Address Citizens' Issues and Improve Governance

BORSHOOR: On the special directives of Deputy Commissioner Khalid Shams, the District Administration organized an Open Public Forum (Khuli Kachehri) under the chairmanship of Assistant Commissioner Naveed Baloch to directly hear and resolve public grievances.

The forum brought together heads of government departments, district officials, tribal elders, community representatives, and a large number of residents who openly discussed

issues affecting the district and sought immediate administrative intervention.

During the three-hour session, citizens presented complaints and concerns related to various government departments. Relevant officials were directed to the spot to take prompt action and ensure the timely resolution of public issues.

Participants appreciated the initiative, describing the Open Public Forum as a significant step toward promoting transparency, merit, accountability, and responsive governance.

They welcomed the opportunity to engage directly with district authorities and voice their concerns without intermediaries. Speaking at the conclusion of the event, Assistant Commissioner Naveed Baloch assured participants that the administration remains committed to resolving public issues efficiently and strengthening communication between citizens and government institutions.

The Assistant Commissioner also instructed all departmental officials to immediately act on the complaints raised during the forum and submit implementation reports at the earliest to ensure effective follow-up.

The district administration reaffirmed its commitment to improving public service delivery, enhancing accountability, and addressing citizens' concerns through direct public engagement.

Key words: Borshoor Open Public Forum, Khalid Shams, Naveed Baloch, Borshoor District Administration, Public Grievance Redressal, Open Public Forum, Good Governance, Balochistan Transparency, Citizen Engagement, Balochistan News.

A grid of 12 small public notices, each with a title and a brief description of the notice content.

SC restores female heirs' inheritance in ancestral property after 71 years, lays burden of oral gift's proof on beneficiaries

NEWSDESK:In a move to strengthen women's inheritance rights, the Supreme Court (SC) on Wednesday ordered the restoration of the inherited share of two sisters in their ancestral property after a 71-year dispute, while establishing that the burden of proving an oral gift (one rested with those claiming to benefit from it.

In 1955, the defendants' father passed away, and their two brothers transferred the inherited property into their names, claiming that it had been orally gifted to them.

A two-member bench at the Land Registry comprising Justice Shahid Bilal Hassan and Justice Shaukat Ahmad allowed the appeal filed by Noor Muhammad and issued a 14-page judgment, setting aside the concurrent decisions of the trial court, appellate court and high court that had upheld the disputed oral gift.

The apex court also directed the revenue authorities to correct the land record and ensure that the sisters receive their inheritance in accordance with the law.

According to the judgment, the dispute dates back to 1955 when, following the death of the parties' father, two brothers transferred the inherited property into their names, claiming that it had been orally gifted to them. The appellants maintained that the oral gift was fraudulently engineered to deprive the female heirs of their lawful inheritance.

Rejecting the findings of the lower courts, the Supreme Court ruled that the beneficiaries of an alleged oral gift bear the legal burden of proving its existence.

The judgment observed that the trial court fundamentally erred by treating the al-



leged oral gift itself as proof instead of examining whether the burden of evidence had been discharged, rendering its approach contrary to settled legal principles.

Referring to a past judgment in the Faqir Ali and others versus Sakina Bibi and others case, the court had ordered that where the "beneficiaries of a gift seek to exclude female heirs from inheritance", the onus lies

upon them to prove the gift.

It is trite that a gift in order to be valid and binding on the parties must fulfil three conditions, namely (i) declaration of gift by the donor, (ii) acceptance of gift by the donee, and (iii) delivery of possession of corpus.

The court further held that even if the alleged oral gift had remained unchallenged for

decades, as argued by the respondents and accepted by the high court, the obligation to establish its validity still rested with those seeking to benefit from it.

The bench also rejected the objection that the claim had been filed after an inordinate delay, noting that the record showed the mother and sisters continued to receive a share of the income generated by the

land for several years after the purported gift.

"After remaining in possession of the property, the sons and their successors subsequently dealt with the property through exchange mutations and gift transactions in favour of their descendants," the SC highlighted in the detailed order.

This, the court said, indicated they had not

been aware of any valid transfer excluding them from inheritance.

Mutation as evidence

The apex court noted that following the death of Koshan, Mutations 74 and 75 were entered in favour of the defendants on April 4, 1955, recording that the widow and daughters of the deceased relinquished their share in favour of the male heirs.

"Inheritance Mutation No74 was entered on April 4, 1955, in favour of legal heirs, on the same day, Mutation No75 was also entered on the basis of an alleged oral gift made by the widow and daughters of the deceased in favour of two sons' favour of legal heirs. Both mutations were sanctioned on April 17, 1955," the judgment noted.

The top court dispelled the assumption made by lower courts that the mutation itself constituted proof of the transaction.

Islamic protection afforded to women, the Supreme Court declared that inheritance was neither a matter of male discretion nor family generosity, but a vested legal and Sharia right that automatically devolves upon all heirs immediately after the death of the deceased.

The bench maintained that women's inheritance rights cannot be extinguished through "private arrangements, family pressure or customary practices" and warned that every transaction allegedly depriving women of inheritance, including fake gifts, fraudulent mutations and sham arrangements, must be subjected to sharp judicial scrutiny.

The court observed that denying women inheritance is not merely a legal dispute but a deep-rooted social problem that often begins within families before reaching the courts. It added that women cannot be deprived of their share in the guise of family honour, tradition or social purposes, and neither creates nor extinguishes title," further stressing, "It is reiterated that a mutation is maintained for fiscal purposes and neither creates nor extinguishes proprietary rights."

Constitutional, legal and Islamic proprietary rights of women

Emphasising the constitutional, legal and

Islamic protection afforded to women, the Supreme Court declared that inheritance was neither a matter of male discretion nor family generosity, but a vested legal and Sharia right that automatically devolves upon all heirs immediately after the death of the deceased.

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Constitutional, legal and Islamic proprietary rights of women

Emphasising the constitutional, legal and

Consumer inflation rate eases slightly to 11.1pc in June due to lower energy, food prices: PBS

NEWSDESK:Pakistan's consumer inflation rate eased slightly to 11.1 per cent in June from 11.7pc a month earlier, mainly due to lower prices of energy and essential food items, according to data released by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics on Wednesday.

The modest decline suggests that recent cuts in petrol and diesel prices have provided some relief to households. However, the government has yet to fully pass on the benefit of lower international oil prices to domestic consumers, limiting the overall reduction in inflationary pressures.

On a month-on-month basis, inflation decreased by 0.3pc compared to the previous month. In the corresponding month last year, this was de-

spite a high base effect from last year.

The government has projected a revised inflation target of 7.5pc for the current fiscal year. For FY27, it has projected an inflation target of 8.2pc.

The continued increase in monthly inflation, measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), has pushed it beyond the earlier projection of the government mainly because of an unprecedented increase in price of petroleum products.

In June, energy prices saw a drastic downward revision, but the impact on overall inflation was minimal due to the continued blockage of the Strait of Hormuz, through which most of Pakistan's energy imports are routed.

The slight decrease in prices during June was largely driven by a fall in transport, which declined by 7.22pc from the previous month of May. The transport charges in June increased by 25.72pc compared to June 2025.

Non-perishable food items also recorded a sharp increase of 10.21pc, highlighting volatility in essential commodities. Housing, water, electricity, gas and fuels registered a 15.5pc increase, adding further pressure on household budgets.

The SBP increased its policy rate to 11.5pc in April from the previous 10.5pc in response to rising inflation. It was kept unchanged at 11.5pc. Earlier, the central bank had kept the policy rate at 10.5pc unchanged, effective from December 16, 2025.

The data showed that urban inflation stood slightly higher at 11.2pc, compared to 10.9pc in rural areas on an annual basis.

Long-Awaited Moot: President Zardari and CM Balochistan Meet to Align on Security and Provincial Ties

From Our Correspondent: In a highly anticipated move for the region, President Asif Ali Zardari held a high-level meeting with Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah and Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti on Wednesday. The leaders engaged in detailed discussions on inter-provincial matters, mutual interests, and national stability.

For Balochistan, this meeting was long-awaited. Given the shared border and complex geopolitics, the dynamics between Sindh and Balochistan, a united front is seen as critical to tackling the region's pressing

challenges. Deepening Security Cooperation and Provincial Harmony

While official statements focused on

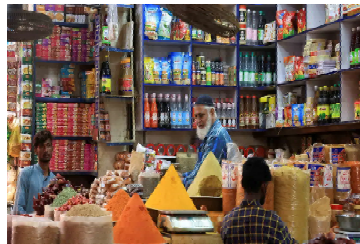
overall inter-provincial harmony and development, insiders confirm that counter-terrorism strategies, border security, and intelligence

sharing between Sindh and Balochistan took center stage. With Balochistan facing a persistent wave of security chal-

lenges and external threats, a unified security mechanism with neighboring Sindh is vital to blocking cross-border militant movements and securing key economic corridors.

"Promoting inter-provincial cooperation will further strengthen the ongoing efforts for the country's stability and development," President Zardari stated during the meeting.

The President heavily emphasized that effective communication and robust cooperation between the federation and the provinces are indispensable for national solidarity and sustainable growth.



1 killed, 6 others injured in suspected drone strike in Peshawar outskirts

NEWS DESK:A woman was killed while six others were injured in a suspected drone strike in the Pastawana area of the Hassan Khel subdivision on the outskirts of Peshawar late on Tuesday night.

Sources initially said that seven people, all belonging to the same family, were immediately taken to the hospital after the incident was reported.

They added that one of the injured persons, a woman, was seriously wounded and in critical condition.

Later, locals said that two people, including a man identified as Sher Mast and his 15-year-old son, were still being treated at Lady Reading Hospital while the others were discharged early on Wednesday.

An elder from Hassan Khel con-

firmed to Dawn that Sher Mast's daughter-in-law had died. In April, a suspected drone strike had caused minor damage to a mosque also located in Hassan Khel subdivision. However, no casualties were reported in the incident.

Sources said the strike took place in Chandoka area, on the border between Peshawar and Kohat.

Pakistan rejects India's 'preposterous' statement on strikes against terrorist infrastructure along Afghan border

NEWS DESK:Foreign Office (FO) spokesperson Tahir Andrabi on Wednesday rejected India's "preposterous statement" regarding Pakistan's recent strikes against terrorists and their hideouts along the Afghan border.

In a post on X, the FO spokesperson said Pakistan rejected the "baseless statement" by India on its "legitimate, targeted and proportionate actions" against terrorist infrastructure in Afghanistan.

This preposterous statement has been made by a country that has historically interfered in and undermined the sovereignty and territorial integrity of its neighbouring countries, in contravention of the UN Charter, and continues to suppress the right to self-determination of the Kashmiris in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir, in violation of the relevant UN resolutions," he said.

"India has also been actively aiding and sponsoring terrorist groups operating from Afghan soil against Pakistan."

"Pakistan has been and will continue to take all appropriate measures to uphold the safety and security of its citizens in accordance with international law," he con-

cluded.

On Sunday night, Pakistan's security forces had carried out an intelligence-based ground operation along the Pakistan-Afghan border, followed by calibrated strikes against terrorist hideouts and safe havens, killing 25

terrorists.

The development had come after terrorists had attacked a local headquarter of the Pakistan Rangers Sindh in Karachi's Gulistan-i-Fauhar area, during which three security personnel were martyred.

The Indian Ministry of External Affairs had subsequently condemned Pakistan's actions. It had called them a "blatant act of aggression" and a "direct threat" to regional peace and stability.

Islamabad has repeatedly urged the Taliban administration in Kabul to dismantle terrorist sanctuaries on Afghan soil that are used for attacks in Pakistan. Officials say those appeals have gone unheeded.

On the night of February 26, following unprovoked firing by the Afghan Taliban from across the border, Pakistan launched Operation Chirab ul-Haq against terrorist hideouts.

