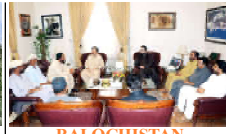




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QUETTA VOICE

Wreckage of K2 Airways cargo plane found south of Ormara: PAA

NEWS DESK:

The Pakistan Airports Authority (PAA) said on Wednesday that the wreckage of the K2 Airways cargo plane that went missing last night was found south of Ormara following a search and rescue operation.

It said the Pakistan Navy and its Pakistan Maritime Security Agency successfully located and identified the wreckage 53 nautical miles south of Ormara after 12 hours of search and rescue operations in the deep sea.

aircraft's disappearance emerged on Tuesday night. In the statement, the airline said its Boeing 737-400 cargo aircraft, registration AP-BOI, was going from Sharjah to Karachi when it "lost contact with Air Traffic Control at about 21:21 hours according to Pakistan time."

The airline confirmed that five crew members were on board the aircraft when contact was lost.

The crew comprised Captain Muhammad Rizwan Idrees, the pilot in command, Faisal Mehmood, the first officer,



Wreckage of the K2 Airways cargo plane that went missing on Tuesday night. — PAA

It added that various air and sea-borne assets were employed to locate the wreckage, and efforts were underway to find the missing crew members, with further details to follow as the operation progressed.

The airline earlier said it was fully cooperating with the Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority and other government agencies after its cargo aircraft disappeared following a crash into the Arabian Sea while en route from Sharjah to Karachi.

The statement was the first official response issued by the private airline since news of the

Muhammad Toufique Khan, the load master, and engineers Anif Siddiqui and Muhammad Hamid. The airline concluded by expressing hope for the missing crew, saying, "We continue to pray, earnestly, for the safety of our colleagues."

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif expressed deep grief and sorrow over the disappearance of the cargo aircraft, according to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO). The prime minister also expressed his heartfelt sympathies to the families of the five crew members on board the aircraft, the PMO said.

Field Marshal Says Pakistan Will Crush Cross-Border Terrorism

Web Desk:

Pakistan's Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir has vowed that terrorism originating from across the country's borders will be defeated with the full strength of the state, reaffirming the armed forces' commitment to eliminating terrorist sanctuaries and their facilitators. Addressing graduating officers of the National Security and War Course at the National Defence University on Wednesday, the Chief of Army Staff and Chief of Defence Forces said Pakistan's military, with the support of the nation, remained fully prepared to counter all forms of terrorism, according to the military's media wing, ISPR.

Pakistan's armed forces were adapting their operational and force development strategies to meet emerging challenges, including hybrid, conventional and sub-conventional threats.

He also praised the National Defence University for preparing future military and civilian leaders with the strategic vision and professional competence needed to address increasingly complex security challenges.

According to the ISPR, the army chief emphasized that military success is achieved through faith, unity and discipline rather than media rhetoric or political slogans.

Concluding his address, Field Marshal Asim Munir expressed confidence in the profes-



The Field Marshal said the armed forces were fully aware of Pakistan's battle-hardened armed forces. He urged the graduating officers to uphold the highest standards of integrity, selfless service and unwavering dedication to the nation. Earlier, upon his arrival at the National Defence University, the Field Marshal was received by the university's president, the ISPR added.

sionalism, morale and operational preparedness of Pakistan's battle-hardened armed forces. He urged the graduating officers to uphold the highest standards of integrity, selfless service and unwavering dedication to the nation.

Earlier, upon his arrival at the National Defence University, the Field Marshal was received by the university's president, the ISPR added.



Balochistan Attacks: 42 Martyred, 54 Terrorists Killed in Intense Security Operations, Says DG ISPR.

Balochistan Attacks: 42 Martyred, 54 Terrorists Killed in Intense Security Operations, Confirms DG ISPR

NEWS DESK:

QUETTA: In a detailed press briefing on Wednesday, Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Director General Lieutenant General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry confirmed that 42 lives—including 27 local police officers, 11 military personnel, and four civilians—were lost in a series of highly coordinated terrorist attacks across Balochistan over the last four days.

Responding with decisive force, Pakistan's security forces and law enforcement agencies (LEAs) neutralized at least 54 militants in intense ground and aerial counter-operations.

The military spokesperson specified that the attackers belonged to outlawed outfits, including the banned Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP)—officially termed Fitna al-Khawarij (FAK)—and the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA), referred to as Fitna al-Hindustan (FAH).

The Ziarat Mangi Dam Ambush and Hostage Crisis

The most critical and prolonged engagement occurred in the rugged terrains of the Ziarat district, targeting a police checkpoint securing Pumping Station No. 3 of the Mangi Dam.

Militants launched a massive, multidirectional assault late Monday night.

Local police officers stood their ground firmly, killing 15 attackers in the initial clash. However, nine policemen, including two Station House Officers (SHOs), embraced martyrdom in the opening fight.

Before military reinforcements and Frontier Corps (FC) units could reach the remote site due to the challenging topography, retreating terrorists took the remaining police personnel hostage and dragged them into the nearby mountains.

Why Aerial Assets Were Not Used

To prevent collateral damage and ensure the safety of the captured personnel, the military refrained from deploying air strikes, opting instead for a cautious, high-stakes ground operation to encircle the militants.

"We were very careful because of the collateral damage not to use any aerial assets because they had taken our youth hostage," Lt Gen Chaudhry explained.

As the security dragnet tightened completely around the hideout, the cornered militants executed the 18 captured local police personnel.

An ongoing clearance opera-

tion in the Ziarat mountains has since eliminated 11 more terrorists, bringing the total number of martyred police officers in this sector to 27, while 26 terrorists were killed.

Hanna Urak Local Population Repels Attack

The wave of violence began on July 4-5 in the Hanna Urak area near Quetta. Armed FAK militants targeted the local civilian population. Local residents showed immense bravery, fighting back alongside security forces to force the attackers to retreat.

Four civilians lost their lives and six others were wounded during the exchange of fire. The ISPR chief lauded the local community's resilience against the proxies.

BLA Highway Attack Near Bela and Winder

The third major incident involved a direct ambush on a military convoy along the strategic N-25 highway in the Bela and Winder areas.

Militants belonging to the banned BLA (Fitna al-Hindustan) targeted the convoy, triggering a fierce gunfight.

Eleven army personnel—including one Junior Commissioned Officer (JCO) and 10 sol-

diers (jawaans)—lost their lives while defending the convoy. Security forces retaliated heavily, killing 14 BLA terrorists on the spot.

Intelligence-Based Operations in Kharan and Dalbandin

In addition to defensive engagements, security forces carried out proactive, intelligence-led raids on active terror cells in western Balochistan.

Kharan: 6 terrorists neutralized.

Dalbandin: 8 terrorists neutralized. All 14 militants killed in these specific operations were confirmed affiliates of the FAH network.

Security Forces Vow Total Elimination

The ISPR chief emphasized that the security situation in the province remains dynamic, with active intelligence and tactical clearing operations continuing across multiple coordinates in Balochistan using both ground forces and air support.

Paying rich tribute to the fallen, Lt Gen Chaudhry stated that 42 precious lives were sacrificed while protecting the country, reiterating the military's absolute resolve to eliminate the remaining facilitators and perpetrators behind these coordinated assaults.

Quetta Police Arrest Five in Hashim Noorzai Murder Case, Recover Murder Weapon

NEWS DESK:

Quetta Police have arrested five suspects, including the alleged gunman and two men accused of conducting reconnaissance before the attack, in the murder case of businessman Hashim Noorzai, officials said on Tuesday.

Speaking at a press conference, Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Quetta Imran Shaukat said investigators had also recovered the weapon allegedly used in the killing during raids based on information provided by the arrested suspects.

According to the DIG, the victim's vehicle was intercepted by Hikmatullah and three accomplices before the attack.

Hikmatullah allegedly opened fire on Noorzai while he was inside his vehicle and then got out to fire additional shots, ensuring the victim's death.

Police said preliminary investigations indicate that the murder stemmed from a financial dispute



Quetta Police have arrested five suspects in Hashim Noorzai Murder Case.

involving Rs1 60 million.

The five arrested suspects include Hikmatullah, the alleged shooter, and two individuals accused of monitoring the victim's movements before the attack.

The DIG said Hikmatullah's brother, Saadullah, remains absconding, and police have launched raids to arrest him.

He revealed that Saadullah allegedly attended both the protest held after the murder and the victim's condolence gathering in an apparent attempt to avoid suspicion.

Describing the case as a murder committed by a close associate, Imran Shaukat said the investigation established both the victim and the main accused knew each other.

He praised the investigation team for solving the case and arresting the suspects in record time.

adding that efforts are continuing to apprehend the remaining accused and complete the investigation.

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 difficult to judge, as 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, if 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 race 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 easiness 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. Journalists and content writers etc.

AI-driven cars neither 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.

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.

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 eye surgery in which the inner layer of an eye 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-

ficient 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 re-

mains 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.

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Governor Mandokhail Calls for Balanced Rural and Urban Development Across Balochistan

QUETTA: Governor of Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has called for a comprehensive development strategy to bridge the gap between rural and urban areas, emphasizing that equal access to education, infrastructure, and public services is essential for the province's sustainable growth.

Speaking to various delegations at the Governor House in Quetta, Governor Mandokhail said that policymakers and elected representatives have a crucial role in ensuring balanced development and reducing disparities between cities and rural communities. We need a comprehensive strategy that guarantees equal access to basic facilities and opportunities for all citizens," he said, adding that without a clear vision and sound planning, the divide between villages and major urban centers would continue to widen, making equi-



table development difficult to achieve.

The Governor stated that the provincial leadership is taking transformative measures to narrow these development gaps and promote inclusive growth throughout Balochistan.

Highlighting the importance of education, Governor Mandokhail described it

as the foundation of all forms of development.

Education is not merely a personal benefit, it is a collective investment and the guarantee of a brighter future," he said, stressing that investing in education creates long-term social and economic benefits for the province.

He also underscored the critical role of infrastructure in achieving balanced development, describing it as the backbone of any successful development strategy.

According to the Governor, the construction and improvement of national highways can connect rural communities with major economic and commercial markets, enabling farmers and traders to access new business opportunities,

reduce transportation costs, and strengthen economic integration across the province.

Governor Mandokhail said that balanced development is not just an aspiration but an economic and social necessity.

When we uplift rural areas, we uplift the entire province. When we invest in education, we open new pathways to development and progress together," he remarked. Concluding his remarks, the Governor said that realizing the vision of an educated and prosperous Balochistan requires placing public welfare at the center of every policy and development initiative, describing it as the key to the province's shared and successful future. Jaffar Khan Mandokhail, Governor of Balochistan, rural development, urban development, balanced growth, Balochistan education.

Balochistan C&W Department Holds Interviews for Assistant Computer Operator Posts in Nasirabad

NASIRABAD: The Balochistan Communications and Works (C&W) Department conducted interviews for Assistant Computer Operator positions in Nasirabad as part of the provincial government's efforts to create employment opportunities for educated youth.

The recruitment process was held in accordance with the vision of the Chief Minister of Balochistan and under the directives of Chief Secretary Shakeel Qadir Khan, Provincial Minister for Communications and Works Mir Saleem Khan Khosa, and C&W Secretary Babar Khan. The interviews were conducted under the supervision of Chief Engineer Nasirabad Zame Muhammad Bashir Nasir.

The selection committee comprised Admin Officer Amanullah Bangalzi, Superintending Engineers Fida Hussain Khoso and Ahsanullah Khan Rind, Commissioner Office Superintendent Sher Ali Khoso, Muhammad Iqbal Marri, and Muhammad Akram Unnam.

Sub-Divisional Officers Abid Ali Pehlwan and Ghulam Ishaq Khan were also present during the recruitment process.



Hussain Khoso and Ahsanullah Khan Rind, Commissioner Office Superintendent Sher Ali Khoso, Muhammad Iqbal Marri, and Muhammad Akram Unnam.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Engineer Muhammad Bashir Nasir said that 37 shortlisted candidates were interviewed for the Assistant Computer Operator vacancies after verification of their credentials.

He emphasized that the recruitment process is being carried out with complete transparency and strictly on the basis of merit, competence, and eligibility, in line with the provincial government's recruitment policy.

He added that the appointment of qualified candidates would not only strengthen the department's capacity to deliver efficient public services but also provide meaningful employment opportunities for educated youth in the region.

Nasirabad C&W Department, Assistant Computer Operator jobs, Balochistan recruitment, Muhammad Bashir Nasir, Babar Khan, Mir Saleem Khan Khosa, government jobs in Balochistan, merit-based recruitment, educated youth employment, Nasirabad news.

proposed under the Communications and Works Department in the four areas.

Relevant officials presented comprehensive briefings on project feasibility, estimated costs, technical specifications, and proposed completion timelines.

The committee emphasized that all ongoing development projects should be completed within the stipulated timeframe while maintaining the highest construction standards to provide safer and more efficient transportation facilities for the public.

The Departmental Sub-Committee also recommended the ap-

proval of several new road infrastructure projects, along with multiple schemes for the construction, rehabilitation, and maintenance of roads across the concerned districts and Quetta City.

It was decided that all legal, administrative, and technical requirements for the approved projects would be completed on a priority basis to ensure the early commencement of development work.

Addressing the meeting, Secretary Communications and Works Babar Khan stressed that transparency, quality, and timely completion must remain the top

maintaining peace and public security and that investigations into the incident are ongoing.

Special prayers were also offered for the deceased and for strength and patience for his family during the funeral proceedings.

Harnai news, ATF office killed, Malik Saifullah Khan Abdullah, Ziarat Kach, Harnai border area, Balochistan security, police funeral, law enforcement, Harnai incident, Balochistan news.

Station

Lasbela Administration, NGOs Strengthen Coordination for Monsoon and Disaster Preparedness

LASBELA: The district administration of Lasbela held an important coordination meeting to formulate a comprehensive strategy for tackling the upcoming monsoon season and responding effectively to potential natural di-

stasters. The meeting, held at the District Council Hall, was chaired by Additional Deputy Commissioner Siraj Ahmed Baloch and brought together representatives from various government departments and humanitarian organizations working across the district.

Among the participants were representatives of UN World Food Programme (WFP), Azad Foundation, WANG Omrak National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), the Local Government Department, the Agri-

culture Department, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and other development partners and relief agencies. During the meeting, representatives of the participating organizations presented de-

tailored reports on their preparedness measures, ongoing activities, and disaster response capabilities, particularly for the monsoon season and other potential emergencies.

Addressing the participants, Additional Deputy Commissioner Siraj Ahmed Baloch appreciated the efforts of the social welfare organizations and emphasized the need for stronger coordination between non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the district administration.

He stated that close collaboration be-

cluded with a joint commitment from all government departments and participating organizations to enhance cooperation, remain on high alert, and coordinate effectively to ensure a swift and efficient response to any flood or monsoon-related emergency in Lasbela.

Lasbela monsoon preparedness, Lasbela disaster management, Siraj Ahmed Baloch, Balochistan monsoon, flood preparedness, WFP Pakistan, FAO Pakistan, NRSP, NGOs in Lasbela, disaster response, Balochistan news.

Parents' Month Awareness Seminar Held in Musa Khel to Promote Child Nutrition and Maternal Health

MUSA KHEL: An awareness seminar and walk were organized in Musa Khel to mark Parents' Month, highlighting the importance of child nutrition, maternal health, and positive parenting practices.

The event was jointly organized by the Balochistan Directorate of Nutrition, the Health Department, and UNICEF at the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Hall of the District Health Office.

The initiative aimed to raise awareness about proper child care, balanced nutrition, maternal and child health, and the importance of early childhood development.

The seminar was attended by District Health Officer Dr. Muhammad Hassan Domki, PPHI District Support Manager Syed Aman Shah, Dis-

trict Nutrition Coordinator Sher Baz Khan, PPHI Monitoring Officer Imran Buzdar, Pediatric Specialist Dr. Yaseen Qaisrani, Lady Health Supervisor Amina Bibi, and Lady Health Workers from across the district.

Addressing the participants, the speakers emphasized that a child's physical and mental development depends on balanced and nutritious food, immediate breastfeeding after birth, timely immunization, proper hygiene, and informed parental guidance.

They noted that investing in quality care during the early years of life is essential for building a healthier and more prosperous future generation.

Musa Khel, Parents' Month, child nutrition, maternal health, UNICEF Pakistan, Balochistan Directorate of Nutrition, District Health Office, Musa Khel, child development, breastfeeding, immunization, public health, Balochistan news.

Kalat Deputy Commissioner Reviews Age Correction Cases of Government Employees

KALAT: Deputy Commissioner Munir Ahmed Durrani chaired an important meeting to review applications related to the correction of age records of government employees serving in various departments across the district.

The meeting examined 22 cases submitted by employees regarding the correction of age-related discrepancies in accordance with the applicable rules and procedures.

Addressing the meeting, the Deputy Commissioner stated that resolving the issues faced by government employees is one of the district administration's top priorities. He directed

officials to facilitate employees by providing important public services and ensuring that their legitimate administrative concerns are addressed without unnecessary delay.

He further emphasized that government offices should adopt a service-oriented approach and play an active role in reducing procedural difficulties for employees.

Kalat Deputy Commissioner, Munir Ahmed Durrani, age correction, government employees, CNIC verification, service book correction, Balochistan administration, Kalat district, public administration, government employee services, Balochistan news.

Anti-Terrorist Force (ATF) Officer Abducted After Clash, Killed in Harnai Border Area

HARNAI: An officer of the Anti-Terrorist Force (ATF), Malik Saifullah Khan Abdullah, who was abducted following an exchange of fire with unidentified armed men in the Ziarat Kach border area of Harnai on Tuesday night, was later found dead, according to local authorities.

Officials said the incident began when unidentified gunmen reportedly exchanged fire with the ATF officer officials, before abducting him to an unknown location.

Authorities later confirmed that he had been killed. The officer's body was transported to his native village, Kili Sarkar, where funeral prayers were offered before he was laid to rest with official honors.

A police contingent presided a guard of honor during the burial ceremony.

A large number of people, including district administration officials, police personnel, elected representatives, tribal

elders, and local residents, attended the funeral to express condolences to the bereaved family.

Among those in attendance were District Council Chairman Malik Abdul Salam Tareen, Superintendent of Police (SP) Harnai Abdul Hafeez Jafri, Additional Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Saleem Tareen, Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Malik Habibullah Tareen, and SHO City

Muhammad Umar Rind. Following the funeral, senior district officials and police officers laid floral wreaths at the grave and expressed condolences to the family.

Speaking to the media after the funeral, district officials described the killing as a significant loss for the district and extended their sympathies to the officer's family.

They stated that law enforcement agencies remain committed to



KP CM urges PM Shehbaz to defer proposed withdrawal of tax exemptions for merged districts, Malakand

NEWS DESK: In a letter to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Sohail Afridi has requested the withdrawal of the proposed tax exemptions in the merged districts and the Malakand division, it emerged on Wednesday.

The development comes as the move to withdraw tax exemptions has received much flak from the PTI-led KP government as well as traders in the region. Last week, the provincial government decided to formally communicate its concerns to the Centre through an official letter.

In the letter, dated July 6 and available with Dawn, CM Afridi requested that the existing tax exemptions should continue "until conditions justifying such exemptions have materially improved" in Malakand and the merged districts.

He held that the decision was taken "despite the fact that the people of KP and their elected provincial government stand hand in [glove] at strengthening administrative and security responsibilities" on the KP government.

CM Afridi told the premier that the issue was not solely limited to taxation but rather against the commitments the federal government had made at the time of the merger.



He reiterated that the commitments made by the Centre on allocations within the National Finance Commission (NFC) had also not been realised.

The KP CM highlighted that KP Pakistan's "frontline province" in the fight against terrorism and went on to cite the sacrifices made by KP.

"The province continues to incur significant expenditures on law and order, policing, counter-terrorism operations, rehabilitation of affected communities and reconstruction of damaged infrastructure in the larger national interest."

He also drew attention to the disruption of cross-border trade with neighbouring Afghanistan, which he said had reduced commercial activity in the border districts, thereby impacting their local economies that depend on such trade.

"These challenges are compounded by persistent locational disadvantages, inadequate infrastructure, limited industrialisation, high transportation costs and energy constraints, all

of which continue to impede private investment, employment generation and sustainable economic growth," the letter read.

He further recalled that the tax exemptions were conceived as "transitional measures" aimed at promoting investment, industrialisation, employment, and economic integration in what he called "historically disadvantaged regions."

He noted that the socio-economic conditions which had created the need for the tax exemptions persisted, arguing that "withdrawal at this stage — before the intended developmental objectives have been realised and before the federation has fulfilled its commitments — is likely to discourage investment, weaken economic recovery and place an additional burden on local businesses

that the federal government was not obligated to implement any legislation designed for 'political bribery'."

"But this legislation is enough to show their true face and political reality: that those who came to end VIP culture have, with this legislation, created a new example of it," he said.

Prime Minister's Coordinator for KP Affairs Ikhhtiar Wali Khan also demanded the reversal of the laws enacted by KP. Addressing a press conference in Islamabad on Wednesday, Khan said, "No law of this country applies

Tallal Chaudhry taunts PTI over pledges to end 'VIP culture' after KP expands lawmakers' privileges

NEWS DESK: Minister of State for Interior Tallal Chaudhry on Wednesday criticised laws enacted by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa expanding MPAs' powers and immunities, taunting the PTI over its former pledges to end "VIP culture".

The KP Assembly passed three acts on April 30, which pertained to immunities and privileges of MPAs, the speaker and the deputy speaker as well as salaries and allowances of lawmakers.

Although KP Gov-ernor Faisal Karim Kundi assented to the laws on May 6, the legislation has remained under wraps. The Acts and the gazette notifications have yet to be uploaded to the KP Assembly website.

Commenting on the new laws, Chaudhry criticised the PTI for providing major privileges to KP members despite making promises to end "VIP culture".

He noted that the party had claimed that under its leadership, assembly members would live as common people. "Do common people receive the conveniences of free travel, free arms licenses, free stays at rest houses, blackout windows [and] special number plates on their cars, security for their whole families, and blue passports?"

Chaudhry added that the federal govern-

ment was not obligated to implement any legislation designed for "political bribery".

Under Section 10 of the legislation, provincial assembly members will be granted blanket immunity from pre-

ventive detention. Under Section 11, authorities will now have to seek the speaker's prior permission before arresting a member on a criminal offence.

"Under the umbrella of freedom of expression, anything and the speaker will be the custodian and he will be the only person to give permission to arrest a member of the assembly," Khan said, contending that it was unlikely that the PTI speaker would allow so in any case.

Under Section 14, which deals with addi-

tionary privileges, MPAs will be entitled to licences for eight non-prohibited bore weapons, including four free licences and four issued on payment of a notified fee.

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law, they were entitled to four free lifetime licences for weapons.

Khan questioned those changes in his press briefing, "If someone has the licence to own eight Kalashnikovs, what will he do?" The prime minister's coordinator called for dewatering across Pakistan, adding that the responsibility for security should rest with the government, the armed forces and police.

The new laws also permit lifetime official passports for assembly members and their

spouses. Khan said, "Blue passport for life means that these people will leave on their passport and surrender it, and then get political asylum. They want to insult Pakistan globally."

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PM calls for intensifying search, rescue operations after cargo plane disappears from radar over Arabian Sea

NEWS DESK: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has directed the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), Pakistan Navy and Pakistan Air Force (PAF) to intensify search and rescue operations in the Arabian Sea after a private cargo plane en route from Sharjah to Karachi went missing late on Tuesday night.

A K2 Airways Boeing 737-400 cargo aircraft disappeared from radar over the Arabian Sea, about 300 kilometres west of Karachi, late on Tuesday night.

K2 Airways is a private airline based in Karachi. The carrier was established in May 2018 after being granted an airline charter licence by the government.

According to reports, the aircraft lost contact while approaching Pakistan's northern border. The pilot had reported a navigation problem dur-

ing the flight and requested assistance from the area control centre.

On Wednesday, state-run Radio Pakistan reported that the premier had instructed the CAA, the navy and the PAF to utilise all available resources in the search operation, as he extended his heartfelt sympathies to the families of the five crew members on board the aircraft.

President Asif Ali Zardari also expressed concern about the missing aircraft and hoped for a successful search and rescue operation, according to a statement issued by the President House.

"The president extended heartfelt condolences to the families of the aircraft's crew and expressed complete solidarity with them during this hour of trial," the statement added.

The Pakistan Airports Authority (PAA) said on Tuesday night

that the plane reported a navigational system issue at 9:18pm and was promptly guided by the Karachi Area Control Centre.

However, at 9:21pm, the aircraft was observed on radar "rapidly descending" and making a sharp change in heading.

Subsequently, "radar contact and communication were lost" approximately 287 kilometres west of Karachi, PAA said.

According to FlightRadar, the aircraft, registered as AP-BQJ, is a Boeing 737-400(BDSF) that entered service with K2 Airways in 2024.

It was originally delivered to Aeroflot as a passenger aircraft in 1999 before being joined by TNI Garuda Indonesia in 2004. The aircraft was converted into a freighter in 2012 and later operated by TNT Airways and ASL Airlines.

Chakwal CCD incident: Victim's father alleges robbers did not fire, police forced him to sign blank paper

NEWS DESK: A new twist has emerged in the killing of nine-year-old Hania Ahmed as her father claimed that the robbers did not resort to firing. He said the incident occurred due to direct firing by a cop of the Crime Control Department (CCD).

Hania, an Australian citizen visiting Pakistan, was killed on the spot on the night of June 10 in Chakwal city during a robbery incident due to firing by a CCD officer. Her father, Adeel Ahmed, and her 11-year-old brother Affan were seriously injured, while her mother, Dr Sidra Khan remained unharmed.

The incident sparked international concern. Admitting the CCD's mistake, the Punjab police and the department have described the incident as a case of "criminal negligence".

In an application submitted to the District Police Officer Kashif Zulfiqar on Tuesday, Adeel alleged that City

Station personnel arrived at the hospital, Constable Ateeque and sub-inspector Abdullah listened to the entire incident and then allegedly pressured him to sign and put his thumbprint on a blank paper, saying he would only then be allowed to see a doctor.

He added that he and his son were in-

jured, his daughter had already passed away and his wife was in severe distress due to shock.

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Islamabad, Beijing agree to boost counterterrorism cooperation as Naqvi meets Chinese counterpart

NEWS DESK: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi and his Chinese counterpart Ling Zhifeng agreed to further strengthen cooperation in security and combating terrorism, state-run PTV reported on Wednesday. The two ministers met at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

During the meeting, the ministers stressed to further cooperation in border management, curbing illegal immigration and combating drugs, while they also determined joint measures to stop assistance and funding for terrorism. The meeting also discussed views on pro-

tection of Chinese in Pakistan, ease of visa and other bilateral relations. Meanwhile, Naqvi held a separate meeting with Sri Lankan Minister of Public Security and Parliamentary Affairs Ananda Wijepala at the UN Headquarters in New York. They agreed to strengthen co-ordination in combatting narcotics and enhance cooperation in police training, state-run Radio Pakistan reported. According to the report, the two ministers agreed to collaborate to curb illegal immigration and prevent travel on forged passports. The two ministers discussed a probable memorandum of un-

derstanding (MoU) aimed at strengthening cooperation to combat criminal networks and money laundering, the report stated. They also agreed to establish a joint working group to further strengthen cooperation between the interior ministries of Pakistan and Sri Lanka, it added. Naqvi and his Sri Lankan counterpart agreed to resolve visa-related issues on a priority basis. The interior minister is currently in New York to represent Pakistan at the Fifth United Nations Chiefs of Police Summit 2026 (UNCOPS) being held at the UN headquarters from July 7 and 8.

Five-day physical remand extended of four suspects in foreign women case

NEWS DESK: A judicial magistrate on Wednesday extended the physical remand of four suspects by five days in a case involving the alleged rape and abduction of two foreign women, directing police to produce them again on July 13.

Judicial Magistrate Azhar Mahmood announced the extension after hearing arguments from both sides at the district Court. He ordered the arrested four suspects, and launched an investigation into allegations of kidnapping, ransom demands, and sexual assault. Those produced today were the second group of suspects presented before the court in the case.

On July 3, Judicial Magistrate Azhar Mahmood had granted police a five-day physical remand of the four arrested suspects, identified as Raza Dar, Hassan Raza, Sajid Ali, and Sikandar Khan.

Earlier, police produced the four suspects, including Raza Dar, before the court with their faces covered and sought a further five-day physical remand.

During the hearing, the magistrate asked the prosecutor what progress had been made during the previous remand. Prosecutor Mian Sajid told the court that the suspects' DNA

samples and fingerprints had already been obtained. He said investigators now needed additional time to recover a vehicle, a laptop, cash, and a weapon allegedly linked to the case.

Counsel for suspects Sikandar and Sajid opposed the request for further physical remand, arguing that neither of them had been nominated in the FIR nor identified by the complainants in their state-

ments recorded under Section 164 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The defence further claimed that the suspects had been implicated due to media attention surrounding the case and asserted that they had no previous criminal record.

After hearing arguments from both sides, the court initially reserved its verdict before allowing the police request and extending the

physical remand of all four suspects for another five days.

Separately, one of the arrested suspects, Hassan Raza, was seen having an informal conversation with his father inside the courtroom.

A judicial magistrate on Monday remanded three more suspects, Rizwan, Nawaz, and Nasir, in police custody for five days.

One of the suspects is related to an influential politician, but Lahore Deputy Inspector General (Operations) Faisal Kamran, on Sunday, in a media briefing, assured that the suspect, reportedly linked to a senior government minister, will not be treated differently from any other criminal in the investigation.

According to the Lahore DG, the two foreign women arrived in Islamabad on June 26 before travelling to Lahore on June 29.

On Sunday, he said that at around midnight on July 1, the Saeed Raza Authority received information.

