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QUETTA VOICE

Opposition Alliance Launches Province-Wide Protest Movement, Demands Government's Resignation

NEWS DESK:

Quetta: The Opposition Alliance on Friday announced the launch of a province-wide political campaign, saying it would engage with the people of Balochistan to build support for what it described as a constitutional and democratic struggle aimed at addressing the province's political and security challenges.

Addressing a joint press conference in Islamabad, BNP-Mengal President Sardar Akhtar Mengal said opposition parties

He stressed that political dialogue, transparent elections and equal political opportunities were essential for restoring stability in Balochistan, adding that democratic solutions should take precedence over confrontation.

Alliance announces four-point agenda.

The Opposition Alliance unveiled a four-point agenda, calling for:

Restoration of lasting peace and security across Balochistan.

A free, fair and transparent political environment.

Immediate improvement in



had unanimously decided to begin a public movement across Balochistan, arguing that the provincial government had failed to address the worsening law and order situation.

"The people of Balochistan have reached the conclusion that the current government should no longer remain in office. The loss of innocent lives is the result of its failure to govern effectively," Mengal said.

He announced that opposition leaders would soon visit different districts of Balochistan to meet local communities, political workers and tribal elders as part of the campaign.

Achakzai calls for constitutional politics.

PKMAP Chairman Mehmood Khan Achakzai said the country's challenges could only be resolved through constitutional supremacy, democratic institutions and respect for the public mandate.

governance and the law and order situation.

Transparent elections to restore public confidence in democratic institutions.

Call for national political consensus

The alliance appealed to all major political parties to support what it described as a democratic movement for the rights of the people of Balochistan.

According to the alliance, representatives of several political parties, including Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI), Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) and other political groups, also attended the press conference. The opposition leaders said their campaign would remain peaceful and constitutional, expressing hope that broad political participation would help address the province's longstanding governance and security challenges.



Security forces have intensified Operation Shabaan across Balochistan

Operation Shabaan: Security Sources Say 75 Terrorists Killed in Balochistan Since July 5

Web Desk:

Security forces have intensified Operation Shabaan across Balochistan following the attack on the Mangi Dam Police Station, with security sources claiming that 75 terrorists have been killed in counterterrorism operations since July 5.

According to security sources, the joint operation involving the Pakistan Army, Frontier Corps (FC), and Balochistan Police is continuing in mountainous areas where

forces are carrying out coordinated ground and aerial missions against terrorists described by the authorities as Fitna al-Khawarij.

The sources said 26 terrorists were killed during operations conducted on July 6 and 7.

They added that 13 more terrorists were killed over the past 24 hours, raising the number of terrorists killed in Operation Shabaan to 39.

Security sources said helicopter-assisted missions and ground operations are continuing in remote areas to target suspected terrorist hideouts and dismantle their networks.

The sources claimed that eight terrorists were killed during the exchange of fire.

They further said reports suggest five to six additional terrorists were killed during follow-up helicopter operations, although these claims have not been independently verified.

According to security sources, a total of 75 terrorists have been killed in Operation Shabaan and other intelligence-based operations conducted across Balochistan since July 5.

No official information has been released regarding casualties among security personnel.

The figures provided by security sources could not be independently verified at the time of publication.

Quetta BA Mall Sit-In Called Off After CM Sarfraz Bugti Assures Victims' Families

Ali Hamza, Qaseem Shah:

QUETTA: The major sit-in protest on Airport Road near the BA Mall was officially called off on Friday following successful negotiations between the demonstrators, grieving families, and Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti.

The breakthrough came after CM Bugti made a personal visit to the protest camp to directly engage with the victim's families and the protest organizing committee.

Following a detailed discussion regarding security concerns and administrative transparency,

the committee expressed full confidence in the provincial government's assurances and agreed to end the demonstration peacefully, restoring traffic on one of Quetta's busiest arteries.

The protest had initially erupted following the tragic Hanna Urak incident, which left four local residents dead, leading families to demand immediate justice and heightened security measures.

Comprehensive Relief



QUETTA: The major sit-in protest on Airport Road near the BA Mall was officially called off after CM Sarfraz Bugti

Package Announced for Affected Families

During the late-night meeting at the demonstration site, Chief Minister Bugti announced a comprehensive provincial support package for the affected families.

The officially approved relief measures include:

Full financial compensation packages for the immediate families.

Guaranteed government employment (next of kin jobs)

for the victims' families.

Sponsoring complete educational expenses for the children of the martyrs.

Bugti Vows Administra-

tive Accountability

In a rare move of public accountability, Chief Minister Bugti admitted that if administrative lapses or official negligence occurred at any tier, the Balochistan government would openly acknowledge it and take immediate rectifying actions.

He noted that these commitments strictly align with the strategic security decisions finalized during the high-level Balochistan Apex Committee meeting, which was chaired by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and attended by Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Asim Munir in Quetta.

Bugti emphasized that his responsibility to fulfill these promises is dual-binding—both as the constitutional Chief Minister of Balochistan and as a traditional tribal leader.

Flanked by senior provincial ministers and administrative heads,

the Chief Minister lauded the local population's resilience, stating that safeguarding regional peace and thwarting anti-state conspiracies requires active.

Fraternal cooperation between the public, the civil administration, and state security institutions.

QUETTA VOICE

Editor: Asim Khan

Fiscal Federalism and the Quest for Equity in Pakistan

Agha Sanaulah: Fiscal federalism forms the bedrock of governance in any federation, determining how financial resources are raised, shared, and spent to foster balanced development and social equity. In Pakistan, this relationship is constitutionally mediated through the National Finance Commission (NFC) Award, a mechanism designed to rectify both vertical imbalances between the federal and provincial governments and horizontal disparities among the provinces themselves.

While the NFC Award represents a vital instrument for devolution and provincial autonomy, a critical examination reveals that its promise of equitable resource distribution is persistently undermined by deeper, systemic flaws in the country's fiscal governance.

The NFC Award has, over successive iterations, progressively increased the provincial share in national revenues, thereby strengthening fiscal decentralization. This shift has the potential to improve public service delivery by bringing resources closer to the people.

However, the effectiveness of these transfers is contingent upon a healthy national fiscal environment—a condition Pakistan has rarely met.

The nation's fiscal narrative is characterized by structural weaknesses that choke the system at its sources.

A chronically nar-



row tax base, heavy reliance on regressive indirect taxation, and inefficient revenue mobilization by the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) mean that the total pool of resources available for distribution is perpetually insufficient.

Consequently, even a well-intentioned NFC Award framework operates within a system of scarcity, limiting its capacity to achieve genuine equity.

"Hidden Deficits" and Contingent Liabilities

Beyond revenue inadequacy, the expenditure side of the fiscal equation presents an equally formidable challenge.

A significant portion of the federal budget is consumed by non-development expenditure, most notably debt servicing and defense. This leaves limited fiscal space for development spending, which is crucial for long-term economic growth and for addressing regional in-

equalities. The paper notes that the fiscal year 2024-25 saw a nine-year low in the consolidated budget deficit, partly due to provincial surpluses.

However, this superficial stability masks the underlying reality that the cost of servicing past debt continues to crowd out investments in the human and physical infrastructure needed to level the playing field among provinces.

A major contribution of the research is its

identification of "hidden deficits" and contingent liabilities as critical yet overlooked sources of fiscal stress.

Beyond the conventional budget deficit, factors such as off-budget expenditures, subsidies to loss-making public sector enterprises, and implicit guarantees for future obligations create a precarious financial reality. This lack of transpar-

ency in accounting for risks—from natural calamities to the collapse of state-owned corporations—exposes the federation to unpredictable fiscal shocks.

The failure to consolidate and disclose these contingent liabilities means that the true scale of fiscal vulnerability is rarely debated in parliament or understood by the public, perpetuating a cycle of short-term fixes rather than long-term solutions.

To break this cycle, the paper argues for a fundamental shift from one-dimensional, crisis-driven fiscal management to a multi-dimensional, institutionally anchored approach.

It recommends a suite of reforms that move beyond the NFC Award itself to strengthen the entire fiscal ecosystem. Key among these are the establishment of an Independent Fiscal Council (IFC) to provide unbiased analysis of fis-

cal policy and budget assumptions, thus reducing political discretion and enhancing evidence-based decision-making.

Furthermore, it calls for strengthening the Medium-Term Budgetary Framework by linking it to Public Service Agreements (PSAs) that tie resource allocation to measurable outcomes, ensuring that provincial transfers under the NFC Award translate into tangible improvements in education, health, and infrastructure.

In conclusion, the National Finance Commission Award is an essential but insufficient instrument for achieving fiscal equity in Pakistan. Its effectiveness is inextricably linked to the overall health of the nation's public finances.

As the research paper demonstrates, persistent issues such as a narrow tax base, unsustainable debt service, and opaque contingent liabilities undermine the very resources that the NFC Award is meant to distribute equitably.

Moving forward, the focus must broaden from negotiating provincial shares to implementing deep-rooted institutional reforms.

By enhancing revenue mobilization, ensuring fiscal transparency, and prudently managing debt and liabilities, Pakistan can create an environment where the NFC Award can fulfill its constitutional promise—fostering a resilient, balanced, and truly equitable federation.

Pakistan's Climate Vulnerability: A Governance Dilemma

Zia Ud Din:

Pakistan contributes less than one percent to global carbon emissions, yet it consistently ranks among the countries most exposed to climate-induced disasters. This imbalance is not merely an environmental concern; it reflects governance dilemma rooted in a weak institutional coordination and limited adaptation planning.

Climate change is one of the most pressing challenges of the modern era, adversely affecting societies at multiple levels.

Rising temperatures, droughts, irregular weather patterns, sea-level rise, melting glaciers, floods, and water insecurity demonstrate its far-reaching global consequences.

Since these impacts transcend national borders, climate change is inherently a global challenge. Along with other developing nations, Pakistan remains highly vulnerable.

In 2024, Pakistan recorded its ninth warmest year in the last 64 years, with an average temperature of 23.5°C and rainfall levels 31 percent above the historical average. This highlights the urgency of collective international action.

For Pakistan, however, climate vulnerability is compounded by governance constraints. Fragmented institutional coordination, weak policy



implementation, and limited emphasis on adaptation have reduced the state's capacity to respond effectively. Consequently, the climate crisis in Pakistan reflects not only environmental stress but also persistent governance failures.

Climate change refers to long-term shifts in global weather patterns and temperatures, primarily driven by human activities. According to United Nations findings, excessive

greenhouse gas emissions have intensified heat retention in the atmosphere. Gases such as carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide have thickened the atmospheric blanket, largely due to deforestation, fossil fuel consumption, and rapid industrialization.

One of the most visible consequences of climate change is rising global temperatures.

The Copernicus Climate Change Service reported that average global tempera-

tures in 2024 exceeded pre-industrial levels by 1.52°C. This warming has intensified heatwaves, prolonged droughts, and increased wildfire risks.

Rising temperatures have also disrupted weather systems, leading to irregular rainfall, intense storms, and stronger hurricanes.

Another major consequence is sea-level rise. Oceans absorb nearly 90 percent of excess heat caused by greenhouse gas emissions, leading to

thermal expansion. Simultaneously, melting glaciers and ice sheets contribute to rising sea levels.

According to Encyclopedia Britannica, global sea levels have risen by approximately 21 to 25 centimeters since 1880, threatening coastal livelihoods and infrastructure.

Climate change has also intensified water scarcity, a growing global concern. Pakistan is already a water-stressed country, and climate variability has

further exacerbated this challenge.

A report by the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics places Pakistan among the most water-risk-prone nations. Water scarcity places immense pressure on agriculture, industry, and households, undermining economic stability and food security.

Despite contributing minimally to global emissions, Pakistan bears a disproportionate share of climate-related losses. The

Global Climate Risk Index ranks Pakistan among the most vulnerable countries to climate change.

The 2022 floods alone caused an estimated economic loss of \$40 billion and claimed at least 1,700 lives. More recently, monsoon floods in 2025 resulted in over 1,000 deaths.

Given these realities, climate adaptation is no longer an academic debate but a strategic necessity. Mitigation remains essential to limit

future warming through reduced greenhouse gas emissions. Transitioning from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, and hydropower is critical.

Equally important is adaptation. Since climate impacts are already unavoidable, societies must strengthen resilience. Investment in climate-resilient infrastructure, improved urban planning, and effective water management is vital.

Global cooperation remains the third pillar of climate response. Climate change transcends borders and requires collective responsibility. Developed nations must honor climate finance commitments and support vulnerable countries in adaptation efforts.

For Pakistan, effective climate governance is central to resilience. Addressing financing constraints, strengthening legislation, improving federal-provincial coordination, and prioritizing adaptation over rhetoric are critical steps.

Climate change presents urgent challenges that demand immediate action. Without decisive reforms in climate governance and a strategic shift toward adaptation, Pakistan will continue to pay an unjust price for a crisis it did little to create.

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Operation Shaaban Continues Successfully as 39 Terrorists Killed, Says Balochistan CM Sarfraz Bugti

NEWS DESK: QUETTA: Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti has said that Operation Shaaban is progressing successfully following the terrorist attack on the Mangi Dam Police Station, with security forces intensifying operations against terrorist groups across the province.

The Chief Minister reaffirmed that the writ of the state will be upheld at all costs in Balochistan, stressing that terrorists will not escape justice. He stated that the Pakistan Army, Frontier Corps (FC), and Balochistan Police are conducting coordinated ground and aerial operations in rugged mountainous areas to eliminate terrorist hideouts. Praising the professionalism, courage, and sacrifices of the security forces, Bugti said that the ongoing counter-terrorist operations will continue with full force until lasting peace is restored.



Shaaban, while a total of 39 terrorists have been killed during Operation Shaaban, while a total of 75 terrorists have been killed in multiple Intelligence-Based Operations (IBOs) conducted since July 5, 2026. He

described these achievements as evidence of the security forces' high morale, effective strategy, and operational excellence. Bugti also said security forces successfully foiled a terrorist attack on the Zaidi area of Khuzdar on Friday

through a swift and effective response. He said the incident reflects the preparedness and professional capability of Pakistan's law enforcement agencies. The Chief Minister emphasized that the people of Balochistan, the provincial government, and the security

forces remain united against terrorism. He reiterated that there is no place in the province for terrorists or their facilitators and vowed that efforts to safeguard peace, stability, and development in Balochistan will continue without compromise.

Balochistan C&W Department Reviews Road Development Projects for Khuzdar, Mastung, Nushki, and Sibi

QUETTA: Secretary of the Balochistan Communications and Works (C&W) Department, Babar Khan, chaired an important meeting of the

Zone Azizullah Kasi, Chief Engineer Sibi Zone Zubair Ahmed Khosa, Technical Advisor Ehsanullah Khan Durrani, representatives

to ensure safer and more efficient transportation facilities for the public. The Departmental Sub-Committee also recommended the approval



Departmental Sub-Committee (DSC) to review proposed road infrastructure and development projects in the districts of Khuzdar, Mastung, Nushki, and Sibi.

The meeting was held as part of the proposed road infrastructure and development projects in the districts of Khuzdar, Mastung, Nushki, and Sibi.

from the Planning and Development (P&D) Department, and the concerned Executive Engineers.

During the session, officials conducted a detailed review of various road infrastructure projects proposed under the provincial government's ongoing initiative to accelerate the approval and implementation of development schemes under the vision of Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti and the directives of Provincial Minister for Communications and Works Mir Saleem Ahmed Khosa.

Senior officials attending the meeting including Chief Engineer Khuzdar Zone Khalil-ur-Rehman Achakzai, Chief Engineer Kalat-Khuzdar

of several new road infrastructure schemes, including projects for the construction, rehabilitation, and maintenance of roads across the concerned districts. It was further decided that all legal, administrative, and technical requirements would be completed without delay to enable the early commencement of approved projects.

Addressing the meeting, Secretary Babar Khan stressed that transparency, quality, and timely completion must remain the guiding principles for every development project.

He instructed the concerned officers to further strengthen project monitoring and supervision mechanisms.

Senior officials attending the meeting including Chief Engineer Khuzdar Zone Khalil-ur-Rehman Achakzai, Chief Engineer Kalat-Khuzdar

Abdul Rehman Khetran Denies Links to Banned Outfit, Announces Rs1 Billion Defamation Suit

QUETTA: Former Balochistan minister Sardar Abdul Rehman Khetran has strongly rejected allegations of having links with any banned organization, describing the claims as "false, malicious, and completely baseless."

He announced that he would file a Rs1 billion defamation lawsuit and initiate legal proceedings against journalist Waqar Satti over what he termed defamatory reporting.

In a statement issued on Friday, Khetran said he would "rather sacrifice his life than pay extortion to any banned outfit," categorically dismissing reports suggesting otherwise.

He maintained that he has never had any association with a proscribed organization, accused certain individuals of attempting to damage his reputation



through false propaganda. The former provincial minister criticized the publication of unverified information, saying responsible journalism requires thorough fact-checking before any report is aired or published.

He argued that broadcasting unconfirmed allegations not only violates journalistic ethics but also causes irreparable harm to an individual's reputation and public credibility. Khetran said he would seek legal remedies under the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act (PECA) and other relevant laws. He confirmed that a

legal notice seeking Rs1 billion in damages would be served on Waqar Satti, adding that all those allegedly involved in creating or circulating the claims would also be identified and proceeded against in accordance with the law. He stressed that no one has the right to spread false or unverified information to malign another person's character, adding that he would defend his reputation through every available constitutional and legal avenue.

Reaffirming his stance, Khetran said he is a patriotic Pakistani with unwavering loyalty to the country and deep respect for the armed forces. He rejected what he described as an organized campaign to mislead the public, insisting that every allegation made against him would be challenged through legal and constitutional means.

The former minister reiterated that he has no connection whatsoever with any banned organization and urged media organizations to uphold professional standards by verifying information before publication to prevent the spread of misinformation.

Representatives also briefed the meeting on their preparedness, available resources, and operational challenges. Addressing the meeting, Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Ramzan Palal chaired a high-level meeting to review disaster preparedness and preventive measures ahead of the upcoming monsoon season, directing all departments to remain on high alert for potential flooding and other weather-related emergencies.

The meeting was attended by District Health Officer Dr. Ameer Ali Jamali, Medical Superintendent Dr. Ahmed Ali Gopang, and senior officials from the Police, Irrigation, Buildings and Roads (B&R), Agricul-

Usta Muhammad Administration Finalizes Monsoon Preparedness Plan to Mitigate Flood Risks

QUETTA: Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Ramzan Palal chaired a high-level meeting to review disaster preparedness and preventive measures ahead of the upcoming monsoon season, directing all departments to remain on high alert for potential flooding and other weather-related emergencies.

The meeting was attended by District Health Officer Dr. Ameer Ali Jamali, Medical Superintendent Dr. Ahmed Ali Gopang, and senior officials from the Police, Irrigation, Buildings and Roads (B&R), Agricul-

ture, Public Health Engineering (PH&E), and Excise and Taxation Department, including Excise and Taxation Officer Taj Muhammad Palal. Participants reviewed the impact of heavy rainfall and flooding in previous years and discussed a comprehensive strategy to effectively respond to any emergency during the forthcoming monsoon season.

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Governor Mandokhail Chairs University of Loralai Senate Meeting, Calls for Stronger Higher Education and Financial Sustainability

QUETTA: Governor of Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandokhail chaired the Eighth Senate Meeting of the University of Loralai, reaffirming the provincial government's commitment to strengthening higher education, promoting quality learning, and equipping young people with market-driven skills.

The six-hour meeting was attended until its conclusion by Chief Justice of the Balochistan High Court Justice Kamran Khan Mulakhail and Provincial Minister for Education Raheela Hameed Khan Durrani, underscoring the leadership's commitment to the future of higher education in Balochistan.

Addressing the Senate, Governor Mandokhail said that despite its relatively short history, the University of Loralai has made significant progress in delivering quality education and developing modern skills among students. He noted that the university has maintained high academic



standards while also expanding to allied sciences, positioning itself to meet the evolving educational and professional needs of students. Our goal is to ensure that students receive quality education in modern scientific disciplines along with practical skills, enabling graduates to become economically independent and competitive in their professional careers," the Governor said.

The Senate meeting was attended by Vice Chancellor Dr. Ehsanullah Kakar, Higher Education Secretary Saleh Baloch, Higher Education Commission (HEC) representative Noor Amina Malik, Principal Secretary to the Governor Abdul Nasir Durrani, Pro Vice Chancellor Adil Zaman Kasi, Registrar Dr. Khalid Khan, and other Senate members.

The Governor directed the Vice Chancellor to ensure that complete meeting agendas and all relevant documents are circulated to Senate members at least one week before every Senate meeting to facilitate informed discussions and improve decision-making. Commending Vice Chancellor Dr. Ehsanullah Kakar and his team for fostering a positive academic environment and raising

Nasirabad District Coordination Committee Reviews Law and Order, Development Projects, and Public Services

NASIRABAD: Deputy Commissioner Virender Lal chaired an important meeting of the District Coordination Committee (DCC) to review the district's overall law and order situation, development projects, and the delivery of essential public services.

The meeting was attended by heads of all district departments and other relevant government officials. Participants conducted a comprehensive review of the security situation across the dis-

trict and discussed measures to strengthen efforts against illegal smuggling and narcotics trafficking. Officials emphasized the need to make ongoing anti-smuggling and anti-drug operations more effective. The committee also reviewed traffic management, municipal sanitation arrangements, and the progress of development schemes being implemented under the Balochistan School Development Initiative (BSDI). Concerned de-

partments were directed to ensure the timely completion of all ongoing projects. The meeting further discussed the provision of basic healthcare services and the availability of safe drinking water. Relevant departments were instructed to improve service delivery and adopt sustainable measures to address public concerns and ensure that citizens receive essential facilities without unnecessary delays.

Addressing the meeting, Deputy Commissioner Virender Lal stressed that all issues discussed require practical implementation and directed departments to ensure effective execution of the decisions taken. He said the responsibilities assigned to Government of Balochistan are not merely procedural but require serious commitment and collective efforts from all departments. The Deputy Commissioner also emphasized the importance of

close coordination, effective communication, and interdepartmental cooperation to improve governance and public service delivery. He added that the primary objective of government policies and directives is to provide maximum relief to the public, urging all departments to enhance their performance and prioritize the timely resolution of public issues so that the benefits of government initiatives reach citizens directly.



Departmental representatives also briefed the meeting on their preparedness, available resources, and operational challenges. Addressing the meeting, Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Ramzan Palal chaired a high-level meeting to review disaster preparedness and preventive measures ahead of the upcoming monsoon season, directing all departments to remain on high alert for potential flooding and other weather-related emergencies.

The meeting was attended by District Health Officer Dr. Ameer Ali Jamali, Medical Superintendent Dr. Ahmed Ali Gopang, and senior officials from the Police, Irrigation, Buildings and Roads (B&R), Agricul-

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Kalat Deputy Commissioner Orders Immediate Restoration of Water Supply in Killi Bangalzai

KALAT: Deputy Commissioner Muneer Ahmed Durrani has ordered the immediate restoration of the non-functional water supply scheme in Sheeha Dghar, Killi Bangalzai, after taking notice of public complaints regarding the disruption of drinking water services.

Following the Deputy Commissioner's directives, Executive Engineer (XEN) Public Health Engineering (PH&E) Sohaib Barozai and Sub-Divisional Officer (SDO) Hidayatullah Baloch promptly launched repair work on the damaged water supply system. The Public Health Engineering Department has started replacing damaged borewell pipes

and repairing the faulty water supply infrastructure. Heavy machinery and new pipes have been transported to the site, where restoration work is being carried out under the supervision of department engineers on an emergency basis. Officials said the repair work is progressing rapidly to restore the supply of safe drinking water to residents of Killi Bangalzai at the earliest possible time. Residents welcomed the swift response of the district administration and appreciated Deputy Commissioner Muneer Ahmed Durrani for taking immediate action to address their concerns. They also praised

the efforts of XEN Sohaib Barozai and SDO Hidayatullah Baloch, saying that the Public Health Engineering Department is working diligently to ensure the timely restoration of clean drinking water services. The district administration reiterated its commitment to resolving public issues promptly and ensuring uninterrupted access to essential services, particularly safe drinking water, across Khat district. Khat, Muneer Ahmed Durrani, Killi Bangalzai, Sheeha Dghar, water supply restoration, Public Health Engineering, Sohaib Barozai, Hidayatullah Baloch, Khat drinking water, Khat administration, Balochistan news.

water points to ensure uninterrupted water supply during any emergency. Officials from the Buildings and Roads (B&R) Department were directed to clear road crossings, bridges, and drainage channels to prevent blockages and facilitate the smooth flow of rainwater, thereby reducing the risk of flooding. He also directed departments to repair and

water points to ensure uninterrupted water supply during any emergency. Officials from the Buildings and Roads (B&R) Department were directed to clear road crossings, bridges, and drainage channels to prevent blockages and facilitate the smooth flow of rainwater, thereby reducing the risk of flooding. He also directed departments to repair and

PM directs formation of committee to review PML-N lawmakers' suggestions for GB's welfare

NEWS DESK: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday said that effective communication between the Centre and the leadership of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) was indispensable, directing that a committee be formed to review suggestions from PML-N lawmakers from the region for its welfare.

He made the remarks while meeting with PML-N members of the GB Assembly in Islamabad, according to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

The meeting was also attended by Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar, Information Minister Attaullah Tarar, Minister for GB and Kashmir Affairs Amir Muqam, and PM's Adviser on Political Affairs Rana Sanaullah.

"The development and progress of GB is among the federal government's top priorities," the statement quoted PM Shehbaz as saying.

He added that the government gained "direct insight" into people's expectations, issues and priorities via the members of the assembly, as their elected representatives.



"Regardless of our affiliation with any political party, our sole objective is to serve the people and bring ease to their lives," he said. The prime minister stressed the need for effective communication between federal and local leadership, calling it indispensable to resolve people's issues, improve governance and promote transparency.

He called on all assembly members to play a constructive role in working with the leadership to ensure the welfare and well-being of the region. Noting that the government's commitments and suggestions were important to the government, he directed that a committee be formed to review their suggestions and present reports on them. The

committee will be chaired by DPM Dar and include Muqam and Sanaullah as members, the statement said. The premier highlighted that special attention was being given to enhancing "infrastructure, communications, energy, education, health, tourism, and employment opportunities" in the region. He said that GB's natural resources and tourist destinations would be used to strengthen the local economy.

He also termed providing quality education, modern technical training, and dignified employment as the region's youth "a key priority of the government" to allow them to "play a full role in national development".

To this end, he said that four cadet schools were in the final stages of construction and ready to begin classes from next year. He also highlighted work being done "at a rapid pace" on a project to generate 100 megawatts of electricity from solar energy, and said that all available resources were being used to ensure the timely completion of development projects, the statement said. An early warning system has also been installed in GB regarding climate change and glaciers, in order to inform locals of disasters in a timely manner and counter adverse weather conditions, the statement added. "Through our collective efforts, we will take GB to new heights of development, prosperity and sustainable stability," the prime minister said.

LHC orders criminal case against CCD officers over 'illegal custody' of citizen

NEWS DESK: The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Friday ordered CCTV footage of the incident submitted by the superintendent of the Crime Control Department (CCD) Inspector/Incharge Ali told the judge that Gulfaam illegal detention had been arrested in connection with a criminal case registered in Okara on July 2,

the court subsequently directed the Okara DPO to register an FIR against the officials concerned and submit a report after complying with the order.

On June 18, the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP), in a post on X, had cautioned the Punjab government about the rise of extrajudicial killings by CCD in Punjab.

The organisation noted that the CCD "routinely" adopted the use of lethal force as a tactic to control crime.

"Since the CCD was formed in April 2025, HRCP has documented 808 judicial killings by CCD in Punjab."

The judge held that submitting an incorrect report into custody of a citizen in unlawful custody by individuals warranting criminal proceedings.

The court subsequently directed the Okara DPO to register an FIR against the officials concerned and submit a report after complying with the order.

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The court subsequently directed the Okara DPO to register an FIR against the officials concerned and submit a report after complying with the order.

On June 18, the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP), in a post on X, had cautioned the Punjab government about the rise of extrajudicial killings by CCD in Punjab.

The organisation noted that the CCD "routinely" adopted the use of lethal force as a tactic to control crime.

"Since the CCD was formed in April 2025, HRCP has documented 808 judicial killings by CCD in Punjab."

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More wreckage of crashed cargo plane found, search for crew ongoing: PAA

NEWS DESK: The Pakistan Aviation Authority (PAA) said on Friday that the search for the crew of a cargo plane that crashed into the Arabian Sea was ongoing, adding that additional wreckage had been located.

In a statement, the authority said the search and rescue missions by the Pakistan Navy and Pakistan Maritime Security Agency in the deep sea were still in progress.

"The search for the crew members is continuing with full vigour through the coordinated employment of aerial and sea-borne assets," it said.

Additional parts and debris of the ill-fated aircraft have been located and retrieved for subsequent analysis by the investigation team, it said, adding that updates would be shared as the search and rescue operations continued.

On Tuesday night, a K2 Airways Boeing 737-400 aircraft en route from Sharjah to Karachi had disappeared from radar over the Arabian Sea, about 300 kilometres west of Karachi, while approaching Pakistani airspace.

The pilot had reported a navigation problem during the flight and requested assistance from the area control centre. Five crew members were on board the aircraft, including two pilots, two engineers and one support staffer.

After 12 hours of a search and rescue operation in the deep sea, the wreckage of the plane was found 53 nautical miles (98km) south of Ormara port on Wednesday.

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.

Although Kundi assented to the legislation in early May and it initially attracted little public attention, screenshots of the enacted laws being circulating online in July, reigniting debate over the scope of the benefits granted to legislators and the implications of several new provisions.

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K-P governor calls for uniform law on lawmakers' privileges across Pakistan

NEWS DESK: Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P) Governor Faisal Karim Kundi on Friday urged National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq and Senate Chairman Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani to convene a meeting of the speakers of all four provincial assemblies to develop a "single, harmonised" law governing lawmakers' salaries, privileges and entitlements across Pakistan.

The call comes amid renewed controversy over two laws passed by the K-P Assembly on April 30—the K-P Provincial Salaries and Allowances of Members Act and the K-P Assembly Powers, Privileges and Immunities (Amendment) Act, 2026—which have drawn criticism from the public and political circles.

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In a post on X, the single, harmonised bill governing the salaries, privileges and entitlements of legislators across Pakistan.

He stressed that "no sentence should entitle them to a uniform across the federation, ensuring one standard for all," Kundi wrote.

In an apparent attempt to address public discontent, the governor also shared an undated but signed letter issued by the Governor's Secretariat in Peshawar, in which he had "strongly recommended" that the

single, harmonised bill governing the salaries, privileges and entitlements of legislators across Pakistan.

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Rain predicted in country's upper regions over the weekend

NEWS DESK: The Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) on Friday predicted rain, windstorm and thunder showers in the upper parts of the country over the weekend.

The department said that most currents from the Arabian Sea were continuously penetrating the upper parts of the country, increasing in strength on Saturday (July 11) evening.

Meanwhile, westerly wave is also likely to approach the upper parts on Saturday, it said.

Rain, windstorm and thundershower with isolated heavy rainfall have been predicted in Neelum valley, Muzaffarabad, Rawalakot, Poonch, Hattian, Bagh, Haveli, Sudhanoti, Kotli, Bhimber and Mirpur from Friday night (July 10) to Saturday (July 13).

Similar weather conditions are expected in Dir, Chitral, Swat, Kohistan, Malakand, Nowshera, Charsadda, Karak, Tank, Lakki Marwat, Swabi, Shangla, Battagram, Buner, Kohat, Kurram, Dera Ismail Khan, Bannu,

Waziristan, Bajaur, Mohmand, Khyber, Orakzai, Mansehra, Abbottabad, Haripur, Peshawar, Mardan and Hangu on Saturday and Sunday (July 12).

Meanwhile, scattered rain, windstorm and thundershower with isolated heavy rainfall are expected in Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Murree, Galyat, Attock, Chakwal, Jhelum, Mandi Bahauddin, Gujrat, Muzaffarabad, Hafizabad, Wazirabad, Faisalabad, Khushab, Sargodha, Lahore, Sheikhpura, Sialkot, Narowal, Sahiwal, Jhang, Toba Tek Singh, Nankana

Sahib, Chinn and Okara on Saturday and Sunday.

These weather conditions are expected to begin on Saturday night going into Sunday with occasional gaps in the Noor Par Thal, Bhakkar, Mianwali, Layyah, Bahawalnagar, Dera Ghazi Khan, Multan, Khanewal, Lodhran, Muzaffargarh, Kot Addu, Rahim Yar Khan and Rajanpur.

Rain, windstorms and thundershowers have been predicted in Zhob, Sherani, Kohlu, Barkhan, Dera Bugti and Khuzdar districts on Saturday and Sunday.

On the other hand, Sindh is forecasted to experience "mainly hot and very humid weather" except Tharparkar, Sukkur, Shikarpur, Larkana, Dadu and Jacobabad districts, which will likely experience isolated rain on Sunday and Monday.

starting from Saturday night to Monday.

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The department advised the authorities concerned to remain vigilant. It said that windstorms and lightning could damage weak structures such as solar panels, electric poles and billboards.

Landslides could occur in vulnerable areas of upper KP, GB and Kashmir on Saturday and Sunday, it warned. The met department added that water flow could increase in local streams of Kashmir, KP, GB and in the hill torrents of DG Khan on Saturday and Sunday.

Furthermore, heavy rain could cause localised urban flooding in Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Peshawar, Gujranwala, Lahore and Faisalabad on Saturday and Sunday.

"Tourists and travellers are advised to remain extra cautious and avoid unnecessary travelling during the forecast period," it said. The met department also advised farmers to manage crop activities in line with the weather conditions and Kotli take care of their livestock.

"Prevailing hot and humid conditions are likely to subsides during the forecast period," it added.

4 terrorists killed in operation near Karak-Kohat border: police

NEWS DESK: Four terrorists were killed in a joint intelligence-backed operation in the Khattak Dam area near the border between Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Karak and Kohat districts, according to police.

In a statement, Karak police said that credible information was received regarding the presence of terrorists in the area at around 5 am. It said that an operation was carried out in tandem with the Kohat police.

"During the operation, terrorists opened fire on the police party, prompting an effective retaliatory response from the

police," it said. Following an "intense exchange of fire", four terrorists were killed and one was wounded, the statement added. The killed, it added, were members of the "Indiagroup".

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