QUETTA VOICE

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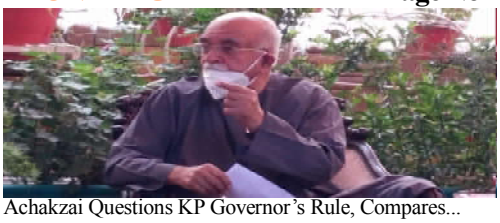
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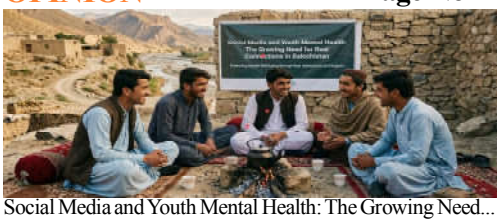
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Social Media and Youth Mental Health: The Growing Need...

Sarfraz Bugti Backs Pakistan Army Deployment in KP, Criticises Government's Anti-Terrorism Policy

News Desk:

Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti has supported the federal government's decision to deploy the Pakistan Army in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), saying the move was constitutionally justified and stressing that the security situation in KP and Balochistan could not be compared.

Addressing the Balochistan Assembly on Monday, Bugti said the Constitution provided the necessary provisions to deal with such situations and maintained that the federal government had acted within its constitutional mandate.

He criticised the role of the provincial government in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in combating terrorism, alleging that its approach differed significantly from that of the Balochistan government.

"Pakistan must understand that the situation in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan, as well as the roles of their provincial governments, cannot be compared," Bugti said.

The chief minister alleged that funds allocated for security in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa had been used to establish a social media team. He said security forces required government support, effective legislation and a clear political narrative to counter terrorism.



CM Balochistan Sarfraz Bugti

Bugti said the Balochistan government considered the fight against terrorism its responsibility and worked alongside security institutions, adding that political commitment was essential to defeating terrorist groups.

He also criticised what he described as a soft approach towards terrorism by the party governing Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Referring to attacks against political leaders and workers across Pakistan,

he said political parties had suffered significant losses in the fight against terrorism.

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Suspended KP CM Sohail Afridi, assembly speaker in preventative custody...

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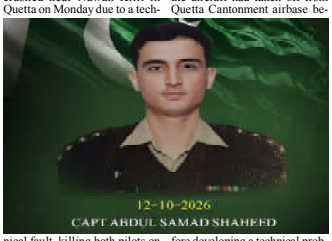


'Can sacrifice development,not security':Governor Kundi,...

Pakistan Army Training Aircraft Crashes in Quetta, Two Pilots Martyred

News Desk:

QUETTA: A Pakistan Army Aviation Mushshak training aircraft crashed near Nawan Killi in Quetta on Monday due to a technical fault, killing both pilots on board, according to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR).



In a statement issued on October 12, the military's media wing said the aircraft crashed around midday during a training flight. The two personnel who embraced martyrdom were identified as Major Husnain Shehzad Humayun, an instructor pilot, and Captain Abdul Samad, a student pilot.The tragic incident occurred near Nawan Killi, a locality in Quetta, the provincial capital of Balochistan. Initial information provided by ISPR attributed the crash to a technical fault.

According to local reports, the aircraft had taken off from Quetta Cantonment airbase before developing a technical problem during the flight. Security personnel subsequently reached the crash site and cordoned off the area.

The incident has resulted in the loss of two Pakistan Army aviation personnel who were engaged in flight training. Major Husnain Shehzad Humayun was serving as an instructor pilot, while Captain Abdul Samad was undergoing training as a student pilot.

Quetta Police Checkpoint Attack One Constable Martyred, Four Injured on Joint Road

By Our Correspondent:

A police constable was martyred and four people, including two police personnel and two passersby, were seriously injured when armed suspects opened fire at a police checkpoint on Joint Road in Quetta, police said.

The shooting took place within the jurisdiction of Satellite Town Police Station when police personnel signalled a suspicious vehicle to stop during routine checking. Instead of stopping, the occupants allegedly opened fire on the police party and fled the scene.

Police Constable Nauman was killed in the attack, while Constables Junaid and Khalid sustained serious injuries. Two passersby, identified as Ata Muhammad and Haris, were also wounded in the firing.

Police and rescue teams reached the scene shortly after the incident and shifted the deceased constable and all four injured people to Civil Hospital Quetta and the Trauma Centre for medical treatment.

According to the police spokesperson, Constable Khalid is in critical condition and is receiving treatment in the operation theatre.

Following the attack, a heavy contingent of police cordoned off the area and established security blockades to track down the suspects.In a statement issued through Quetta Deputy Inspector General of Police spokesperson Shahbaz Iqbal, police said the attackers had escaped and that search operations and raids were being carried out at different locations to arrest those involved.



Quetta Police Checkpoint Attack One Constable Martyred

No arrests had been reported in the initial account of the incident. The attack highlights continuing security concerns for police personnel and civilians in Quetta, the provincial capital of Balochistan.

Achakzai Questions KP Governor's Rule, Compares Security Situation With Balochistan

Haseeb Khan:

National Assembly Opposition Leader Mehmood Khan Achakzai has questioned the federal government's decision to impose governor's rule in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), arguing that Balochistan faces serious security challenges but has not been subjected to similar measures.

Speaking to reporters outside Parliament House on Monday, Achakzai alleged that the federal government was treating the two provinces differently for political reasons. He claimed that the state's writ was absent in large parts of Balochistan and questioned why the provincial government there had not faced comparable intervention.

The federal government imposed governor's rule and approved emergency measures in 12 districts of KP on October 11, citing what it described as the provincial government's lack of cooperation in counterterrorism efforts.

Senate Opposition Leader Raja Nasir Abbas also questioned the decision, saying that if deteriorating law and order justified emergency measures, the government should explain why similar action had not been taken in Balochistan.

Both provinces have faced terrorist attacks. According to data compiled by the Pakistan Institute for Conflict and Security Studies (PICSS), Pakistan recorded 199 terrorist attacks in August, including 54 in KP, excluding the former tribal districts, and 89 in Balochistan.



Achakzai described the federal government's move as an attack on constitutional democracy and called on political parties to launch a peaceful campaign against it. He said opposition parties would be encouraged to begin coordinated protests from Tuesday.Meanwhile, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan announced that the party would challenge the imposition of governor's rule in the Peshawar High Court on October 13. He said PTI would also discuss its parliamentary protest strategy.

The political dispute follows escalating tensions between the federal government and the PTI-led administration in KP. The party has rejected the federal intervention and demanded the restoration of the elected provincial government.Achakzai also defended suspended KP Chief Minister Sohail Afridi's demand for access to imprisoned former prime minister and PTI founder Imran Khan, including access to medical treatment.PTI Central Information Secretary Sheikh Waqas Akram accused the ruling coalition of undermining provincial autonomy and democratic representation. Referring to past instances of governor's rule in Balochistan, Punjab and the former North-West Frontier Province, he questioned the democratic credentials of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz and the Pakistan Peoples Party.

QUETTA VOICE

Editor: Asim Khan

Social Media and Youth Mental Health: The Growing Need for Real Connections in Balochistan

By Ali Hamza Khan:

Social media has become a central part of modern life, particularly for young people. From checking notifications after waking up to scrolling through TikTok, Instagram, Facebook and Snapchat before going to sleep, digital platforms increasingly shape how young people communicate, study, form relationships and perceive themselves.

Although social media offers opportunities for learning, networking and entertainment, its excessive use can also raise concerns about mental health, loneliness, anxiety and declining self-esteem. Behind the attractive photographs, trending videos and carefully edited lifestyles lies an important question: are young people becoming more connected digitally while growing more isolated in their real lives?

For the youth of Balochistan, this question deserves particular attention as digital platforms become an increasingly important source of communication, entertainment and social acceptance.

Social Media and Youth Mental Health: The Loneliness Paradox

Social media promised to bring people closer together by removing geographical barriers. Today, a student in Quetta can communicate instantly with someone in Canada, exchange ideas and develop friendships across cultures. These platforms have made information and communication more accessible than ever before.

However, online connectivity does not always provide the emotional support that people need.

Young people may have hundreds or thousands of followers but still struggle to find someone who will listen when they experience academic failure, family difficulties, heartbreak or emotional distress. An online audience does not necessarily translate into a dependable support network.

Face-to-face communication offers forms of connection that digital interaction may not fully reproduce, including body language, personal presence, empathy and the reassurance of being genuinely heard.

This does not mean online friendships are meaningless. Rather, it highlights the importance of balancing digital relationships with meaningful interaction in everyday life.

Social Media Comparison and Low Self-Esteem

One of the major concerns surrounding social media and youth mental health is the pressure to compare personal lives with the carefully selected experiences of others.

Instagram feeds and short-form videos often showcase expensive clothes, successful careers, university achievements, holidays in Ziarat and apparently perfect lifestyles. The financial difficulties, disappointments and personal struggles behind these images are much less visible.

When young people in Balochistan compare their everyday circumstances with these idealised portrayals, they may begin to feel unsuccessful, unattractive or left behind.

This comparison can contribute to low self-esteem and the fear of missing out, commonly known as FOMO. Young users may feel that other people are enjoying better lives, achieving greater success and building stronger relationships.

The pressure to appear attractive, wealthy, popular or constantly happy can make social media emotionally exhausting. Some users begin to judge their worth by the number of likes, comments and shares their posts receive. A post that attracts little attention may lead to disappointment, embarrassment or self-doubt.

When external approval becomes the main measure of personal value, confidence can become dependent on the reactions of strangers rather than individual abilities, character and achievements.

Young people need to understand that social media displays selected moments, not the complete reality of someone's life.



Social Media Addiction, Sleep and Concentration

Excessive social media use can become a difficult habit to control. Features such as endless scrolling, personalised recommendations, frequent notifications and unpredictable feedback encourage users to return to their screens repeatedly.

Likes, comments and other forms of digital recognition can activate the brain's reward system, reinforcing the desire to check notifications and seek further engagement. For some users, this pattern can interfere with everyday responsibilities.

Students are particularly vulnerable when social media begins to affect their sleep, academic concentration and family relationships.

Using a phone late at night can delay bedtime and disrupt healthy sleep routines. Frequent interruptions from notifications can make it harder to concentrate on lectures, assignments and examination preparation.

A student who repeatedly switches between studying and social media may struggle to maintain focus, while excessive screen time can reduce opportunities for physical activity and in-person interaction.

The impact extends beyond academic performance. Families may spend time together in the same room while remaining absorbed in separate digital conversations. As a result, opportunities for meaningful discussion and emotional support can diminish.

Healthy digital habits are therefore essential to maintaining a balance between technology, education, rest and personal relationships.

Why Young People in Balochistan Seek Belonging Online

At the heart of social media use lies a basic human need: belonging.

Every young person wants to feel accepted, respected and valued. Young people also need opportunities to express themselves, explore their interests and develop a sense of identity.

In many communities across Balochistan, opportunities for organised recreational activities, youth clubs, cultural programmes and accessible mental health services may be limited. Some young people also find it difficult to discuss emotional challenges openly with parents, teachers or other adults.

When meaningful support is difficult to find at home, in universities or within local communities, online platforms can become an alternative source of companionship and acceptance.

Digital communities can offer genuine benefits. They allow young people to share creative work, learn new skills, discuss common interests and connect with others who understand their experiences.

However, not every online community promotes healthy relationships. Some expose young users to cyberbullying, hateful content, unrealistic beauty standards and harmful social pressures.

Addressing this challenge requires more than asking young people to spend less time on their phones. It also requires creating supportive environments where they can find friendship, recognition and purpose in real life.

How to Improve Digital Well-Being Among Young People

Reducing the harmful effects of social media does not require abandoning technology altogether. Digital platforms can support education, professional development, social awareness and creative expression when used responsibly.

The priority should be to promote digital well-being and help young people develop healthier relationships with technology.

What Young People Can DoYoung users can begin by setting realistic screen-time limits, switching off unnecessary notifications and avoiding excessive phone use before bedtime. They should also review the accounts they follow and prioritise content that supports learning, creativity and personal growth.

Taking regular breaks from social media can provide more time for studying, exercise, reading and spending time with friends and family.

Joining a sports team, participating in a literary society, learning a practical skill or meeting friends without constantly checking a phone can help strengthen real-world relationships.

Young people should also remember that their personal worth cannot be accurately measured through followers, likes or online popularity.

The Role of Parents and Teachers

Parents and teachers have an important role in protecting youth mental health. However, criticism, punishment and comparisons with other children may discourage young people from discussing their difficulties.

Instead, adults should encourage open conversations, listen without immediately passing judgement and take emotional distress seriously.

Changes in behaviour, persistent withdrawal or signs of anxiety should prompt a supportive conversation rather than automatic criticism. Where emotional difficulties persist, professional mental health support may be appropriate.

Schools and colleges should also help students understand responsible social media use, online privacy, cyberbullying and the importance of seeking help when they feel overwhelmed.

Creating an environment in which young people can talk openly about loneliness and emotional distress is an important step towards reducing stigma around mental health.

What Universities in Balochistan Should Do.Universities, including the University of Balochistan, can play a constructive role in promoting student mental health and digital awareness.

Educational institutions should work towards providing accessible and confidential counselling services, organising regular awareness sessions on digital well-being and offering guidance on managing online pressure.

Universities can also strengthen campus life by expanding opportunities for sports, debates, literary activities, cultural events, student societies and community service.

These activities can help students develop friendships, discover their interests and feel connected to a wider community.

For students who struggle with isolation, a supportive campus environment can provide opportunities to build confidence and relationships beyond the digital world.

The Responsibility of Society and Policymakers

Promoting youth mental health is not solely the responsibility of individuals and their families. Educational institutions, community organisations, technology companies and policymakers also have a role to play.

Digital platforms should take concerns such as cyberbullying, harmful content and excessive engagement seriously. Communities and public institutions should also invest in recreational facilities, youth development programmes and accessible mental health support.In Balochistan, where young people represent an important source of future social and economic progress, investing in their well-being is an investment in the province itself.

Conclusion: Real Relationships Matter More Than Online Likes

The youth of Balochistan possess talent, creativity and the ability to contribute meaningfully to society. Their value does not depend on their appearance in filtered photographs, the number of followers they attract or the popularity of their online posts.

Social media can be a useful tool, but it should not become the principal measure of happiness, success or self-worth.

Young people need genuine friendships, emotional support, opportunities to develop their abilities and environments in which they can express themselves without fear of rejection. These needs cannot always be fulfilled through a screen.

Families, universities and communities must work together to ensure that digital connectivity complements rather than replaces human relationships.

The real measure of connection is not how many people follow us online, but whether we have someone who listens when we are struggling, supports us during difficult moments and accepts us for who we are.

Young people should be encouraged to use technology wisely, protect their mental health and build meaningful relationships in their everyday lives.

The goal is not to disconnect from the digital world, but to reconnect with ourselves and the people around us.

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

Atta Kakar:

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

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

The disaster caused extensive damage to orchards, agricultural land, and seasonal crops, particularly apple,

apricot, and grape farms that form the backbone of the local economy.

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

Local growers have described the situation as catastrophic, warning that many families may struggle to survive financially without immediate government assistance.

Agriculture remains the primary source of income for a large portion of Qila Saifullah's

population, and the destruction of fruit orchards is expected to have long-term economic consequences for the region.

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



Many affected farmers claim that official assessment and rehabilitation measures have been slow despite the scale of destruction.

Calls are growing for the provincial and federal governments to announce emergency compensation packages, interest-free agricultural loans, and recovery support for affected communities.

Farmers and local representatives are also demanding restoration of damaged irrigation systems and the introduction of crop insurance mechanisms to help rural communities recover from climate-related disasters.

They argue that without urgent intervention, the crisis could deepen poverty and unemployment across the district.

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

Analysts say stronger disaster management systems, climate-resilient agricultural policies,

and faster emergency response mechanisms are essential to protect rural livelihoods and ensure long-term stability in Balochistan's farming sector.

Balochistan Governor Welcomes Establishment of Ladies Club, Pledges Support for Women's Employment



QUETTA: Balochistan Governor Jaffar Khan Mandokhail has welcomed the establishment of Ladies Club Balochistan, describing it as a positive initiative to promote women's economic and social participation, enhance awareness of their rights and responsibilities, and create new employment opportunities.

He assured the club of his full cooperation in making it an active and effective platform for women's welfare, skills development and economic empowerment.

The governor expressed these views during a meeting with a delegation of women led by Sitara Muhammad Hasni at Governor House, Quetta.

The delegation included former MPA Zeenat Shahwani, Rubina Ibrahim Zehri, Mahwish Rind, Anzala Baloch and Ayesha Zia Qalandarani.

During the meeting, the delegation briefed the governor on the objectives and proposed activities of Ladies Club Balochistan.

They expressed hope that the club would provide women with an effective platform to participate in positive social activities, develop professional networks, enhance their skills and contribute to welfare projects.

Mandokhail stressed the importance of establishing effective links with relevant government and non-governmental organizations, social welfare groups and donors.

He said such partnerships could help launch joint initiatives to promote women's welfare, vocational training and employment opportunities.

He emphasized that efforts aimed at women's economic independence and social development would be encouraged at every level.

The governor also highlighted the need for collective efforts to address the challenges faced by women, protect their rights and ensure equal opportunities for advancement.

He said coordinated action and a unified voice could help achieve more effective and sustainable results.

Mandokhail reaffirmed the importance of cooperation in strengthening women's role in the economic, social and overall development of Balochistan, expressing confidence that Ladies Club Balochistan could contribute to these objectives through meaningful activities and partnerships.

120 Candidates Appear in BS Nursing Admission Test at BIITMS Loralai

LORALAI: A total of 120 male and female candidates appeared in the Nursing Colleges Admission Test (NCAT) for admission to the Bachelor of Science (BS) Nursing programme at the Balochistan Institute of Information Technology and Management Sciences (BIITMS), Loralai.



The test was conducted in a peaceful, well-organized and transparent environment, with all examination arrangements supervised by BIITMS Loralai staff.

The institute ensured effective arrangements for seating, attendance, supervision and other essential requirements in the examination hall, with particular emphasis on discipline and transparency throughout the process.

District Health Officer (DHO) Loralai Dr. Faheem Utmankhel and the Principal of Nursing College Loralai visited the examination hall and reviewed the arrangements in detail.

They expressed satisfaction with the examination process, facilities provided to candidates and overall administrative management.

The DHO and the nursing college principal appreciated the BIITMS principal and staff for their efficient management, cooperation and responsible conduct during the test.

They said well-organized and transparent admission examinations helped ensure the selection of eligible candidates on merit and provided young people with better opportunities to pursue professional education in the healthcare sector.

The BIITMS Loralai administration reaffirmed its commitment to providing a transparent, organized, secure and high-quality examination environment for future academic, professional and admission tests. The officials emphasized that developing a skilled nursing workforce was essential for improving healthcare services, while transparent admission tests played an important role in selecting qualified and deserving candidates on merit.

Balochistan Economic and Investment Forum to Be Held in Lahore on October 21



QUETTA: Balochistan Investment Board Vice Chairman Bilal Khan Kakar has chaired a meeting to review preparations for the Balochistan Economic and Investment Forum, scheduled to be held in Lahore on October 21.

The meeting was attended by Investment Board CEO Abdul Mannan and other relevant officials. Participants reviewed arrangements for the forum, the participation of investors and business leaders, plans to highlight investment opportunities across various sectors, and measures to ensure the event's effectiveness.

The meeting also discussed the forum's objectives and the importance of taking practical steps to promote investment in Balochistan.

Addressing the meeting, Kakar said the forum aimed to showcase the province's extensive investment potential to national and international investors and explore new opportunities to expand business activities.

He said that, in line with the vision of Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti, efforts were underway to develop the province into an important hub for investment, trade and economic growth. The Balochistan Investment Board, he added, was working to translate this vision into practical outcomes by promoting a business-friendly environment and facilitating investment across the province. Kakar expressed confidence that the Balochistan Economic and Investment Forum would serve as an important platform for highlighting the province's economic potential, strengthening investor confidence and building stronger business connections. The forum is expected to provide an opportunity to present investment prospects in Balochistan and encourage engagement between the province and the business community.

Rise Balochistan Programme Distributes Financial Grants and Vocational Kits to 150 Beneficiaries in Gwadar

GWADAR: The Rise Balochistan Programme has distributed income-generating grants worth Rs150,000 each among 150 deserving individuals in Gwadar, alongside certificates and vocational kits for 40 young women who completed beautician and baking courses.



Addressing the distribution ceremony, Deputy Commissioner Gwadar Naqeebullah Kakar said initiatives were being undertaken under the vision of Balochistan Chief Minister Mir Sarfraz Bugti to promote the economic empowerment of women and young people.

Under the programme, 150 beneficiaries received financial assistance of Rs150,000 each to support income-generating activities and small businesses.

Certificates and professional kits were also distributed among 40 young women who successfully completed vocational training.

Of these, 27 completed beautician courses at the IRM Institute in Islamabad, while 13 completed baking courses at the Gautam Institute in Karachi.

Kakar said the programme aimed to support the economic recovery of deserving families, provide technical and vocational training to young people, and create employment opportunities for women. He explained that the Rise Balochistan Programme had allocated Rs16.79 billion for six districts over a three-year period to support economic empowerment and local development.

The Balochistan Rural Support Programme is helping identify deserving households and connect them with income-generating activities.

Under the initiative, eligible individuals can receive non-repayable grants of up to Rs150,000 for small businesses, while larger projects may qualify for financial assistance subject to prescribed conditions.

The deputy commissioner said the combination of vocational skills and financial support was helping beneficiaries move towards self-reliance and improve their families' economic circumstances.

He added that the Rise Balochistan Programme was playing an important role in strengthening the economic independence of women and young people while contributing to the growth of local economies.

Speakers Syed Tahir and Tariq also addressed the ceremony, emphasizing the importance of improving the economic conditions of deserving families and expanding access to vocational skills and self-employment opportunities.

The programme continues to support initiatives aimed at enabling disadvantaged individuals to establish their own sources of income and achieve greater financial stability.

Balochistan Culture Directorate and NAPA Sign MoU to Promote Performing Arts and Cultural Heritage



QUETTA: The Directorate of Culture, Government of Balochistan, and the National Academy of Performing Arts (NAPA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote arts, culture and performing arts across the province.

A dignified ceremony was held in Quetta to mark the agreement, attended by NAPA Board of Governors Chairman Syed Javed Iqbal, renowned social worker and former senator Roshan Khursheed Broacha, senior artists, media representatives, cultural figures and members of civil society.

The agreement represents an initiative by the Directorate of Culture to strengthen the performing arts sector in Balochistan and create better opportunities for local artists to develop their skills.

Secretary Culture, Tourism and Archives Hameedullah Nasir and Director Culture Dawood Tareen played key roles in advancing the initiative, which aims to improve standards in the arts and provide local artists with access to professional training and development opportunities.

Speaking at the ceremony, Syed Javed Iqbal, Roshan Khursheed Broacha and other distinguished guests described the partnership as an important step towards promoting arts and culture in Balochistan.

They said the collaboration would provide young people and artists across the province with opportunities for professional training and guidance in drama, music, theatre and other performing arts.

Secretary Culture Hameedullah Nasir and Director Culture Dawood Tareen also described the agreement as a significant step towards strengthening Balochistan's cultural future.

They expressed hope that the partnership would help develop local artistic talent and showcase the province's rich cultural heritage at the national level. Participants welcomed the agreement, noting that initiatives of this nature could highlight Balochistan's cultural identity, expand opportunities for young people and contribute to the growth of the province's performing arts sector.

Sohbatpur Reviews Development Projects, Public Welfare and Law and Order

SOHBATPUR: Deputy Commissioner Sohbatpur Farida Tareen chaired a meeting of the District Implementation Coordination Committee (DICC) to review progress on development projects, public welfare initiatives, law and order, and the performance of various government departments.

Officials from relevant departments attended the meeting, which focused on accelerating development activities, addressing public concerns, improving the delivery of basic services, and strengthening coordination among government institutions.

Participants held detailed discussions on ongoing development schemes, public service delivery, maintenance of law and order, prevention of drug trafficking, and indiscriminate action against smuggling.

Departmental officials briefed the deputy commissioner on the progress of their respective projects, administrative matters, performance, and challenges affecting implementation.

Deputy Commissioner Farida Tareen directed the concerned officials to ensure effective monitoring of development schemes and take practical steps to complete all projects within their stipulated timelines.

She stressed that public welfare projects must not face unnecessary delays and that construction quality should not be compromised under any circumstances. She also emphasized transparent utilization of public funds and ensuring that development initiatives deliver tangible benefits to local communities.

Regarding law and order, Tareen urged the relevant authorities to adopt a coordinated strategy to prevent crime, uphold the rule of law, and protect the lives and property of citizens.

CORRIGENDUM

The Office of the Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division Chaman, invited tenders vide PRQ No. 1659/02-10-2026, published in Daily newspapers on 02-10-2026, under TSE-26270912000903. The Eligibility and Evaluation Criteria specified in the bidding documents for the work titled "CLEANLINESS OF KOTNI KAREZ, DISTRICT CHAMAN" are hereby amended. The amended bidding documents may be viewed and downloaded from the official BPPRA website. The last date and time for submission of bids shall remain 16-10-2026 at 12:00 PM, as previously notified. All other terms and conditions shall remain unchanged. Corrigendum

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, Irrigation Division, Chaman

PRQ No.1863/12-10-2026

CORRIGENDUM

The Tender published in Electronic Media (BPPRA Website)and Printed Media (News paper) vide following PRQ No.1724/05-10-2026for (TSE No. 26271012021039which opening date is fixed on 19thOctober-2026.Now Thecorrection in Eligibility and Evaluation Criteria has been made on BPPRA Web-site.

The date of submission and opening are same on 19thOctober-2026(Otherterms and conditions will remain same):-

PRQ No.1864/12-10-2026

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (BUILDGINS) CWPP&H DEPARTMENT NASEERABAD AT D.M. JAMALI

حتمی نوٹس

Balochistan Employees Efficiency and Discipline Act, 2011

PRQ No1869/12-10-2026

PRQ No1871/12-10-2026

CORRIGENDUM

The Executive Engineer PHE Division Zarat were invited tenders on 26-10-2026 for various works under PSDPs for the year 2026-27 and advertized in daily Mashriq Quetta on 10-10-2026 vide PRQ No. 1828/09-10-2026 due to typing mistake the amount of works at S.No.1 & 02 was typed wrong, Which may be read as under:-

S. NO	NAME OF WORK	AMOUNT
1	WSS for Sinjavi for Foot Ball Ground Tehsil Sinjavi PSDP No.4583 S/O GJ Pipe TSE:26271012064l3	1,39,79,89990/-
2	WSS for Sinjavi for Foot Ball Ground Tehsil Sinjavi PSDP No.4583 Construction of Main Storage Trak 20000 Gallon TSE:26271012063l23.	2,30,52,917/-

The terms and conditions will remain same as per BPRA Rules.

Note: Procedure of Procurement single stage tow envelope bidding procedure already above mentioned in upload TSE Numbers.

Executive Engineer Public Health Engineering Division Zarat.

PRQ No.1862/12-10-2026

'Can sacrifice development,not security':Governor Kundi, Naqvi chair KP apex committee meeting

NEWS DESK: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi and Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Monday co-chaired a meeting of the provincial apex committee, a day after the imposition of governor's rule and an emergency in the province.

Addressing the meeting, Kundi — who is now in charge of running the province — asserted that under the new set-up, tackling terrorism would be the priority.

"We can sacrifice our development, but never security," Kundi vowed as he noted the "lack of synergy" in counterterrorism efforts in the province.

"Now it will show that there is (synergy)," he said, adding that the administration will "fulfil the demands of the Counter-Terrorism Department and police".

He stressed that the administration will "work 24/7" as the federal government and the "people had put their faith in us".

"We have to show the difference," he said, adding that there was no time for holidays or weekends. He stressed that the administration was moving towards "result-oriented" actions, rather than cosmetic measures.

Noting the scourge of terrorism in the province, Kundi said that the "people have no freedom to live, travel and do other things" in districts such as Dera Ismail Khan, Tank and Waziristan.

He called for working towards restoring



freedom of movement for people in terrorism-affected districts.

"People from our province also want peace, prosperity and development," he said. Kundi expressed the hope that the new administration be remembered well.

"It should be written in history that these people came and restored peace in the province," he said. The governor added that he will hold apex committee meetings regularly.

Co-chairing the meeting alongside Kundi, Naqvi remarked: "Today is the first time I can proudly say that the federal and the provincial governments are on the same page.

"In the past 2.5 years, we have seen many ups and downs," Naqvi said.

The minister stated that the most difficult work was that the war against terrorism was being fought with "no backend support".

Criticising the PTI-led government, he said: "It was the [provincial] government's job to lead the war against terrorism, but they did not do it. They kept bowing their heads only because they did not want to compromise.

"But any war, no matter how many resources you have, cannot be won until the government leads it," he stressed.

"Not once, not twice; we requested them to work with us dozens of times," Naqvi emphasised.

"One thing I will ask you to note is that this is the same force, these are the same people, but the only difference you will see is that … the same people will show you results."

LHC directs jail authorities to provide heart medication to Imran's sister Uzma

NEWS DESK: The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Monday directed jail authorities to provide heart medication to Dr Uzma Khan, sister of PTI founder and former premier Imran Khan.

Imran's three sisters, Aleema Khan, Noreen Niazi and Uzma, have been in detention for nearly three weeks under the Maintenance of Public Order Ordinance (MPO).

Uzma and Noreen were detained for 30 days on September 21, ahead of the party's Sept 27 protest call,

later postponed to October 4. The development came a day after Aleema's detention on Sept 20.

On Monday, Justice Abher Gul Khan took up a petition challenging the preventive detention of Imran's sisters. Sakeena Niazi, daughter of Noreen, had filed the petition on Oct 6.

During the hearing, Uzma's husband, Ahad Khan, appeared before the court and stated that his wife had a heart condition and needed three medicines daily.

He asked the court to direct the authorities to ensure that the medicines were delivered to her in jail daily.

Petitioner's counsel Rana Mudassar Umar requested the court to allow Noreen to receive clothes, medicines and spectacles in jail, saying these were basic necessities and her fundamental right.



He also sought permission for family members and lawyers to meet the detained women.

The counsel further requested the court to summon the Lahore Capital City Police Officer and the deputy commissioner in person, arguing that their appearance would help clarify the circumstances surrounding the detention notifications.

After hearing the arguments, the judge ordered the jail authorities to provide medicines to Uzma and reserved decision on the request to summon the officials in person.

In the previous hearing, the LHC sought a report on the provision of medicines, clothes and other basic facilities to the sisters and adjourned the hearing till October 12.

On Sept 24, the LHC had turned down a request to immediately suspend the preventive detention notifications issued against Noreen and Dr Uzma.

Earlier this month, Imran's cousin, Qasim Zaman, was also taken into custody when he went to Adiala jail to meet the ex-prime minister.

The detention had come amid reports of a crackdown on the PTI ahead of its countrywide protest and march to Islamabad,

which the party had called to demand Imran's release from jail and mobilise people for the supremacy of the Constitution.

Islamabad ATC tells authorities to allow Imaan, Hadi to meet their legal team in jail

NEWS DESK: An anti-terrorism court (ATC) on Monday directed jail authorities to allow lawyers representing human rights lawyer Imaan Mazari and her husband, Hadi Ali Chattha, to meet them in prison as the couple raised concerns over their access to their legal counsel and the fairness of proceedings in a case related to the removal of security barriers.

The couple was indicted in the case on Oct 7. The case pertains to the alleged disruption of the security route of an international cricket team and incitement to public unrest. On Oct 10, the ATC had disposed of the couple's plea seeking to drop the terrorism charges.

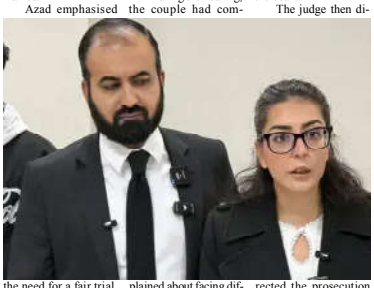
ATC Judge Tahir Abbas Sipra, who presided over the hearing on Monday, ordered that Advocates Riasat Ali Azad, Zainab Janjua and Aimal Khan be allowed to meet the accused in jail.

Imaan's mother, former human rights minister Dr Shireen Mazari, appeared before the court along with Advocates Azad and Khan, while the couple attended the proceedings via video link.

The defence sought an adjournment, informing the court that the Oct 10 order was also being challenged before the Islamabad High Court.

"If your petition is accepted by the high court, the proceedings in this court will come to an end," the judge remarked.

Azad emphasised



the need for a fair trial, saying the defence did not know what had happened or where the alleged incident had taken place.

The judge also questioned the defence about whether proceedings conducted before the accused joined via video link should be treated as a trial. Azad replied in the affirmative.

Justice Sipra recalled that at the previous hearing, Advocate Janjua had argued that proceedings could not be considered a trial because Imaan and Hadi had not been present via video link.

During the hearing, the couple had complained about facing difficulty in communicating via video link, with Imaan and Hadi saying their voices were breaking up.

"If we cannot meet then, how are we supposed to proceed with the case?" Advocate Azad asked.

The judge observed that the anti-terrorism law required the trial to proceed on a daily basis and asked the prosecution how many witnesses remained to be examined.

The prosecutor informed the court that nine witnesses had yet to be produced before the court.

The judge then directed the prosecution to ensure that the accused were granted access to their lawyers.

Meanwhile, Hadi objected to the manner in which the proceedings were being conducted and questioned whyhim and Imaan were not being presented before the court in person.

DPM Dar defends emergency and governor's rule in KP, says measures not politically motivated

NEWS DESK: A day after the government imposed governor's rule and emergency in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar defended the move, saying it was not politically motivated but instead taken to curb terrorism.

DPM Dar made the comments while addressing a seminar in Islamabad, a day after the federal government imposed emergency under Article 232 and the governor's rule under Article 234 in KP.

The Cabinet recommended the move, citing the PTI-led provincial government's "deliberate disengagement from the fight against terrorism".

Referring to "recent developments" in the country, Dar said, "It is not a political move; it is surely against the menace of terrorism which that province (KP) has been hit with in the past decade and a half."

He asked if the Centre could "keep sleeping and looking towards one another because it may be deemed as a political move?

"No, it is not. I can guarantee you."

Dar recalled that he negotiated with PTI in 2014 during a sit-in in Islamabad.

Defending the move further, Dar held it was the federal government's responsibility to take such steps "once it is totally determined that there is no solution other than what we have done yesterday".

He stressed that the ruling party PML-N bore a "heavy political cost" when the country was on the brink of default in 2022.

Dar recalled that the government had to take difficult structural measures.

"Political cost was paid, unpopularity was there, and we recovered a lot because we saved the country from the brink of default."

Dar said the government "had no choice but to take the measures we took yesterday, and we will implement it in totality".

He hoped the progress would show in the time ahead.

"I am sure the province will be quite happy to see peace restored, their lives are safe and the radicalisation [will end].

Information Minister Attaullah Tarar also spoke at the seminar and defended the federal government's actions.

Following the imposition of emergency and governor's rule in KP, the federal government also authorised the deployment of Pakistan Army troops and assets in aid of civil power in the province.

On the ground, shipping containers were placed around the city of Peshawar to block several roads, with heavy police deployment.



Suspended KP CM Sohail Afridi, assembly speaker in preventative custody: police

NEWS DESK: Suspended Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chief minister Sohail Afridi and some of his cabinet members are in preventative custody, officials confirmed on Monday.

The PTI had reported their detention on Sunday, shortly after the Centre imposed emergency and governor's rule in the province under Articles 232 and 234 of the Constitution.

On Monday, Minister of State for Interior Tallal Chaudhry told Reuters, "Yes, I can confirm that the chief minister (Sohail Afridi) and some of his cabinet members have been taken into preventive custody."

If any of them have any cases to be tried against them, they will be charged and tried but the others will be released, he said, adding that the detentions happened on Sunday.

A senior police official priy to the developments also confirmed to Dawn that eight people — including Afridi, MNA Junaid Akbar and assembly speaker Babar Saleem Swati — had been taken into "preventative custody".



As of Sunday, even Afridi's party members said they did not know about his whereabouts. Sources had said that the chief minister and Akbar were under house arrest under Section 3 of the Maintenance of Public Order (MPO).

Meanwhile, PTI spokesperson Sheikh Waqas Akram has said Afridi's "arrest" could not be viewed in isolation from the federal government's decision to impose emergency and governor's rule.

He contended that the arrests had "exposed the political nature of the federal government's actions".

"These measures are not directed at addressing security challenges; they are intended to weaken [the] PTI, undermine the elected government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and disregard the democratic will of its people," Akram added. The emergency follows heightened tensions between the PML-N-led federal government and the PTI-led KP government.

Main suspect, two women picked up in female student's suicide case in Islamabad

NEWS DESK: The capital police have arrested the main suspect and his two female accomplices on the charges of defrauding a female student which allegedly led her to commit suicide in Islamabad.

Sources confirmed to Dawn that the main suspect was detained during a raid at a house in Sector H-13. The police also picked his two female accomplices during separate raids in different areas.

Preliminary investigation showed that the main suspect along with the women and others operating a gang had already defrauded people.

The main suspect had previously served in the Anti-Corruption Department Quetta from where he was dismissed.

Gang defrauded a number of people and minted hundreds of millions of rupees, says official

It was further revealed that the gang was involved in online frauds as well as blackmailing. The gang defrauded a number of people and minted hundreds of millions of rupees. The suspect defrauded the student, Laiba Ajaz, with the help of his female accomplices. Laiba had recently completed her BS degree from the International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI) and was planning to go to the US for further studies. However, the suspect gave her fake travel documents after which she committed suicide.



Following the incident, the police and the Federal Investigation Agency registered separate cases. The police registered a case under Sections 322 (punishment for qatl-bis-sabab) and 34 (acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention) of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC). Sources in the police prosecution department said Section 322 was a non-bailable offence and that anyone arrested under this section can only obtain bail from a court of law. Under this section, the suspects have to pay the blood money, reach a compromise with the family or be pardoned by the family. In case of failure, the accused can be convicted and serve life imprisonment, they added.

In majority of such cases, the matter was either settled through a compromise or the complainant pardoned the accused for the sake of Allah, the sources said, adding that accused persons rarely serve imprisonment in such cases.