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Notorious Katcha Gang Members Surrender with 100 Stolen Cattle

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In a significant victory for law enforcement, five members of the notorious Bosan gang in the Katcha region of Muzaffargarh, Pakistan, surrendered to police, returning 100 stolen cattle to their rightful owners. The operation, marked by intense confrontations, highlights the Punjab Police's relentless crackdown on criminal networks plaguing the riverine areas. This article explores the surrender, the ongoing Katcha operation, and its broader implications for restoring order in Pakistan's troubled south.

The surrender of Qalandar Bosan, Allah Nawaz Bosan, Shahzad Bosan, Faiz Rasool Bosan, and Sajid Bosan on July 19, 2025, followed a week-long standoff with the Muzaffargarh Police in Alipur's Katcha area. Facing sustained pressure, the gang relinquished four Kalashnikov rifles, two repeaters, and 100 stolen cattle, originally part of a 260-head heist worth Rs324 million from Mouza Latti. District Police Officer (DPO) Dr. Rizwan Ahmad Khan, who oversaw the operation, handed the livestock back to owners in Sonhare Shah, stating, "This is a testament to our commitment to justice". The gang, linked to crimes like terrorism, murder, and robbery, publicly expressed remorse, vowing to abandon their criminal ways.

The Katcha region, a lawless riverine belt spanning Punjab and Sindh, has long been a haven for bandit gangs armed with sophisticated weaponry. The Bosan gang's heist on July 7, led by Fayyaz Bosan, saw 30 armed men raid a cattle farm, holding workers hostage. Police cordoned off the area, engaging in firefights while local politician MNA Aamir Talal Gopang mediated the surrender. Despite this success, some gang members fled, and police continued raids to recover the remaining 160 cattle. Inspector General of Police (IGP) Dr. Usman Anwar praised the operation, noting its role in dismantling criminal networks.

This breakthrough signals hope but underscores the persistent challenge of Katcha's banditry. With gangs exploiting the region's terrain and tribal feuds, the Punjab government's Rs1,791 million investment in modern equipment and bounties on 40 dacoits reflects a hardline stance. Yet, as locals demand lasting solutions, the operation's success hinges on sustained action and addressing root causes like poverty and weak governance.