



Iranian leader Khamenei calls on Muslims to confront Israel

TEHRAN: Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei called on Muslims on Saturday "to stand by the people of Lebanon and the proud Hezbollah with whatever means they have and assist them in confronting the ... wicked regime (of Israel).



Seven labourers killed in Balochistan's Panjgur

Unidentified men killed seven labourers and injured two in their house in Balochistan's Panjgur on Saturday night. President Asif Ali Zardari strongly condemned the brutal killing of labourers in Panjgur. The President expressed deep sorrow and regret over the loss of precious lives in the tragic incident. Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday strongly condemned killing of labourers in a firing incident in Balochistan province.

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilayhi Raji'un



Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah, File Photo via X

Hassan Nasrallah martyred, Hezbollah confirms death in Israeli strike

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Lebanon's Hezbollah confirmed on Saturday that its leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah was killed and vowed to continue the battle against Israel. Israeli regime will receive more 'crushing blows': Ayatollah Khamenei Israel said earlier that it had

killed the Hezbollah leader in an airstrike in Beirut's southern suburbs a day earlier, in what would be a devastating blow to the group as it reels from an escalating campaign of Israeli attacks. Nasrallah's death marks a major blow not only to Hezbollah but also to its alleged backers in Iran. He was a leading figure in the Tehran-

backed "Axis of Resistance", helping to project Iranian influence across the Middle East. The Israeli military said in a statement that Nasrallah was eliminated in a "targeted strike" on the group's underground headquarters under a residential building in Dahiyeh — a Hezbollah-controlled southern suburb of Beirut.

It said he was killed along with another top Hezbollah leader — Ali Karaki — and other commanders. "The strike was conducted while Hezbollah's senior chain of command were operating from the headquarters and advancing terrorist activities against the citizens of the State of Israel," it claimed. The Israeli military "eliminated Hassan Nasrallah, leader of the Hezbollah terrorist organisation," Israeli army spokesperson Avichay Adraec wrote in a statement on X. "Hassan Nasrallah will no longer be able to terrorise the world," the Israeli military said in a post on X on Saturday. Late on Friday, a source close to Hezbollah told Reuters that Nasrallah was not reachable.

Six killed as chartered helicopter carrying foreigners crashes in North Waziristan

Adam Khan Wazir

WANA: A chartered helicopter carrying 14 people, including three Russian crew members, crashed in the North Waziristan district of the KP province on Saturday, killing at least six people, sources reported. Eight people have been injured, according to the sources. An oil exploration and production company in Pakistan, Mari Petroleum, chartered M18 helicopter, which crashed near Shewa oil field due to a technical fault, said the sources. The sources ruled out any possibility of sabotage. The helicopter developed a technical issue shortly after takeoff. As it attempted an emergency landing, its tail rotor struck the ground, according to the sources.

The injured were transported to Combined Military Hospital Thal. A spokesperson for Mari Petroleum said the helicopter "experienced a tragic accident due to engine failure." "Although the helicopter managed to land, it unfortunately lost control afterward. Evacuation operations are currently underway, with support from all relevant departments, including the Pakistan Army. The injured are being transported to the nearest hospital," the spokesperson said in a statement. Earlier this year, Mari Petroleum discovered gas reserves at Shewa-2 well. MARI is the operator of Waziristan Block with 55% working interest along with OGDCL and OPI as joint venture partners having 35% and 10% working interest, respectively.

KIIR Chief thanks PM Shahbaz for raising Kashmir and Palestine issues



Bureau Report

MIRPUR: Senior APHC leader, Kashmir Institute of International Relations (KIIR) Chairman Altaf Hussain Wani, has expressed his profound gratitude to Pakistan Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif for raising the Kashmir issue in a befitting manner during his speech to the UN general assembly. In his statement released to the media here on Saturday, Wani said that the prime

minister Sharif won hearts and minds of Muslims all around the world by highlighting the plight of Kashmiri and Palestinian people profusely at the highest forum. Wani, also Vice Chairman of Kashmiri rights outfit, Jammu Kashmir National Front, said that the speech not only reflected the true sentiments of the Kashmiri people but of the entire Muslim Ummah. While praising Pakistan for its consistent support of Kashmir and the Palestinian cause, the APHC leader said that Pakistan has been a staunch supporter of the proposal for the creation of an independent Palestinian state and a strong proponent of Kashmiris' right to self-determination guaranteed to them by the international community.

IMF urges Pakistan to sustain reform implementation, broadens tax base

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has underscored the importance of sustained implementation of its new \$7 billion bailout package for Pakistan, alongside efforts to broaden the country's tax base. This statement followed the IMF Executive Board's approval of a 37-month Extended Fund Facility (EFF) for Pakistan, which included a \$1 billion disbursement. The Pakistani government had agreed to this deal — its 24th from the IMF since 1958 — in July, in exchange for implementing unpopular reforms aimed at addressing the persistently low tax base. Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif remarked that this program should be consid-

ered the last of its kind. The IMF highlighted the necessity of continuous program execution supported by capacity development and collaboration with partners to secure additional financing and restore market access. It welcomed steps towards a fairer tax system and stressed the need for improved revenue generation through an expanded tax base and better tax administration. The IMF also noted the critical need for Pakistan to move away from a state-led growth model, advocating for a more competitive business environment and the removal of trade barriers. It emphasized the importance of vigilant monitoring and robust contingency planning to ensure the success of the program.

PM calls for further strenuous efforts to continue economic stability

Spokesman Report

LONDON: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday said that the collective efforts by all the stakeholders in the government had put Pakistan on the path of economic stability and progress and called for further strenuous efforts and sacrifices to achieve the economic objectives. During a media interaction, the prime minister elaborated that during their previous tenure of sixteen months in the government, they faced the financial challenges but with collective efforts, they saved Pakistan from running into default. Earlier, the PM arrived from New York where he had addressed the plenary meeting of the UN General Debate at the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). In a veiled reference to previous government of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), he said the former party's policies led the country to default, but 'with grace of Allah Almighty and with their collective efforts, Pakistan is now moving towards stability and progress. The international institutions also acknowledged it'. The prime minister also expressed his satisfaction over the approval of \$7 billion International Monetary Fund



(IMF) extended fund facility. Comparing last year's 32 percent spiraling inflation rate, he said now the price hike stood at 9.6 percent, adding the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) had also reduced the interest rate while the rates of daily commodities were showing stability. The prime minister lauded the chief of army staff for his efforts in achieving the IMF programme and said that the COAS had visited the brotherly countries which provided critical economic relief to Pakistan. 'Terming it a 'team Pakistan's work', he expressed the hope that the IMF's programme would be the last one as the 240 million people and the

government's efforts would accomplish it successfully. He stressed that they would have to reduce their expenditures and strive to provide amenities to the public at their doorsteps. "Time has arrived to work hard and uphold merit which should be their hallmarks." He also expressed his optimism that Pakistan would soon become an 'Asian Tiger' as pronounced by his leader and former prime minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif whose efforts had put Pakistan on path of rapid progress and economic stability. He regretted that Nawaz Sharif's governments were removed through conspiracies.

'PPP finalises own draft for constitutional amendments'

Monitoring Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Secretary General Nayyar Hussain Bukhari said that the party has finalised its draft for constitutional amendments and will consult with Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F). Speaking at ARY News programme 'Sawaal Ye Hai' hosted by Maria Memon, Nayyar Hussain Bukhari said that a detailed discussion took place with JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman in their meeting. "We (PPP and JUI-F) decided to hold another meeting (to consult on the constitutional amendments)," PPP Secretary General said. He said PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and

Maulana Fazlur Rehman will be meeting in the next few days during which he said that the new draft is likely to be approved. "PPP's proposals for constitutional amendments have been shared with Maulana Fazlur Rehman and we are very close to JUI on this draft," Nayyar Hussain Bukhari said. He said that there would be a meeting with the JUI-F leadership on Monday to finalise the draft. Read More: Constitutional amendments not possible without Fazlur Rehman's support, says Bilawal Nayyar Hussain Bukhari said that not only the PPP but also the government will have to play a role to get the constitutional amendments passed.

PML-N President, CM Punjab meets Japanese Ambassador to Pakistan

Bureau Report

LAHORE: "We are determined to further expand excellent relations between Pakistan and Japan," said Pakistan Muslim League-N President Muhammad Nawaz Sharif while meeting, along with Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif, Ambassador of Japan to Pakistan H. E. Mr. Mitsuhiro Wada to discuss matters of mutual interest, promotion of bilateral ties and increasing cooperation in various fields. He added, "Japan stands out in the world for its hard work and dedication."

Madam Chief Minister said, "Pakistan and Japan are interested in increasing bilateral trade



of Punjab in improving education, health and civic facilities is

commendable."

Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif said, "Punjab has great investment potential in education, health, energy and other sectors." She added, "We are giving favorable environment and incentives for investment in the province."

Japanese ambassador H. E. Mr. Mitsuhiro Wada said, "We want to further promote relations with Pakistan."

Senator Pervaiz Rashid, Senior Provincial Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb and Special Assistant Rashid Nasrullah attended the meeting. Chief Secretary Zahid Akhtar Zaman, Principal Secretary to CM Sajid Zafar Daal and other relevant officers were also present.

Naseer Vohra congratulates to Lt Gen Asim Malik

Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: Central President Cloth Board Ittehad Group Pakistan Alhaj Naseer Yousuf Vohra has congratulated Lt. Gen. Muhammad Asim Malik on his appointment as DGISI and said that it is time to appoint Lt. Gen. Muhammad Asim Malik as DGISI. There is an important need. At this time, the end of terrorism in Pakistan can only be done by the Pakistani forces. He has further said that Lieutenant General Asim Malik will assume his new responsibility on September 30, while Lieutenant General Asim is currently serving as Adjutant General in GHQ. Earlier, Lieutenant General Asim was in charge of Infantry Division in Balochistan and Has commanded an infantry brigade in Waziristan. Lt. Gen. Asim has also received honorary sword in his course. Apart from this, he has also been posted as Chief Instructor NDU and Instructor Command and Staff College Quetta. Lieutenant General Asim is also a graduate of Fort Leavenworth and Royal College of Defense Studies. Love for the country runs in the blood. It cannot be learned from anywhere, nor can it be bought, nor can it be taken away, it runs as blood in veins. The destination is seen in the skies. Pakistan Army Zindabad, Pakistan Pinedaabad.



Anjuman Tajran Tandlianwala lauds Punjab chief for development of Tehsil

Abdul Majid



FAISALABAD: In accordance with the vision of Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif to make Tandlianwala an ideal tehsil, Commissioner Faisalabad Salut Saeed visited Tandlianwala Deputy Commissioner Captain (retd) Nadeem Nasir, Members of Assembly Jafar Ali Hocha, Qudsia Batul, Assistant Commissioner Azka Sahar, Health, Development and Planning and Municipal Committee officers welcome the members of the Cabinet of Anjuman Tajran registered Tandlianwala for holding a high-level meeting in the Assistant Commissioner's office. Chairman Amir Mushtaq Ahmed said while talking to the media. Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif's establishment of a development fund for the citizens of Tandlianwala and the efforts of our assembly members Jafar Ali Hocha, Qudsia Batul are very welcome. Chairman Anjuman Tajran Ameer Mushtaq Ahmed, while looking at the situation in Tandlianwala city, has said that they should ensure the clearance of encroachments from the streets and arrange a market from Qureena and Salgia on the streets. Patchwork of roads should be done on emergency basis while road side drains should be constructed. Canal beautification and closed water filtration plants should be made functional immediately, while sewage problems should be solved on priority basis. President Anjuman Tajran (Registered) Shahzad Bakhtawar Ali Khurana, General Secretary Meher Majid, Senior Vice President Sheikh Farooq Ahmed, Deputy Secretary Haji Nazir Ahmed, were also present on this occasion. The business community has assured the Commissioner Faisalabad of their full cooperation.

Saghar thanks PM Shahbaz Sharif for raising K-issue at world forum

Abdul Majeed Tahir

ISLAMABAD: Acting Chairman Jammu Kashmir Democratic Freedom Party Mehmood Ahmed Saghar has extended his profound gratitude to Prime Minister Mian Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif for raising the plight of Kashmir and Palestinian people during his speech at the UN general assembly.

In a statement issued here today Saghar said that Pakistan's consistent support for the resolution of Kashmir dispute has been a source of great inspiration for the people of Kashmir.

"The struggling people of the Indian occupied Jammu and Kashmir owe a debt of gratitude to Prime Minister Sharif for adopting a bold stance on the issue of Kashmir", Saghar said, adding that besides highlighting the plight of Kashmiris, the PM has exposed India's settler colonialism policies towards Kashmir before the august forum.

Saghar expressed the hope that the world leaders would endorse prime minister Sharif's contentions and support his call for an early and amicable solution of all the disputes in particular the lingering Kashmir and Palestine issues that have been the main cause and consequence of tension and unrest in the Muslim world.

World Pharmacist Day Celebration at the Women University



Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: The Department of Pharmacy at Matital Campus the Women University Multan celebrated World Pharmacist Day with great enthusiasm. The event was organized by the Pharm-D students, the event was honored by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Kalsoom Pracha, and Registrar, Prof. Dr. Mamona Yasmin Khan. Dr. Kanwal Rehman, Chairperson of the Department, welcomed the guests and proudly highlighted the department's progress, from its first Pharm-D intake now in their third year to the recent launch of MPhil and PhD admissions in Pharmaceutics and Pharmacology. VC Prof. Dr. Kalsoom Pracha praised the students' achievements and expressed confidence that the department would produce leading pharmacists in academia, research, hospitals, and industry. Registrar Prof. Dr. Mamona Yasmin Khan echoed these sentiments, adding that the Pharm-D program would soon become the university's flagship and encouraging students to engage in practical learning through industrial visits. The event featured poster and model presentations with students winning 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places followed by inspiring speeches by Khansa Khan and Anum Shehzadi, and concluded with a comical poem by Horria, adding a lighthearted note to the celebration. At the end a walk was held to mark the importance and significance of World Pharmacist Day. The walk was led by Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Kalsoom Pracha.

Protest

LAHORE: Blind people protesting for their demands in front of the Punjab Assembly of the provincial capital.



Photo: Online

Hypertension is a disease that affects millions of people worldwide

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Prof. Dr. Tariq Abbas Senior Doctor Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi Institute of Cardiology Multan and Convener, PHL, Prof. Dr. Kashif Ali Hashmi, Co-Convener Dr. Ikram Farid Langryal, Chief Organizer, Dr. Sohail Salemi, General Secretary, Dr. Hamza Ghafoor, Coordinator said in a joint press conference.

Prof. Dr. Kashif Ali Hashmi said that hypertension is a disease that affects millions of people worldwide and its impact is also high in Pakistan. Our aim is to raise public awareness about this disease so that people can recognize its dangers and take steps towards timely treatment. Dr. Ikram Farid Langryal said that in this program we will organize various sessions, workshops and seminars. So that doctors, health professionals, and the public can have full awareness of the causes, symptoms, and treatment of hypertension. Dr. Hamza Ghafoor said, "We are determined to provide the public with the latest information on hypertension and prevent this disease. Train on necessary rescue measures. We want



every citizen to be aware of his health and lead a healthy life, said Dr. Sohail Salemi, the experts participating in this meeting of PHL will share their experiences and knowledge from all over the

world so that Pakistan Better strategies can be developed to prevent hypertension. We hope that this meeting will lead to a positive change in the health sector in the country, Professor Dr.

Tariq Abbas said. Cover the three-day event and raise public awareness of this important issue. We hope that with your support we can make this mission a success.

We will keep fighting for supremacy of law: Ihtisham Khan

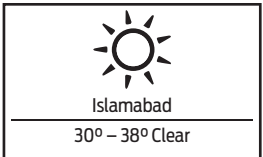
Tariq Khan Yousafzai

TAKHT BHAI: Advocate Ihtisham Khan, Health Advisor of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, said that lawyers are the conscious and responsible class of the nation and society, who have always fought patiently and decisively for the supremacy of the constitution and law and the survival of democracy in the country, and have made sacrifices. The provincial government of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) is swiftly moving towards achieving its goals and will fulfill all promises made to the public. An Islamic college campus will soon be opened in Takht Bhai. He was addressing the oath-taking ceremony of the elected cabinet of Takht Bhai Bar Association on Sunday. The event was also addressed by President of Bar



Association, Saifullah Khan Advocate, General Secretary, Hafiz Nawaz Khat-tak Advocate, and others.

Earlier, Advocate Atif Khan administered the oath to the elected officials. Atif Khan emphasized that politics and law are interconnected and lawyers have always played a vital role in national politics, standing up against tyrants for the supremacy of the constitution, law, and democracy. He urged lawyers to provide timely justice to oppressed people, eradicate lawlessness, and social evils from society. On this occasion, he announced a grant of Rs 20 lakh for Takht Bhai Bar Association, Rs 1 crore for bar room solarization, drainage, walking track, infrastructure improvement, and the establishment of an exercise gym.



SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 4:37 am
Zohr 11:59 am
Asr 4:14 pm
Maghrib 5:56 pm
Isha 7:19 pm

EMERGENCY

Rescue (Police) 15
Bomb Disposal 15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad 1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance 1122 & Rescue Services 4451122
Motorway Police 9266044
Motorway Police 9270601-20

Women Police Stations

Islamabad 9222596
Rawalpindi 9270601-20

ENQUIRY

Edhi Ambulance 115
PIA Flight Info 114
PIA Cargo 9280979
Railway Inquiry 117
Railway Exchange 9270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi 5555489
CAA 9281092

HOSPITALS

CMH 561111
MH 561116
Cantt Hospital 9270907-11
DHQ 5556311-4
RGH 9290301-7
Holy Family 9290322-7
PIMS 9261170-79
Polyclinic 9218300-09
Shifa International 4603666

DEPARTMENTS

CDA 9221334-43
CDA 9208301-04
Met Office 9250360-6
RDA 5555864
TMA 5770886
Cantonment Board 9270151-3
Islamabad Metropolitan Corporation 9209224

ISU of Bahawalpur celebrates International Day of Access to Information



Correspondent

BAHAWALPUR: The International Day of Access to Information was celebrated under the auspices of the Faculty of Social Sciences the Islamia University of Bahawalpur. Prof. Dr. Rubina Bhatti, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences of the Islamia University of Bahawalpur, said that the theme of UNESCO this year was access to information and participation in the public sector. She said that for the past few years, Pakistan has become one of the few countries in the world where information commissions have been established to assist in obtaining important information from government institutions at the federal and provincial levels. And the Chief Information Commissioner is appointed at the federal level and the Provincial Information Commissioner at the provincial level. The Islamia University of Bahawalpur also has a Public Information Office under the Right to Information Act in the Department of Public Relations and is working in an active manner.

Mushaal hails Sharif, OIC, for effectively raising Kashmir issue at United Nation

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Mushaal Hussein Mullick, wife of jailed Kashmiri Hurriyat leader Mohammad Yasin Malik, has lauded PM Shehbaz Sharif and OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir, for raising the Kashmir issue at global stage effectively.

Mushaal, in a statement, commended Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir, for aptly highlighting the dire situation in Kashmir and exposing India's terrorism in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

The OIC Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir on September 25, 2024 at UN reaffirmed their support for the legitimate struggle of the Kashmiri people for realization of their inalienable right to

self-determination in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions.

The OIC Contact Group in its strong worded joint communique statement also underscored that the Lok Sabha or Legislative Assembly elections in IIOJK cannot serve as a substitute to the grant of the right to self-determination to the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Mushaal said that India should end the election drama in IIOJK as New Delhi could not attain its nefarious objectives through shameful tactics.

She said that the world must take notice of India's blatant human rights violations in Kashmir.

The wife of Senior hurriyat leader demanded an immediate withdrawal of 800,000 troops, which unleashed a reign of terror in the occupied valley.

Mushaal also lashed out at world



silence over the perpetuated human rights abuses, India is a constant threat to regional peace.

She urged the world to put an end to state-sponsored terrorism in Kashmir.

"India's actions in Kashmir are a stark violation of international law and human rights. The world must intervene to prevent further bloodshed in the valley," she added.

Mushaal emphasized the need for international intervention to prevent Indian forces from committing further violence and war crimes and ensure resolution of Kashmir dispute as per UNSC resolutions.

Mushaal urged the global community to take immediate notice of the Kashmir issue, emphasizing that failure to act would be a gross injustice to the Kashmiri people.

Traditional food

ISLAMABAD: Woman is busy in buying traditional food from a stall enjoying Sunday Holiday in Islamabad Farmers Market at old Islamabad Zoo, in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Naveed Kanwal demands extension of deadline for filing income tax returns

City Desk

RAWALPINDI: General Secretary of People's Traders Cell Naveed Kanwal said that the date of submission of income tax return and property tax should be extended by one month. Majority of people have been unable to submit due to severe downturn in business and unclear tax policy.

Naveed Kanwal, Secretary of People's Traders Cell, expressed these views in a statement. He said that due to ambiguity in FBR's tax policies, taxpayers could not submit returns. The government should encourage and facilitate those who already pay tax by collecting tax from tax evaders. Due to the business downturn, the majority could not even collect the property tax, the provincial government extended the date till October 31, 2024.



Faisalabad police and FIA conduct successful raid against counterfeit gum operation

Special Correspondent

MULTAN: According to details, the Regional Sales Manager of an internationally renowned food company received information that a factory located within the jurisdiction of Jhang Bazaar Police Station in Faisalabad, owned by Abrar and Israr of Israr Naemat Sweets, was manufacturing counterfeit copies of the company's registered product, "Elaichi Center Filled Gum." These fake products were causing significant financial losses to the original Giggly brand, amounting to millions of rupees.

The Sales Manager visited the site and obtained a box of the counterfeit gum, capturing video evidence of the fraudulent products being made, which were a direct copy of the Giggly brand. The father-son duo, Abrar and Israr, residents of Naematabad, Pathan Wala Chowk, made slight modifications to the original IPO-approved design, replacing the name "Giggly" with "Israr Sweet," with the intent to deceive both shopkeepers and the general public. They were selling the counterfeit version of the internationally recognized Giggly brand in the market.

The Sales Manager filed a legal complaint against Abrar, son of Israr, and Israr, son of Hakim Ali, at Jhang Bazaar Police Station, Faisalabad, under FIR No. 1982/24, citing offenses under sections 420/476/486 PPC (Pakistan Panel Code) and section 66 of the Copyright Act, 1962. The police, in collaboration with FIA, swiftly took action, arresting Abrar and his father Israr, and confiscated the counterfeit products made in imitation of the renowned food company.

The brand and quality control department of the internationally recognized food company emphasized that consumers should always purchase original brand products, as counterfeit goods can pose serious health risks. Additionally, fake products often contain far fewer ingredients than the original and are of substandard quality. The company remains committed to protecting consumer rights, and counterfeit products also harm the national economy.



AIOU Strengthens Educational Ties with Russia through Academic Collaborations

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) is enhancing its academic partnerships with both national and international institutions to better serve its vast student body, according to Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Nasir Mahmood. This focus on academic agreements was highlighted by Professor Dr. Hajra Ahmed, Dean of the Faculty of Sciences at AIOU, during her address at a documentary screening event titled "Russian Heritage of the Himalayas: The Journey Continues." The documentary screening was organized by the Faculty of Sciences and the International Collaboration and Exchange department of AIOU, with support from the Russian Embassy in Islamabad.

Dr. Hajra emphasized the university's commitment to aligning education with global and national needs, citing



recent agreements with Russian universities. She also thanked the visiting Russian delegation for gifting two books to the university's Russian Language Center.

Led by Ivan Chayka, Chairman of Russia's National Award Committee 'Crystal Compass,' a five-member Russian delegation visited AIOU to explore opportunities for collaboration. Other

members included Dr. Yuri Efremov, Director of the "Russian Heritage of the Himalayas: The Journey Continues" project, Dmitry Gritsenko of the Russian Geographical Society, Stanislav Osilenko of the Youth Club, and Elena Kolisenkova, Head of Education and Culture at the Russian Embassy. During the visit, Dr. Zahid Majeed, Director of Collaboration and Exchange, briefed the Russian

delegation on AIOU's recent initiatives, including the launch of a Russian Language Center in collaboration with the Ural State Pedagogical University. Following the event, the delegation visited the center and commended the university's efforts to promote Russian language and culture, recognizing its potential to enhance educational and cultural ties between Pakistan and Russia.

'Take Care of Your Heart: Adopt a Healthy Lifestyle,' Urges President PANAHA on World Heart Day

RAWALPINDI: World Heart Day is being celebrated all over the world today with the aim of making people aware of the prevention of heart diseases. Pakistan National Heart Association (PANAHA) organized an event in this regard today at the Armed Forces Institute of Cardiology (AFIC) with the aim of educating our countrymen about the prevention of heart diseases. Addressing the event, President PANAHA Maj Gen (R) Masood Ur Rahman Kiani said that heart disease is increasing at an alarming rate in Pakistan. More than 240,720 people die annually in Pakistan due to heart diseases. To reduce heart diseases we need to adopt a healthy lifestyle.

Make walking and exercise a routine, avoid stress, control obesity, avoid smoking and eat a healthy diet.

Excessive consumption of unhealthy foods such as sugar, salt, fat and fried foods is one of the major causes of heart diseases. Eat more vegetables and fruits in your diet and avoid heart disease.

Maj. Gen. Naseer Ahmed Samor said that every year in the world 18 Million people die of heart diseases. Today, on the occasion of World Heart Day, we must reiterate that we should adopt a healthy lifestyle. Make exercise a routine and be careful with your food choices.

Col. Shakeel Mirza said that non-communicable diseases including heart, diabetes, high blood pressure, cancer and kidney diseases are the leading cause of death worldwide. According to the 2021 report of the Diabetes Federation, 3.3 million people are living with diabetes in Paki-



stan and Pakistan has become the third largest country in the world in terms of people suffering from diabetes and the rapid increase of this disease in Paki-

stan is the first in the world. The risk of heart disease increases in diabetic

patients. Sana Ullah Ghumman, General Secretary PANAHA, said that non-communicable diseases have become a serious challenge for our health as well as our livelihood. The annual cost of diabetes alone is estimated at more than 2.6 billion US dollars.

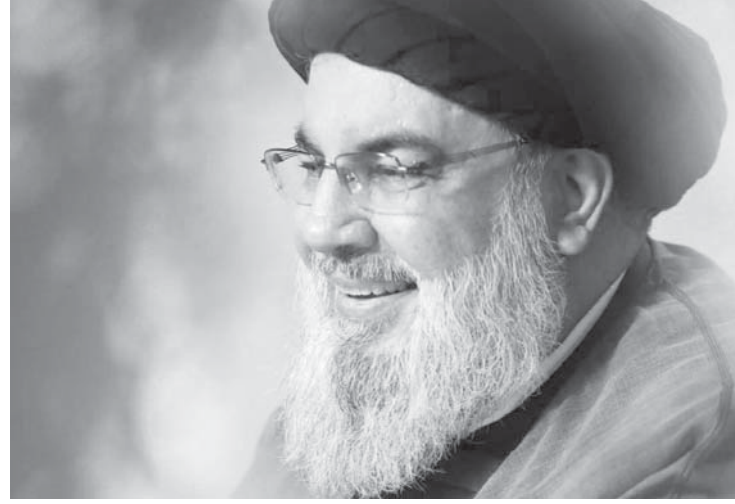
Recent lobbying efforts have increased taxes on unhealthy sugary drinks and tobacco to reduce consumption, but more needs to be done. PANAHA is now working with the government on front-of-pack labeling of unhealthy items to give people a better understanding of what they are eating. He said that civil society, government, journalists, health professionals and all active sections of the society have to work together for a healthy Pakistan.

Iranian officials, ex-presidents extend condolences over Nasrallah martyrdom

IRNA
 TEHRAN: Senior Iranian officials and former presidents have condemned the assassination of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, the Secretary General of Hezbollah in Lebanon's capital city, Beirut.
 In a condolence message following the martyrdom of Nasrallah and his companions on Friday, former Iranian President Hassan Rouhani emphasized that Nasrallah's pure blood, his living name, and his path will pave the way for the expulsion of the occupiers from Al-Quds Al-Sharif.
 Former President Mohammad Khatami also expressed his condolences for the martyrdom of Nasrallah, noting, "The martyrdom of the secretary-general of the Lebanese Hezbollah has pained the hearts of all freedom seekers and seekers of truth."
 Parliament Speaker Mohammad-Bagher Qalibaf issued a message of condolences on the martyrdom of Nasrallah.
 Additionally, the Chief of Staff of Iran's Armed Forces, Major General

Mohammad Bagheri, offered his condolences on the martyrdom of Nasrallah, emphasizing that the path of Martyr Nasrallah will continue more powerful.
 The Consul General of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Erbil, Nasrollah Rashnoudi, stated that the martyrdom of Nasrallah, the prominent leader of the Lebanese Hezbollah, will undoubtedly lead to the continuation of the path of fight and resistance, and will raise the flag of resistance even higher.
 Additionally, Iranian Government spokeswoman Fatemeh Mohajerani issued a message of condolence, emphasizing that the martyrdom of Nasrallah, who bravely and wholeheartedly stood against the genocide of the Zionist regime for many years, is a loss for the Islamic world.
 In a condolence message, the custodian of the mausoleum of Imam Khomeini (RA), Hassan Khomeini, stated that the path of Nasrallah will continue, like the path of Sayyed Abbas Mousavi and all the commanders of the Resistance.

In addition, Iranian judiciary chief Gholam-Hossein Mohseni-Eje'i expressed his condolences for the martyrdom of Nasrallah in a message, emphasizing that the heroic Hezbollah will be more steadfast in the path of resistance.
 Defense Minister Brigadier General Aziz Nasirzadeh offered his condolences as well, saying that the brutal actions, which Israel has taken over the past months and with the support of global arrogance, indicate that "this cancerous tumor" does not put any limit to its crimes and resorts to any barbaric action to survive.
 Major General Hossein Salami, the top commander of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), also issued a message of condolence over Nasrallah's martyrdom and strongly condemned his assassination. Salami said that Hezbollah and Palestine's Hamas resistance movement will definitely be victorious in the fight against the Israeli regime.
 Major General Abdurrahim Mousavi, the top commander of the Iranian army expressed his con-



lences in a message, saying that the martyrdom of Nasrallah, his companions and the innocent people of Beirut is added to terrorist acts by the Israeli regime which the Iranian army official said is collapsing. Mousavi said that the assassination will strengthen people's determination and will increase the power of the Hezbollah

resistance movement.
 The Iranian foreign ministry issued a statement, saying that the continuous crimes being committed by Israel are indicative of the terrorist and criminal nature of the regime's officials and their supporters, stressing that those crimes will not go unanswered. The ministry emphasized

that Iran's basic and strategic stance to firmly support the resistance front in Palestine, Lebanon and the whole West Asia region will continue with full strength until the occupation ends and the right to determine the fate of Palestine and Al-Quds is upheld.
 Iran's Supreme National Security Council issued a statement, extending condolences over Nasrallah's martyrdom, whom it described as a role model of resistance.
 The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in London issued a message regarding the martyrdom of Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah, stating that the assassination would not bring security to the Zionist regime.
 The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Iraq, while condoling the martyrdom of Nasrallah, announced that the Lebanese Resistance does not rely on individuals and will immediately emerge more powerful than before.
 The Iranian government declared five days of public mourning for Nasrallah's martyrdom, beginning of Sunday.

Bond Beyond Borders: PCFA-KP Celebrates 75 Years of Friendship with China

Spokesman Report
 PESHAWAR: China Friendship Association Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province (PCFA-KP) hosted a memorable ceremony on the KP House in Islamabad, marking the 75th National Day of the People's Republic of China. The event drew prominent visitors, consisting of Babar Saleem Swati, the Speaker of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly, and Ambassador Jiang Xiadong, whose presence underscored the significance of this enduring dating.
 Speaker Swati added heartfelt congratulations on behalf of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government, lauding the unshakable bond between Pakistan and China. He poetically characterised their friendship as "higher than the Himalayas and deeper than the sea," evoking the profound connection shared by means of the two countries.
 Adding to the sentiments, Mr. Arshad Ayub Khan, Minister of Local Government, Elections, and Rural Development, took the stage. He commended PCFA-KP for orchestrating such a significant event, emphasizing the steadfast friendship with



China, fondly referring to it as our "Iron Brother." With fervor, he urged attendees to draw inspiration from China's remarkable economic strides and social achievements, rallying everyone to commit to Pakistan's development.
 Mr. Ayub Khan also spotlighted the existing sister city partnerships between Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Xinjiang, expressing hopes for even greater collaboration. He encouraged proactive initiatives from the Association, reassuring participants

of the Provincial Cabinet's unwavering support for timely execution of proposed projects.
 With optimism, he anticipated visits from Ambassador Jiang Zaidong and his team to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, looking forward to the 40th anniversary of the Peshawar-Urumqi sister city relationship in 2025—a celebration of shared history and future potential.
 Syed Ali Nawaz Gilani, the Secretary-General of PCFA-KP, illuminated the association's rich history, founded in Peshawar in 1970 as the Pak China

Students Friendship Association. Over the decades, PCFA-KP has been instrumental in fostering people-to-people connections that transcend borders, nurturing a deep-rooted friendship.
 In a bid to further enrich this alliance, PCFA-KP proposed designating cities along the historic Silk Route—such as Manshera—and those along the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) like D. I. Khan as sister cities with their Chinese counterparts. This initiative aims to amplify cultural exchange and collaborative ventures between the two nations, bridging communities and fostering mutual understanding.
 The ceremony celebrated the long-standing friendship between Pakistan and China. This bond is not merely political; it's woven from deep respect and shared values. Each moment reflected a spirit of cooperation, showcasing how these two nations support one another. The atmosphere buzzed with hope and camaraderie, illustrating a relationship built over decades. It served as a powerful reminder that their unity knows no boundaries. It goes beyond borders and cultures, rooting a common vision for the future.

Over 50,000 have fled Lebanon for Syria amid Israeli strikes: UN

AFP
 GENEVA: The UN refugee chief said Saturday that more than 50,000 people had fled to Syria amid escalating Israeli air strikes on Lebanon.
 "More than 50,000 Lebanese and Syrians living in Lebanon have now crossed into Syria fleeing Israeli air strikes," Filippo Grandi said on X.
 He added that "well over 200,000 people are displaced inside Lebanon."



A UNHCR spokesman said the total number of displaced in Lebanon had reached 211,319, including 118,000 just since Israel dramatically ramped up its air strikes on Monday.
 The remainder had fled their homes since Hezbollah militants in Lebanon began low-intensity cross-border attacks a day after its Palestinian ally Hamas staged its unprecedented attack on Israel on October 7, triggering war in the Gaza Strip.
 Israel has shifted the focus of its operation from Gaza to Lebanon, where heavy bombing has killed more than 700 people, according to Lebanon's health ministry, as cross-border exchanges escalated over the past week.
 Most of those Lebanese deaths came on Monday, the deadliest day of violence since Lebanon's 1975-1990 civil war.
 "Relief operations are underway, including by UNHCR, to help all those in need, in coordination with both governments," Grandi said.

Lebanese anchor breaks down live while reporting Hassan Nasrallah's killing

Spokesman Report
 ISLAMABAD: A video has emerged on social media showing a Lebanese television anchor breaking down in tears during a live broadcast announcing the killing of Sayyed Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah.
 The visibly shaken anchor struggles to find her words as she delivers the news, revealing that Nasrallah, the secretary general of the Hezbollah group, was killed in an Israeli airstrike on Friday.
 In the footage, her emotions are palpable as she fights to maintain her composure while sharing the announcement. Reports indicate that the anchor works for Al-Mayadeen, a media outlet associated with Hezbollah, as noted in a post circulating on the social media platform X.
 Several posts on X, erstwhile Twitter, accompanying the video stated, "A news anchor on Al-Mayadeen, seen crying following the announcement that Hezbollah Secretary General Hassan Nasrallah, was killed yesterday by an Israeli airstrike."



Nepal floods and landslides kill at least 66 people

KATHMANDU: At least 66 people have been killed in Nepal since early on Friday as persistent downpours triggered flooding and landslides, closing major roads and disrupting domestic air travel, officials said on Saturday.
 The death toll could rise, they added, with another 69 people reported missing, and 60 injured since Friday morning, home ministry official Dil Kumar Tamang told Reuters.
 Rain-related disasters are common in South Asia during the monsoon season from June to September, but experts say climate change is increasing their frequency and severity.
 Large swaths of Nepal have been inundated since Friday, prompting disaster authorities to warn of flash floods in multiple rivers.
 "So far, there are 59 dead, 36 wounded and 44 missing," Nepal police spokesman Dan Bahadur Karki told AFP.
 Karki said more than 200 incidents of flood and landslides have been reported and that the toll was likely to increase further.
 Rivers around the capital Kathmandu burst their banks, inundating nearby houses. Survivors were seen standing on top of buildings or wading through murky waters to get to safety.
 Basanta Adhikari, a spokesman for Nepal's National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority, said authorities were working to rescue and get relief to those impacted by the floods.
 More than 3,000 security personnel were deployed to assist rescue efforts with helicopters and motorboats.
 Rescue teams were using rafts to pull survivors to safety.
 Landslides have blocked several highways, leaving hundreds of travellers stranded.
 "We have around eight locations, all of them have been blocked due to landslides in different sections of the road," said Kathmandu traffic police officer Bishwaraj Khadka.
 All domestic flights out of Kathmandu were cancelled from Friday evening, affecting more than 150 departures.

European Union supported Exhibition and Experience Sharing dialogue on Nutrition Innovations held in Sindh

KHAIRPUR: A two-day event titled "Nutrition Care Synergies Experience Sharing and Innovations Showcase" was held at Shah Abdul Latif University (SALU), Khairpur, by International Rescue Committee (IRC) in collaboration with Department of Health Sindh, Accelerated Action Plan Taskforce (AAP TF), Strengthening Participatory Organization (SPO) and Medical Emergency Resilience Foundation (MERF). The Nutrition Exhibition and experience sharing event brought together experts and stakeholders from various government, UN, and International, national and local non-government organizations to discuss strategies, innovations, and experiences in combating malnutrition in Pakistan.
 Organized in the frame of the EU funded Project "Strengthening Local Civil Society and Community-based Organisations and their Capacity in the Nutrition Sector in Sindh" with the aim of fostering collaboration and learning, the event provided a platform for sharing best practices in nutrition care and service delivery.
 The event featured keynotes and presentations from leading experts and community leaders, including representatives from the Department of Health Sindh, Accelerated Action Plan Taskforce (AAP TF), Lady Health Worker Department, PPHI, UNICEF, WHO, Agha Khan Health Service, Pakistan, VIAMO, Aga Khan University, IRC, SPO, MERF, SRSO and SIEHS who deliberated on indigenous and innovative solutions. The event also provided opportunity to local civil society organizations, service departments, communities, youth and other humanitarian actors to share their experiences and learning around nutrition programming in Sindh. The event provided an opportunity to exchange learning through stalls from various organizations, CSOs, academia, theater performance, seminars and interaction with experts.



Speaking at the event, Mr Carlo De Rosa, Development Advisor for Rural Development and Nutrition at the EU delegation to Pakistan, noted that "The exhibition highlights the critical need for synergy among all partners and Civil Society Organizations involved in nutrition programming. By sharing experiences and integrating innovative technologies, we can better address malnutrition." He further noted that the role of academic institutions is crucial in bringing forth innovative ideas and adds immense value to programming.
 Dr Sahib Jan Badar, representing AAP TF presented an overview of Accelerated Action Plan Taskforce achievements and reaffirmed the support of Government of Sindh and stated "The European Union funded CSO strengthening initiative is aligned with the Government of Sindh multi-sectoral Accelerated Action Plan for improved nutrition. Local CSOs are the heart and soul of our communities, and it is through their tireless efforts that we can collaboratively combat malnutrition."
 Dr. Farhana Memon, Director Lady Health Worker Program highlighted the importance of nutrition among children and pregnant and lactating mothers and highlighted that now it's time to deliver results with commitment. She shared experiences in

strengthening services and assured full support to combat malnutrition.
 Vice Chancellor (SALU) Professor Dr. Yousuf Khushk applauded this initiative for bringing together diverse stakeholders to address the critical issue of malnutrition in Pakistan. He assured commitment to not only fostering research but also piloting academic courses on malnutrition to equip future generations with the knowledge and skills needed to combat this pressing challenge.
 A panel discussion on leveraging technology to combat malnutrition through the innovations to access hard-to-reach areas and leveraging upon technology showcased on real-world experiences, shared insights from the field. In conjunction to the importance of tech solutions the IRC under EU funded project presented 250 Android Tablets for Strengthening Information Management System to PPHI Sindh.
 The exhibition featured a range of interactive activities aimed at fostering collaboration and raising awareness about nutrition care. One of the key highlights was the exhibition of stalls and booths where participants from civil society organizations, UN agencies, I/NGOs, government departments, and private-sector companies displayed

their programming and services. This provided attendees with a comprehensive look at the diverse efforts being undertaken to address malnutrition.
 Additionally, service and product demonstrations offered participants hands-on insights into nutrition-related services and innovations. These interactive sessions allowed attendees to explore practical solutions that could be implemented to improve nutrition care. Educational materials such as brochures and leaflets were also distributed to raise awareness and inform stakeholders about best practices in nutrition service delivery.
 Dr Ranomanl Lohano, Program Coordinator at IRC, reflected on the need for community-driven solutions and said, "Malnutrition is a complex issue that requires not only technical interventions but also the engagement of local communities. Our work highlights the importance of grassroots involvement in tackling this crisis and ensuring sustainable improvements in health outcomes."
 In Pakistan, the European Union's support to nutrition commenced with humanitarian assistance after the 2010 floods. Since 2013 this assistance has taken a long-term and sustainable perspective by assisting public departments to deliver nutrition services, within a clear and efficient policy framework. The EU assistance has greatly contributed to the improvement of nutrition. Through the EU supported Strengthening Local Civil Society and Community-based Organisations and their Capacity in the Nutrition Sector in Sindh Project, IRC, MERF and SPO are reinforcing the capacity of 15 local organizations through technical and financial support to foster policy dialogues aimed at informing policy makers with evidence-based findings to shape policies that ultimately help improve health and nutrition services for the most deserving communities.

Bull & Bears PSX 100-Share Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close	
81,292.13	81,657.96	
Day's High	Day's Low	
81,842.74	81,183.50	
Index Value	Change	
8,019,296,729	-365.83	
Percentage	Time	
-0.45%	27 Sept, 2024 5:00 pm	
Europe: FTSE 100 Index		
Index Value	Change	
8,320.76	+35.85	
Percentage	Time	
+0.43%	27 Sept, 4:35 pm GMT+1	
USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average		
Index Value	Change	
42,381.80	+206.69	
Percentage	Time	
+0.49%	27 Sept, 1:06 pm GMT-4	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		
Index Value	Change	
39,829.56	+903.93	
Percentage	Time	
+2.32%	27 Sept, 3:15 pm GMT+9	
Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	191.00	193.25
Bahrain Dinar	732.30	740.30
Canadian Dollar	206.60	209.00
China Yuan	39.6	40.00
Danish Krone	41.12	41.52
Euro	308.55	311.30
Hong Kong Dollar	35.7	36.05
Indian Rupee	3.34	3.45
Japanese Yen	1.92	1.98
Kuwaiti Dinar	898.65	908.15
Malaysian Ringgit	63.65	64.25
NewZealand \$	172.47	174.47

Government determined to make Pakistan top destination for business, investment: Jam Kamal

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Government is working on increasing Ease of Doing Business in Pakistan to make it an attractive destination for foreign investment. In this regard, projects like Pakistan Single Window have been undertaken to provide one node solution to potential investors rather than hopping between various government departments for different permits. The government remains fully committed to supporting businesses and fostering an environment that enables them to thrive.

This has been stated by Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan while addressing 40 years anniversary celebration of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI) as Chief guest.

The Minister said that prudent and effective policies of the Government have brought down inflation. Stable and increased foreign reserves have brought down interest rate. Moreover, the Government has been working relentlessly on bringing down power tariffs for the industry in general and exporters in particular.

In his welcome address Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry, highlighted the major milestones of ICCI achieved during his tenure. He said that he and his entire team tirelessly worked to resolve the problems being faced by the community and to provide it a congenial atmosphere for ease of doing businesses.

Chairman Founder Group ICCI khalid Iqbal Malik paid rich tributes to Ahsan Zafar

Bakhtawari for his outstanding performance as President ICCI which made the Chamber as one of the premier Chambers of the country.

In his address former President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Secretary General United Business Group Zafar Bakhtawari underlined the need for the acknowledgement of business leaders' achievements through excellence awards at government level. He called upon the youth to idealize business leaders to emerge as job providers instead of job seekers.

Former President FPCCI and ICCI Zubair Ahmad Malik by mentioning the problems of the business fraternity impressed upon the government for provision of necessary facilities to business community.

President elect ICCI Nasir Mansoor Qureshi

said that Pakistan is blessed with multiple opportunities and resources and the only needed thing is to showcase them articulately to overcome the economic challenges.

Senior Vice President Faad Waheed emphasized the need for the continuity of the economic policies.

In his vote of thanks, Vice President Eng. Azharul Islam Zafar expressed gratitude to the chief guest for gracing the occasion.

Former Presidents of the Chambers were bestowed with awards at the hands of the Chief Guest acknowledging their remarkable achievements and dedication to the business community.

The celebration was attended by the business leaders, government functionaries and media persons.

Shield

ISLAMABAD: Jam Kamal Khan, Minister for Commerce giving away shield to Mr. Zafar Bakhtawari, former President ICCI and Secretary General United Business Group. President ICCI Ahsan Zafar Bakhtawari, Chairman Founder Group Khalid Iqbal Malik, Former President FPCCI. ICCI Zubair Ahmed Malik, former President Mian Akram Fareed, Senior Vice President Faad Waheed and Vice President Engr. Azharul Islam Zafar can also be seen.



FPCCI supports Army Chief's resolve for economic stability

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Mr. Atif Ikram Sheikh, President FPCCI, has apprised, on behalf of entire business, industry and trade community of Pakistan, that they support Army Chief's resolve to bring economic stability, growth and prosperity to the nation. We acknowledge and appreciate his candid and detailed consultation with the business community over their issues and recommendations in Karachi, he added.

President FPCCI applauded role of the state institutions in providing conducive environment for securing international monetary fund's extended fund facility (IMF-EFF) through creating trust with friendly countries of China, Saudi Arabia and UAE vis-à-vis rollovers of bilateral loans. It was an absolute prerequisite for the successful negotiation with the IMF, he added.

Mr. Atif Ikram Sheikh also recognized the anchoring role of special investment facilitation council (SIFC) in ensuring continuity in economic policies and providing an enabling environment for foreign direct



investment. Continuity, consistency and reliability is everything for Pakistan to attract FDI, he added.

Mr. Saquib Fayyaz Magoon, SVP FPCCI, said that Karachi is the economic, financial, industrial, and commercial and trade hub of Pakistan; and, it needed world-class infrastructure. Specifically, we need better roads; efficient solid waste management; water supply to the industrial areas and secure law & order situation.

Sheikh Umer Rehan, Chairman of Pakistan Vanaspati Manufacturers Association (PVMA), elaborated that another burning macroeconomic issue is the key policy rate in the country - which is 17.5 percent; while the inflation has come down to 8 percent.

Joint Action Plan to promote intellectual property rights in Pakistan

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: The Sindh High Court Bar Association (SHCBA) and the Intellectual Property Association of Pakistan (IPAP) have announced a joint initiative to strengthen awareness and enforcement of intellectual property (IP) rights in Pakistan. This collaboration comes after a recent meeting between Barrister Muhammad Sarfraz Ali Metloo, General Secretary of SHCBA, and Sheikh Rashid Alam, General Secretary of IPAP and Chairman of Brands Foundation, where they agreed to develop a joint action plan to promote the IP sector in Pakistan.

The key focus of this partnership is the organization of a National IP Conference to address critical challenges facing the IP landscape in the country. This conference will bring together legal professionals, the business community, trade bodies, and government officials to discuss and find solutions to IP-related issues.

Sheikh Rashid Alam stated, "This partnership with SHCBA is a significant milestone towards creating a conducive environment for the knowledge industry in Pakistan. By working together, we can educate the public, strengthen IP enforcement mechanisms, and ultimately foster a culture of innovation and creativity." He emphasized that "economic growth thrives



on the respect for intellectual property rights."

Barrister Muhammad Sarfraz Ali Metloo added, "The Sindh High Court Bar Association is committed to promoting the rule of law and safeguarding the rights of all citizens. We believe that this collaboration will play a significant role in protecting citizens'

rights and will benefit both individuals and the national economy through effective enforcement of IP rights in Pakistan."

The two leaders stated that the National IP Conference will be a landmark event in the IP landscape of Pakistan. Further details regarding dates and venue will be announced soon.

Zong Expands its Footprint in Gilgit Baltistan with Launch of 59 4G Commercial Sites

Commerce Desk

GILGIT: Zong, Pakistan's leading cellular and digital services provider, has officially launched its network in Gilgit Baltistan, marking a significant milestone in the region's digital development. The launch event was held at the prestigious Gilgit Serena Hotel and was graced by prominent dignitaries, including Mr. Ghulam Muhammad, Minister of Law and Tourism, Government of Gilgit Baltistan, who graced the event as the chief guest.

The launch event was attended by distinguished guests, including Miss Suraya Zaman, Advisor IT,

Government of Gilgit Baltistan, Mr. Gul Abid Wazir, Zonal Director PTA Gilgit, Mr. Ehsan ul Haq Assistant Zonal Director PTA Gilgit, Lt. Col. Muhammad Ali Ahmed, Commanding Officer of Special Communication Organization (SCO), and Riaz Ahmad, Secretary IT, Government of Gilgit Baltistan. Their participation underscores the strong collaboration between the public and private sectors in advancing digital infrastructure in the region.

Mr. Huo Junli, CEO at Zong sent his appreciation to the teams who made this expansion possible. In his message, he stated, "By



enabling 4G services in Gilgit Baltistan, Zong is not only bridging connectivity gaps

but also fueling Pakistan's journey towards digital transformation. This step amplifies

our role in enhancing the Belt and Road Initiative, as seamless communication is key

to economic growth, cross-border trade, and regional integration. We are proud to empower local communities, support tourism, and contribute to a brighter, more connected future for Pakistan and the broader region." He thanked Zong's strategic partner, the Special Communications Organization (SCO) and Pakistan's Telecommunications Authority (PTA) for playing a significant role in enabling the deployment of advanced communication networks in Gilgit Baltistan. Khawaja Shehzad Ullah, Executive Director of Sales & Distribution at Zong, highlighted the significance of connectivity in the region.

Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri appointed as ADB council member

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri has been appointed as the member of the Advisory Council (2024-26) of the Asian Development Bank Institute for a term of two years.



The Advisory Council is the subsidiary body of the Institute which is an independent organization providing technical assistance and advice on identifying effective strategies for improved operations and also to review and comment on strategy and work program of the institute.

The Advisory Council of the Institute comprises of seven or more members to be appointed by the President of the Bank, one of whom shall be from among the senior staff of the Bank and the remaining members shall be distinguished practitioners.

Dr. Abid Suleri is the second Pakistani to join the prestigious board after Dr Ashfaq Hasan Khan, Director General, Institute of Policy Studies, National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST).

Mian Abuzar Shad takes helm as LCCI President

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: Mian Abuzar Shad, a seasoned businessman and former Vice President of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI), has been elected as the President of LCCI for the term 2024-25. This marks a historic victory for Shad, as it is the first time in several decades that a Pakistan Industrial and Traders Associations Front (PIAF) candidate has won the presidency without the backing of the LCCI Founders Group.

In his victory speech, Shad expressed his gratitude to the business community and emphasized his commitment to advocating for pro-business policies, improving trade relations, and addressing the challenges faced by industrialists and traders in the current economic climate.

"This is not just a win for me or PIAF. This is a win for every businessperson who believes in transparency, merit, and collective growth. I am determined to work towards the betterment of our business environment and to ensure LCCI continues to play a pivotal role in Pakistan's economic progress," Shad remarked.

Jahangir Khan Tareen, Ali Khan Tareen visit Tareen Cricket Academy in Lodhran

✉️ **Quratul Ain Asim**

LODHRAN: During his visit to the Tareen Cricket Academy, Jahangir Khan Tareen highlighted the transformative power of sports in empowering young women from underprivileged areas. He stated, "Cricket not only builds careers and confidence but also breaks the status quo when women are involved. We must continue to encourage more participation of women in sports, as it leads to healthier communities and a brighter future for the next generation."

Ali Khan Tareen, owner of the Multan Sultans, discussed the academy's grassroots initiatives, emphasizing its commitment to providing top-notch facilities and coaching for female cricketers. Several players, including Sher Bano, Nasreen Ashraf, Sawera Zafer, and Rameen Roshan, have already made their mark by representing the region in national PCB tournaments.

Ali Tareen further stated, "Our focus is now on women empowerment, as



the progress of women will drive the overall development of our region. With our full potential, we will continue to complete welfare projects in education,

health, sports, and women empowerment. We will provide every possible facility to women interested in sports. To support and encourage the players,

Ali Tareen also distributed international-standard cricket bats from England to the girls, demonstrating the academy's commitment to their development.

ARY Digital Network Partners with CSA for Exclusive Broadcasting Rights in Pakistan

✉️ **Sports Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan: ARY Digital Network is excited to announce that it has acquired exclusive broadcasting rights for CSA (Cricket South Africa) starting immediately till 2027.

All international fixtures hosted by CSA, will be broadcast on ARY's premier sports channel, A Sports HD in Pakistan.

Since its inception, A-Sports has been at the forefront of sports broadcasting in Pakistan, consistently covering various sports like, Pakistan Super League, FIFA World Cup Qatar 2002, ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021-22, ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023, Paris Olympics 2024, La Liga 2022-23-24, Formula 1 Racing, and many more through a comprehensive coverage.

This new partnership is a testament to A-Sports' commitment to its viewers, providing an unparalleled platform for cricket enthusiasts across the country.

A-Sports' vision of nurturing the love for cricket in Pakistan aligns perfectly with this initiative, as it continues to be the premium channel for sports in the country. A Sports will deliver comprehensive coverage of CSA's cricket events,



including live broadcasts, expert analysis and exclusive behind-the-scenes content.

"We are excited to secure this partnership with Cricket South Africa and offer their cricket events exclusively to viewers in Pakistan through A Sports," said Salman Iqbal, Founder & CEO of ARY Digital Network. "This long-term agreement allows us to bring the thrill of South Africa's cricket matches

directly to Pakistani fans, enhancing our commitment to delivering world-class sports programming."

"We are delighted to welcome ARY Digital Network and A Sports to our growing network of broadcast partners," said Pholetsi Moseki, CEO of Cricket South Africa. "This agreement allows for matches hosted in South Africa to be broadcast exclusively to Pakistani audiences, allowing fans

to experience our cricket events with the best possible coverage," Moseki concludes.

Rathindra Basu, VP India & South Asia and Pan Regional Sales, APAC for IMG's media business, added: "Pakistan is one of the world's most passionate cricketing nations, and this deal will bring local fans live action from the Proteas on A Sports. Together with CSA, we're continuing to deliver increased commercial opportunities for the sport and grow the Proteas' audience worldwide."

The broadcasting arrangement on A Sports will commence immediately, with all CSA matches scheduled through to 2027 being broadcast live and in high quality. Cricket fans in Pakistan can tune in to A Sports for comprehensive coverage and immersive cricketing experiences.

The deal, brokered by IMG, follows CSA's recently announced agreement with Foxtel Group to broadcast the Proteas Men and Women's international matches on Foxtel and Kayo Sports in Australia. IMG has worked with CSA for the past 30 years and manages the federation's international media rights.

FIFA ban Argentina goalkeeper Martinez for 'offensive behaviour'

✉️ **Sports Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Argentina's World Cup-winning goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez has been banned for two matches by FIFA for "offensive behaviour", the Argentine Football Association (AFA) announced on Saturday.

The 32-year-old Aston Villa star was also found guilty of "violating principles of fair play" in two separate episodes.

Martinez was found to have violated FIFA's code of conduct when holding a replica of the Copa America trophy to his



groin after the World Cup qualifier win over Chile on September 5. It is not the first time

Martinez has performed such an action having also done it with the Golden Glove trophy for best goalkeeper after Argentina beat France on penalties in the 2022 World Cup final.

FIFA also sanctioned him for hitting a TV cameraman's camera with his gloves after their 2-1 defeat by Colombia on September 10.

The AFA expressed their dissatisfaction with the FIFA ruling.

"It should be noted that the Argentine Football Association expresses its absolute

disagreement with the decision taken by the FIFA disciplinary committee," they said in a statement.

As a result of the decision Martinez – also a key member of the Argentina side that won the Copa America in July, as well as the 2021 edition – will miss the World Cup qualifiers against Venezuela on October 10 and Bolivia on October 15.

Argentina are top of the South American qualifying table with 18 points after eight matches. Colombia are just two points behind.

Frank Five girls win friendly basketball match by 58-32



✉️ **Tahir Amin Malik**

LAHORE: Frank Five Club women basketball team defeated LSE Club team by a margin of 58-32 points in a friendly basketball match at LSE Basketball Court on Friday.

Samra Tehreem, Mahriz Gul, Sana and Fareen exhibited wonderful game from Frank Five Club team while Captain Arfa, Minahil, Sybil, Shahmeen and Ayesha were the prominent performers from LSE team.

Frank Five Basketball Club President Asif Iqbal Khan and Director Sports LSE Maj Hussain were the guests of honour while Ibrar Khokhar, Jamshaid Fareed and coach Naseem Ullah were also present on this occasion.

RCAK Talent Hunt Programme announced with Touchme Trophy U-15 Inter Zonal Cricket Tournament.

✉️ **Sports Desk**

KARACHI: Khalid Nafees Chairman Regional Cricket Association Karachi Tournament Committee announced the details of RCAK Talent Hunt Programme of Under-15, Under-17 and Under-19 Inter Zonal Cricket Tournament Sponsored by Medicam Group after a laps of at least 11 years.

In the first step of Touchme Trophy Under-15 Inter Zonal Cricket Tournament will start from 3rd Week of October. After the completion of Under-15 Inter Zonal Cricket Tournament, Woodward Trophy Under-17 and then Medicam Trophy Under-19 Inter Zonal Cricket Tournament will start. In which 16 Zonal Teams two from each Zone while three teams of Zone one and Seven playing in Touchme Trophy Under-15 Inter Zonal Cricket Tournament, Zone Two and Five in Woodward Trophy Under-17 and Three teams of Zone Three and Four will be playing in Medicam Trophy Under-19 Inter Zonal Cricket Tournament which was decided by ballot.

All the Zones are advised to conduct their Trials for Touchme Trophy Under-15 Inter Zonal Cricket Tournament and sent their Selected teams at RCAK Office National Stadium.

Players born on 1st September 2010 eligible to participate in the Touchme Trophy Under-15 Tournament, Players born on 1st September 2008 eligible to participate in Woodward Trophy Under-17 and Players born on 1st September 2006 are eligible to participate in Medicam Trophy Under-19 Inter Zonal Cricket Tournament.

The players are advised to bring their Form "B", Smart Card, Education Certificate or CNIC at the time of their Zonal Trials.

Jayasuriya takes 6-42 as New Zealand collapse to 88 all out

✉️ **Sports Desk**

ISLAMABAD: Spinner Prabhath Jayasuriya took 6-42, his ninth five-wicket haul, as New Zealand collapsed 88 all out in the second Test on Saturday in reply to Sri Lanka's mammoth 602-5 declared. Sri Lanka captain Dhanajaya de Silva enforced the follow on and New Zealand stuttered to lunch at 3-1 after facing two overs in their second innings, still needing 511 more to avoid an innings defeat.

Tom Latham was the man out before the interval. He departed without scoring, caught by Pathum Nissanka at short leg off the bowling of Nishan Peiris who earlier had taken three first-innings wickets.

Jayasuriya, who began the Test with 88 wickets from 15 matches, now needs six more in the second innings to equal the record for fastest bowler to 100 Test wickets.

The record has stood since 1896 when England's George Lohmann reached 100 wickets in his 16th Test.

Resuming at a precarious 22-2 in their first innings, New Zealand's batsmen barely put up a fight and their highest partnership was the 20 added by last pair Mitchell Santner, who top scored with 29, and William O'Rourke (2).

Leading batsman Kane Williamson could not tame Sri Lanka's formidable spin attack as Jayasuriya dismissed him in just the third over to trigger the collapse. Captain de Silva took five catches at first slip to tie the record for most in a Test innings by a non-wicketkeeper, a milestone shared with 15 others.

Lake City Panthers to lock horns with UMT Markhors in the final

✉️ **Abdul Majid**

FAISALABAD: After 13 matches and 16 days, two teams—UMT Markhors and Lake City Panthers have emerged as the contenders for being crowned the inaugural winners of the Bahria Town Champions One-Day Cup 2024.

The final, set to begin at 3pm on Sunday at the Iqbal Stadium, Faisalabad, will be the third occasion in this tournament where these two teams will face each other with both having won one game each previously.

In the tournament opener on 12 September, the Markhors got the better of Panthers with a 160-run win while the Panthers defeated Markhors in the qualifier by seven wickets to reach the final. Markhors on the other hand advanced to the final

based on their top standing in the league stage after their eliminator clash against the Nurrpur Lions was called off without a ball being bowled.

In total the Panthers have so far played five matches in the tournament winning four and losing just one while the Markhors have played six games reaping three wins, two losses while their last game was a washout.

Markhors and Panthers have both seen changes in their squads after the Pakistan's Test squad for the England series was announced. In the Markhors squad, Mohammad Rizwan, Naseem Shah and Salman Ali Agha have been replaced by Bismillah Khan, Niaz Khan and Zain Abbas.

Danish Aziz and Sajid Khan have replaced Mubasir Khan

and Saim Ayub in the Panthers squad. While Saim was named in the Test squad, the all-rounder Mubasir was ruled out due to a thumb fracture.

Lake City Panthers' Usman Khan leads the runs scoring charts in the tournament with 259 runs at an average of 64.75 in five matches with one hundred. Allied Bank Stallions' Tayyab Tahir sits on the second spot with 249 runs at 49.80 while Kamran Ghulam of UMT Markhors has scored 248 runs in the five matches at 49.60 including two hundreds. Usman and Kamran will look to finish as the top run-scorers of the tournament.

On the bowling front, Panthers' Mohammad Hasnain is the leading wicket-taker with 14 wickets followed by Stallions' Jahandad Khan, Lions' and Markhors' Zahid Mehmood

who have 10 each to their names. UMT Markhors Captain, Iftikhar Ahmed

"The Bahria Town Champions One-Day Cup has been a fantastic tournament and to stake a claim for becoming the inaugural champions of this domestic competition is an exciting prospect for the UMT Markhors.

"I will look to instill my experience of playing for Pakistan in high-pressure games to the young players in our squad. The fans will surely get to see a highly-competitive final tomorrow.

"We are hopeful to repeat the opening game heroics against the Lake City Panthers. Despite the departure of Mohammad Rizwan, Naseem Shah and Salman Ali Agha, the Markhors team is committed to giving the best performance in the final and

lifting the trophy."

Lake City Panthers Captain, Shadab Khan

"I'm really excited to be leading the Lake City Panthers in the final of the Bahria Town Champions One-Day Cup and I'm pretty sure this occasion will bring the best out of our players.

"After our win in the Qualifier, we had four off days where we took ample rest and trained for the final as well which has set up the Panthers squad in the best stead possible to compete in a high-profile game.

"We will miss Saim Ayub's presence with the ball and bat but so many of the other players are ready to put their hand up and give their best. The final is going to be a cracking contest and I hope the fans turn up in big numbers as they have done throughout the tournament.



Most warm and cordial Meeting

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in a group photo with US President Joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden during the president's reception in New York on Saturday.



Photo: via X/@CMShehbaz

PM Shehbaz attends US president's reception

Spokesman Report

NEW YORK: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif briefly met with US President Joe Biden and First Lady Jill Biden during the president's reception in New York on Saturday.

The meeting was "most warm and cordial," the premier said in a social media post.

Both the leaders had the meeting during the United Nations General Assembly session. PM Shehbaz delivered his speech on Friday while President Biden addressed the session on Tuesday.

Pakistan and the US have long-standing ties and both sides have called for enhancing the relationship. It merits here to mention that the US is the top destination of Pakistani exports.

"We reaffirmed our common desire to enhance cooperation in key areas including trade, investment, technology, & climate action," PM Shehbaz said.

Earlier this week, US Assistant Secretary of State Donald Lu conveyed optimism regarding the

strengthening of the United States' relationship with the government led by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

Lu, who previously raised concerns to former Pakistani ambassador to the US Asad Majeed—an issue that became central to a cipher linked to allegations of a US conspiracy to remove former Prime Minister Imran Khan—shared his thoughts in an interview with ARY News on Tuesday.

"We have a very strong relationship with Shehbaz Sharif's government and with the Pakistani people. We look forward to strengthening that bond year after year," Lu stated when asked about the current state of bilateral relations.

While addressing Pakistan's economic situation, Lu expressed that the US was "very encouraged" by the ongoing economic recovery in the country. He mentioned a recent meeting with Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb, who provided insights into the "very serious plans and reforms" being implemented by the federal government.

PTI ends protest against constitutional amendment

Naveed Ahmad Khan

RAWALPINDI: PTI Chairman Gohar Ali Khan ended the party's protest rally against the proposed constitutional amendment at Rawalpindi's Liaquat Bagh on Saturday after Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur failed to reach the venue. Clashes were also reported between party supporters and the police.

Workers attempted to reach the venue to protest amid tear gas and rubber bullets from police. PTI leadership and the supporters also struggled to make it to the garrison city. Before Khan's announcement, Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari claimed that Gandapur had turned back before reaching the city. Shortly after, the KP chief minister announced his return from Patangar.



While withdrawing, Gandapur stated: "We do not wish to confront the institutions. We have made our protest known. We will return and heading straight to Adiala Jail." He then departed with his convoy back to Pathar ghar.

The PTI chairman made the announcement in a statement and informed party leaders to cease their activities.

Throughout the day, clashes continued around Liaquat Bagh and various areas in Rawalpindi, where police

engaged in prolonged shelling of PTI workers, deploying rubber bullets. In response, the protesters hurled stones at the police, causing them to retreat.

In a separate incident, the Punjab police arrested several journalists, including Haider

Shirazi and Rizwan Shah at the Islamabad toll plaza.

The atmosphere around Liaquat Bagh was filled with the sounds of gunfire and shelling while a blackout occurred along Murree Road and nearby areas, leaving residents in a state of fear. Police also targeted convoys arriving from Attock with tear gas, resulting in the arrest of eight individuals during the protest in Rawalpindi.

PTI workers, dodging tear gas canisters and rubber bullets, emerged in groups from various streets towards Liaquat Bagh. Even after arriving, police continued to fire rubber bullets to disperse the crowd. In retaliation, the protesters threw stones and glass bottles at the police. Heavy shelling was also reported against female protesters at Committee Chowk, led by Aaliya Hamza.

PTI claims arrests of 'key leaders'

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The PTI has claimed that its chairman and secretary general were arrested near E-13 while en route to Rawalpindi. According to the party, both leaders were "forcibly removed" from their vehicle and placed into a police van.

Later, the police team released Barrister Gohar. After his release, he stated, "We were arrested by the police at E-13 and Salman Akram Raja was with me. They told us to turn back instead of going to Rawalpindi. After a discussion with the

police, they let me go, but Salman Akram Raja remains in custody, and we are not allowed to proceed to Rawalpindi."

Raja was also eventually released, but the police instructed him to return to Islamabad rather than continue to Rawalpindi.

Around 5pm, police also arrested PTI female leader Samabia Tahir. Shortly before 6pm, PTI provincial assembly member Tanveer Aslam was taken into custody on Murree Road. He confronted the police, saying, "You slapped me, and I will hold you accountable for it."

Containers deployed at 25 locations



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Police have deployed containers at 25 locations throughout Rawalpindi and stationed 4,000 officers and personnel to maintain order."

The PTI leadership in Rawalpindi and Islamabad implemented their strategies to mobilise supporters. Police conducted raids at the homes of party

workers across 32 police stations; however, no active members were apprehended during these operations.

Additionally, Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari has warned Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Ali Amin Gandapur that no disruptions would be tolerated in the garrison city and any attempts to take the law into their hands would be met with "strict consequences."

Clashes erupted around Liaquat Bagh

Naveed Ahmad Khan

RAWALPINDI: Clashes erupted at Attock Road and Murree Road between the police and supporters of the PTI on Saturday as the latter marched towards Rawalpindi's Liaquat Bagh for the protest against the government's proposed constitutional amendment, aimed at judicial reforms and extension in the chief justice of Pakistan tenure.

Police responded with tear gas and rubber bullets as tensions escalated, according to reports, prompting protesters to retaliate by throwing stones. Many demonstrators sought refuge from the tear gas by entering the side streets adjacent to Murree Road while local residents were seen providing water to the PTI supporters. Police also targeted



convoys arriving from Attock with shelling, resulting in the arrest of eight individuals in Rawalpindi.

As of 3pm, no party leader reached the Liaquat Bagh. The first convoy, led by Shehryar Riaz, arrived in Rawalpindi

around 4pm while the first group to reach the protest site was led by Amir Mughal, arriving at 4:30pm. Aia

Hamza is leading the cavalcade of women supporters.

Police also prevented PTI Chairman Gohar Ali Khan and Salman Akram Raja from entering Rawalpindi while they awaited more convoys coming from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

To thwart the demonstration, police set up containers at twenty-five locations across Rawalpindi and deployed 4,000 officers and personnel. They also conducted raids on the houses of workers across, yet no active PTI members were apprehended. In response to the crackdown, PTI leaders from Lahore left for Rawalpindi the night before to avoid arrests.

To thwart the PTI protest, authorities have crippled communication systems in the area. Mobile phone

Russia's prime minister to visit Tehran for high-level talks: Envoy

IRNA

MOSCOW: Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin is expected to visit Tehran in the coming days for high-level talks with Iranian officials.

Iranian Ambassador to Moscow Kazem Jalali told IRNA on Saturday that the planned trip by Mishustin is aimed at enhancing bilateral relations and following up on existing agreements between the two sides.

"This visit is very important and could create significant momentum in Iran-Russia economic relations," he emphasized.

Asked about the outlook for Tehran-Moscow relations under President Masoud Pezeshkian, Jalali said



the current government's approach towards relations with Russia remains

consistent with past policies, "We will witness an expansion of

ties with Russia," the ambassador added.

Jalali highlighted joint efforts in the energy sector, referring to last week's visit by the CEO of Russia's state gas company Gazprom to Tehran, where cooperation in the gas sector was discussed.

Regarding the comprehensive long-term cooperation agreement between Iran and Russia, he said the Russian foreign ministry has already referred the matter to President Vladimir Putin, who has expressed his willingness to sign the pact.

Jalali added that similar processes have been completed in Tehran and that Iranian leaders are also prepared to sign the agreement.

Section 144 imposed across Rawalpindi

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Punjab government has imposed Section 144 across the Rawalpindi Division for two days to prohibit all political gatherings, sit-ins, rallies, and protests.

This ban will be effective on Saturday, September 28, and Sunday, September 29, affecting the districts of Rawalpindi, Attock, Jhelum, and Chakwal.

Mobile signals and Metro services suspended

Mobile phone signals within Rawalpindi have been turned off, the Metro Bus service has been suspended, and the Islamabad Expressway has been blocked with containers. In response to the situation, PTI leadership from Lahore left Rawalpindi overnight to avoid arrests.

Key motorways, including M1 and M2, will be closed, and roads from Chakri, Bahatar, Taxila, and AWT will be blocked.

To bolster security, six companies



of Rangers will also be deployed in Rawalpindi and Attock, following concerns about potential unrest from armed groups.

Meanwhile, Rawalpindi's City Police Officer Syed Khalid Hamdani has ordered the cancellation of all officer leave, stating that any violations of this order will result in dismissal.

Despite the PTI's plans, the administration has not granted permission for the event. Following this denial, PTI Information Secretary Sheikh Waqas Akram indicated that if the gathering was not permitted, the party would still proceed with the protest at Liaquat Bagh.