



King, crown prince congratulate Sultan of Brunei on accession anniversary

King Salman sent a cable of congratulations on Saturday to the Sultan of Brunei on the anniversary of his accession to the throne, Saudi Press Agency reported.



Rajinikanth Shares First Statement After Being Discharged From Hospital: "Truly Touched"

Indian cinema icon Rajinikanth has issued his first statement after being hospitalized for a heart-related elective procedure. The 73-year-old star was admitted to Apollo Hospital in Chennai on Monday due to swelling in the aorta, which was treated by Dr. Sai Satish using a non-surgical, transcatheter method.

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Funeral prayer

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir, senior serving soldiers and civil officials, relatives of the youth offering the funeral prayer of martyrs.



Photo: ISPR

COAS, senior army officers, soldiers offer funeral prayers of Spinwam martyrs

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir on Saturday along with senior army and civil officers, soldiers and relatives of the martyrs offered the funeral prayers of Army martyrs who valiantly embraced martyrdom while fighting terrorists during a fire exchange in Spinwam area of North Waziristan at Peshawar Garrison.

The martyrs include Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad Ali Shoukat Shaheed (age: 43 years, resident of district Faisalabad), Lieutenant Colonel Muhammad Ali Shoukat (Age: 43 years, resident of District Faisalabad), Lance Naik Muhammad Ullah (age: 31 Years, resident of District Khyber), Lance Naik Akhtar Zaman (age: 30 years, resident of District Lakki Marwat), Lance Naik Shahid Ullah (age: 29 years, resident of District Tank), Lance Naik Yusuf Ali (age: 31 years, resident of District Orkzai) and Sepoy Jameel Ahmed (age: 26 years, resident of District Swat).

President lauds security forces for successful operation against Khawarij terrorists in North Waziristan



In a statement issued by the President House, Asif Zardari lauded the brave soldiers of Pakistan Army who laid their lives during fight against the terrorists.

He commended patriotic spirit of Lt Colonel Muhammad Ali Shaukat and other soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the defence of their homeland.

The president expressed the commitment to continue operations against terrorists.

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari on Saturday paid tributes to the security forces for a successful operation against terrorists in Spinwam area of North Waziristan resulting in killing of six Khawarij terrorists.

He extended heartfelt condolences to the families of the martyred soldiers and prayed for the elevation of ranks of all martyrs in Jannah. He also prayed to Allah Almighty to grant patience to the bereaved families to bear the loss with equanimity.

PM pays tributes to security forces for killing six Khawarij terrorists in North Waziristan

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday commended the security forces for killing six Khawarij terrorists in a successful operation against the terrorists in the Spinwam area of North Waziristan.



The prime minister paid tribute to Lt Colonel Muhammad Shaukat, Lance Naik Muhammad Ullah, Lance Naik Akhtar Zaman, Lance Naik Shahid Ullah, Lance Naik Yousaf, and Sepoy Jameel Ahmed, who embraced martyrdom while bravely confronting the terrorists. In a statement, the prime minister prayed for the elevation of the martyrs' ranks in Jannah and expressed condolences to their families. The entire nation salutes the martyrs, the prime minister added. He said the Pakistan Army had made unparalleled sacrifices in the war against terrorism.

KPK chief threatens to disrupt law-and-order ahead of SCO summit: Mohsin Naqvi

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi, in a press briefing at D-Chowk on Saturday night, warned the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leadership headed by Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur not to disrupt law-and-order situation ahead of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit.

He stated that Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur has "crossed all limits" but continues to test the patience of the federal government.

Naqvi accused the PTI leadership of tasking CM Gandapur to disrupt a law-and-order situation ahead of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit where international heads of state are set to arrive in Pakistan for the first time in years.

"Chief Minister KPK Ali Amin Gandapur is leading a mob with

the intent to storm Islamabad. He is fully responsible for the current situation," Naqvi said, emphasizing Gandapur's role in orchestrating unrest.

Though Gandapur holds a prominent provincial office, Naqvi warned that there would be consequences for his actions. "He will have to pay the price," said Naqvi. "I still urge the CM and PTI leadership to avoid clashes and not force law enforcement agencies into taking extreme measures."

Despite repeated requests from the federal government to prevent escalation, Gandapur has ignored these warnings, according to Naqvi.

To counter the potential threat, the government has deployed police, Rangers and Frontier Corps (FC), and even called in the Pakistan Army to ensure peace and security.

"The government is unclear about PTI's specific demands, but it seems their real aim is to



sabotage the SCO summit," Naqvi remarked.

He added that dialogue could only happen if Gandapur showed seriousness, stating, "Dialogue is not possible alongside attempts to storm the capital."

When asked about the possibility of imposing an emergency in KPK and arresting the chief minister under Article 6 of the

constitution, Naqvi responded that the president and prime minister are in close contact, and all political leadership has been consulted. The interior ministry will implement the agreed-upon strategy in due course.

In a concerning development, Naqvi revealed that Islamabad police have arrested 120 Afghan nationals in the last 48 hours, an

alarming sign for the government.

Naqvi also criticized PTI protestors, accusing them of opening fire on police near Pathar Garh and using tear gas shells in large quantities.

He questioned how the protestors acquired the tear gas shells and pointed out that this was not a peaceful protest, as claimed by PTI. "Protestors are armed and have been inciting violence, while law enforcement remains unarmed. However, they are pushing the boundaries, forcing us to consider harsher measures to maintain peace," Naqvi said, disclosing that 80 to 85 police officers have been injured and were shifted to hospitals for first aid.

Naqvi concluded by reiterating the government's resolve to safeguard the upcoming SCO summit, stating, "Prime Minister Mian Shahbaz Sharif has made it clear that no one will be allowed to sabotage this important event."

PTI supporters storm D-Chowk



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: A large number of PTI supporters reached D-Chowk in Islamabad, despite heavy rain in the federal capital rendering tear gas ineffective. The demonstrators, chanting slogans, managed to arrive at the protest venue amidst the down-pour, leading police, Elite Force, FC, and Rangers to abandon the area.

Earlier, police fired tear gas at China Chowk, but demonstrators breached the container blockades and even set fires on the road. After overcoming the obstacles, they approached near D-Chowk, but Islamabad police pushed the protesters back, leading PTI workers to head towards China Chowk instead.

Additionally, PTI supporters set fire to trees along Jinnah Avenue close to D-Chowk.

PTI claims Gandapur arrested in Islamabad as govt denies reports

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur was arrested from Islamabad shortly after he came to the capital city with a few security officials on Saturday, PTI leaders and sources said. He led a cavalcade from Peshawar to the federal capital for a "peaceful protest" on Friday.

The KP CM's brother Faisal Amin Gandapur told reporters that he had been arrested. PTI's Omar Ayub also confirmed the arrest while KP spokesperson Barrister Saif said he had lost contact with Gandapur.

However, some government sources claimed that reports of Gandapur's arrest were wrong.

"The KP CM has not been formally arrested, a heavy contingent of Rangers and police are present at the KP House. The



KP CM is on bail till October 25. If arrested, it will be an insult to the mandate of the people of KP, the fake government will have to answer for such unconstitutional and illegal actions," KP government spokesperson Barrister Muhammad Saif said in a statement on X. Gandapur was leading a PTI protest convoy that he left behind near Hassan Abdal and decided to visit Islamabad for unknown reasons.

After coming to the city he went to the KP House which was raided by the police, according to sources.

Initial reports suggest that Gandapur has been arrested in an old case of liquor recovery.

Islamabad sealed, mobile networks and internet suspended



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The federal capital administration has suspended mobile networks and internet services in the twin cities while the police have blocked all entry and points to the cities.

In recent weeks, the PTI has organised numerous rallies nationwide to protest the "unlawful" detention of its founder, the delays by the Election Commission of Pakistan in executing the verdict on reserved seats, and to advocate for the "preservation" of the Constitution.

Prior to its rallies in Islamabad and Lahore earlier this month, the government imposed a series of stringent regulations. Imran Khan's party did not fully adhere to these guidelines, leading to confrontations between its supporters and law enforcement agencies.

DPM Dar deplores PTI's protest; finds it akin to damaging diplomatic prestige

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Saturday criticized Pakistan Tehreek e-Insaf's protest timing, terming it an attempt to harm country's prestige at the global level.

In a press statement, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister said that the protest was launched at a time when Pakistan was going to host Shanghai Cooperation Organi-

zation (SCO) summit in Islamabad.

The objective of the protest was to create chaos in the country and sabotage Pakistan's diplomatic efforts at the SCO's summit, he added.

DPM Dar also viewed PTI's invitation to a foreign minister of a particular country to participate in its protest as a political gimmick by its leadership inflicting damage to the national stature.

PTI should be treated like terrorist group, says Maryam Nawaz

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Chief Minister (CM) Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif said that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) should be treated like 'terrorists' before it gets too late.

In her statement on X (formerly Twitter), Maryam Nawaz Sharif said that what she has always been saying has proved to the world today. "PTI is not, was not and cannot be a political party.

She said that PTI is not a political party but a 'terrorist group', ARY News reported.

"PTI is a terrorist group that repeatedly attacks its own country. The state should treat them as they treat terrorists or else otherwise it will be too late.



PTI aims to set the country on fire. It does not deserve any concession or leniency," Maryam Nawaz posted.

The PTI has 'trained terrorists' on the front lines whom it has used to attack the police and the state.

Earlier in the day, the PTI claimed the arrest of Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Ali Amin Gandapur while the development was denied by the government sources.

According to sources, IG Islamabad police Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi arrested the KP chief minister on charges pertaining to attack on the state and misuse of official protocol.

Omar Ayub, Senior PTI leader also confirmed Gandapur's arrest saying that Peshawar High Court had already approved his bail however he was arrested by form-47 government.

On the other hand, KP government spokesperson Barrister Saif claimed that the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa House in Islamabad has been sealed after the chief minister's arrest.

KP Assembly's urgent session summoned on Sunday

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: An urgent session of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Assembly has been summoned on Sunday amid the recent chaos related to the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) protest.

According to a notification issued by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly Secretariat, the sitting has been scheduled for 2 pm on Tuesday.

The sitting was scheduled to be held on October 7 but it has been fixed on Sunday after the arrests of activists in Islamabad.

Earlier, the PTI retracted claims about the arrest of Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) Ali Amin Gandapur and said that he was confined at KP House Islamabad instead.

In a statement, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government spokesperson Barrister Saif said that the KP House was besieged and Ali Amin Gandapur was confined. Barrister Saif said that the siege of the KP House is a testament to their 'success'.

CM Gandapur's brother claimed his arrest while the government sources denied the same.

It was claimed that IG Islamabad police Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi arrested the KP chief minister on charges pertaining to an attack on the state and misuse of official protocol.

Omar Ayub, Senior PTI leader also claimed Gandapur's arrest, saying that he was taken into custody despite obtaining protective bail from the Peshawar High Court. Barrister Saif claimed that the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa House in Islamabad has been sealed after the chief minister's arrest.

Growers Condemned Low Paddy Prices in Sujawal

Kamran Khamiso Khawaja

SUJAWAL: Growers of Sujawal have expressed grave concerns on low prices of paddy being paid by the mill owners to them.

Growers hailing from different areas of district Sujawal have condemned the atrocity of mill owners as well as the silence of government authorities. They have lashed out at the concerned authorities for giving a free hand to mill owners to deceive small growers of the remote areas of district Sujawal. Ismail Memon, a local grower from the coastal town of Jati, disclosed that they had attached high hopes to paddy this year but the cruelty of mill owners had shattered all their hopes. Another grower

Participating leaders, including Punhal Solangi, Wahid Hyder Zohor, Qadir Bakhsh Zohor, Wagar Mirani, and others, criticized the government for failing to ensure fair prices for cotton and paddy farmers. They demanded a minimum price of Rs. 4,000 per 40 kg, arguing that current rates are insufficient to cover production costs.

Protesters alleged that paddy and cotton prices have been consistently reduced, while mill owners continue to exploit farmers through unfair practices. They vowed to continue their struggle until fair prices are guaranteed and exploitation ends.

The protest rally, organized by the Awami Social Forum, was attended by various political and social party leaders, farmers, and journalists. The sit-in will continue until their demands are met.

This schoolteacher in Pakistan is teaching without pay for 9 years



Web Desk

KARACHI: On International Teacher's Day, the story of Ghulam Shabbir, a dedicated school teacher who has been teaching without a salary for the past nine years, has surfaced.

The teacher, Ghulam Shabbir, was appointed as a school teacher in 2012 at a government school located in Matiari district of Sindh.

However, in 2015, his salary was halted after the government dismissed him, claiming his recruitment was part of a fake hiring scheme.

Despite the financial hardship, Shabbir continues to teach, walking 2 kilometers or hitching a ride to school every day.

In his spare time, he works as a farmer to make ends meet.

"My appointment was in 2012, and even though my salary was stopped in 2015, I still come to school every day to teach the children," Shabbir said.

Court mandates private educational institutions to provide pick and drop services

Bureau Report

LAHORE: In a significant development, the Lahore High Court (LHC) has declared that private schools and colleges must take responsibility for providing pick and drop services to students in the province.

The court directed the private educational institutions in the province to provide pick and drop to the students.

"Private educational institutions should also provide pick and drop facilities, action should be taken against institutions failing to adhere to this requirement," the court in its directive said.

The court set a clear deadline for schools and colleges to arrange buses for student transportation.

Institutions that do not implement the pick-and-drop services will face penalties.

Ahsan Iqbal pays tribute to teachers on 'World Teachers' Day'

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Reforms, Ahsan Iqbal here on Saturday paid rich tributes to teachers on 'World Teachers' Day', saying they were the builders of nation.

Addressing a ceremony at Islamabad Model College for Women, the minister praised teachers' great services and said that teachers were being paid tribute worldwide for their contribution in preparing youth for the future. He quoted Aristotle, saying, parents bring children into the world, but teachers teach them how to live.

He said, teachers' services and mission are unforgettable, however deplored that today, when we should have been united in paying tribute to our teachers, some elements were spreading chaos in the country. He said, Pakistan needs to move forward so we must not become part in hindering its progress.

The federal minister also discussed Pakistan's economic growth, saying, the world acknowledges the country's progress. He said that Pakistan Stock Exchange was setting new records while China was discussing the new phase of CPEC.

Public in problems

RAWALPINDI: Motorcyclists taking out their bikes under the container, due to the closure of the roads for the second consecutive day in view of the protest of Tehreek-e-Insaf.



Photo: Online

Murad says his govt spending Rs218bn on Karachi's development

Abdul Ghafoor Sarohi

KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, during a meeting with the elected body of the National Press Club Islamabad, said that approximately Rs1000 billion is needed for the development of Karachi every year, however, the resources are limited, despite this, the city is set to receive Rs218 billion for development this year.

The meeting was held at the CM House after the Islamabad journalists visited various districts of the province, including Thar, Sukkur, and Gambat, where they commended the government's development efforts.

Murad Shah mentioned in response to a question that a World Bank study conducted by the Sindh government revealed that \$3 billion is needed to make Karachi a liveable city. He suggested that although the required funds are substantial, around Rs1000 billion should be spent on the development and reconstruction of Karachi's infrastructure. "Due to resource constraints, only Rs218 billion has



been allocated for Karachi's development," he said.

To another question, the CM said that under the City Government Karachi, the embankments of main Nullahs were allotted, and whatever space was left was allowed to be encroached. As a result, the cleaning of the Nullahs became a serious issue, and the city kept submerging during heavy rains.

Mr Shah said that Sindh was the only province which has constructed three bridges on the River Indus, of them

two in PPP mode. The main roads, Karachi-Thatta, Hyderabad-Mirpurkhas have also been constructed in PPP mode. In Karachi, Malir expressway is being constructed and its one portion will be opened for traffic by the end of this month. He added that Sindh was the only government which has constructed an airport in Thar.

Religious harmony: The visiting journalists told the CM that they visited Thar where Hindus were seen leading a harmonised life. The newsmen said that the crime was so low that hardly

50 FIRs were registered during a whole year.

The CM said that PPP has a Hindu MNA from Thar elected on a general seat and a Hindu MPA has also been elected from Mirpurkhas city on a general seat. The speaker of the Sindh Assembly is a Christian.

Universities & hospitals: The journalist informed the Chief Minister that they had visited Begum Nusrat Bhutto Women's University and Arur University in Sukkur. They mentioned that both universities are situated in beautiful locations and have impressive architecture.

Those who attended the meeting include provincial ministers, Nasir Shah, Saeed Ghani, Secretary to CM Raheem Shaikh, and Secretary Information Nadeem Memon. The office bearers of the National Press Club Islamabad include President Azhar Jatoti, Vice President Shah Muhammad, Secretary Nayyar Ali, Senior Joint Secretary Oun Sheerazi, Joint Secretaries Talat Farooq, Sherrish Qureshi, and Governing Body.

7 kilograms of hashish, 4 pistols, rifle recovered in Attock

Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: Police is actively working against social evildoers, recovering over 7 kilograms of hashish, 4 pistols, and 1 rifle, and arresting multiple suspects.

According to details, following the special instructions of District Police Officer Attock, Dr. Sardar Ghiyas Gul Khan, the Attock Police is continuing operations against social evildoers. In this regard, the Police Station Pandgai Police recovered 1420 grams of hashish from drug dealer Naveed Iqbal, son of Muhammad Iqbal,

resident of Khore Pandgai, during checking. Meanwhile, the Hazar Police team recovered 1450 grams of hashish from drug trafficker Muhammad Ilyas, alias Chanda, son of Mir Akbar, resident of Hamid. In another operation, the Police Station Bissal team recovered 600 grams of hashish from drug dealer Waseef Mahmood, son of Taj Muhammad, resident of Thatti Sadan, Tehsil Jand.

Similarly, the Rangu Police recovered 500 grams of hashish from drug dealer Sajjad Ali, alias Madina, son of Sardar Khan, resident of Formally. The City Attock Police recovered 531

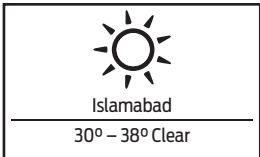
grams of hashish from Owais, alias Shana, son of Azeem, resident of Saddar Bazaar.

In another operation, the Police Station Fateh Jang recovered 1460 grams of hashish from notorious drug dealer Muhammad Bilal, son of Muhammad Imtiaz, resident of Kharla Kalan.

While conducting operations against illegal weapons, the Police Station Saddar Attock recovered firearms during the investigation of arrested suspect Alaudin, son of Habibullah, resident of Dheri Kot. Meanwhile, upon checking Shafqat

Ali, son of Muhammad Saleem, resident of Faqirabad, a 12-bore rifle along with 3 rounds was recovered. Additionally, the Hazar Police recovered a 30-bore pistol along with ammunition from Muhammad Ramzan, son of Abdul Shakur, upon suspecting him and conducting a check. Similarly, the Attock Khurd Police recovered 2 pistols along with 8 rounds from Usman, son of Rahman Gul, resident of Peshawar.

The Attock Police have registered separate cases against the suspects in various police stations and have adorned them with iron hands#



SERVICES

Namaz Timings
 Fajr 4:42 am
 Zohr 11:56 am
 Asr 4:06 pm
 Maghrib 5:47 pm
 Isha 7:09 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
 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
 Potohar Town 9209224
 Rawal Town 5773343

COMPLAINTS

Water Tanker Service
 E-7, F-10 & F-11 9204654
 G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8 9203883
 G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 9266316
 Wapda Islamabad 9217579-80
 Sui Gas Complaint 119, 9272249
 Wasa Water Tank
 Rawalpindi 0331-5022125

ECP postpones tests for various positions

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on Saturday postponed the tests for various positions, including Deputy Assistant Directors (Accounts), Senior Assistants and Junior Assistants, which were originally scheduled for October 6, 2024.

The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) spokesperson announced in a statement that due to unforeseen circumstances, candidates may face difficulties in accessing examination centers in Islamabad and Karachi.

The revised examination schedule will be announced at a later date," she stated, adding that the Commission regrets any inconvenience caused by the postponement and appreciates candidates' cooperation.

UAE Ambassador inaugurates world culture festival at Ahmed Parvez Art Gallery

Khurram Jaffrani

KARACHI: On the 10th day of the ongoing "World Culture Festival Karachi" organized by Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi, an art exhibition titled "The Legacy, Vision of the Old Masters & Contemporary Painters of Pakistan" was held at the Ahmed Parvez Art Gallery. The exhibition was inaugurated by the Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates, Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Al Zaabi, Provincial Minister for Culture, Tourism, and Archives Syed Zulfiqar Ali Shah, and President Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi Muhammad Ahmed Shah. UAE's Consul General in Karachi, Bakheet Atiq Al Rumaithi, was also present on the occasion. UAE Ambassador Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Al Zaabi expressed his pleasure at attending the beautiful exhibition. He said that Muhammad Ahmed Shah and Zulfiqar Shah have organized an incredible festival in Karachi. Art is a global language, and 40 countries are

participating in this festival. The Provincial Minister for Culture has also supported the event's organization." He added, "I appreciate Pakistani artists who were also present at the Dubai Art Festival. The young generation of Pakistan is very talented, and there should be exchanges between artists from Pakistan and the UAE.

"Provincial Minister for Culture Syed Zulfiqar Ali Shah stated that we welcome the UAE Ambassador to Karachi; his presence is an honor for us. We will also organize visits to historical sites and buildings in Karachi. Due to the World Cultural Festival Karachi, our soft image is being projected globally."

President Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi, Muhammad Ahmed Shah, said that it is an honor for the Arts Council that the UAE Ambassador participated in our festival. I got the idea for this festival from the 2017 World Culture Summit. We have asked the UAE government for their intellectual support. Pakistan and

the UAE have longstanding relations, and the Sindh government has provided full support for organizing this festival." The exhibition featured 29 masterpieces from Pakistan's art masters and 32 works from the young Artists, including renowned artists such as Anwar Maqsood, Farukh Shehab, Shehzad Baloch, Laila Shahzada, Zubaida Agha, Abdul Rehman Chughtai, Anwar Jalal Shamsa, Mansoor Rahi, Ustad Allah Bakhsh, Mrs. Anna Molka, G. Mustafa, A. Islam, Kebriya, Mansoor Aye, Bashir Mirza, Wahab Jaffer, Ozzir Zubay, Sardar Muhammad, Zulfiqar Zulfi, Ambar Romasa Nagori, Murtaza Bashir, A. B. Nazeer, Yasir Noor, Kabeer Atta Muhammad, M Jawad Ahmed Jan, Raza Ali, and Ajab Khan. In the end, President Arts Council Muhammad Ahmed Shah presented a painting by the renowned artist and intellectual Anwar Maqsood as a gift to the UAE Ambassador Hamad Obaid Ibrahim Al Zaabi. It is noted that art exhibition continue till 15th October 2024.



Protest

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek Insaf protesters reached Faisal Avenue, rally heading towards D Chowk in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Protest ahead of SCO summit harms national image, says Abdullah Gul

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Tehreek-e-Jawanaan Pakistan (TJP) Mohammad Abdullah Gul on Saturday said the political party's protest ahead of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit was damaging the national prestige.

The TJP chairman expressed these views in his statement on the protest call of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) on SCO conference.

Gul said that whenever a delegation of foreign delegates or a conference was held in Islamabad, protests and demonstrations start in the country.



He said that about three years ago when

OIC conference was held in the federal capital, then the opposition parties staged protest and sit in the federal capital.

"With this, Pakistan's prestige was greatly damaged due to protests, but now that the SCO summit is very close to be held in Islamabad, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf has staged a protest in D-Chowk, due to which it damaged the image of the country," Abdullah Gul said.

He said that protest was the right of every citizen and political party to struggle for their rights, but such activities should be avoided on the eve of arrivals of international delegations and meetings to save our humiliation.

CEO CBD Punjab Directs Swift Completion of Walton Railway Crossing Flyover

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: Imran Amin CEO of Punjab Central Business District Development Authority (PCBD-DA) chaired a significant review meeting, to assess the progress of ongoing development projects. The authority also known as Central Business District Punjab (CBD Punjab), is working on major infrastructure enhancement projects including CBD Route 47, Walton Railway Crossing Flyover, and Walton Road.

During the meeting, CEO CBD Punjab, Imran Amin, was briefed on the current status of all projects. He directed that the water-bound layer at Walton Road Railway Crossing Flyover be completed swiftly, and asphalt work should begin promptly. The meeting was attended by Executive Director Tech-



nical Riaz Hussain, Director Construction Asif Babar, Asif Iqbal, Director Architecture and Planning Sameer Aftab Sial, senior officials from NESPAK and NLC, and the project contractors. CEO CBD Punjab, Imran

Amin was informed that the asphalt work from Defense Mor to Qainchi on Walton Road has been completed and the road is now open for traffic. Additionally, the final asphalt layer on Major Ishaq Shaheed Flyover is also complete and it will be fully operational for traffic within a day or two.

The CEO CBD Punjab also visited the CBD Route 47 Walton Railway Crossing Flyover, where he emphasized the need to expedite the completion of the water-bound layer and commence asphalt work as soon as possible.

On his visit, Imran Amin remarked, "Route 47 and Walton Railway Crossing Flyover is a critical link connecting Gulberg to Walton Road. Completing this link will improve traffic flow and provide relief to the people of Lahore."

NBP won the ADB Disability Inclusion Champion Award 2024



Commerce Desk

KARACHI: National Bank of Pakistan has won the prestigious Disability Inclusion Award 2024 from the Asian Development Bank (ADB). This is a historic moment, as NBP is the first bank from Pakistan to receive this award, competing against top banks from Asia and the Pacific. This achievement positions NBP as a leader in disability inclusion, both nationally and internationally. The commitment from NBP's BoD, the President, HRMG, and group chiefs is commendable and reflects the organization's ongoing dedication to fostering an inclusive workplace for all.

Mr. Mirza Muhammad Asim Baig, Group Head HRMG, received this distinguished award on behalf of NBP at a grand ceremony in Singapore. The bank's exemplary efforts in creating a barrier-free environment, implementing inclusive policies, and empowering employees with disabilities have earned it this significant recognition and are a testament to NBP's commitment to leading the way in inclusion.

These dimensions highlight the bank's ongoing commitment to being a leader in disability inclusion and its efforts to create meaningful change for employees with disabilities.

Super fights to be held today at HUFCC Gym

City Desk

LAHORE: The super fights 3rd MMA event will start today at HUFCC Gym, Defence Road, Lahore today where 3 countries Pakistan, Egypt and Afghanistan fighters will take part. Thi was announced by MMA President Babar Raja along with Mr Dawood in a press conference. Raja said there were 3 International fight will be held and this will be exciting international fighting event and people will enjoy the fighter event. Mr. Dawood said HUFCC is unique Gym and is working for the promotion of sports in HUFCC Gym he said that the previous event was also very successful and this event will also very good he said there are 50 kg, 60 kg and 70 kg category has been included. He further said the aim is to hold this event to find best fighters in various weight classes and allow them to perform on a big platform like super fights to gain recognition. He said this event will be standard event and international fighter of 3 countries will fight each other.

79 professional beggars arrested in two days

KARACHI, OCT 05 (APP): A recent drive against professional begging has resulted in the arrest of 79 professional beggars over two days, with all being handed over to the authorities as per reports submitted by the deputy commissioners to the Commissioner Karachi on Saturday.

Commissioner Karachi Syed Hassan Naqvi has said that efforts are being made to establish the rehabilitation centre to curb the begging.

According to a press release issued by Commissioner office, he said Deputy Commissioners have been directed to identify the places where they can be provided a place to live for rehabilitation. Citizens are facing difficulties due to professional beggars at traffic signals, intersections, and highways. He said.

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The PTI versus Yellow Vest Protests of France

During my tenure as Press Minister in France, I witnessed firsthand the chaos of the Yellow Vest movement, which erupted in November 2018. The protests, sparked by rising fuel taxes and economic grievances, quickly evolved into a larger anti-government movement. Every weekend, thousands of protesters wearing yellow vests swarmed Paris, particularly targeting the posh Champs-Élysées, where the Embassy of Pakistan was located. The protests frequently spiraled into violence, with vandals setting vehicles ablaze, smashing windows of luxury boutiques, looting high-end stores, and even targeting banks by pulling out ATMs.

This movement turned into a prolonged cat-and-mouse game between protesters and law enforcement, who often resorted to tear gas, water cannons, and mass arrests to contain the destruction. Over 200,000 people participated at the peak of the protests, causing over €200 million in damages in Paris alone. The movement severely impacted France's tourism industry, resulting in a 10% drop in bookings and a 30% decrease in tourist revenues during critical holiday seasons. The disruptions also tarnished France's global image, and its ranking in the Reporters Without Borders Press Freedom Index fell from its usual top 10 position to 33rd, the lowest in Europe at that time. The unrest not only challenged the government but also left lasting scars on the French economy and society.

PTI's consistent pressure on judicial matters has also played a role in reshaping

Pakistan's political landscape. Their protests against what they deem politically motivated cases have often rallied public support, placing the judiciary under intense public scrutiny. Legal challenges initiated by PTI have frequently led to delays or the invalidation of government actions, such as their intervention to challenge the amendments in the Supreme Court's powers and electoral laws.

In this context, PTI's protests have indirectly shaped the judicial narrative, even pushing the Supreme Court to review certain actions taken by the government. As a result, the judicial process has become an additional arena where the PTI has sought to counter what it sees as unconstitutional or undemocratic practices by the ruling coalition.

PTI's protest strategy, however, comes at a steep economic cost to the country. Disruptions caused by their protests—whether in major cities or on critical national routes—result in financial losses on a large scale. Businesses in cities like Islamabad, Lahore, and Karachi report up to a 30% drop in revenue on days when PTI's demonstrations are active. These losses, compounded over time, have taken a toll on businesses and employment.

Transport disruptions during protest days also create logistical nightmares, with goods stuck in transit and supply chains slowing down. This leads to price hikes for consumers and supply shortages in the market, further hurting the

economy.

The government's response to PTI's protests has added additional pressure on national resources. The frequent deployment of anti-riot forces, tear gas, and other crowd-control measures not only strains law enforcement but also the national budget. The costs of policing PTI's protests are substantial, with tear gas, fuel, and logistical expenses running into millions of rupees per protest day. According to estimates, the government allocates



Analysis

Qamar Bashir

a significant amount from its law-and-order budget to deal with PTI's frequent protests, leading to a drain on public resources that could be used elsewhere.

The law-and-order situation further deteriorates during protests as public property is often damaged, exacerbating the financial burden. PTI's protests have raised concerns about the government's ability to maintain control, tarnishing Pakistan's image abroad. This, in turn, leads to lower tourism rates and diminished foreign direct investment (FDI). Investors and tourists are deterred by the political instability, adding further pressure to an already struggling economy. Tourism in Pakistan, which had been gradually increasing, saw a decline due to these political uncertainties and unrest.

Ultimately, PTI's strategy, while effective in challenging the government on multiple fronts, leaves the average citizen grappling with the negative consequences. Business losses, reduced foreign investment, and diminished employment

opportunities are felt across the country. The wider economy suffers from these disruptions, and the trickle-down effects are evident in the loss of jobs and business closures.

The French government ended the Yellow Vest movement by key policy reversals, such as canceling the fuel tax hike and increasing the minimum wage, addressing immediate grievances, while Macron's "Grand National Debate" gave citizens a platform to voice concerns. Additional reforms, including tax cuts and support for rural areas, targeted underlying economic issues. Over time, the movement lost momentum due to internal divisions, public opinion shifts, and protest fatigue, allowing the government to de-escalate the crisis.

To defuse the PTI movement, the Pakistani government, judiciary, and parliament can learn from France's handling of the Yellow Vest protests by adopting a balanced approach. This includes initiating public dialogue to address grievances, such as electoral concerns, through transparent reforms and restoring election tribunals. While making reasonable concessions, such as ensuring fair electoral processes, the government must maintain strict law enforcement against violence, distinguishing between peaceful protesters and agitators. Additionally, fostering protest fatigue and addressing economic concerns through targeted reforms can shift public opinion and weaken the movement, helping to restore political stability.

The writer is Former Press Secretary to the President, Former Press Minister to the Embassy of Pakistan to France, Former MD, SRBC and CEO, ATV

Medical aid arrives in Beirut

As Lebanon endured another night of heavy Israeli bombing, UN humanitarian officials and partners described how people desperate to flee the violence found the country's main border crossing into Syria cut by a new dawn strike, forcing them to skirt "a huge crater" and rubble on foot, to reach the other side.

"There were two strikes and a huge crater was created in the no-man's land between the Syrian and the Lebanese side. It's very hard for vehicles still to go through this road," said Rula Amin, Senior Communications Advisor for the UN refugee agency, UNHCR, for the Middle East and North Africa.

Speaking from Amman, Ms Amin said that people at the Masnaa crossing were so "desperate to flee Lebanon that they walked actually through that destroyed road".

Hundreds of thousands of people have crossed into Syria via this route in the past 10 days, according to the UN International Organization for Migration (IOM).

"The conflict is intensifying," said Mathieu Luciano, IOM Head of Office in Lebanon. Speaking from Beirut, he said that between 21 September and 3 October, approximately 235,000 people had crossed into Syria overland, including 82,000 Lebanese and 152,000 Syrians.

Citing the Lebanese authorities, Luciano added that over the same period, 50,000 mainly Lebanese and 10,000 Syrians had flown out of Beirut airport and around 1,000 had fled by sea.

Around one million people are estimated to have been displaced in Lebanon since last October, amid intensifying exchanges of fire on either side of the UN-patrolled Blue Line that separates Lebanon and Israel, following the outbreak of war in Gaza.

IOM data indicates that as of October 2, nearly 400,000 were displaced in the last two weeks alone, amid ongoing Israeli military operations in Lebanon, including ground incursions in the south.

"Of these, more than 165,000 are living in 800 collective shelters across the country. These are schools, that the Government has urgently opened," said IOM's Mr. Luciano. "Of course, the numbers continue to rise, as heavy shelling continues to the south in the Beqaa [Valley], in Beirut and other regions."

Humanitarians said that there was particular concern for the plight of Lebanon's 180,000 migrant workers – many of whom are female domestic staff – who have been left destitute by the mass displacement.

"We are receiving increasing reports of migrant domestic workers being abandoned by their Lebanese employers; either left on the streets or in the homes as their employers flee... They come from Ethiopia, from Kenya, from Sri Lanka, Sudan, Bangladesh and the Philippines. And they too have been deeply affected by the violence in the country."

According to the Lebanese health authorities, Israeli ground and air strikes across Lebanon including southern Beirut killed 37 people in the last 24 hours, with another 151 wounded.



Cartoon by Amjad Rasmī. (Courtesy of Ashraf Al-Awsat)

'Future Trajectories of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: Scenarios and Challenges'

Sania Haroon

Predicting the future trajectories of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict involves analyzing various scenarios that could emerge based on current trends and evolving dynamics. Here's an exploration of possible future paths:

Continued Stalemate

The likelihood of a continued stalemate in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict remains high according to current geopolitical dynamics. The competing interests and veto powers of the UN's permanent members often compromise the effectiveness of the Security Council. Historically, the United States has shown unlimited support for Israel, creating a dynamic that has led to a lack of enforcement mechanisms and limited authority for effective intervention. As a result, the conflict will likely continue to experience repeated escalations in the future, marked by temporary cease-fires without any substantial progress toward a peaceful resolution. The complex positions of both sides and the absence of an effective international strategy suggest that the ongoing cycle of violence and temporary agreements will persist, with no substantial breakthrough on the horizon.

Regional Shifts and Peace Initiatives

Recent regional developments, such as the normalization agreements between Israel and several Arab states, initially provided hope for improved relations and new diplomatic opportunities. These developments, including the Abraham Accords, aimed to reduce Israel's isolation in the region and foster broader economic and political collaborations. However, the ongoing

conflict in Gaza has severely affected these positive trends, escalating regional tensions and undoing the progress made through these agreements.

A Saudi ambassador recently stated that his country would only normalize relations with Israel if a two-state solution were achieved between Israelis and Palestinians. This highlights the significant barrier to regional peace, given the UN's failure to enforce resolutions effectively in this conflict. Pakistan's representative to the UN has also criticized Israel, suggesting that Israel's increasing aggression is a consequence of the international community applying different rules to different countries. Similarly, South Africa has brought its case against Israel in the International Court of Justice, accusing it of committing genocide against Palestinians in Gaza.

Meanwhile, European states like Spain, Norway, and Iceland, while recognizing Israel, face escalating tensions. Despite these challenges, there is growing international recognition of the Palestinian cause. Increasing support for Palestinian statehood provides some hope for achieving a separate Palestinian land, but the current escalation in Gaza underscores the urgency for Israel to halt its military actions, which are exacerbating the humanitarian crisis and regional instability. Though the normalization agreements initially offered diplomatic and economic opportunities, the ongoing violence reduces the likelihood of maintaining peace in the region.

International Civil Society Movements

A growing involvement of international civil society and popular movements is playing a significant role in shaping future paths for the conflict. Campaigns such as Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) aim to pressure Israel through

economic and cultural means, influencing public opinion and international policies. These movements could impact the policies of countries and international organizations, compelling them to adjust their strategies. The rising global awareness and activism related to the conflict may force the UN and member states to reconsider their policies, though the impact of such movements depends on the responses of the involved parties.

Potential for a Two-State Solution

The goal of a two-state solution remains central for many international actors, including the UN. Current global support, protests, and public pressure on Israel signal hope for this solution. Numerous countries and organizations advocate for a meaningful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Public demonstrations and diplomatic efforts worldwide highlight a commitment to achieving this outcome.

This increased support is crucial in influencing international policy and pressuring both Israeli and Palestinian leaders to engage seriously in negotiations. The global consensus and activism offer new hope for establishing a two-state solution despite the ongoing challenges. However, significant obstacles persist, such as the expansion of Israeli settlements, political divisions among Palestinians, and the complex realities on the ground.

Discussions related to a one-state solution also continue, but this option faces opposition due to the difficulty of creating a single state with equal rights for all citizens amidst deep national and ideological divisions.

Writer is MPhil scholar at Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi

Honeytrap, Kacha Bandits and Police II

Zain ul Abideen Abid

These insiders keep the bandits informed about police operations, resulting in numerous police officers losing their lives during missions. The female journalist highlighted that citizens are being abducted through honey traps. Operating from the Kacha area, these bandits successfully demand ransoms. The Additional IG clarified the future course of action, stating that the police lack sufficient resources and will now conduct operations in the Kacha region alongside the military to eliminate no-go areas. He mentioned that they have closed off internal and external routes to the Kacha area, and positive results are already being observed.

WhatsApp Honey Trap Scam is new deceptive scheme exploits emotions to lure victims into a dangerous trap. It uses the popular messaging platform to exploit victims. They might initiate contact and build trust by acting friendly or flirtatious. Once trust is established, they might initiate video calls. During the call, they may try to trick you into compromising situations without your knowledge. Scammers secretly record compromising moments from the video call. They then threaten to expose these recordings to your friends, family or on social media unless you give them money or fulfil other demands.

How you can stay safe:- Be cautious of people you don't know online, especially if they approach you romantically.

- Avoid sharing personal details or engaging in intimate conversations with

strangers.

- Never engage in video calls where you might be tricked into compromising situations.

- If you become a target, don't give in to blackmail. Report the scam to WhatsApp and consider reaching out to law enforcement.

High ranked Police officers highlighted the significant challenge posed to law enforcement agencies by criminals who lure unsuspecting citizens into traps through deception and greed in the riverine areas of Sindh and Punjab. IG Sindh said that "honey trap" in katcha areas of Sindh and Punjab is a big challenge for the government institutions. Dacoits in the katcha areas lure citizens from all over the country with marriage proposals, easy money, cheap car, job, business and other things through social media. He has directed to create a mechanism for continuous communication with the families of the abductees.

The Punjab Police is working against the honey trap gang. This year, the Lahore Police successfully arrested a mastermind from Peshawar in July. Jul 24, 2024. Layyah city police busted a honey-trap gang, registered a case against its six members and arrested its woman member. The case was registered under sections 384, 355, 292, 342, 379, 148 and 149 of Pakistan Penal Code against the gangsters who were involved in honey traps, extortion and blackmailing. Complainant Abdul Aziz, a businessman dealing in tractors and machinery.

Writer is senior analyst. He can be reached at zakhanmultan@yahoo.com

Kazakhstan Celebrates Teachers' Day

News Desk

ASTANA: President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev congratulated teachers on their professional holiday, expressing gratitude for their significant role in shaping society by educating the younger generation on Oct. 5.

President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev congratulated teachers on their professional holiday, which is celebrated in Kazakhstan on Oct. 5. Photo credit: akorda.kz

"We must honor teachers who play an important role in our society. Because by teaching children you lay the foundation of the future of our state and make a great contribution to the development of Kazakhstan. Your tireless efforts deserve special respect and appreciation," said Tokayev in his congratulatory speech.

The newly established Honored teacher of Kazakhstan title has been awarded to 46 teachers across the country.

"Upon my instruction, a special law 'On the Status of the Teacher' was adopted to protect the rights and legitimate interests of teachers. The salaries of teachers and educators have been increased significantly. They are also exempted from all additional work that is not part of their direct duties," said Tokayev.

President Tokayev also outlined the government's systemic measures to improve the quality of education in



the country, as well as the harmonious and comprehensive development of children.

"Within the scope of the 'Comfortable School' national project, 217 new schools are planned to be built next year, where over 460,000 children will study. These will be advanced educational institutions equipped with the most modern requirements. They will

also have a barrier-free environment for children with special needs. This large-scale project will make it possible to solve the problem of three-shift education and reduce the gap between the quality of education in urban and rural schools," said Tokayev.

"Much attention is paid to the digitalization of the educational process. Comprehensive work is being carried

out to connect all schools to high-speed internet. Great importance is attached to supplementary education, which is planned to cover more than three million people," he added.

In 2024, Kazakh schoolchildren have won over 360 medals at international Olympiads. "This, too, is the result of the dedication and professionalism of our teachers," said Tokayev.

Iran FM renews call for Gaza, Lebanon ceasefires on Syria visit

AFP

TEHRAN: Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi renewed his call for ceasefires in both Gaza and Lebanon on Saturday as he held talks with his country's Syrian ally.

"The most important issue today is the ceasefire, especially in Lebanon and in Gaza," he told reporters.

"There are initiatives in this regard, there have been consultations that we hope will be successful."

Araghchi's visit to Damascus, his first since he took office in August, comes almost a year after Iran-backed Palestinian militant group Hamas attacked Israel, triggering war in Gaza.



drawn in Iran's Lebanese ally, Hezbollah and on September 23 Israel sharply intensified its campaign against the militant group. "The purpose of my trip to Damascus is to continue consultations regarding the developments in the region,"

Araghchi said.

His meetings in the Syrian capital follow a visit to Beirut Friday during which he voiced support for a truce in Lebanon acceptable to Hezbollah "simultaneously with a ceasefire in Gaza".

Araghchi travelled to Damascus by air after Lebanon said an Israeli air strike on Friday severed the main international highway linking the two countries.

Israel said its strike was aimed at preventing the flow of weapons to Hezbollah from neighbouring Syria.

Iran has been a staunch ally of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad throughout the civil war that erupted in 2011 following the suppression of anti-government protests.

Israeli strike hits north Lebanon as raids pummel Beirut suburbs

Reuters

BEIRUT/JERUSALEM: An Israeli strike hit Lebanon's northern city of Tripoli for the first time early on Saturday, a Lebanese security source said, after more bombardment hit Beirut's suburbs and Israeli troops sought to make new ground incursions into southern Lebanon.

The source told Reuters a Hamas official, his wife and two children were killed in the strike on a Palestinian refugee camp in Tripoli. Hamas-affiliated media said the strike killed a leader of the group's armed wing.

The Israeli military did not immediately comment on the strike on Tripoli, a Sunni-majority port city.

Israel army struck Hezbollah fighters inside mosque

The Israeli military said Saturday its forces struck Hezbollah fighters inside a south Lebanon mosque overnight, the first such strike since clashes erupted between Israel and the militants last year.

"Overnight, with the direction of IDF (army) intelligence, the IAF (air force) struck Hezbollah terrorists who were operating within a command center that was located inside a mosque adjacent to the Salah Ghandour Hospital in southern Lebanon," the military said in a statement.

"The command center was used by the Hezbollah terrorists to plan and execute terrorist attacks against IDF troops and the state of Israel."

Israel has sharply expanded its strikes on Lebanon in recent weeks after nearly a year of exchanging fire with Lebanon's Iran-backed armed group Hezbollah. Fighting had been mostly limited to the Israel-Lebanon border area, taking place in parallel to Israel's year-old war in Gaza against Hamas.

Israel has been carrying out nightly bombardment of Beirut's once densely populated southern suburbs, a stronghold of Hezbollah. Overnight, a military spokesman issued three alerts for

residents there to evacuate, and Reuters witnesses then heard at least one blast.

On Friday, Israel said it had targeted Hezbollah's intelligence headquarters in the southern suburbs and was assessing the damage after a series of strikes on senior figures in the group.

Israel has eliminated much of Hezbollah's senior military leadership, including Secretary General Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah in an air attack on Sept. 27.

Lebanon's government says more than 2,000 people have been killed there in the past year, most in the past two weeks. Strikes on medical teams and facilities, including the Lebanese Red Cross, Lebanese public hospitals and rescue workers affiliated to



Hezbollah, have also increased.

Lebanon's government says more than 1.2 million Lebanese have been forced from their homes, and the United Nations says most displacement shelters in the country are full. Many had gone north to Tripoli or to neighboring Syria, but an Israeli strike on Friday closed the main border crossing between Lebanon and Syria.

UN spokesperson Stephane Dujarric called the toll on Lebanese civilians "totally unacceptable."

Iran defiant, Israel weighs options

Israel has been weighing options in

its response to Iran's ballistic missile attack on Tuesday.

Oil prices have risen on the possibility of an attack on Iran's oil facilities as Israel pursues its goals of pushing back Hezbollah militants in Lebanon and eliminating their Hamas allies, also backed by Tehran, in Gaza.

US President Joe Biden on Friday urged Israel to consider alternatives to striking Iranian oil fields, adding that he thinks Israel has not yet concluded how to respond to Iran.

Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, in a rare appearance leading Friday prayers, told a huge crowd in Tehran that Iran and its regional allies would not back down.

Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas

The latest bloodletting in the decades-old Israeli-Palestinian conflict was triggered by the Palestinian Hamas group's attack on Oct. 7, 2023, that killed 1,200 and in which about 250 were taken as hostages, according to Israeli tallies.

Israel's subsequent assault on Gaza has killed over 41,000 Palestinians, according to Gaza's health ministry, and displaced nearly all of Gaza's population.

Ground operations

The Lebanese government has accused Israel of targeting civilians, pointing to dozens of women and children killed. It has not broken its total death toll down between civilians and Hezbollah fighters.

Israel says it targets military capabilities and takes steps to mitigate the risk of harm to civilians. It accuses Hezbollah and Hamas of hiding among civilians, which they deny.

Israel, which began ground operations targeting southern Lebanon this week, says they are focussed on villages near the border and has said Beirut "was not on the table," but has not specified how long the ground incursion would last.

It says the operations aim to allow tens of thousands of its citizens to return home after Hezbollah bombardments, which began on Oct. 8, 2023, forced them to evacuate from its north.

Iran's missile salvo was partly in retaliation for Israel's killing of Nasrallah, a dominant figure who had turned the group into a powerful armed and political force with reach across the Middle East.

Axios cited three Israeli officials as saying that Hashem Safieddine, rumored to be Nasrallah's successor, had been targeted in an underground bunker in Beirut on Thursday night, but his fate was not clear.

Israeli Foreign Minister Israel Katz posted a photo of Safieddine and Nasrallah on X on Saturday and urged Khamenei to "take your proxies and leave Lebanon."

Emirates bans pagers, walkie-talkies onboard after Lebanon blasts



AFP

DUBAI: Emirates said that "such items found in passengers' hand luggage or checked baggage will be confiscated by Dubai Police."

Dubai: Dubai-based airline Emirates has banned pagers and walkie-talkies onboard its planes following sabotage attacks in Lebanon, and extended flight cancellations for Middle East destinations due to regional escalation.

"All Passengers traveling on flights to, from or via Dubai are prohibited from transporting pagers and walkie-talkies in checked or cabin baggage," the carrier said, weeks after a wave of exploding communication devices used by the Iran-backed Hezbollah group, which blamed Israel for the attacks.

In a statement posted on its website on Friday, Emirates said that "such items found in passengers' hand luggage or checked baggage will be confiscated by Dubai Police."

The blasts last month killed at least 37 people and wounded nearly 3,000 across Lebanon.

Emirates, the Middle East's biggest airline, also announced that its Iraq and Iran routes will remain suspended until Tuesday.

The cancellations were first announced in the wake of a major Iranian attack on Israel this week that saw missiles flying over Iraq and Iran.

Emirates said its flights to Jordan, which were also suspended, would resume on Sunday.

Flights to and from Lebanon will remain suspended until October 15, Emirates said, as Israel steps up attacks on the country, including parts of the capital near its only airport.

Several other carriers have also put some services to and from Beirut and other Middle East airports on hold.

Joe Biden's major prediction about US election



WASHINGTON: President Joe Biden said Friday he was not confident the US election in November would be peaceful, citing incendiary comments by Republican contender Donald Trump, who still rejects his 2020 defeat.

Biden's warning came with lawmakers and analysts voicing concern over increasingly bellicose campaign language ahead of the vote, AFP reported.

Trump — who survived an assassination bid in July and another apparent plot in September — alleged widespread fraud after his defeat to Biden in 2020, and pro-Trump rioters rioted up by his false claims ransacked the Capitol.

"I'm confident it will be free and fair. I don't know whether it will be peaceful," Biden told reporters as he discussed the election.

"The things that Trump has said and the things that he said last time out when he didn't like the outcome of the election were very dangerous."

Trump was impeached in 2021 for inciting the insurrection after hundreds of his supporters — exorted by the defeated Republican to "fight like hell" — battered police as they smashed windows at the Capitol and broke through doors.

He has been indicted over what prosecutors allege was a "private criminal effort" to subvert the election that culminated in the violence. "When all else had failed," the indictment reads, Trump directed an "angry crowd" to disrupt the certification of the vote.

Trump — who is due to return to the venue of his first assassination bid in Butler, Pennsylvania this weekend — has long been assailed over his violent rhetoric.

Biden joined the criticism during the first appearance of his presidency in the White House briefing room to tout the Democrats' economic achievements as his vice president Kamala Harris prepares to take on Trump.

Trump was due to campaign Friday in Georgia, a swing state narrowly claimed by Biden four years ago but won by Trump in 2016 — and one of the biggest prizes of the 2024 election map.

Russia decides 'at highest level' to remove Afghan Taliban from terrorist list

Russia's Foreign Ministry said on Friday that a decision to remove the Afghan Taliban from a list of terrorist organisations had been "taken at the highest level", the state TASS news agency reported.

The decision needs to be followed up with various legal procedures in order to make it a reality, President Vladimir Putin's special representative on Afghanistan, Zamir Kabulov, was quoted as saying.

Putin said in July that Russia considered Afghanistan's Taliban movement an ally in the fight against terrorism.

Russia has been slowly building ties with the Taliban since it seized power in Afghanistan in August 2021 as US-led forces withdrew after 20 years of war but the movement is still officially outlawed in Russia.

No country has formally recognised the Taliban-led government as the country's legitimate leadership, although China and the UAE have accepted its ambassadors.

Russia added the Afghan Taliban to its list of terrorist organisations in 2003. Removing it would be an important step by Moscow towards normalising relations with Afghanistan.

The Taliban's acting foreign minister Amir Khan Muttaqi said in a speech in Moscow that recent decisions by Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan to remove the former insurgents from a list of banned groups was a welcome step. "We also appreciate the positive remarks by the high-ranking officials of the Russian Federation in this regard and hope to see more effective steps soon," he said.

In separate comments on Friday, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said Moscow was convinced of the need to maintain "pragmatic dialogue" with the current Afghan government.

"It is obvious that it is impossible to solve problems or even discuss an Afghan settlement without Kabul," Lavrov said.

"Moscow will continue its course on developing political, trade and economic ties with Kabul," he added, speaking at a meeting in Moscow with Muttaqi and representatives of neighbouring countries.

Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close	
83,531.95	82,721.76	
Day's High	Day's Low	
83,605.72	82,594.79	
Index Value	Change	
173,692,831	+810.19	
Percentage	Time	
+0.98%	4 Oct, 2024 5:00 pm	
Europe: FTSE 100 Index		
Index Value	Change	
8,280.63	-1.89	
Percentage	Time	
-0.023%	4 Oct, 4:35 pm GMT+1	
USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average		
Index Value	Change	
42,204.40	+192.81	
Percentage	Time	
+0.46%	4 Oct, 1:16 pm GMT-4	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		
Index Value	Change	
38,635.62	+83.56	
Percentage	Time	
+0.22%	4 Oct, 3:15 pm GMT+9	
Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	190.6	192.85
Bahrain Dinar	733.18	741.18
Canadian Dollar	205.5	207.9
China Yuan	39.6	40.00
Danish Krone	41.12	41.52
Euro	305.07	307.82
Hong Kong Dollar	35.65	36
Indian Rupee	3.34	3.45
Japanese Yen	1.92	1.98
Kuwaiti Dinar	899.85	909.35
Malaysian Ringgit	63.6	64.2
New Zealand \$	174.21	176.21
Norwegians Krone	26.26	26.56
Omani Riyal	717.63	726.13
Qatari Riyal	76.24	76.94
Saudi Riyal	73.75	74.3
Singapore Dollar	215	217
Swedish Korona	27.15	27.46
Swiss Franc	327	328.9
Thai Bhat	8.56	8.71
U.A.E Dirham	75.45	76.10
UK Pound Sterling	365.3	368.8
US Dollar	278.3	278.8

FPCCI demands Sindh Police to nominate focal person for business safety

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: Mr. Atif Ikram Sheikh, President FPCCI, has apprised that Mr. Ghulam Nabi Memon, Inspector General of the Sindh Police, has agreed to the principled demand of FPCCI to nominate a focal person from business community over law & order; in order to facilitate and protect economic activities and investments in the province.

It is pertinent to note that the IG Sindh, Mr. Ghulam Nabi Memon, paid a detailed visit to the apex body's head office in Federation House, Karachi - along with top officers of the force. The purpose of the engagement was to forge the liaison with the business community; give them the a sense of security and answer their apprehensions vis-à-vis law & order.

Mr. Atif Ikram Sheikh demanded that safe city project for Karachi needs to be expedited to address the burning issue of street crimes and bring Karachi at par with other economically-significant cities of the world; where domestic and international investors feel secure to establish industries.

Mr. Saquib Fayyaz Magoon, SVP FPCCI, maintained that Karachi, as a matter of fact, is safer than many other cities of the world; but, it is unfortunately a victim of negative



publicity. Therefore, he proposed, Sindh Police and FPCCI should jointly organize a seminar to project the soft, business-friendly and progressive face of the city to the world.

Mian Zahid Hussain, Chairman of FPCCI's Policy Advisory Board (FPCCI-PAB), informed

that FPCCI is conducting research on district economies of all major districts; aimed at exploring the economic, investment, commercial and export potential of the same. He proposed that the Sindh Police can connect an officer of the force in each district with

FPCCI-PAB to help carry out the research. Mr. Ahmed Chinoy, former CPLC Chief, elaborated that the police constables discharge their duties without proper protective gear, transportation facilities and other basic human necessities; hence, it is unfair and impractical to expect them to demonstrate their top performance in those circumstances.

Mr. Khalid Tawab, former SVP FPCCI, highlighted that citizen police liaison committee (CPLC) is not as active like it has been or it should be. Additionally, the restriction on Chinese investors to have a bullet-proof vehicle before leaving the city causes delays as the same are not readily available in the required numbers.

Mr. Ghulam Nabi Memon has invited President FPCCI and his delegation to the police headquarters to present them the statistics on crimes; technology adoption measures and avenues for cooperation between police and the business community.

The event also saw the certificate distribution by the hands of IG Sindh, President FPCCI and Mr. S. M. Tanverri, patron-in-chief UBG, to acknowledge the members of the trading community; who have played pivotal role in liaison with the law enforcement and cooperation in maintaining law & order.

Souvenir

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh is presenting souvenir to representative of Malaysian Company on Saturday.



Photo: Online

Maintenance and Shared Expenses

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: As a resident flat owner in Pakistan, you have a vested interest in the well-being and management of your apartment complex. Understanding your rights and responsibilities is crucial to ensuring that your living environment is safe, enjoyable, and equitable. This comprehensive guide will provide you with valuable information on your legal standing and how to protect your interests.

Right to be informed
Apartment owners have the right to be informed about all expenses incurred by the building management, including maintenance costs, utility bills, and other charges.

The management must provide a detailed breakdown of expenses and receipts to justify the charges.

Right to participate in decision-making
Apartment owners may have the right to participate in decision-making regarding

the building's management, including the approval of budgets and maintenance plans.

This participation can be through a body like an owners' association or committee.

Right to challenge unreasonable charges
Apartment owners have the right to challenge any unreasonable or excessive charges imposed by the building management.

If an owner believes that a charge is unfair, they can dispute it through the appropriate channels, such as the owners' association or legal recourse.

Right to fair allocation of expenses
Expenses should be allocated fairly among all apartment owners based on their share of the building's common areas and services.

This means that owners of larger units or those with more amenities may be expected to pay a higher share of the expenses.

Right to a well-maintained building

Apartment owners have the right to expect that the building will be well-maintained, and that necessary repairs and maintenance will be carried out in a timely manner.

The management is responsible for ensuring that the building is safe and habitable for all residents.

Protect Your Rights as a Resident Apartment Owner in Pakistan: Navigating Maintenance Fee Disputes

Tips for Protecting Your Rights
Familiarize Yourself with the Bylaws: Understand the specific rules and regulations governing your apartment complex.

Document Everything: Keep records of all communications, meetings, and financial transactions related to the complex.

Communicate Effectively: Address concerns promptly and professionally with the management.

Seek Legal Advice: If you encounter significant issues, consult with a legal professional.

inDrive Partners with Rescue 1122 Sindh to Revolutionize Driver Safety Training

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: inDrive, a leading ride-hailing platform of Pakistan, is proud to announce a transformative partnership with Rescue 1122 Sindh aimed at providing inDrive drivers with internationally recognized safety and emergency training. This initiative underscores inDrive's commitment to ensuring that its drivers are equipped with the skills to offer the safest ride-hailing experience in Pakistan, while also promoting customer trust and safety.

Sidra Kiran, PR Manager of inDrive, commented on this collaboration "Our partnership with

Rescue 1122 Sindh marks a pivotal moment in our mission to redefine safety standards in ride-hailing. By equipping our drivers with the skills they need to excel, we are not just enhancing their professionalism; we are ensuring both the safety of our passengers and the well-being of our drivers.

Ms. Rehana Yasmeen-Training wing Lead at Rescue 1122 stated; "Our partnership with inDrive reflects our shared commitment to ensuring public safety, both on the road and during ride-hailing experiences. By providing drivers with comprehensive training in road safety, first aid, and emergency response,



Mr. Hassaan-Spokesperson, Rescue 1122 added; "This collaboration is a significant step in creating

a safer environment for everyone, ensuring that trained drivers can act as first responders in critical

Asif Computers launched Pakistan's First HP Flagship Store

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Asif Computers is thrilled to announce the grand opening of Pakistan's very first HP Flagship Store, set to redefine the shopping experience for technology enthusiasts and everyday users alike. This landmark store served as a one-stop destination for cutting-edge HP products and solutions, catering to a diverse range of customer needs.

The launch was attended by Asif computer's group management Mr. Asif Ashfaq, Mr. Amir Ashfaq, director sales M. ALI Hashmi, President Chamber of Commerce Mr. Abuzar

Shaad. During the grand opening event, visitors had the opportunity to explore live demonstrations of HP products, special product displays, and exclusive offers that will not be available elsewhere.

"We are excited to bring Pakistan's first HP Flagship Store to life," said Asif Ashfaq, CEO of Asif Computers. "This store embodies our commitment to innovation and customer satisfaction. We want to create an environment where customers can explore and experience the latest technology in a way that is both engaging and informative," added by Mr. Asif Ashfaq.

Pakistani rupee gains strength as IMF loan eases pressure

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: After receiving the first tranche from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Pakistani rupee (PKR) showed signs of recovery against the US Dollar.

According to the weekly report from the currency market, the Pakistani rupee (PKR) strengthened against the USD following the approval and receiving of the first tranche of the IMF loan, amounting to \$1.02 billion.

During the week, the US dollar dropped by 12 paise, closing at Rs 277.52 in the interbank trade, while in the open market, it fell by

31 paise, bringing it below Rs 280.

The euro also declined by Rs 3.89, closing at Rs 307.22, and the British pound fell by Rs 6.51 to Rs 366.71, while the UAE dirham stood at Rs 76.08 while the Saudi Riyal remained unchanged at Rs 74.28.

The State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) reported an increase in reserves following the first IMF loan tranche of \$1.02 billion.

The country's total reserves surged to \$15.98 billion, the highest since 24 June 2022, while the central bank's reserves rose to \$10.7 billion, their highest since April 2022.

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: The Ferozepur Road Industrial Association (FRIA) Senior Vice Chairman Shahbaz Aslam has greeted newly-elected office-bearers of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry and PPPA's landslide victory in the LCCI elections, hoping the new leadership would safeguard interests of business community. He said the LCCI body would continue to raise voice for the solution of business community's problems. He said that our all candidates, after the hot contest with rivals, clinched all seats, as our candidates were highly qualified, young and dedicated enjoying the highest degree of integrity. He congratulated the newly-elected LCCI President Mian Abuzar Shad, Senior Vice President Khalid Usman and Vice-President Shahid Nazir, saying the PPP Alliance victory with a thumping majority is an endorsement of the economic policies of the Alliance.

Shahbaz Aslam said that the number of votes cast in favour of the PPP Alliance is enough to prove that the business community has always been with the Alliance, adding this was the biggest victory by the Alliance. He paid rich tributes to the leadership Mian Anjum Nisar for putting in their all energies to ensure a comfortable victory. He said that all efforts would be made to facilitate the members of LCCI for smooth functioning of their businesses.

England Cricket Board announces names for First Test Match against Pakistan

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: England Men have confirmed their XI for the first Test against Pakistan, set to commence on Monday in Multan For First Match Played at Multan Cricket Stadium on 7th October

Durham seamer Brydon Carse will be making his Test debut.

With England Captain Ben Stokes still recovering from a hamstring tear, Ollie Pope will captain the side in his absence.

Somerset spinner Jack Leach makes a return to the Test set-up for the first time since the India tour in January, while Kent opening bat Zak Crawley rejoins the team after fully recovering from a broken finger sustained during the summer.

England's XI for the first Test:

1. Zak Crawley
2. Ben Duckett
3. Ollie Pope (C)
4. Joe Root
5. Harry Brook
6. Jamie Smith
7. Chris Woakes
8. Gus Atkinson
9. Brydon Carse (Debut)
10. Jack Leach
11. Shoaib Bashir



Djokovic 'shakes rust off' to make third round of Shanghai Masters

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Novak Djokovic said it took time to "get the rust off" as he fought through two tiebreaks to make his way into the third round of the Shanghai Masters on Saturday.

The Serbian beat American Alex Michelsen in a thrilling two-set match that finished 7-6 (7/3), 7-6 (11/9).

Meanwhile, Jannik Sinner and Carlos Alcaraz showed why they were top in the world as they raced through to the next stage with confident straight-set wins.

Sinner dispatched Japan's Taro Daniel 6-1, 6-4, while Alcaraz made short work of China's Shang Juncheng, winning 6-2, 6-2.

Four-time Shanghai champion Djokovic did not have it quite so easy against 43rd-ranked Michelsen.

Introduced as the "Greatest Of All Time" as he walked onto the court, he received a rapturous welcome from the packed stadium.



But Michelsen started the first set strongly, breaking Djokovic early and going 1-4 up -- to the displeasure of the crowd, fully behind the 37-year-old former world number one.

To their delight, the Serbian levelled, and then hit his stride in the tiebreak, winning it 7-3.

The reverse happened in the second set when it was 20-year-old Michelsen's turn to catch up to take it to the tiebreak.

The crowd, already in a frenzy after Novak Djokovic spoke Mandarin at the end of the match, went wild as he showed off a new trick -- attempting a sentence in the Shanghaiese vernacular.

World number one Sinner has said he is not in a "comfortable" situation thanks to a World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) appeal against a decision by tennis authorities to clear him of wrongdoing after he twice tested positive for a steroid in March.

His recent blistering winning streak was broken by Alcaraz in the China Open final on Wednesday.

But there was no tiredness on display from either player on Saturday, with 23-year-old Sinner looking completely unruffled in the first set against the 93rd-ranked Daniel.

Daniel fell behind again in the second set and despite rallying halfway through to gently test Sinner, the Italian kept his cool, ending the set 6-4.

Sinner will face Argentina's Tomas Martin Etcheverry on Sunday.

"It will be a tough one tomorrow, very physical, because me and Tomas know each other quite well now," he said.

Muhammad Waseem knocks out Jaba Memishishi in Bantamweight ranking bout

Latest achievement adds to Waseem's 13th professional victory, with nine of those coming by knockout

Pakistan's star boxer Muhammad Waseem Saturday knocked out Georgian boxer Jaba Memishishi in the World Bodybuilding Federation (WBF) Bantamweight ranking bout to achieve another milestone in Malta.

The 34-year-old stunned his opponent in the third round of the competition.

This adds to Waseem's 13th professional victory, with nine of those coming by knockout.

In addition, his professional boxing record now stands at 13-2 from a total of 15 bouts.

Previously, the boxer faced a refusal for a visa from Denmark. In regard to this, the two-time WBC silver champion expressed his disappointment in an interview with a local news channel.



"I have been a world champion twice, and they rejected my visa, claiming I would disappear if I went there. I travel all over the world and was training with my coaches in London. I needed to arrive in Malta early to prepare for the upcoming world title fight," he said.

Earlier in August, the "falcon" was hopeful for success against his opponent Sabelo, and he proved that.

He stated: "I am hopeful for success against my opponent. The world title fight is very important to me, and I do not want to miss this opportunity," Waseem added, urging the Pakistani government, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, and the army chief to intervene and help secure his visa.

England edge spirited Bangladesh in Women's T20 World Cup campaign opener

A Sports

SHARJAH: Danni Wyatt-Hodge's anchoring knock, followed by a combined bowling effort steered England to a 21-run victory over Bangladesh in the sixth match of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024 here at Sharjah Cricket Stadium on Saturday.

Set to chase 119, Bangladesh only managed 97 runs for the loss of seven wickets in their quota of 20 overs despite Sobhana Mostary's 44-run knock.

Bangladesh had a shaky start to the pursuit as Shathi Rani and Dilara Akter perished inside

five overs with the scoreboard reading 17/2.

Skipper Nigar Sultana and Sobhana Mostary then tried to settle things down with a cautious 35-run partnership, culminating with the former's dismissal in the 12th over.

Sultana made 15 off 20 deliveries with the help of two boundaries.

Her dismissal sparked a collapse as Bangladesh kept losing wickets at regular intervals, while Mostary ticked the scoreboard singlehandedly until finally walking back to the dugout in the penultimate over.

She remained the top-scorer for Bangladesh with a gutsy 44

off 48 balls, laced up with one six and a four.

Charlie Dean and Linsey Smith bagged two wickets each for England while Nat Sciver-Brunt and Sarah Glenn struck out one batter apiece.

Opting to bat first, former champions England got off to a flying start to their innings as openers Maia Bouchier and Danni Wyatt-Hodge dominated Bangladesh bowlers in the batting powerplay, which yielded 47 runs.

England were on course to amass a big total but Rabeya Khan, bowling her first over, provided Bangladesh with a massive breakthrough in the

form of Bouchier.

Bouchier scored a brisk 23 off 18 deliveries with the help of three fours.

England suffered another blow when Nat Sciver-Brunt (2) was trapped lbw by Fahima Khatun with the scoreboard reading 53/2 in eight overs.

Skipper Heather Knight then put together a cautious 20-run partnership for the third wicket with Wyatt-Hodge before both perished in quick succession, reducing England to 76/4 in 12.1 overs.

Knight made six off seven balls, while Wyatt-Hodge remained the top-scorer for England with a 40-ball 41, laced



up with five fours.

The back-to-back dismissals jolted England's batting expedition and the former champions went into a defensive mode.

The cautious approach did not benefit England much as they

Pakistan Cricket Team is the Best Team: Joy Root



Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: English Star batsman Joy Root, who holds the record for scoring the most centuries for England with 34 Addressing to the Press Conference in Multan Cricket Stadium He said that the weather in Multan is hot and nice But we are trying to play in it. The environment is getting better and better.

He was addressing a media conference at Multan Cricket Stadium. Root has said that Pakistan cricket team is the best team. We certainly swept them last time but we don't take anyone easy. It will be a good competition. Our fast bowling attack is a little less experienced but still we are winning the Chiefs in our country.

Our spirits are high. In response to a question, he said that both spin and fast conditions can be here. We are ready for it. In response to another question, he said that the record is far off.

I thought nothing of breaking it. About Alastair Cook's record, he said, "It is an honor for him or me. There is one thing." In response to another question, whether Ben Stokes will play or not. Joe Root said I am not the captain. It has yet to be decided. He trained hard, polled for fielding and batting. We are watching. See what happens.

Shaheen Shah Afridi is fully fit: Saud Shakeel

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Pakistan vice-captain Saud Shakeel has said that we do not play to copy England's baseball or any team, we play our game. We will play according to the situation.

In the press conference at Multan Cricket Stadium, he has said that the pitch will be as it is. Haven't seen it yet. One day in between. Maybe it's a grassy pitch, maybe less. Tomorrow will know.

I think it becomes our responsibility that when you play like this, you also have to deliver there. We are near. We also hear talk of grouping, there is nothing like that

The atmosphere in the team is good, everyone is enjoying themselves. The final eleven is chosen by the captain. Shaheen is fully fit. We never decided whether to play like this or not. The captain has a heavy workload.

In response to another question, Saud Shakeel has said that it is true that we have not won in Pakistan for 3 years but efforts have been made for it. We lost in Multan by a small margin. There is no pressure on anyone.

National fastest competition on Oct 8

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: The 1st Superior national fastest men and women competition will be held on October 8, at Punjab Stadium, Lahore.



According to President, Athletics Federation of Pakistan, Brig. Wajahat Hussain (R) all men and women players from all over the country will take part in the mega event.

The invitation letter has already been issued to the affiliated units, including departments, provincial and regional associations.

He said the cash prizes will be awarded to winner men and women athletes including 1st prize Rs 100,000, 2nd prize Rs 50,000, 3rd prize Rs 25,000 and 4 to 8 position holders Rs 10,000 each.

All interested players who can take part in the competition, and can register their name by October 5. All athletes will report at Punjab Stadium, on October 8 at 9am to Rafique Ahmad, President, National Coaching Association and Ch. Asghar Ali Gill, Head Coach, Athletics Federation of Pakistan, for registration and scrutiny of documents.

This mega event will be held under supervision of Athletics Federation of Pakistan and in collaboration with Superior University, Lahore.

kept losing wickets at regular intervals and were eventually curtailed to 118/7.

For Bangladesh, Nahida Akter, Ritu Moni and Fahima Khatun bagged two wickets each while Rabeya Khan made one

scalp. Hosts Bangladesh are at the top of Group B standings of the Women's T20 World Cup 2024 with two points in one match while England are playing their first match of the tournament.

Patrolling

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Army troops patrolling in the Federal Capital, ahead of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit and several high-profile visits later this month in the wake of the protest calls given by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI).



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Military troops patrol in Islamabad, take charge of security

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: The military troops patrolling in Islamabad's Red Zone and other areas after the interior ministry notified deployment of troops for security in the federal capital city.

The Ministry of Interior has issued military deployment orders under Article 245 of the constitution in aid of civil authority from 5th to 17th October 2024.

The military has been called in for maintaining law and order situation with respect to 23rd meeting of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Council of Heads of Government meeting and visits of VVIP dele-

gations for the said session.

The military would have all policing powers to tackle a tense situation, and the local commander will act in coordination with the federal police.

The military would have powers to act against miscreants and arrest them. It could exercise baton charge and teargas shelling against protesters with minimum use of force, according to the government circular.

The military will act over reports about presence of miscreants or any other threat. "Perpetrators can be arrested in absence of the police force," the circular read. The army has been deployed in addition to the paramilitary Rangers and Frontier Constabulary personnel.

Gillani expresses deep Grief over martyrdom of soldiers in North Waziristan operation

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Senate, Syed Yousuf Raza Gillani, on Saturday, expressed profound sorrow over the martyrdom of Pakistan Army personnel, including a Lieutenant Colonel, during an operation in North Waziristan.

In a statement, the Chairman said the nation is immensely proud of the brave soldiers of the Pakistan Army who are sacrificing their lives in the service of the country.

He acknowledged their pivotal role in making the country's defense invincible.

"Our Army and the nation stand united in the fight against terrorism. The Pakistan Army is conducting operations with a well-structured strategy to eliminate this menace," he remarked.



He further highlighted the Army's unparalleled sacrifices in the war against terrorism, emphasizing that the entire nation is standing shoulder-to-shoulder with its armed forces in this ongoing battle.

He praised the dedication and valour of the soldiers, stating that their sacrifices ensure the safety and security of Pakistan.

Lt Col, five soldiers martyred in North Waziristan gun battle: ISPR

Spokesman Report

The funeral prayers of martyred Army soldiers has been offered in Peshawar Garrison on Saturday.

The bodies were shifted to their hometowns where they will be laid to rest with military protocols.

Chief of Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir, servicemen and civil officials participated in the funeral prayers. COAS, while paying tribute to their sacrifices for the country, said that their sacrifices has further strengthened the morale of the Army Jawans and they will continue their fight against Khawarij until they are wipe out from the country.



According to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) of the armed forces, six terrorists were killed in an exchange of fire with the security forces in North Waziristan. Lt Col Muhammad Ali Shaukat was also martyred as well as five other soldiers in the clash.

According to the spokesman of the Pakistan Army, Lieutenant Colonel Shaukat belonged to Faisalabad district. The other martyred soldiers included Lance Naik Muhammadullah of Khyber district, Lance Naik Akhtar Zaman was resident of Lakki Marwat, Lance Naik Shahidullah of Tank, Lance Naik Yousuf Ali was resident of Orakzai district and Sepoy Jameel belonged to Swat.

Khawaja Asif slams PTI for prioritising power over national interests

Bureau Report

SLAKOT: Federal Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif strongly criticised Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leaders on Saturday, asserting that their desire for power had eclipsed their commitment to the nation.

Addressing a press conference at his residence in Sialkot Cantonment area, he asserted that the loyalty of PTI and its leader, Imran Khan, lies solely in maintaining authority rather than serving Pakistan's interests.

He said the pattern of behaviour from the PTI was continuing since 2014 when their protests had delayed the visit of the Chinese President and initiation of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). He said similar behaviour was being shown by the PTI leaders today, when the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit was round the corner, and the party was all out to undermine Pakistan's international standing.

The defence minister raised



concerns about the involvement of armed groups, including hundreds of Afghans, during PTI's protests. He accused the PTI of hindering Pakistan's development through their

demonstrations, stating, "PTI's protests have always sought to obstruct Pakistan's progress." He raised an alarm at the identification of some protestors as potentially linked to a banned militant group.

To a question, he said that the PTI seeks to create chaos and violence. He praised the Punjab police for their resilience in handling the situation, stressing that the armed groups being brought in did not represent the values of Pakistan.

To another query, he

remarked that the KP chief minister had crossed all limits, making it impossible to rule out any response. The PTI had already exploited the province and was now wasting resources in their assaults, which he labeled as acts against the nation. MPAs Muhammad Manshaullah Butt, Chaudhry Faisal Ikram, Shakeela Arthur, PML-N President Sialkot City Muhammad Rafiq Mughal, General Secretary Women's Wing Nasrat Jamshed were present.

World acknowledging Pakistan's viable economic policies: Attaullah Tarar

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar has said that the world is acknowledging country's viable economic policies as Pakistan's economic indicators are moving in the right direction.

Addressing a press conference at PML-N Secretariat here on Saturday, he said that heads of different countries were coming to Pakistan and added that the Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had raised Palestine and Kashmir issues in United Nations General Assembly session very effectively.

He said when the late Iranian president Ebrahim Raisi had visited Pakistan, a novelty in diplomacy was witnessed. Attaullah Tarar said another delegation of Saudi Arabia was coming to Pakistan and cooperation was increasing. He said that Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim had left Pakistan after completing his visit, but unfortunately efforts were made to hold march towards D-Chowk during the presence of Malaysian prime minister in the country.

He said that PM Shehbaz Sharif's speech in United Nations General Assembly session was widely hailed by all segments of society. He said,



"Foreign guest always come to Pakistan to strengthen ties." It was agreed that Pakistan would export halal meat worth \$200 million and 100,000 tonnes of rice to Malaysia and hindrances in this regard would be removed, he said and added that different countries were interested for doing trade

besides making an investment in Pakistan.

Attaullah Tarar said that Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit would be held as per plan. He said that Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf had badly harmed the country during its tenure. KP Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur was using government machinery against the federation. PTI Barrister Saif invited Indian Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaisankar to attend PTI's protest, Attaullah Tarar said and added that one could imagine about PTI's mindset from this.

The federal minister said that nobody would be allowed to violate the law. After doing May

9, now all those involved in it were denying their involvement, he said and questioned that how they could deny evidences of video footage. No single person from the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf condemned the tweet of Zac Goldsmith which he had given in favour of Israel, he added. He further said that the PML-N President Sialkot City Muhammad Rafiq Mughal, General Secretary Women's Wing Nasrat Jamshed were present.

Indian FM says no dialogue with Pakistan on his SCO summit visit

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: External Affairs Minister of India S Jaishankar announced on Saturday that he will not engage in discussions with Pakistan during his forthcoming visit to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) conclave.

"It (visit) will be for a multilateral event. I'm not going there to discuss India-Pakistan relations. I'm going there to be a good member of the SCO," he said at the sidelines of an event in the national capital.

"But, you know, since I'm a courteous and civil person, I will behave myself accordingly," he added.

"At the moment SAARC is not moving forward, we haven't had a meeting of SAARC for a very simple reason—there is one member of SAARC who is practising cross-border terrorism at least against one more member of SAARC, maybe more... Terrorism is something which is unacceptable and despite a global view of it if one of our neighbours continues to do it—there cannot be business as usual in SAARC. That's the reason why the SAARC meeting has not happened in recent years—but it doesn't mean that the regional activities have stopped.

In fact, in the last 5-6 years, we have seen far more regional integration in the Indian subcontinent," he added.

UK, Gulf to establish 280 skills centres in Pakistan for youth employment

ISLAMABAD, OCT 05 (APP): Government of United Kingdom and Middle East institutions will provide jobs to millions of Pakistanis around the world by creating 280 skills centers in Pakistan.

A high-level British delegation is on a two-day visit to Pakistan to discuss possible cooperation with Pakistan in education, with a special focus on Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).

The delegation included Lord Boateng, House of Lords member Wendy Thomson, University of London Vice-Chancellor, University of Greenwich Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Edward, Queen Mary University Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Richard Grose, Tony Degazon, City and Guilds Regional Director Dr. Aamir, and Executive Director of GEMS Middle East.