



Message on Kashmir Solidarity Day

On the solemn occasion of Kashmir Solidarity Day, the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, the Service Chiefs, and the Pakistan Armed Forces reaffirm their unwavering support for the resilient people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) in their just struggle for self-determination.



Opposition parties demand new elections immediately

JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman stated that the opposition alliance met to discuss the current political situation and unanimously concluded that the February 8th elections were rigged and did not reflect the true mandate of the people. He criticized the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP), asserting that it failed to conduct fair elections. He called for the current government to resign and announce new elections immediately.

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Corps Commanders'

Rawalpindi. : Chief of Army Staff, General Syed Asim Munir presiding the 267th Corps Commanders' Conference at the GHQ.



Photo: ISPR

COAS General Syed Asim Munir presides over 267th Corps Commanders' Conference

Naveed Ahmad Khan

RAWALPINDI: Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Syed Asim Munir, NI (M), presided over the 267th Corps Commanders' Conference (CCC) at the General Headquarters (GHQ).

Participants paid profound tribute to the sacrifices made by the Shuhada of the Armed Forces, Law Enforcement Agencies, and citizens who have laid down their lives in pursuit of peace and

stability of their beloved motherland. The forum undertook a comprehensive review of the regional, and internal security landscape, assessing the full spectrum of threats.

The prevailing situation along the Line of Control (LoC) and the Working Boundary was discussed. In solidarity with the resilient people of Kashmir on the eve of Kashmir Solidarity Day (5 February 2025), the forum strongly condemned the continued blatant

human rights violations in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK), recognizing them as a grave threat to regional peace and stability.

Reiterating Pakistan's unwavering support for the legitimate struggle of the Kashmiri people for their right to self-determination, as enshrined in relevant UN Security Council resolutions, the forum emphasized the significance of international engagement in

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Nation to observe Kashmir Solidarity Day today

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Kashmir Solidarity Day will be observed on Wednesday (Today) to express the wholehearted support of Pakistani nation to the just struggle of the Kashmiri people for their inalienable right to self-determination under UN resolutions.

A public holiday has been declared, and all government, semi-government, private offices, banks and schools will remain closed.

Preparations are in full swing to

observe the Kashmir Solidarity Day to highlight the plight of oppressed Kashmiri people and to remind the world community of its obligations towards the resolution of the long-standing dispute.

Rallies, public meetings, and seminars will be held across the country, including Azad Kashmir to draw the attention of the world community towards grave human rights violations and brutalities against innocent Kashmiris by the Indian security forces.

All Pakistan missions abroad will organise seminars and photo exhi-

bitions to draw the world's attention towards the plight of Kashmiris.

Special cultural programs and festivals are organized to highlight Kashmiri culture and traditions. News and entertainment channels broadcast special programs, talk shows, dramas, and Kashmiri songs, shedding light on the oppression and brutalities faced by Kashmiris over the years.

Educational institutions arrange debate competitions and dialogue forums where students share their views and suggest solutions for Kashmir-related issues.

President Zardari departs for a five-day state visit to China

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari on Tuesday departed here for a five-day state visit to China from February 4-8, 2025, at the invitation of Chinese President Xi Jinping.

He was accompanied by a delegation comprising Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi, Senator Saleem Mandviwala and Dr Asim Hussain.

During the visit, the president will

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Govt to unveil corruption-free Ramazan Package sans Utility Stores: PM

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday said that the government would unveil the Ramazan Relief Package this year sans Utility Stores' role to prevent corruption and the distribution of low-quality commodities to the people.

"As the Holy Ramazan is about to start, I have asked the Ministry of National Food Security to bring about a Ramazan Package without Utility Stores to prevent corruption and the sale of low-quality material. I had asked many months ago that this

cannot go on with the Utility Stores," the prime minister said in his televised opening remarks at the meeting of the federal cabinet chaired by him.

He told the cabinet members that last year, the government had received immense complaints about the execution of the Ramazan Package by the Utility Stores. Therefore, the government has devised a solution to provide the facility minus the Utility Stores.

About the launch of the polio vaccination drive, he mentioned the killing of a

Continued on Page 7

KASHMIR SOLIDARITY DAY
5th Anniversary
یومِ یکجہتی کشمیر

اہل پاکستان کی جانب سے
کشمیریوں کے ساتھ اظہارِ یکجہتی کا دن

پاکستانی عوام، حکومت اور قومی سلامتی کے اداروں کے شکر گزار ہیں جنہوں نے ہر مرحلے پر کشمیریوں کی اخلاقی، سیاسی اور سفارتی حمایت جاری رکھتے ہوئے مسئلہ کشمیر کو اپنی ترجیح اول رکھا

تحریک آزادی کشمیر دراصل تحریک تکمیل پاکستان ہے۔ انشاء اللہ وہ دن دور نہیں جب مقبوضہ جموں و کشمیر کے عوام بھی بھارتی تسلط سے آزاد ہوں گے اور پاکستان کی تکمیل ہوگی

عالمی برادری، اقوام متحدہ اور انسانی حقوق کی تنظیمیں مقبوضہ کشمیر میں بھارتی جارحیت اور انسانی حقوق کی پامالیوں کا نوٹس لیں اور بھارت کو مجبور کریں کہ وہ کشمیری عوام کو ان کا بنیادی حق، حق خود ارادیت دے

کشمیر ہے پاکستان

وزارت اطلاعات آزاد حکومت ریاست جموں و کشمیر

Sacrifices of Kashmiris to not go in vain: AJK President, PM

Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: President Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) Barrister Sultan Mehmood Chaudhry and prime minister Chudhary Anwar ul Haq have said that Kashmir Solidarity Day being celebrated since several decades is a vivid manifestation of an everlasting social, cultural and religious bond between the people of Kashmir and Pakistan. In their separate messages released on the eve of Kashmir Day, they said that the government and people of the liberated territory would continue their all-out support to the Kashmiris' legitimate struggle until they achieve their freedom from India. Referring to Pakistan's continuous support to Kashmiris' legitimate struggle, they said, "Pakistani and its people have supported the Kashmiri people through every thick and thin". In his message the AJK president, while denouncing India's relentless suppression of political and human rights in occupied Kashmir, demanded the United Nations to play its due role to stop the bloodshed and violence in the restive region.

He said that the Kashmiri people consider the state of Jammu and Kashmir as an indivisible entity. Stressing the need for resolving the Kashmir issue in line with the UNSC's resolutions, the president said that it



was imperative to resolve the long-standing conflict in accordance with the wishes and aspirations of the Kashmiri people. In his message the AJK premier said that the celebration of the Kashmir day reflects the Pakistanis and Kashmiris' unwavering commitment and resolve to stand shoulder to shoulder with their oppressed Kashmiri brothers in their struggle

for freedom. Referring to Pakistan's continued political, moral and diplomatic support to Kashmiris' legitimate struggle, the PM said that the Pakistani nation has supported the Kashmiris through every thick and thin.

He said that the Kashmiri people had ideologically aligned their future with the state of Pakistan a month before its creation. "We are proud of

this historic decision taken by our ancestors", the PM added. Lauding the sacrifices rendered by the Kashmiris, he said that the day was not far when the people of Occupied Kashmir would achieve their cherished goal. He said that the steps taken by the Indian government before and after August 5, 2019 have been completely rejected by the people of Occupied Kashmir.

IIOJK people denied fundamental rights, facing repression: Azam Nazeer

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Law and Justice and Human Rights, Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar on Tuesday said that today we reaffirm our unwavering support for the people of Jammu and Kashmir in their rightful struggle for freedom and dignity.



In his message in line of Kashmir Solidarity Day, he said that for decades, Kashmiri people have endured oppression and injustice, yet their determination remains unshaken.

The people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) have been denied their fundamental rights, facing systemic repression and grave human rights violations, he said.

The minister said that Pakistan stands resolutely with them, not just in words but in action, raising their voices on every international platform, bringing attention to their plight, and advocating for a just resolution.

Azam Nazeer said that the right to self-determination is not a privilege but a fundamental right, recognized by the United Nations and the global community. No force can suppress a people's aspiration for freedom forever.

We urge the world to break its silence, to stand for justice, and to demand an end to the suffering of innocent Kashmiris, he said. He said that on this day, we honor the sacrifices of the Kashmiri people and remind them: Pakistan stands beside you, today and always, until justice prevails, and your voices are truly heard.

AJK Bar Council appointed Sagheer Haider Jaral as chairman committee

Abdul Majeed Tahir



BHIMBER: Azad Jammu and Kashmir Bar Council has appointed an executive committee. Senior lawyer of Azad Kashmir, Sagheer Haider Jaral, Advocate, has been appointed as the chairman of the committee.

Senior lawyer, Advocate, Sagheer Haider Jaral, has been congratulated by political and social circles, close relatives and lawyers on his appointment as the chairman of the executive committee of the Azad Kashmir Bar Council.

Other members include lawyers Aqib Hashmi, Khawaja Gulzar, Haroon Riaz, Ishtiaq Khan, Shujaat Ali Advocate. The chairman of the committee has vowed to perform his duties in a good manner.

SZABMU Lodges Complaint with FIA Against Digital Harassment of Officials

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Vice Chancellor of Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Medical University (SZABMU), has formally lodged a complaint with the Federal Investigation Agency's (FIA) Director General against digital harassment targeting the university's officials by unknown individual(s) under the PECA Act 2025.

The Vice Chancellor emphasized that SZABMU, as a federal government medical institution, remains committed to merit, accountability, and service delivery in the fields of medical education and research across all provinces and regions. He warned that such harassment would not be tolerated and called upon the Director General, FIA to ensure that legal action is taken under the PECA Act and that the perpetrators are apprehended.

The Vice Chancellor further highlighted that the PECA Act 2025 safeguards the digital rights of both citizens and government institutions, reassuring students and officials that the university will continue its efforts to maintain transparency and accountability.

Kashmir Solidarity Day Ceremony Held at DPS

Zafar Chishti

TOBA TEK SINGH: A ceremony to observe Kashmir Solidarity Day was held at Divisional Public School & College, Toba Tek Singh, organized to express unwavering support for the people of Indian-occupied Kashmir. The event was attended by District Police Officer (DPO) Ibadat Nisar, Additional Deputy Commissioner General (ADCG) Zeeshan Labbha Masih, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Education Aqeela Intikhab, Principal Rao Muhammad Siddique, faculty members, and a large number of students. The ceremony commenced with the recitation of the Holy Quran, followed by a Naat. Students presented thought-provoking speeches, patriotic songs and tableaus depicting the resilience of the Kashmiri people and their decades-long struggle for the right to self-determination, which resonated strongly with the audience.

Addressing the gathering, DPO Ibadat Nisar underscored that Kashmir Solidarity Day serves as a stark reminder of the sacrifices made by the people of Kashmir in their pursuit of freedom. He reiterated Pakistan's firm commitment to continue extending diplomatic, political, and moral support to the Kashmiri cause at all levels.

Speaking on the occasion, ADCG Zeeshan Labbha Masih affirmed that the Pakistani nation stands united with the Kashmiri people, adding that their struggle for legitimate rights will continue to be highlighted on every international platform. In his remarks, Principal Rao Muhammad Siddique lauded the efforts of the students and faculty in organizing the event, emphasizing that such activities play a crucial role in raising awareness among the youth about the Kashmir issue and nurturing a spirit of solidarity.

Kashmir Solidarity Day

ISLAMABAD: A view of the banners and flags of Pakistan and Kashmir along the Constitution Avenue to show solidarity with oppressed Kashmiris of IIOJK, in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Blood of Kashmiri martyrs and freedom fighters will not go in vain: Sardar Attique

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: President All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference and former Prime Minister Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan said that the freedom movement of occupied Kashmir will be successful and the blood of Kashmiri martyrs and freedom fighters will not go in vain.

He expressed these views in a message on the occasion of Kashmir Solidarity Day. He said that the relationship between Kashmir and Pakistan is inseparable and no power in

the world can end this relationship. Kashmiris had linked their destiny with Pakistan before the establishment of Pakistan. Mujahid I strengthened this relationship by giving the slogan of Kashmir will become Pakistan. Sardar Atiq Ahmed Khan said that today the green flags on the graves of Kashmiri martyrs and their coffins wrapped in green flags are also a clear example of this relationship.

He said that the people of Azad Kashmir are with their brothers in occupied Kashmir in every hour of difficulty. India is committing the worst



violations of human rights in Kashmir and the world should take notice of this

situation. If the world needs peace in the region, then the long-standing issue of Kashmir has to be resolved.

There is no way to peace in the region except through peaceful means. He said that on February 5, Muslims all over the world demonstrated and sent a message to the world that Kashmir is an unresolved issue that should be resolved in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations. He added that Pakistan and Kashmir are inseparable. Every child of Kashmir considers India a stranger. India can never succeed in Kashmir.

No power on earth can stop Kashmiris from attaining freedom: AJK Information Minister



Spokesman Report

DHAKA/BANGLADESH: A ceremony was organized at the Pakistan High Commission in Dhaka to mark Kashmir Solidarity Day, with Azad Jammu and Kashmir Information Minister Maulana Pir Muhammad

Mazhar Saeed Shah as the chief guest. Pakistani High Commissioner Syed Ahmed Maroof, Press Counselor Pakistan Embassy Fasihullah Khan, Deputy High Commissioner Muhammad Wasif, social media activists attended the ceremony.

On this occasion, the partic-

ipants expressed their full solidarity with the Kashmiris and reiterated their continued support for them. While interacting with the participants, the chief guest Information Minister Maulana Pir Muhammad Mazhar Saeed Shah said that the people of occupied Jammu and

Kashmir have proved by raising the word of truth in the face of the worst oppression of India that no power in the world can stop them from exercising their inalienable birthright of self-determination.

He said that all Muslims are united in a bond of the sacred word. By the grace and mercy of

Allah, Islam is the most popular religion today. He said that it is necessary for us to adopt unity and solidarity on the basis of the Quran and Sunnah.

The religion of Islam teaches the believers to respect humanity, especially the sanctity of the Muslim life, drawing attention

to its eternal value and value and making them realize that Muslims are brothers to each other based on the most sacred relationship of religion.

Azad Kashmir Information Minister Maulana Pir Muhammad Mazhar Saeed Shah thanked the participants for expressing solidarity with the Kashmiris. It may be recalled that the Information Minister of the Azad Jammu and Kashmir government, Maulana Pir Muhammad Mazhar Saeed Shah, is on a visit to Bangladesh on a special invitation and is bearing the expenses of the visit himself.



Islamabad
30° - 38° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 5:37 am
Zohr 12:22 pm
Asr 4:04 pm
Maghrib 5:42 pm
Isha 7:07 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 Enquiry 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

Every worker of ours is an asset of our party: Chaudhry Inam

City Desk

RAWALPINDI: Awam Pakistan Party leader Chaudhry Inam Zafar said that Awam Pakistan Party is the only political party where there is no obstacle in the communication between central and local leadership. Every worker of ours is an asset of our party.

He said this during the meeting held to review the membership campaign. During the meeting, women convenors, secretaries of national, provincial, city, youth wing constituencies along with the organizers of male and female wings of Office Secretariat Rawalpindi were nominated. Convener of Rawalpindi Metropolitan Women's Wing Samina Shoaib, Convener of Men's Group Sardar Nazir Ahmed Kashmiri, Razia Sultana, Syeda Begum, Daultana Kausar, Nadia Iqbal, Afsheen Sami and others were present. Chaudhry Inam Zafar encouraged the members on the membership of men and women and said that inflation is on the rise in the country. The common man is suffering from economic exploitation. Awam Pakistan Party will save the common man from inflation.

Signing of Memorandum of Understanding between NAB and PPRA

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) and the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) at NAB Headquarters, Islamabad today. The MoU signing ceremony was attended by NAB Chairman, Lieutenant General (Retd.) Nazir Ahmad, Deputy Chairman NAB Sohail Nasir, Prosecutor General Accountability Syed Ihtasham Qadir Shah, Managing Director PPRA, Hasanat Ahmad Qureshi, and officials from both organizations. The MoU was signed by Director General, NAB (A&P), Izhar Ahmad Awan, and Project Director of E-PADS, Sheikh Afzaal Raza.

The agreement has been signed to establish a system that will promote mutual cooperation between the two organizations regarding the exchange of information on e-Procurements (E-PADS) ensuring fair and transparency in the public procurement process. The goal is to increase transparency and accountability through joint efforts, thereby creating a system that would act as a deterrent for corrupt and fraudulent elements. The MoU also

aims to raise awareness among all relevant public procurement institutions regarding procurement laws, regulations, and ethical standards.

Under the MoU, both institutions have agreed to enhance the capacity of both their own organizations and other related public procurement institutions, assist in developing guidelines to prevent corruption and fraud, and provide support in improving policies and procurement procedures, based on successful experiences with past cases.

Regarding complaints related to procurement, PPRA will forward such complaints to NAB, along with details of the relevant tenders and bidders, for necessary action. According to the MoU, NAB officers will receive free training sessions on public procurement from PPRA. Similarly, NAB will also provide free training to PPRA officers on preventing corruption in public procurements. Both institutions will jointly develop guidelines to strengthen legal regulations for bidders and public procurement institutions to prevent corruption. Reforms will also be promoted to further strengthen accountability in the procurement process.

Chairman NAB appreciated the



initiative of greater migration towards automated system. He further stressed

that the collaboration between NAB and PPRA will inject greater transparency and accountability in the public procurement system.

National Day of Sri Lanka

ISLAMABAD: Chief Guest, Ministry of Religious Affairs and Inter-faith Harmony Chaudhry Salik Hussain enlighten the torch along with Acting High Commission of Sri Lanka to Pakistan Christy Ruban and others on the occasion of 77th anniversary of Independence of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka at Serena Hotel in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online Sultan Bashir

ZUEB Partners with newly launched UK-based Exams Board "Learning Resource Network"

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Ziauddin University Examination Board (ZUEB) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the newly launched UK-based examination body, Learning Resource Network (LRN) to introduce another British examination board in Pakistan.

The signing ceremony took place at the British Deputy High Commission Karachi during the launching ceremony of LRN, marking a significant milestone in enhancing the educational landscape of the country.

According to the MoU, LRN



will also support this collaboration by offering teacher training through its scheduled programs, and providing access to publicly available past papers and mock papers for reference. This partnership aims to

foster academic excellence and broaden the scope of international education standards in Pakistan.

Dr. Asim Hussain—Chancellor of Ziauddin University, on behalf of ZUEB, and Dr.

Muhammad Zohaib Tariq—CEO of LRN, signed the MoU, signifying their commitment to this collaborative endeavor.

On this occasion, Prof. Dr. Nida Hussain—Chairperson ZUEB; Angelica De Paiva—Assessment Manager, LRN; Rana Hussain—Director Curriculum, ZUEB, and Principal ZU College of Education; Sumra Peeran—Head of International Qualifications SSC-A Level, ZUEB; Russel Collins—CEO, Vamos an LRN approved UK-based school for International GCSE and A Levels for Spanish Qualifications; and others were also present.

AIOU holds training workshop on Kitchen Gardening

ISLAMABAD: A training workshop on "Organic Kitchen Gardening" was held here on Tuesday at Allama Iqbal Open University in collaboration with Green Youth Movement Club and the Department of Agricultural Sciences. The workshop was attended by students, university faculty, and staff members who received hands-on training.

Professor Dr. Sher Muhammad, Dean of Faculty of Sciences and Chairman of the Department of Agricultural Sciences, was resource person of the workshop. He educated participants on the natural cultivation of vegetables free from pesticides and chemical fertilizers. He also taught methods for growing healthy organic vegetables on a household scale, preparing natural fertilizers, and using botanical techniques for pest and disease control.

Speaking at the closing ceremony, Dr. Sher Muhammad emphasized that objective of the training workshop was to encourage students toward kitchen gardening, which is a necessity for a healthy society. He noted that, worldwide, kitchen gardening is becoming popular to avoid the harmful effects of store-bought vegetables, yet in Pakistan, this practice has not received much attention.

Dr. Sher lamented that people in Pakistan do not give importance to vegetables and pulses and instead prefer consuming commercially farmed chicken, which is often unhealthy.

During the event, Green Youth Movement Club member Dr. Sofia Khalid, Club Secretary Dr. Muhammad Shaukat, and Faculty Member of the Department of Library Science Dr. Muhammad Arif also shared their views on the importance and necessity of kitchen gardening. Dr. Muhammad Shaukat elaborated on the objectives and mission of the Green Youth Movement Club.

The workshop was also attended by Additional Registrar of the University, Ms. Bibi Yasmin, and Assistant Registrar, Mr. Rana Sharafat Ali.

Kashmir Solidarity Day – Message from the Chairman of SM Group of Industries



MULTAN: Chairman SM Group of Industries, Member National Export Development Board, and Member Board of Investment, Chaudhry Zulfiqar Ali Anjum, has stated that February 5, Kashmir Solidarity Day, is a reminder of our unwavering commitment to stand with our Kashmiri brothers and sisters in their struggle for freedom. The people of Kashmir have been fighting for their right to self-determination for over seven decades, and despite facing oppression and brutality, their spirit remains unshaken.

"As an industrialist, I firmly believe that economic stability is the foundation of a nation's strength. A stable and prosperous Pakistan can raise a stronger and more effective voice for the rights of the Kashmiri people. If our industry, trade, and economy are strong, we can play a more significant role at the global level in advocating for the oppressed people of Kashmir," he emphasized.

"We urge the international community to take decisive action to end the atrocities committed against the Kashmiri people and to ensure that they are granted their right to self-determination as per UN resolutions."

Kashmir is our lifeline. We stand with our Kashmiri brethren today and always.

Pakistan Zindabad! Kashmir Paindabad!

Despite the Stay Order of Lahore High Court Faisalabad District Administration Continues killing of Dogs

Sana Ashraf

FAISALABAD: The Lahore High Court's stay order against dog culling, unequivocally declaring the killing of the street dogs illegal, has been blatantly disregarded. Despite this clear directive, the merciless poisoning of innocent dogs persists, exposing a blatant contempt for the rule of law. The Punjab Government and Faisalabad, and Rawalpindi administration is shamefully flouting the law and disobeying the Lahore High Court orders. Despite a stay order from the Lahore High Court, they continue to engage in inhumane dog culling practices. The commissioner, Faisalabad deputy commissioner's office Faisalabad, CO Municipal corporation Faisalabad

local government, and district Health authority Faisalabad are all involved in poisoning these innocent animals, resulting in the agonizing death of not just dogs, but also puppies and elderly dogs.

"Lawyer Mr Altamash, an advocate for animal rights, recently filed a petition seeking an Stop to the brutal culling of dogs. Despite Justice Shahid Kareem issuing a stay order, the Faisalabad administration continues to defy the court's orders, killing Fifty to sixty dogs daily. This blatant disregard for the law and animal welfare is appalling. The administration's actions are not only inhumane but also raise questions about their motives and accountability."

The Local Government Dupty

Director ordered three kilograms of Strychnine poison, which is a staggering amount.

One gram of Strychnine Poison is enough to rupture the stomachs of seven dogs. Now, imagine the catastrophic consequences of three kilograms of poison. What possible justification could the local Government Dupty Director have for procuring such a massive and deadly quantity? The cost of Fifty grams of Strychnine poison is Rs. 1,20,000. Now, imagine the cost of three kilograms of Strychnine poison, which has been ordered by the deputy director of the local government. This raises serious concerns about the misuse of public funds and the intentions behind such a large purchase of poison."

"It's baffling to see the local government officials, municipal corporation, and district health authorities collectively indulging in the brutal culling of dogs, despite the High Court's orders. It's a serious concern that they are openly flouting the law and disregarding the court's directives.

A pressing question arises—what is the motive behind this heinous daily culling of innocent animals? Is it part of a larger conspiracy or simply an inhumane act? These innocent dogs do not attack humans nor do any fight with other animals. They spend their lives scavenging for food in garbage, hiding from the world. Despite this, neither the Municipal Corporation nor the Health Authority shows any mercy towards these helpless creatures.



This warrants a thorough investigation, and those responsible must be held accountable."

"Organizations working for animal rights and the international commu-

nity must take strict action on this issue. The mistreatment and brutal killing of animals is against international law and is unacceptable under any circumstances."

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Kashmir amidst Two-Front War

Nida Khattak

Louis Althusser, in his exploration of state power, explains two apparatuses through which authoritarian states seek to acquire absolute submission: the repressive state apparatus and the ideological state apparatus. At present, it would seem that India, as a state, is currently operating this twin mechanism well with full rigour in the occupied territory of Kashmir. As if the armed oppression of the people of Kashmir did not suffice, the state is actively indulged in political oppression coupled with propagation of a narrative that paints the very people of Kashmir as villains in India's manufactured tales of the Kashmiri land, trapping the people in two-front war in efforts to gradually erase their identities.

The repressive state apparatus is operating at full throttle, armed oppression in the form of brutal tortures and killing of Kashmiri people have become the state's instrument of control within the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). Ideological state apparatus in the form of political oppression, on the other hand, aims at making the region ungovernable so that status of union territory can be retained in favour of the central government. The recent developments including the so called legisla-

tive Assembly elections that were held in IIOJK from 18 September to 1 October 2024, elected 90 members to the new illegally formed Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly as to serve as puppet legislatures under a titular chief minister with its cabinet playing second fiddle to an unelected appointee, the lieutenant governor.

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)'s effort to convert a demographic Muslims majority valley into a political minority failed this time as the votes in the valley were highly anti-BJP and their proxies like 'Apni Party' and 'Awami Ittehad Party'. However, this marks the first instance that BJP has secured 29 seats in the Jammu region by emerging as a second largest party after Kashmir National Conference (JKNC), which secured 49 seats in coalition with the Indian National Congress (INC) and the Communist Party of India (Marxist) (CPI (M)). The whole situation is highly indicative of growing realisation of Hindutva aspirations to shift the balance of power in the region.

Take for example, the current political situation of IIOJK. Through measures such as the delimitation of the constituencies, the inclusion of non-resident voters via remapping electoral rolls, and the New Domicile Law of 2019, which granted domiciles to non-Kashmiris, the BJP-led central government has created a perfect recipe for creating a politically

charged and polarised environment in the region. If in case, the local parties wish to govern the region, the state has effectively ensured their eventual failure. This, in turn, seems to be an effort to retain the centre's control over the region and alter the political distributions in such a way as to solidify pro-Hindutva parties in the region.

The ideological state apparatus that is currently employed by the Indian state also takes the form of digital and print mediums of knowledge and entertainment, which constitutes a significant aspect within the broader scheme of oppression. Althusser reveals that the experience of watching a film or reading a book has underlying mechanisms and psychological processes which are related to deep ideological implications. In a way, these mediums can be used to 'reinvent' history and reconstruct memories.

For the past couple of years, the Indian state has accelerated its efforts to produce cinema that portrays Kashmiri Muslims in a villainous light. Such content skyrocketed especially after the abrogation of the Article 370, establishing false narrative, propagating Islamophobia, and building false icons of Hindutva. The media industry executes it in such a cunning way that it would put Goebbels to shame. Such fictional content mainly aims to justify Indian armed forces illegal presence in the occupied region by dehumanising the

local people. In recent years, it has been consistently observed that incidents of violence against Muslims across India surge right after such media productions.

This rhetoric extends beyond the fictional media to Indian news agencies that readily disseminate misinformation. Indian media promotes the narrative of Indians being welcome by Kashmiris and portrays the region as normal. It is a tactic that has been functional since occupation to re-enforce illegal Indian control over the region. Furthermore, international coverage has also been influenced by offering incentives to the foreign journalists in an effort to align India's domestic and international narratives with the state interests as part of a wider strategy of gaining total ideological control over public discourse.

Under this scheme, the Indian government has attempted to suppress the voices of Kashmiris in two ways: by physically eliminating them and by manufacturing false stories about them. However, the community has persevered by demonstrating indomitability. At the time, when Kashmiri people are trapped in a two-front war, it becomes even more important to express solidarity for Kashmiris, voice their concerns, and bear witness to their struggle and resilience.

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Soldiers bearing the brunt due to blunderous policies

Prim Minister Shehbaz Sharif said on Tuesday that the country's security forces were paying the price for the flawed policies pursued by a government in the past, reported 24NewsHD TV channel.

Speaking at the federal cabinet meeting, PM Shehbaz Sharif said that hundreds of terrorists were set free in the name of restoration of peace during that period.

Shehbaz said the soldiers of the army, police, FC and Rangers sacrificing their lives were actually bearing the brunt of the blunderous policies of a government in the past when thousands of terrorists were set free.

Apprising the cabinet members for his Quetta visit on Monday, the prime minister said he visited the hospital to inquire after the security personnel who were injured in an anti-terror operation in Kalat in which 18 security personnel were martyred and 23 terrorists were eliminated. "I met the injured. They were highly moral and were even ready to sacrifice their lives for the country. These are the martyrs and Ghazis who are resolved to rid the country of terrorism and striving day and night for the cause," he remarked.

The cabinet members also offered Fatcha for the martyred security personnel as well as the policeman on the polio duty.

He further said that the country after becoming financially stable was now on its way to becoming economically developed.

The prime minister said the inflation rate dropped to 2.4 per cent in January. He acknowledged the utility of the agriculture tax, saying it was the need of the hour.

The prime minister added that the security forces' personnel who laid down their lives in the defence of the country were the nation's heroes.

PM Shehbaz said Pakistan stood by Kashmiris in their struggle for the right to self-determination. "As has been the case in the past, this time too, the nation will mark the Kashmir Solidarity Day with zeal and fervour."

He said the government would unveil the Ramadan Relief Package this year sans Utility Stores' role to prevent corruption and the distribution of low-quality commodities to the people. "As the Ramadan is about to start, I have asked the Ministry of National Food Security to bring about a Ramzan Package without Utility Stores to prevent corruption and the sale of low-quality material. I had asked many months ago that this cannot go on with the Utility Stores," he added.

Shehbaz Sharif told the cabinet members that last year, the government had received immense complaints about the execution of the Ramazan Package by the Utility Stores. Therefore, the government has devised a solution to provide the facility minus the Utility Stores.

About the launch of the polio vaccination drive, he mentioned the killing of a policeman Abdul Khaliq in Jamrud who was deployed on the security of the polio team and paid tribute to his sacrifice to make Pakistan a polio-free nation.

He also lauded the services of PM's Coordinator on Health Dr Mukhtar, Polio Coordinator Dr Ayesha Farooq, secretary health and polio vaccinators for their tireless efforts to rid the country of this crippling disease.



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

February 5 – Kashmir Solidarity Day: A Struggle for Freedom and Justice

'Kashmir is the jugular vein of Pakistan." This is not just an emotional statement but a reality deeply rooted in history, politics, and the fundamental right to self-determination. February 5, Kashmir Solidarity Day, is not merely a date on the calendar; it is a reminder of the sacrifices of Kashmiris and a renewal of our commitment to their just cause.

Analysis



Abdul Ghafoor Sarohi

Kashmir: A History of Betrayal and Oppression
 When the subcontinent was partitioned in 1947, the people of Kashmir were left in limbo. Maharaja Hari Singh, against the wishes of the Kashmiri people, illegally acceded to India. India occupied Kashmir militarily and has since denied Kashmiris their right to choose their future. In 1948, the United Nations passed resolutions calling for a plebiscite, but India has refused to honor them. Since then, Kashmir has become the most militarized zone in the world, and its people have endured decades of brutal oppression. The situation worsened on August 5, 2019, when India revoked Article

370, stripping Kashmir of its special status and further tightening its grip on the region. Unyielding Struggle: The Price of Freedom
 The people of Kashmir have paid a heavy price for their resistance: Thousands of innocent youth have been killed. Thousands of women have suffered horrific sexual violence. Countless individuals have been forcibly disappeared, leaving families in perpetual agony. Mass graves, curfews, and lockdowns have turned Kashmir into an open-air prison. Yet, despite these atrocities, the spirit of Kashmiris remains unbroken, and their demand for freedom only grows stronger. February 5: Solidarity Must Go Beyond Words
 Since 1990, Pakistan has observed February 5 as Kashmir Solidarity Day, marking it with: Nationwide rallies and protests Seminars and discussions on Kashmir's plight Extensive media coverage in support of Kashmir's freedom movement But the question is: Is this enough? Kashmiris need more than just

statements—they need real action. Pakistan must intensify diplomatic efforts at international forums. The global community must recognize that Kashmir is not just a territorial dispute but a human rights crisis. The United Nations must be reminded that it can raise concerns about Palestine, why is Kashmir being ignored? Global Apathy: A Silent Endorsement of Injustice
 The indifference of the international community is nothing short of complicity in oppression. The United Nations passed resolutions but has failed to implement them. The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) remains a passive observer. Western nations that champion human rights are silent when it comes to Indian atrocities in Kashmir. If the world truly believes in justice, it must take immediate steps to resolve the Kashmir issue. Conclusion: Freedom Is Inevitable, for Tyranny Never Lasts
 History has proven that oppression cannot last forever. The sacrifices of Kashmiris will not be in vain, and their freedom is only a matter of time. On this Kashmir Solidarity Day, let us not just express support but also pledge to amplify their voices until justice is served.

February 5 - Kashmir Solidarity Day

Throughout history, many nations have struggled for their freedom and rights. According to the United Nations Charter, the right to self-determination is a fundamental right of every nation, allowing them to decide their political, social, and economic future. However, history has also taught us that international laws and agreements alone are not enough; rather, the determination of the people, continuous resistance, and global support play a crucial role in the success of any movement. At the time of the partition of the Indian subcontinent, the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir was an autonomous entity, covering an area of 69,547 square miles. After the end of British rule in 1947, a dispute arose between India and Pakistan, leading to the division of Kashmir into two parts: Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (Illegally Occupied Kashmir), covering 39,102 square miles, with Srinagar as its capital. Pakistan-administered Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan, covering 25,000 square miles, with Muzaffarabad as its capital. The current population of Kashmir is approximately 13 million, with 80% of them being Muslims. Several UN resolutions explicitly state that the people of Kashmir should be given the right to decide their future. However, due to India's intransigence and the global community's silence, this issue remains unresolved to this day.

Analysis



Ahsan Ansari

In 1846, under the Treaty of Amritsar, the British sold Jammu and Kashmir to Maharaja Gulab Singh for 7.5 million Nanak Shahi rupees, placing the region under Dogra rule. The Kashmiri people suffered under oppression during this period, and Muslims were treated as second-class citizens. At the time of the Partition of India in 1947, Maharaja Hari Singh announced Kashmir's accession to India on October 26, 1947, despite the Muslim-majority population's desire to join Pakistan. This led to the first war between India and Pakistan, which ended in 1949 after UN mediation, establishing the Line of Control (LoC). In 1948, the United Nations passed Resolution 47, granting Kashmiris the right to self-determination through a plebiscite to choose between India or Pakistan. However, India ignored this resolution and continued its illegal occupation of Kashmir, imposing military control over the region. Today, over 1 million Indian troops are stationed in Indian-occupied Kashmir, making it one of the most militarized regions in the

world. Due to India's brutal laws and military actions, the basic human rights of Kashmiris continue to be violated. On August 5, 2019, India revoked Article 370 and 35A of its Constitution, stripping Kashmir of its special status. Through this move, India illegally annexed Jammu and Kashmir into its union. For more than five months, Kashmir was placed under complete lockdown, with the internet and communication networks shut down, and Kashmiri leaders imprisoned. India introduced new domicile laws, allowing millions of non-Kashmiris to settle in the region, in an attempt to change its demographic structure. According to reports from the United Nations Human Rights Commission and Amnesty International that over 100,000 Kashmiris have been martyred since 1990, more than 10,000 Kashmiris have disappeared, over 12,000 women have been raped and more than 7,000 mass graves have been discovered. Pakistan has always supported the right to self-determination for Kashmiris and continues to take all possible diplomatic and political measures. Every year, February 5 is observed as Kashmir Solidarity Day, during which people express their unwavering support for Kashmiris. The Kashmir issue is highlighted on international platforms, and organizations such as the United Nations and various human rights groups are informed about Indian atrocities in Kashmir. Pakistan's armed forces have always responded forcefully to Indian aggression along the Line of Control. Pakistan and India are both nuclear powers, and Kashmir remains the most critical dispute between them. In February 2019, after the Indian Air Force violated Pakistani airspace, Pakistan shot down an Indian fighter jet and captured pilot Abhinandan, proving to the world that Pakistan is fully capable of defending its sovereignty. If the Kashmir issue is not resolved, it could threaten the peace and stability of South Asia. The United Nations and global powers must find an immediate and just solution to this conflict to ensure regional security. The people of Kashmir have been fighting for their freedom for over seven decades, and their sacrifices will never go in vain. According to UN resolutions, Kashmiris must be granted their right to self-determination, and the international community must pressure India to end its policies of oppression and violence. This is not just a momentary struggle, but an ongoing resistance that will continue until the people of Kashmir achieve their rightful freedom.

Under President Abbas' directives, Cabinet forms task force to oversee Gaza affairs

News Desk

RAMALLAH, PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE: Prime Minister Dr. Mohammad Mustafa announced during the opening remarks of the weekly Cabinet session on Tuesday that, "In affirmation of the unity of the territory of the State of Palestine, and in pursuit of strengthening national unity, the Palestinian Government, under the leadership of President Mahmoud Abbas, has decided to establish a task force to manage affairs of the Gaza Strip."

Mustafa emphasized that "the Government, as part of its ongoing efforts and in coordination with our brothers—particularly the Arab Republic of Egypt—and other relevant parties, is working under direct directives from President Abbas to expedite the delivery of humanitarian aid, reopen roads, clear debris, and

provide adequate shelter for those whose homes have been destroyed, paving the way for comprehensive reconstruction."

The Prime Minister noted that last October, the National Reconstruction Preparation Team was established, which is working in close coordination with various UN and international partner institutions in preparation for the reconstruction process.

"On the ground, the Government is actively working through the Government Operations Room for Emergency Interventions in the Gaza Strip, in coordination with various partners, to deliver as many essential services as possible to our people in Gaza, including water, electricity, healthcare, and education. This is a national responsibility toward our people, who have endured the horrors of war for the past fifteen months," he underscored.

On the situation in the West Bank,



Mustafa stated, "Amid the escalation of Israeli occupation crimes in the refugee camps of Jenin and Tulkarem, and more recently in al-Far'a camp and Tammun, as well as forcing thousands of our people—including children, the elderly, and women—out

of their homes; coupled with the systematic destruction and sabotage of houses, infrastructure, and civilian property. In response, President Abbas has directed an urgent request for a Security Council emergency session to intervene urgently and assume its

responsibilities regarding these grave violations. The session has been scheduled for this evening." The Prime Minister added, "Our diplomatic missions have intensified their efforts and engagements with governments across the world to expose the crimes of the Israeli occupation, document its violations, and rally international support for Palestinian inalienable rights. We are also pressing for an end to the Israeli aggression and destruction that is targeting the entirety of Palestinian Territory. Accordingly, the United Nations Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, established by the United Nations Human Rights Council, will convene in Geneva tomorrow to investigate these crimes and violations, particularly in the northern West Bank."

Mustafa also noted that emergency

committees in the northern West Bank and the Ministerial Committee for Emergency Action have been tasked with following up on the needs of displaced Palestinians and ensuring immediate and urgent shelter.

"We will neither capitulate nor despair in the face of the international community's failure to stop Israel's war machine. These crimes against our people must end. We will continue our legitimate struggle for all our rights because we are certain that justice will prevail as no right is ever lost when fought for," Mustafa further stressed.

The Cabinet also reviewed a report on the efforts of the Government Operations Room for Emergency Interventions in the Gaza Strip and the coordination between government institutions and international relief organizations to support the Palestinian people in Strip.

Pakistan High Commission in Bangladesh Observes Kashmir Solidarity Day

Spokesman Report

DHAKA: The High Commission for Pakistan in Bangladesh organized an event today to mark Kashmir Solidarity Day, reaffirming support for the just struggle of the people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). The event was attended by members of the Pakistani diaspora, civil society representatives, and local journalists.

Messages from the leadership of Pakistan, including President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, were read out during the event. In their messages,

the President and Prime Minister paid tribute to the resilience of the Kashmiri people in their fight against India's unlawful occupation. They reiterated Pakistan's unwavering diplomatic, political, and moral support until the Kashmir dispute is resolved in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions and the aspirations of the Kashmiri people.

The leadership emphasized that this day serves as a reminder to the international community of its responsibility toward the oppressed people of Kashmir. They urged the United Nations to fulfill its 77-year-old commitment and support Kashmiris

in their rightful struggle for self-determination.

In his concluding remarks, High Commissioner Syed Ahmed Maroof echoed the stance of the Pakistani leadership and reiterated Pakistan's steadfast support for the Kashmir cause. He emphasized that Pakistan will continue to advocate for the rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir at all international forums.

The High Commission also organized a photo exhibition highlighting Indian atrocities in IIOJK. Participants toured the exhibition and expressed solidarity with the oppressed people of Jammu and Kashmir.



Embassy of Pakistan in Belgium Observes Kashmir Solidarity Day with a Special Seminar

Spokesman Report

BRUSSELS: To express unwavering solidarity with the oppressed people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) and support their legitimate struggle for self-determination, the Embassy of Pakistan in Belgium organized a Special Seminar to mark Kashmir Solidarity Day.

The event commenced with the reading of messages from the President, Prime Minister, and Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister of Pakistan, reaffirming Pakistan's resolute commitment to the Kash-



miri cause. These messages highlighted the grave and systematic human rights violations in IIOJK and underscored Pakistan's steady

fast support for the Kashmiri people's right to self-determination in accordance with United Nations Security Council (UNSC)

resolutions.

A documentary screening provided an in-depth look at the historical origins of the Kashmir dispute and the persistent hardships faced by Kashmiris under Indian occupation. Speakers at the seminar paid tribute to the courage and sacrifices of the Kashmiri people, drawing parallels between the Kashmir and Palestine issues, both emblematic of long-standing struggles against occupation and human rights abuses.

Speakers strongly condemned India's unilateral and illegal actions of 5th August 2019,

termining them flagrant violations of UNSC resolutions and international law. They called on India to reverse these measures and fulfill its international commitments to the Kashmiri people.

Addressing the gathering, Chargé d'Affaires Mr. Faraz Zaidi emphasized the political, legal, and moral legitimacy of the Kashmir cause. He reaffirmed Pakistan's unwavering support for the Kashmiri people and reiterated that Pakistan will continue to provide all possible assistance in their just struggle for self-determination.

Mr. Zaidi acknowledged the

resilience of the Kashmiri people, whose struggle has endured since 1947, and expressed confidence in its eventual success. He also commended the Pakistani and Kashmiri diaspora in Belgium for their relentless efforts in raising awareness about the Kashmir issue on international platforms.

The seminar witnessed active participation from members of the Pakistani diaspora, Kashmiri representatives, academicians, media professionals, and other dignitaries. The attendees collectively reaffirmed their commitment to highlighting the seven-decade-long Kashmiri struggle for

their inalienable right to self-determination.

As part of the Kashmir Solidarity Day observance, the Embassy also hosted a week-long pictorial exhibition, showcasing the dire human rights situation in IIOJK. The exhibition served as a stark reminder of the ongoing injustices faced by Kashmiris and the urgent need for international action.

The Embassy of Pakistan in Belgium remains committed to advocating for the rights of the Kashmiri people and amplifying their voices on all international platforms.

Algeria's Presidency of UNSC- An Excellent Record

Dr Mohammad Ali Tipu

During its presidency of the United Nations Security Council, on January 2025, Algeria devoted itself to defending just causes, confronting challenges that threaten peace and security in the world and amplifying Africa's voice.

Algerian diplomacy, under the high guidance of President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune, was able to raise many issues and challenges facing peace and security in the world on the table of this UN body, such as the Palestinian issue and the threats to stop the activities of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), the situation in Lebanon, Syria, Yemen, Libya and Sudan. As well as the crises in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Colombia, and the fight against terrorism in the African continent.

The period of Algeria's presidency of the UN Security Council witnessed the holding of 16 ministerial meetings on the Middle East, 9 meetings on African issues, 37 open meetings and closed consultations. Three presidential statements and four council resolutions were also issued, equivalent to 75 hours of meetings, without using the veto.

The efforts of Algerian diplomacy were crowned with a positive outcome during its presi-

dency of the Security Council, in addition to other successes it has achieved since its election as a non-permanent member of the United Nations, most notably the issuance of a resolution calling for an "immediate" and "permanent" ceasefire in Gaza in March 2024 after the Council failed to adopt several other draft resolutions due to the American veto. As well as re-raising the issue of granting the State of Palestine full membership in the United Nations, where Algeria succeeded in getting 143 countries to recognize Palestine as a full member of the United Nations.

During its presidency of the Security Council, Algeria recommended the importance of the Council assuming its responsibilities to consolidate the agreement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides and follow up on its implementation, and push towards launching a serious political process under the auspices of the United Nations to reach a just settlement of the Palestinian cause, all of which is a commitment to continue its efforts to support the Palestinian people and meet their humanitarian needs, and contribute to the path of Palestinian national reconciliation.

During this meeting, which was praised by the UN Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, and widely appreciated by the member states of the United Nations, Algeria renewed "Algeria's readiness, under the leadership of the President of the

Republic, Mr. Abdelmadjid Tebboune, to continue its usual role and its effective engagement in all international efforts aimed at meeting the humanitarian needs of the Palestinian people as soon as the siege imposed on the Gaza Strip is lifted, supporting the path of reconciliation and Palestinian national unity, as well as strengthening the two-state solution enshrined by international legality by consolidating the pillars of the establishment of the Palestinian state and enabling it to gain full membership in the United Nations."

Regarding Arab issues, Algeria stressed the importance of concerted efforts between the League of Arab States and the United Nations to keep Lebanon away from the ongoing unrest, and stressed the need to accompany Syria in the path of restoring peace and security and restoring its full sovereignty, in addition to stopping military interventions that hinder security and peace efforts in Yemen, and supporting a Yemeni-led political process under the auspices of the United Nations.

Algeria was also able to obtain a historic approval allowing the Libyan Investment Authority to reinvest its frozen assets in international financial organizations, a decision that protects these assets from erosion and preserves their value. It also succeeded in obliging the Sanctions Committee to inform the Libyan authorities of developments in frozen assets, thus giving Libya a greater oppor-

tunity to trace its funds.

- Algeria, prominent role in the fight against terrorism in Africa: As the President of the Republic, Mr. Abdelmadjid Tebboune, is responsible of the file of fight against terrorism in Africa, and in light of the shift of the global terrorism hotbed to the Sahel-Sahara region, Algeria called for a high-level meeting, in order to sound the alarm about the critical situation resulting from the spread of terrorism in Africa.

This meeting was an opportunity to reaffirm the urgent need to revive international interest in order to confront this scourge. In this context, Mr. Ahmed Attaf, Minister of State, Minister of Foreign Affairs, National Community Abroad and African Affairs, presented Algeria's approach to the fight against terrorism and violent extremism in Africa, which requires addressing the manifestations of this phenomenon and its root causes, and requires taking into account the various development and security aspects in a coordinated and integrated manner.

In this context, he pointed out Algeria's full conviction that what Africa is facing is not a local threat, but a global threat that has no borders and will sooner or later create wide-ranging repercussions that go beyond the affected African regions, stressing that this conviction is directly inspired by Algeria's bitter and successful experience in combating this scourge.



President Mr. Abdelmadjid Tebboune with UN SG Mr. Antonio Guterres

All participating African ministers praised the efforts of the President of the Republic and his active role in leading continental efforts in the field of confronting this scourge, stressing that Algeria's pioneering experience has widely inspired various dimensions of joint African action in the field of combating terrorism. The Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security of the African Union, Ambassador Bankole Adeoye, also expressed his sincere appreciation to the President of the Republic for his capable leadership of the African Union's efforts in this field and his

continued support for the relevant collective efforts emanating from the "Oran Process".

As a culmination of this high-level meeting, the Security Council adopted a presidential statement, at the initiative of Algeria in its national capacity, highlighting the institutional structure for combating terrorism in Africa. This represents an important development as it enshrines, for the first time, recognition at the highest international level of the role of the African Union's supporter for the prevention and fight against terrorism, vested in the President of the Republic,

Abdelmadjid Tebboune, who was chosen by his African counterparts to assume this responsibility.

These successes and the decisions reached reflect Algeria's pioneering and consistent positions in defending the causes of security and peace in the world, combating terrorism in Africa and supporting just causes wherever they may be in Palestine or Western Sahara, thus demonstrating once again the high efficiency and well-known experience of Algerian diplomacy in achieving great accomplishments in sensitive files.

Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close	
111,935.38	112,745.01	
Day's High	Day's Low	
113,649.07	111,828.10	
Index Value	Change	
14,898,035,281	-809.63	
Percentage	Time	
-0.72%	4 Feb, 2025 5:00 pm	
Europe: FTSE 100 Index		
Index Value	Change	
8,570.77	-12.79	
Percentage	Time	
-0.15%	4 Feb, 4:35 pm GMT	
USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average		
Index Value	Change	
44,510.92	+89.01	
Percentage	Time	
+0.20%	4 Feb, 11:38 am GMT-5	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		
Index Value	Change	
38,798.37	+278.28	
Percentage	Time	
+0.72%	4 Feb, 3:45 pm GMT+9	
Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	172.75	175.50
Bahrain Dinar	738.60	746.60
Canadian Dollar	191.60	194.00
China Yuan	37.59	37.99
Danish Krone	38.06	38.46
Euro	287.25	290.00
Hong Kong Dollar	35.48	35.83
Indian Rupee	3.12	3.21
Japanese Yen	1.81	1.87
Kuwaiti Dinar	896.30	905.80
Malaysian Ringgit	61.8	62.40
New Zealand \$	154.05	156.05
Norwegians Krone	24.15	24.45
Omani Riyal	723.79	731.79
Qatari Riyal	76.01	76.71
Saudi Riyal	74.20	74.75
Singapore Dollar	205.75	207.75
Swedish Korona	25.01	25.31
Swiss Franc	302.84	305.59
Thai Bhat	8.06	8.21
U.A.E Dirham	75.90	76.55
UK Pound Sterling	346.50	350
US Dollar	279.50	281.00

FPCCI appreciates KP Industries & Commerce Department: President FPCCI

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Mr. Atif Ikram Sheikh, President FPCCI, has appreciated the Commerce, Industries and Technical Education Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), for their initiative on FPCCI's recommendation to provide appropriate plots at district level of the province to set up city or district's chamber of commerce & industry (CCI) offices and buildings. This initiative has the potential to be transformational in the economic, industrial, trade, business and commercial development of KP, he added.

Mr. Atif Ikram Sheikh apprised that the Commerce, Industries and Technical Education Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, has already written to the deputy commissioners of 31 KP districts to identify a 2 kanal plot in each district for the same.

FPCCI Chief maintained that the apex body successfully drew the attention of KP Government at the lack of proper office buildings; sufficient space for CCI operations and rental costs of the existing CCI buildings in many districts of the province.

Mr. Atif Ikram Sheikh highlighted that



FPCCI has made district economy as their preferred subject for its research & development activities; and, CCIs are central to achieving trade and industrial growth of any district. He added that all other provincial governments should also follow the initiative by the KP government in this regard to facilitate CCIs in their respective provinces.

Mr. S. M. Tanveer, Patron-in-Chief, UBG, maintained that the vibrant, dynamic and enterprising CCIs - Chambers of Commerce



& Industry - are leading from the front to promote industrialization, economic development and employment generation across the country.

Mr. S. M. Tanveer demanded that industrial areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are in

need of infrastructure, water, gas, solid waste management and law & order. If the provincial governments can provide us these basic amenities, we will industrialize the province with multi-sectoral, export-oriented and game-changer industrial units, he added.

Life at Eighteen Just Got Better!

ISLAMABAD: The Supermarket, Pharmacy, and Subway Franchise are now open at The Market, bringing unmatched convenience to our luxury community! Residents can now enjoy effortless access to daily essentials, healthcare needs, and delicious bites-just steps from home. The inauguration was led by Tarek Hamdy, CEO of Eighteen, and Usman Waris, CEO of Meher Group of Companies, alongside other key officials of Eighteen Housing. This is just the beginning-stay tuned for more exciting additions!



Spotify closes the quarter stronger than ever and celebrates its first full year of profitability

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Today, Spotify released its Q4 2024 earnings, closing Q4 stronger than ever by outperforming across key metrics and celebrating the first full year of profitability.

By the end of December 2024, Spotify's monthly active users (MAU) reached a record high of 675 million, a 12% year-over-year surge. This represents the highest Q4 net MAU additions ever. Spotify Premium subscriptions also grew 11% YoY to 263 million, highlighting continued consumer appetite for ad-free listening and personalized content.

Daniel Ek, Spotify Founder

& CEO, said, "I am very excited about 2025 and feel really good about where we are as both a product and as a business. We will continue to place bets that will drive long term impact, increasing our speed while maintaining the levels of efficiency we achieved last year. It's this combination that will enable us to build the best and most valuable user experience, grow sustainably and deliver creativity to the world."

Spotify's ability to drive user engagement, expand its content offerings, and improve its monetization strategies continues to set it apart. Review the full earnings release here.

Livoltek Revolutionizes Pakistan's Energy Landscape with Cutting-Edge Battery Solutions

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Livoltek, a global leader in innovative energy solutions, proudly introduces its state-of-the-art battery storage systems to Pakistan, setting new efficiency, reliability, and sustainability standards. With an increasing demand for energy security and sustainable power solutions, Livoltek batteries emerge as the game-changer for homes, businesses, and industrial applications across the country.

Pakistan faces significant energy challenges, including power shortages, rising electricity costs, and an unstable grid. Livoltek's advanced battery technology is designed to combat these issues, ensuring uninterrupted power supply, reducing dependence on the national grid, and maximizing solar energy utilization.

Intelligent Energy Storage & Smart Management

Livoltek batteries feature an advanced Battery Management System (BMS) that intelligently optimizes energy usage, ensuring longer battery life and improved efficiency. With real-time monitoring and remote management capabilities, users can seamlessly track and control their energy consumption through a user-friendly mobile app.

High-Performance Lithium Iron Phosphate (LFP) Technology

Unlike conventional lead-acid and lithium-ion batteries, Livoltek utilizes Lithium Iron Phosphate (LFP) chemistry, known for its superior safety, thermal stability, and extended lifespan. These batteries offer over 6,000 charge cycles, ensuring reliability and durability for years to come.

Range of Batteries for Homeowners

Livoltek offers a variety of battery storage solutions tailored for residential use, including 5kWh, 10kWh, and 15kWh battery packs. These models are designed to seamlessly integrate with solar energy systems, providing homeowners with flexible and scalable storage options based on their energy needs.

Finance Minister reviews CCP's performance and strategic initiatives

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, chaired a high-level meeting to review the performance of the Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP). The meeting focused on measures to enhance the CCP's operational efficiency and institutional effectiveness in fulfilling its regulatory mandate.

The meeting was attended by Chairman CCP, Dr. Kabir Sidhu, along with Members Mr. Saeed Ahmad Nawaz, Ms. Bushra Naz Malik, Mr. Salman Amin, and Mr. Abdul Rashid Sheikh. The Special Secretary Finance and other senior officials from the Finance Division were also present. This meeting was a follow-up to the Minister's visit to the CCP in the first week of December 2024.

The Finance Minister comprehensively reviewed the CCP's departmental progress and discussed strategic initiatives to strengthen its enforcement framework. The Minister was briefed by each Member



on the performance of their departments. Finance Minister reaffirmed Government's commitment to enabling CCP in augmenting its institutional ability and capabilities.

Chairman CCP, Dr. Kabir Ahmed Sidhu, briefed the Minister on the Commission's proactive enforcement efforts in identifying

and addressing anti-competitive practices, including cartelization and trade abuse. Dr. Sidhu also provided an update on ongoing litigation, recoveries and adjudication matters. Since his appointment almost 79 cases have been successfully concluded while others remain under active proceedings.

KE's 220 MW hybrid project marks a milestone in Pakistan's renewable energy transition

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: KE continues to make strides in its renewable energy transition, with the 220 MW Site-Neutral Hybrid Project in Dhabaji, progressing through key regulatory stages. The National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA) held a hearing today on KE's Bid Evaluation Report (BER) for the project, marking a significant step towards transforming the country's energy landscape.

The first-of-its-kind solar-wind hybrid project in Pakistan has attracted the country's lowest tariff bid at 3.09 cents/kWh, submitted by JCM Power, a Canadian firm. The project is set to attract \$200 million in foreign investment, reinforcing international

confidence in KE's renewable initiatives and Pakistan's clean energy potential.

Moonis Alvi, CEO KE, highlighted the significance of the project, stating: "The 220 MW hybrid solar-wind project is a transformative step in KE's renewable energy journey, reinforcing our commitment to a cleaner, more resilient energy future. By securing Pakistan's lowest tariff bid and attracting significant foreign investment, this project emphasizes our dedication to addressing the energy trilemma and tapering off our reliance on imported fuels. We appreciate NEPRA's support in this process and look forward to a decision which will enable the timely execution of this landmark project."

PTM 2025 hosts Prestigious Gala Dinner in Islamabad, Strengthening Global Tourism Cooperation

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: After the successful three-day Pakistan Travel Mart (PTM) 2025 held at the Karachi Expo Center from January 31 to February 2, a vibrant Gala Dinner was hosted at the Marriott Hotel, Islamabad on February 3, 2025. The event was graced by the Minister of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, Mr. Ahsan Iqbal, as the Chief Guest. The gathering brought together government officials, foreign dignitaries, ambassadors, policymak-

ers, tourism stakeholders, and industry leaders, reaffirming Pakistan's commitment to promoting tourism and fostering international collaborations.

The Pakistan Travel Mart (PTM) 2025, supported by the Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC) and the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP), is the country's premier travel and tourism exhibition, providing a platform for B2B collaborations, investment opportunities, and international engagement.

Mr. Harry Hwang, Director of UNWTO's Asia-Pacific Region, while addressing the gathering, emphasized the need for the Ministry of Tourism in Pakistan to effectively represent the country on global tourism platforms. He highlighted that a structured and unified approach is essential to streamline policies, enhance global outreach, and strengthen Pakistan's tourism industry.

The event was also attended by representatives from the diplomatic community, including officials from the tourism boards of Azerbaijan,

Tajikistan, Iran, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Thailand, and several other countries, along with high-ranking officials from provincial tourism departments, TDAP, and leading hospitality groups like Serena Hotels, Marriott Hotels, and Hashoo Group.

Speaking on the occasion, Managing Director PTDC, Aftab-Ur-Rehman Rana, welcomed the esteemed guests and reaffirmed PTDC's commitment to developing Pakistan's tourism industry. He highlighted ongoing initiatives, policy reforms, global branding efforts, and



infrastructure development, all aimed at making Pakistan a leading tourist destination.

A Decade of Unforgettable Moments-HBL PSL 10 Logo Unveiled: Salman Naseer

Asim Tanveer

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) today unveiled the emblem for the milestone 10th edition of the HBL Pakistan Super League (HBL PSL)—a tournament that has become synonymous with world-class cricket, unrelenting passion and electrifying entertainment. The much-anticipated season will take center stage across Pakistan from 8 April to 19 May 2025, marking a decade of thrilling cricketing excellence.

The HBL PSL 10 logo is a bold tribute to the league's phenomenal journey, encapsulating its evolution into one of the most dynamic and fiercely competitive T20 leagues in the world. Designed with a vibrant and modern aesthetic, the emblem celebrates the tournament's unwavering spirit, unity, and star-studded legacy while symbolizing the exciting future



that lies ahead.

A striking element of the logo is the six bold lines, a heartfelt tribute to the six franchises that have carried the league's essence forward. These lines represent not only the regional identities and cricketing cultures that each

team embodies but also the unbreakable bond of sportsmanship and camaraderie that defines the HBL PSL.

PSL Chief Executive Salman Naseer: From breathtaking last-ball finishes to awe-inspiring centuries, the HBL PSL has delivered unforgettable moments

that have become part of cricketing folklore. Over the past nine seasons, we have witnessed extraordinary talent, record-breaking performances and a league that has brought fans together like never before.

As we embark on this landmark 10th season, the HBL PSL is set to elevate the spectacle even further—bigger stars, higher stakes and celebrations befitting a decade of excellence.

Fans can brace themselves for an unforgettable season of high-octane action, legendary rivalries, and a cricketing carnival that will once again unite the nation and captivate audiences worldwide.

With its remarkable journey over the past decade, the HBL PSL has evolved beyond a league—it's a movement, a festival, and a testament to Pakistan's cricketing passion. The countdown to Season 10 begins, and the celebrations are only getting started

8th Commissioner Karachi Cup Basketball tourney concludes

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The 8th Commissioner Karachi Cup Basketball Girls and Boys tournament concluded with an impressive closing ceremony at the International Abdul Nasir Basketball Court Araam Bagh on Tuesday.

Additional Commissioner Karachi Syed Ghazanfar Ali Shah was the chief guest on the occasion. Besides him, Asif Azeem of POA, Asghar Baloch of SOA and a large number sports enthusiasts were also present on this occasion.

In the Girls' title clash, BCP College PECHS defeated BCP North Nazimabad by a narrow margin of 13-19 points. Azram Mukhtar scored 6 and Arooba scored 5 points for victorious team while Aizah Naved made 6 points and Sehba scored two points for the runners up team.

In the Boys' final match,



Araam Bagh Basketball Club thrashed Behria Supers Club by 70-54 points. Ali Chen Zeb scored 24 points while Danial Khan Marwat and Hassan Ali contributed 20 points each for the winning team. Hamza Pasha scored 20 points, Tayyab Jadoon

15 while Abdul Basit scored 9 points for the runners up team.

Zaeema Khatoun, M Ashraf, Zahid Malik, Amir Sharif, Naeem Ahmed, Zulfiqar Abbas Khan and M Usman performed as technical officials and referees at

the final match.

Later, cash prizes of Rs one lakh 80 thousand, playing kits and other gifts were distributed among the prominent performers of the tournament on behalf of Commissioner Karachi Hasan Naqvi.

City School bags National Students Olympic Games trophy

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: City School bagged the Trophy of the 2nd National Students Olympic Games here at the Pakistan Sports Complex.

The games featured 16 sports including athletics, archery, badminton, basketball, catch ball, cycling, chess, football, futsal, gymnastics, rope skipping, skating, table tennis, throwball, basketball and volleyball, said a press release.

More than 4000 male and female teams of educational institutions, universities, colleges and schools from across the country participated in the games.

Director General, Pakistan Sports Board, Mohammad Yasir Pirzada, was the chief guest of the concluding ceremony of the games and gave away the trophies.

Deputy DGs, Pakistan Sports Board, Shahid Islam, Syed Naveed Al Hasan, Director Admin Ehtishamul Haq and Assistant Director Hostel Aamir Siddiqui, President, Pakistan Students Olympic Association, Maqbool Arain, Senior Vice President, Azmat Pasha, Secretary General Rana Tanveer Ahmed, Organizing Secretary, Fida Muhammad Khan, Secretary General, Pakistan Catchball Federation Uma Laila Kulsloom and a large number of

CM's aide directs for early completion of sports' sector schemes

Sports Desk

PESHAWAR: Special Assistant to Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (CMKP) on Industries, Abdul Karim Tordher has directed for ensuring early completion of ongoing development projects in sports sector and availability of more facilities in established projects in his electoral constituency in Swabi.



He issued these directives during a briefing given to him by the Department of Sports regarding the construction of one playground at Union Council levels initiated under the Annual Development Programme (ADP) in the provincial assembly constituency PK-51 Swabi on Tuesday.

During the briefing, the Director (Works) Directorate General (DG) gave him detailed briefing regarding projects in his electoral constituency.

The Special Assistant directed to include schemes to provide more sports facilities in the sports grounds at different places in the constituency according to the local need and public preferences in the development programme.

He directed to include the provision of necessary facilities in the grounds located at Zaida, Kade, Chota Lahore, Zakaria Khel Lahore East, Nabi Kalley Beka, Tordher, Government Degree College Tordher Ground, Jahangira, Haryana and other place.

He said that provision of sports facilities is very important to attract the society and especially youth towards healthy activities. He said that all possible steps would be taken to equip these grounds in the constituency with sports facilities.

So, the youth would be provided sports and recreational facilities and provision of entertainment to the at local level.

Authorities mull hosting match at Arbab Niaz Stadium after 20 years

Sports Desk

PESHAWAR: Authorities have begun considering hosting a match at Peshawar's Arbab Niaz Stadium after a gap of around 20 years.



According to stadium official s on Tuesday, an ICC representative visited the stadium to assess the feasibility of hosting Pakistan Super League (PSL) matches in Peshawar. The visit included a survey of the ground, pavilion area, player routes, and hotel accommodations for foreign players.

During the visit, the head of Peshawar police briefed ICC representatives on security arrangements. Measures under consideration include a shuttle service for spectators, drone surveillance, and the establishment of a helipad near the stadium.

Police officials confirmed that the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) is contemplating hosting two PSL matches in Peshawar in April. To ensure the safety of international players, comprehensive security arrangements will be implemented.

It is worth noting that the last international match at Arbab Niaz Stadium was played between Pakistan and India in 2006.

Special committee to review security of Gaddafi Stadium



Sports Desk

LAHORE: The Punjab home department is finalizing security arrangements for the Tri-Nation Cricket series and the Champions Trophy.

A special committee had been formed to conduct a security audit of the Gaddafi Stadium.

According to a notification issued by the Punjab home department, the committee will carry out a comprehensive security review of Gaddafi Stadium, its surrounding areas, security checkpoints, parking zones, public seating sections and the surveillance system.

The committee will be headed by the SSP Special Branch, with members including the SSP Operations Lahore, additional deputy commissioner (General) Lahore, senior officers from the Intelligence bureau, military intelligence, inter-services intelligence, and the Director of Security for the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB).

The decision to establish security audit committee was taken during a meeting of the Provincial Intelligence Committee, chaired by the Punjab home secretary. The committee is expected to submit its findings to the home department by February 5.

Foolproof security for int'l cricket matches in Lahore pledged

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Capital City Police Officer (CCPO) Lahore Bilal Siddique Kamyana on Tuesday said that the city police are determined to provide foolproof security for the tri-nation series and ICC Champions Trophy cricket matches at Gaddafi Stadium.

CCPO Lahore said that search and sweep operations underway due to international cricket matches in Lahore while surrounding areas of Gaddafi Stadium, airport, residence of players being checked on regular basis.

CCPO further directed to continue search operations

will continue against people involved in illegal activities. He further revealed that all entry and exit points of the city being monitored strictly.

Bilal Siddique Kimyana said that law enforcement personnel being trained with latest technology.

Later, a spokesman of Lahore police said that during year 2025 around 2289 search operations were conducted.

During these search operations police searched more than 89,000 houses and checked 37,000 tenants and more than 3,00,2,000 individuals while around 3,00,1000 were declared clear and necessary verification.

Legal action was taken against 1426 people who were found involved in violation of law while cases were filed against 232 people under tenants act.

During search operation 249 proclaimed offers were arrested, 205 cases were filed against drug-sellers and 39 people were taken under custody for violation of section 55/109.

Lahore police spokesman said that 248 cases were registered against people for consuming liquor while during search operation 71 hotels, 44 hostels, 6 bus stands and 7566 shops were checked.

He said that Lahore police taking effective measures to



ensure public security and safety.

Moreover, Punjab home department already constituted a special audit committee for security audit of Gaddafi Stadium prior to start of tri-nation and Champions Trophy matches.

The Committee will

submit a detailed audit report regarding security arrangements at Gaddafi Stadium, its surrounding areas and parking area.

The committee will submit its final report to Punjab home department on February 5, 2025.

COAS General Syed Asim Munir presides over 267th Corps Commanders' Conference

Continued from Page 1

InshaAllah."

addressing these persistent violations. The forum also took serious note of the recent reckless and provocative statements from the Indian military leadership, terming them irresponsible and detrimental to regional stability.

While addressing the forum, COAS stated: "Pakistan Army remains fully prepared to defend the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity. These hollow statements from Indian military are indicative of their growing frustration and serve only to divert the attention of their masses and international community from their multiple internal fissures and blatant violations of human rights. Any misadventure against Pakistan will be responded with full and resolute force of the state.

Expressing grave concern over the continued use of Afghan soil by Fitna Al Khawarij for terrorist activities against Pakistan, the forum stressed the imperative of concrete and tangible actions by Interim Afghan Government against Fitna Al Khawarij instead of denials as well as continuing with the strategy of undertaking all necessary measures in defence of Pakistan and its people.

The forum also underscored the need to accelerate people centric socio-economic development initiatives in Balochistan, recognizing the urgency of countering externally driven narratives of exclusion. The forum reaffirmed: "No one will be allowed to disrupt peace in Balochistan and nefarious designs of foreign-spon-

sored proxies attempting to mislead and radicalize the youth of Balochistan will be decisively thwarted with the unwavering support of the people of Balochistan, InshaAllah."

Commending the operational preparedness of all formations, COAS emphasized the importance of sustained mission-oriented training, enhanced military cooperation, and the conduct of joint exercises in both conventional and counter-terrorism domains.

Concluding the conference, COAS reaffirmed that the military leadership remains fully cognizant of the multifaceted challenges confronting the nation and is resolute in fulfilling its constitutional responsibilities with the steadfast support of the proud people of Pakistan.

President Zardari departs for a five-day state visit to China



Continued from Page 1

hold meetings with President Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang and other senior Chinese political leaders in Beijing.

President Zardari's visit to China holds significance to further strengthen Pakistan-China relations besides helping to enhance bilateral trade and commerce ties.

During the meetings, the two sides will discuss matters of mutual interest including the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, regional connectivity, and security cooperation.

Govt to unveil corruption-free Ramazan Package sans Utility Stores: PM

Continued from Page 1

policeman Abdul Khaliq in Jamrud who was deployed on the security of the polio team and paid tribute to his sacrifice to make Pakistan a polio-free nation.

He also lauded the services of PM's Coordinator on Health Dr Mukhtar, Polio Coordinator Dr Ayesha Farooq, secretary health and polio vaccinators for their tireless efforts to rid the country of this crippling disease.

Apprising the cabinet members of his Quetta visit on Monday, the prime minister said he visited the hospital to inquire after the security personnel who were injured in

an anti-terror operation in Kalat in which 18 security personnel were martyred and 23 terrorists were eliminated.

"I met the injured. They were in high morale and were even ready to sacrifice their lives for the country. These are the martyrs and Ghazis who are resolved to rid the country of terrorism and striving day and night for the cause," he remarked.

Prime Minister Shehbaz said that the soldiers of the army, police, FC and Rangers sacrificing their lives were actually bearing the brunt of the blunderous policies of a government in the past when thousands of terrorists were set free.

Inauguration

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif unveiling plaque to inaugurate Jinnah Square (underpasses) in Islamabad on Tuesday.



Photo: PID

Media Brief of Multinational Exercise AMAN & Maiden AMAN Dialogue 2025 held in Karachi

Khurram Jaffrani

KARACHI: The media brief for multinational Maritime Exercise AMAN-25 was held in Karachi. Commander Pakistan Fleet, Rear Admiral Abdul Mumib, briefed the media on the details of Exercise AMAN and the maiden AMAN Dialogue, scheduled to be conducted from 7-11 February in Karachi.

While addressing the media personnel, the Commander Pakistan Fleet highlighted that with the evolving global landscape shifting from geo-politics to geo-economics, the security of global sea-borne trade and energy routes has gained unprecedented importance. The Indian Ocean Region faces a range of challenges, from traditional security threats to non-traditional risks. These multifaceted issues have broadened the scope of maritime security, compelling nations to re-evaluate their strategies and policies.



He stated that Pakistan recognizes that no single country can address the complex challenges at sea alone. In this context, Pakistan Navy took the initiative to launch biennial Multinational Exercise AMAN in 2007 under the slogan "Together for Peace."

The primary objective of this exercise is to bring maritime nations together to adopt safe and sustainable procedures, share experiences, and collectively address maritime threats. Over the years, Exercise AMAN has evolved in terms of its objectives and scope. The first AMAN Exercise, which primarily focused on counterterrorism and anti-piracy operations, was attended by 28 countries. Over time, the scope and participation of the exercise expanded, ultimately paving the way for doctrinal synergy to counter emerging maritime challenges.

Commander Pakistan Fleet emphasized that the growing global participation in Exercise AMAN reflects the international community's confidence in Pakistan Navy's role in collaborative maritime security. This confidence has led to yet another milestone —

the introduction of the maiden AMAN Dialogue, which will be conducted alongside Exercise AMAN 2025. The AMAN Dialogue will bring together Chiefs of Navies, Coast Guards, and Defence Forces to exchange views on shared global and regional maritime issues. It will serve as a platform for adopting innovative solutions to address the ever-evolving challenges at sea. In essence, the AMAN Dialogue will merge intellectual discourse with real-time practical experiences in the maritime domain.

He further added that Exercise AMAN 2025 will play a vital role in enhancing maritime security and strengthening Pakistan's position as a key maritime player — capable of contributing to regional and global peace and shared prosperity while safeguarding its Sea Lines Of Communication and economic interests.

Carbon neutrality experts discuss climate solutions with PM's aide Romina Khurshid

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: A five-member delegation of Minus 2 Degrees (M2D), a USA-based company specializing in carbon neutrality solutions, met with Romina Khurshid Alam, the Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Climate Change, at her office on Tuesday. The meeting focused on carbon reduction strategies aimed at tackling climate change challenges and environmental sustainability.

Ms. Romina emphasized that Pakistan's carbon trading policy guidelines represent a significant milestone in establishing a national carbon market. These guidelines, she



stated, are crucial for attracting green investments and helping Pakistan meet its climate goals under the Paris Agreement.

Secretary of the Ministry of Climate Change, Aisha

Humera Moriani, encouraged the delegation to collaborate with the Board of Investment at the federal level and the Punjab government to promote net-zero carbon initiatives within the industrial sector. She also highlighted the importance of involving the business community in this transition toward sustainability.

Additional Secretary of the Climate Ministry, Zulfikar Younas, reviewed the delegation's proposals and provided valuable feedback to guide future collaborations.

National Cotton Revival Conference

Commerce Desk

MULTAN: In response to Pakistan's declining cotton production and shrinking cultivation area, the Pakistan Central Cotton Committee (PCCC) and CottonConnect jointly organized the first National Cotton Revival Conference in Multan. The event brought together key stakeholders, including government officials, agricultural experts, industry leaders, research institutions, and farmer organizations, to develop a sustainable roadmap for revitalizing the cotton sector.

Speaking at the conference, MNA Rana Qasim Noon called for increased financial support for research institutions and the integration of PCCC with PARC. MPA Rana Iqbal Siraj urged restrictions on sugarcane and rice cultivation in cotton belts. Federal Secretary for National Food Security & Research, Wasim Ajmal Chaudhry, reaffirmed the government's commitment to strengthening the cotton sector through collaborative efforts.



ICAC Adviser Dr. Eric highlighted the committee's role in supporting Pakistan with advanced agricultural practices and improved seed varieties.

Major General (R) Shahid Nazir and Major General Muhammad Ayub Ahsan Bhatti emphasized the importance of land restoration, modern machinery, and efficient resource management in boosting cotton

productivity. Allison Ward, CEO of CottonConnect, underscored the need for sustainable cotton practices, farmer training, and responsible resource use. Dr. Yousaf Zafar, Vice President of PCCC, called for joint efforts to address production challenges and strengthen research and innovation in the cotton industry.

The conference concluded with experts reaffirming their commitment to revitalizing Pakistan's cotton sector through sustainability, modern technology, and policy reforms. Sustainable Cotton Platform will be established under PCCC supported by CottonConnect. Primark, BCI, OCA, FairTrade, PCGA, APTMA, Farmers, Govt departments and others will be members of this group. Participants agreed that strong collaboration between the government, private sector, and farmers is essential to restoring cotton's crucial role in the national economy.

Messages on Kashmir Solidarity Day 5 February 2025

Mr. Asif Ali Zardari

President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan



Every year, on 5th February, the people of Pakistan reaffirm solidarity with their Kashmiri brothers and sisters. On this day, we renew our unwavering support for the Kashmiri people's just and legitimate struggle for the realization of their inalienable right to self-determination.

The Jammu and Kashmir dispute is one of the oldest unresolved international disputes as India continues to occupy large parts of Jammu and

Kashmir against the will of the local people. The situation took a turn for the worse, following India's illegal and unilateral actions of 5 August 2019, which are aimed at transforming Kashmiris into a disempowered community in their own land. Today, India is making efforts to consolidate its occupation of the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK) through a series of administrative, judicial and legislative measures. However, these actions cannot suppress the Kashmiri people's indomitable desire for self-determination.

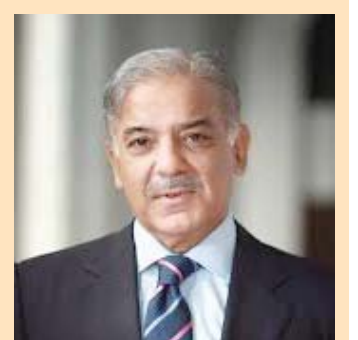
Pakistan will always stand shoulder to shoulder with the Kashmiri brothers and sisters. We will continue to extend our full moral, diplomatic and political support to their just struggle for the realization of their right to self-determination, as enshrined in the relevant UN Security Council resolutions.

Mr. Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif

Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

The Government and people of Pakistan annually observe the 'Kashmir Solidarity Day' to renew their steadfast support to the Kashmiri people's just and legitimate struggle for realization of their right to self-determination. The right to self-determination is a fundamental principle of international law. Every year, the UN General Assembly adopts a resolution that stresses the legal right of people to decide their own destiny. Regrettably, the Kashmiri people have not been able to exercise this inalienable right, notwithstanding the passage of last seventy-eight years. Today, the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) remains one of the most-militarized zones in the world. Kashmiris are living in an environment of fear and intimidation. Political activists and human rights defenders face prolonged detention and confiscation of properties.

Pakistan will continue to offer



its unwavering moral, diplomatic and political support to the Kashmiri people till the realization of their right to self-determination, as enshrined in the relevant UN Security Council resolutions. I also avail myself of this opportunity to salute the resolve and courage of the valiant Kashmiri people, who continue to render innumerable sacrifices in their struggle to achieve their fundamental rights and freedoms.

Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani
Acting President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Acting President, Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani, in his message on the occasion of Kashmir Day, stated that the entire Pakistani nation, along with the Senate of Pakistan, expresses complete solidarity with our Kashmiri brothers and sisters. Kashmir Solidarity Day provides us with an opportunity to renew our resolve to stand by the people of the illegally occupied Kashmir in their struggle for the right to self-determination.

He emphasized that the people of the occupied Kashmir have been steadfast in their struggle for freedom, making immense sacrifices over decades. Their determination and courage serve as a beacon of hope for freedom fighters worldwide. The grave human rights violations in occupied Jammu and Kashmir by India present a stern test for the conscience of the international community.

Acting President, Syed Yousuf



Raza Gilani concluded by urging all Pakistanis to show full solidarity with their Kashmiri brothers and sisters on Kashmir Solidarity Day and to send a powerful message to the world that Kashmir is the lifeblood of Pakistan, and we will never leave its people alone.

Chairperson BISP and Secretary review key initiatives in a meeting

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Chairperson Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) Senator Rubina Khalid and Secretary BISP Amer Ali Ahmad chaired an important meeting today at BISP HQs. The meeting focused on key issues, including the implementation of a new payment system for disbursing funds to deserving women, cybercrimes committed in the name of BISP, the distribution of Kafaalat tranche across the country, and other significant matters.

While taking strict notice of cybercrimes being carried out in BISP's name, Senator Rubina Khalid emphasized that such fraudulent activities tarnish the institution's reputation and exploit innocent and

vulnerable people. She directed the BISP Cyber Wing to report these crimes to the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) and the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) and take immediate action against the perpetrators.

Discussing the new payment system, Chairperson Senator Rubina Khalid stated that the primary objective is to facilitate deserving women by ensuring a dignified and transparent mechanism for fund distribution. She stressed the importance of developing this system in consultation with the State Bank of Pakistan and partner banks to enhance efficiency and accessibility.

The meeting was attended by Additional Secretary Dr. Tahir Noor and all Director Generals of BISP.