



Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



فرمان رسول ﷺ

ابوہریرہ رضی اللہ عنہ سے روایت ہے کہ نبی کریم صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم نے فرمایا کہ ہذا (دست) انسان کو کوئی چیز نہیں دیتی جو اس کے لئے اس کی تقدیر میں نہ لکھی ہو بلکہ وہ تقدیر دیتی ہے جو میں (پ) نے اس کے لئے مقرر کر دی ہے، الدین اس کے ذریعہ میں بخیر کمال نکل لیتا ہوں۔ (صحیح بخاری: حدیث نمبر 6609)

Barkat Rice Mills (Pvt) Limited



COAS Asim Munir lauds PAF for foiling Indian aggression

Chief of Army Staff General Asim Munir visited Air Headquarters in Islamabad on Wednesday. On his arrival, Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Babar Sidhu warmly welcomed the army chief. He appreciated the Pakistan Air Force for once again shooting down several enemy aircrafts and proving the PAF's mettle.



Schools closed for indefinite period in wake of Indian aggression

In a significant move reflecting rising regional tensions, the Secretary of Elementary and Secondary Education, Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), has ordered the immediate closure of all government and private schools across the region due to escalating Indian aggression along the Line of Control (LoC).

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National Security Committee Meeting

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting of National Security Committee, on Wednesday.



Photo: PID

NSC calls Indian aggression 'act of war'; authorizes armed forces to avenge loss of lives

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The National Security Committee on Wednesday unequivocally condemning the blatant violation of Pakistan's sovereignty and territorial integrity by India, authorized the Pakistan armed forces to take corresponding actions to avenge the loss of innocent civilians in the Indian strikes.

"In consonance with Article-51 of the UN Charter, Pakistan reserves the right to respond, in self-defence, at a time, place, and manner of its

choosing to avenge the loss of innocent Pakistani lives and blatant violation of its sovereignty. The Armed Forces of Pakistan have duly been authorized to undertake corresponding actions in this regard," according to a press release issued following the meeting chaired by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif.

The forum offered Fateha for the souls of the innocent civilians martyred in India's strikes, extended its heartfelt condolences to the near ones of the martyrs and wished a speedy

recovery to the injured.

The NSC deliberated upon the grave developments arising out of India's unprovoked, cowardly and unlawful "act of war."

The NSC unequivocally condemned these illegal acts as blatant violations of Pakistan's sovereignty and territorial integrity, which manifestly constituted acts of war under international law.

The committee observed that the deliberate targeting of civilians, including innocent women and children, by the Indian military constituted a heinous and

shameful crime, that was in violation of all norms of human behaviour and the provisions of international law."

"Attacking its innocent people is neither tolerable nor acceptable to Pakistan. India, against all sanity and rationality has once again ignited an inferno in the region, the responsibility for ensuing consequences shall lie squarely with India."

The committee discussed the coordinated missile, air and drone strikes by Indian armed forces on the night of 6/7 May 2025, on multiple loca-

tions within Pakistan's sovereign territory, including Sialkot, Shakargarh, Muridke and Bahawalpur in Punjab, Kotli and Muzaffargarh in Azad Jammu and Kashmir.

The committee observed that India's act of aggression also caused grave danger to commercial airlines belonging to brotherly Gulf countries, endangering the lives of thousands of on-board passengers. Besides, the Neelum-Jhelum Hydropower Project was also deliberately targeted in violation of international conventions.

Crushing blow makes India realize Pakistan's preparedness, capabilities: PM



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday while stressing upon a display of unity in the aftermath of India's previous night gutless attack, said that a crushing blow delivered by the country's armed forces had made India realize the preparedness and capabilities of Pakistan.

Addressing a session of the National Assembly, the prime minister said in the darkness of night, India tried to infiltrate into Pakistan like it did in the past, but with the grace of Allah Almighty and with the prayers and support of the nation, the brave forces had given them a befitting reply.

In that cowardly attack, a number of people had lost their lives; including women and children.

The prime minister said that Pakistan had reports about an aerial attack by Rafale combat planes and the entire house and 240 million people of

the country should feel pride that its armed forces were ready to counter the attack and destroyed their intruding combat planes.

The prime minister paid tribute to Air Chief Zaheer Ahmed Babar Sidhu, on behalf of the entire nation and the parliament for his vigilance and inspiring leadership.

He said last night, they had information about the nefarious designs of India who tried to carry out attacks with 80 warplanes, at six different places inside Pakistan, including in AJK, Bahawalpur, Shakargarh, and Sialkot, but Pakistan's eagles shot down five planes including three Rafale planes; one of which fell down in Bhatanda, besides a number of drones.

"The response left the enemy in disarray and make them realized the power, prowess and strength of Pakistan as a nuclear state, and it has made them sleepless. Our armed forces are battle-hardened force," he said.

SCBAP appreciates Pak Army for befitting response to Indian aggression

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court Bar Association has called a special meeting of its General Body at the SCP premises on Thursday to review the post Indian aggression situation in a clear violation of international laws.

According to press release issued here Wednesday, Secretary SCBAP Salman Mansoor has informed all members of the Association to attend the special meeting

of the 27th Cabinet of the SCBA to be held at 12pm on Thursday, at the SCP Building here.

In a separate declaration issued here today, the SCBAP has strongly condemned unprovoked Indian attack on unarmed civilian population resulting in death of 26 innocent people.

"This loss of life of Pakistani citizens can not go unnoticed and a befitting response is due," says the declaration.

Extremist Indian regime endangers regional peace, stability with its hostile actions: President

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari on Wednesday said that the extremist Indian regime had endangered the peace and stability of the entire South Asian region and its hostile actions would have dangerous consequences for the region.

Minister of Interior of Italy Matteo Piantedosi, along with his delegation, called on at Aiwan-e-Sadr and discussed ways to increase bilateral cooperation in various areas of mutual



interest, President Secretariat Press Wing said in a press release.

The president discussed with the Italian interior minister India's unprovoked military aggression against Pakistan that had targeted innocent civilians, including women, children and the elderly.

Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control Senator Syed Mohsin Raza Naqvi, Minister for Overseas Pakistanis Ch Salik Hussain, Minister of State for

Interior Senator Muhammad Tallal Chaudhary, and senior government officials were also present during the meeting.

The president said that Pakistan greatly valued its ties with Italy and remained determined to improve mutually beneficial cooperation in diverse sectors.

The minister expressed condolences to the families of the martyrs who lost their lives in the Indian attack on Pakistan last night.

Naqvi meets Italian counterpart to brief situation after India's aggression

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi held an important meeting with Italian Interior Minister Matteo Piantedosi here Wednesday. Mohsin Naqvi apprised his Italian counterpart on India's cowardly act of aggression carried out last night and highlighted the motives behind it.

During the meeting, the need for meaningful efforts to de-escalate tensions was emphasized. The Italian Interior Minister



expressed sorrow over the martyrdom of 26 civilians and

extended condolences to the bereaved families.

Mohsin Naqvi stated that India blatantly violated international laws by targeting civilian populations. He said that Twenty-six civilians, including women and children, were martyred. He highlighted that Pakistan's armed forces gave a befitting response to Indian aggression and destroyed five enemy fighter jets. He said that Pakistan has been warning the world about India's dangerous designs from day one and held India responsible for destabilizing the regional situation.

During the meeting, both sides

discussed trade, security ties and matters of mutual interest. It was agreed to further enhance cooperation with Italy in the areas of security, counter-narcotics, human trafficking, and combating terrorism. The Italian Interior Minister reiterated his commitment to strengthening collaboration in counter-terrorism, human trafficking, and anti-narcotics efforts. Mohsin Naqvi stated that taking strict action against illegal immigration and its facilitators is Pakistan's top priority.



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Airport Authority (PAA) has made it clear that country's all airports are functional and airports are safe for travel.

Pakistan Airport Authority (PAA) spokesperson said the government has informed the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) of the serious threats posed to civil aviation due to India's irresponsible actions.

Civil, military leadership attend funeral of Shaheed Irtaza Abbas Turi

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The funeral prayer for seven-year-old Irtaza Abbas Turi, son of Lieutenant Colonel Zaheer Abbas Turi, who was martyred in Dawarandi, Azad Jammu & Kashmir, due to unprovoked Indian cross-border aggression, was solemnly held Wednesday in Islamabad.

The ceremony was attended by the Honourable President of Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari, Prime Minister of Pakistan, Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Senator Ishaq Dar, Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Information Minister, General Syed Asim Munir, NI (M), Chief of Army Staff (COAS), Admiral Naveed Ashraf, Chief of Naval Staff, along with a large number of senior serving and retired military officers, government & civilian officials, soldiers, and relatives of the martyr.

Following the funeral prayers, the Prime Minister condemned India's unprovoked aggression,



stating that the deliberate targeting of innocent civilians, including children, women, and the elderly, is a reprehensible act of cowardice. He emphasised that such reckless

acts reflect the aggressive and hubristic mindset of the Indian government, posing a grave threat to regional and global peace. The President & the Prime

Minister affirmed that the valiant Armed Forces of Pakistan are resolutely confronting Indian forces across all fronts, delivering a strong and uncompromising response.

They reiterated that these blatant violations of international law and humanitarian norms will be met with decisive action.

The President & the Prime



Minister prayed, "May Allah grant eternal peace to the departed souls of this cruel act of aggression by

India and bestow strength upon their families to bear this irreparable loss. Ameen."

Damaged mosque

LAHORE: A view of the damaged Mosque (Um-ul-Qura) as fascist India fire missiles on the various cities of Pakistan for his face saving but in response instead of being in position to celebrate, Pakistanis brave Army shot down his top 05 fighter jets including "Rafale" Sukhoi Su-30 and others, after which India is waving white flags.



Photo: Online

AJK President Condemns Indian Aggression, Calls for International Intervention

Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: President Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry, has strongly condemned Indian aggression, calling it a futile attempt to distract global attention from the unresolved Kashmir issue. Speaking to a group of international media representatives today, the President stressed that, given the volatile regional situation, it was imperative for friendly nations to step forward and play an active role in resolving the Kashmir dispute that happens to be the root cause of decades-long unrest in the region. Barrister Chaudhry stated that India's reckless attack had once again turned Kashmir into a flashpoint.



He emphasized that lasting peace in South Asia was inescapably linked to a just and honorable resolution to the Kashmir issue, citing the region's troubled history. Condemning India's

"imperialistic designs," the President said the overnight assault on civilian population revealed the country's true face. "India's attack on unarmed civilians and places of worship has

fully exposed its ugly face before the world," he said. He praised Pakistan's armed forces for their swift and decisive response, noting, "The befitting reply may have caught the Modi government off guard." He added that the Indian government must not forget the Pakistan's forces remain ever-prepared to confront any aggression and that the people of Azad Kashmir stand firmly with them in any situation. Highlighting India's intensified human rights violations in occupied Kashmir, Barrister Chaudhry said the Modi government had escalated its brutality under the pretext of the Pahalgam incident. "Since then, over 4,000 Kashmiris have been arrested, and more than 2,500 homes demolished", he added.

PM AJK Chairs High-Level Meeting to Review Security Situation in Muzaffarabad

Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: An extraordinary meeting held here today with Prime Minister Chudhary Anwar ul Haq in the chair reviewed the security situation in the region following recent Indian attacks. Addressing the meeting, Prime Minister Haq, while denouncing the Indian aggression, made it clear that the Indian aggression was totally unacceptable.

He directed the relevant authorities to provide all possible support to affectees at the LoC and immediate medical assistance to the injured. He stated that the provision of all facilities including food and medicines supplies must be made available to the people living in areas near the LoC. The Prime Minister also directed the newly estab-



lished Emergency Response Center to collect and compile data on the damage to livestock and houses caused by Indian aggression and take all possible steps to help the citizens. The Prime Minister also called for an urgent meeting of the Emergency Response Committee to assess the overall regional situation. He

assured that shortage of staff including medicines at BHUs and other health centers in areas near the LoC will be resolved within 24 hours. Pertinently the high level meeting, attended by cabinet members, top officials of the Police and security agencies, approved the immediate establishment of the

Central Emergency Response Center (CERC). Given the emergency situation, the CERC will operate round the clock. The CERC, comprised of the commissioners of the three divisions, DIGs, DCs, and SSPs, will keep the prime minister abreast of the latest developments by furnishing fresh updates

India commits naked aggression against AJK people: Sardar Masood Khan



Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: Former President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Ambassador, Sardar Masood Khan, has strongly condemned what he described as unprovoked and unjustified Indian attacks on civilian populations in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), calling it a blatant violation of the United Nations Charter and international law.

"This is a criminal, unprovoked act of war. Pakistan has retaliated justly and robustly," stated Khan during his visit to the Bilal Mosque and nearby residential areas in Shawai Nullah near Muzaffarabad, which were struck by Indian forces on the night between Monday and Tuesday. The attack resulted in the tragic deaths of three civilians, including an 80-year-old muezzin, and critically injured an eight-year-old girl.

Highlighting the resilience of AJK's people, Khan stated, "The people of Azad Kashmir are a martial race who liberated this land through immense sacrifice. We are peace-loving but will defend our freedom and liberty at all costs. The international community must hold India accountable for endangering regional peace and stability." The Cadet College event was also addressed by leaders of the All Parties Hurriyat Conference, including Ghulam Mohammad Safi and Altaf Hussain Wani, along with Brigadier Asrat Mahmood (Principal), Dr. Raja Sajjad, Ms. Samia Sajid (Chairperson, Kashmir Women Alert Forum), and other dignitaries.

Pakistan salutes its brave forces for timely response to India's cowardly attacks

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI/MUZAFFARABAD: President of All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference and former Prime Minister Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan said that instead of investigating the Pahalgam incident, the attack on Pakistani citizens and mosques is India's cowardice. The Pakistani nation salutes its brave forces who gave a prompt and decisive response to the aggression. Our forces responded to India's cowardly attacks with unparalleled strength and bravery. Under the leadership of Chief of Army Staff General Asim Munir, Pakistan's land, naval and air forces crushed India's pride and India's arrogant and expansionist ambitions reached their logical conclusion in front of the world. The cowardly enemy attacked mosques and civilian population in the darkness of night, which we strongly condemn and congratulate the Pakistan Army for its timely response. The entire Kashmiri nation stands as a leaden wall against the enemy. He expressed these views while talking to Major (retd) Nasrullah Khan, Chairman of the National Volunteers Committee and Senior Leader of the Muslim Conference. He said that the people of Azad Kashmir, especially the youth, should become part of this national volunteer movement and stand by the side of the Pakistan Army. India has started its destruction by attacking and the war was started by India and the choice to end it is with Pakistan.



India's provocation on the LOC claims innocent lives

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: According to a press release issued by the district administration, as a result of the cowardly missile attack by India on the intervening night of 06/07 May 2025 and subsequent provocative firing on the LoC, a missile attack was carried out on the Pa.Jagran Bilal Mosque in Muzaffarabad district. As a result, 03 innocent civilians were martyred while the structure of the mosque was also severely damaged. In the same incident, a nearby house was also partially damaged while a girl was also injured in the same house. As a result of unprovoked firing on the Line of Control, one person was injured in Palhot Tehsil Muzaffarabad and a woman in Mira Kalsi Tehsil Patika (Naseerabad) who were shifted to CMH Muzaffarabad after being bandaged at nearby medical centers. As a result of the firing in Nausiri, 02 houses have been partially damaged while 02 vehicles are also partially affected. A person's cattle shed has been destroyed in Hariara.



Islamabad
30° – 38° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr	3:40 am
Zohr	12:04 pm
Asr	4:55 pm
Maghrib	6:56 pm
Isha	8:30 pm

EMERGENCY

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

Women Police Stations

Islamabad	9222596
Rawalpindi	9270601-20

ENQUIRY

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

HOSPITALS

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

DEPARTMENTS

CDA	9221334-43
CDA	9208301-04
Met Office	9250360-6
RDA	5555864

Sarfraz condemns India's cowardly attacks on Pakistan

QUETTA: Chief Minister of Balochistan, Mir Sarfraz Bugti, has strongly condemned the cowardly attacks by India on Pakistan, declaring that the Pakistan Army is fully capable of delivering a crushing response to any form of aggression. He vowed befitting reply to those who cast an evil eye on Pakistan.

Speaking at a conference titled "Rising Balochistan & Youth Innovations", organized by the Balochistan Board of Investment and Trade, the Chief Minister commended the Pakistan Air Force for successfully downing Indian fighter jets and thwarting their malicious designs. He labeled India as a state with terrorist intentions, alleging its continued support for militant groups operating in Balochistan.

Reaffirming public solidarity with the military, Bugti emphasized that the people of Balochistan stand firmly with the armed forces in defending national sovereignty.

In his address, he also highlighted Balochistan's rich potential for investment, describing the province as a land of opportunities, particularly attractive to both domestic and international investors due to its vast natural resources.

Touching on the evolving media landscape, Bugti acknowledged the growing influence of digital platforms and announced that the provincial government will soon launch a Digital Media Policy to promote responsible and development-oriented use of social media.

Pakistan Zindabad Rally was organized in Toba Tek Singh

Zafar Chishti

TOBA TEK SINGH: DC and DPO Lead "Pakistan Zindabad" Rally in Toba Tek Singh — Tehsil-wide Events Show Massive Public Solidarity with Armed Forces

Amid escalating tensions between Pakistan and India, a grand "Pakistan Zindabad" rally was organized in Toba Tek Singh by the district administration to express unwavering solidarity with the Pakistan Armed Forces. The rally was led by Deputy Commissioner Muhammad Naeem Sindhu and District Police Officer Ibadat Nisar, beginning from the Municipal Committee and culminating at Sheebaz Chowk. Citizens from all walks of life, including political representatives, religious scholars, civil society members, lawyers, students and media personnel, participated with great zeal. Similar rallies were held in Gojra, Pir Mahal,



and Kamalia, where the respective Assistant Commissioners led the processions. In Gojra, the public gathered in large numbers

under the leadership of the Assistant Commissioner to voice their support. In Pir Mahal, AC Zulfikar Sabir led a spirited rally joined by

students, teachers and traders. In Kamalia, the rally also witnessed enthusiastic participation, with the Assistant Commissioner at the

forefront. Participants in all rallies carried national flags and banners, chanting patriotic slogans like "Pakistan Zindabad" and "Pak

Army Paindabad," sending a strong message of unity and resistance against aggression. Citizens hailed the Pakistan Air Force for shooting down five Indian jets—three of which were confirmed by Indian media as a mark of pride for the nation.

DC Muhammad Naeem Sindhu, while addressing the rally, emphasized that the district administration is fully prepared to safeguard the public and is strictly implementing the Government of Pakistan's directives. "The nation stands with its defenders, and no enemy conspiracy will succeed," he stated. DPO Ibadat Nisar added that the security situation in the district is fully under control and that police and emergency services remain on high alert. The rally concluded with funeral prayers for the martyrs, attended by thousands, followed by heartfelt prayers for the peace, safety and prosperity of the motherland.

Meeting

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Board of Investment, Mr. Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh in a group photo during a productive meeting with Iranian Ambassador Mr. Reza Amiri Moghadam to discuss bilateral trade, regional stability, and economic cooperation on Wednesday.



Photo: PID

India's Cowardly Attack Sparks Nationwide Solidarity in Pakistan



Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: Against Indian aggression, Jamaat-e-Islami workers led by District Ameer Mehboob-uz-Zaman Butt, Yasir Iqbal Khara, Azim Randhawa, Mian Anwar-ul-Haq, Sheikh Mushtaq, Afzal Shaheen, Ajmal Badr marched from Chinot Bazaar to Chowk Ghanta Ghar. Carrying Paki-

stani flags, Jamaat-e-Islami workers raised strong slogans against India.

Traders participated in this rally in large numbers under the leadership of Central Cloth Board Ittehad Group Pakistan President Alhaji Naseer Yousuf Vohra. Speaking on the occasion, Mehboob-uz-Zaman Butt said that India has attacked Pakistan in the darkness of

night by displaying cowardice. The entire nation stands with one voice and one soul with full force against India's evil aggression.

Pakistan's forces, maintaining their tradition of courage and bravery, have given a timely and full response to the cowardly Indian attack. Cowardly India is targeting mosques and innocent children

and women in urban areas.

India has by imposing war through aggression, it has challenged the entire nation.

This is the time for unity of all religious, political, commercial, social and civil society. He said that by unilaterally suspending the Indus Water Treaty, India has also started water terrorism against Pakistan.

Urgent reforms needed as Thalassaemia becomes a silent epidemic in Pakistan: ChildLife Foundation

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Thalassaemia has become a silent epidemic in Pakistan, with an estimated 100,000 children suffering from thalassaemia major—a preventable but life-threatening blood disorder. Each year, 5,000 to 9,000 children are born with the condition, primarily due to low public awareness, cultural practices such as cousin marriages, and the lack of universal premarital screening. Despite over 10 million Pakistanis carrying the thalassaemia gene, premarital screening remains non-mandatory, and widespread stigma continues to hinder progress.

"Our ERs are often the first and only point of care for children with thalassaemia," said Dr. Ahsan Rabbani, CEO of ChildLife Foundation. "It is a tragedy that we are treating the preventable consequences of a system in need of urgent reform. We must shift from reactive care to preventive action."

ChildLife not only provides emergency stabilization and safe transfusions but also offers counseling through its network for long-term disease management. Yet, most families are left to bear the emotional and financial toll of lifelong care with minimal support.

As part of the global #PatientsFirst campaign, ChildLife urges policymakers, healthcare professionals, and communities to come together under the banner of #WeAre1—to create a future where no child suffers from a preventable condition, and every child with thalassaemia can survive and thrive.

FESCO declares emergency amid Indo-Pak war tensions

Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Faisalabad Electric Supply Company (FESCO) Engr. Muhammad Amir has declared an emergency in the FESCO region amid the current Indo-Pakistan war situation. Meanwhile, FESCO operational staff have been ordered to remain on high alert and they have been directed to ensure uninterrupted power supply in FESCO areas.

The CEO FESCO has directed the FESCO's senior Management to remain on high alert in case of emergency and ordered the staff of the Regional Distribution Control Center to be kept active round the clock. He said that in case of any power breakdown or feeder shutdown, immediate steps should be taken to restore power supply.

He has cancelled the leaves of all staff, including Grid Station Construction (GSC) and Grid Station Operation (GSO), to ensure continuous and uninterrupted electricity supply to consumers in case of any emergency situation. Muhammad Aamer said that in the current tense situation, continuous supply of electricity in the region is FESCO's priority and any negligence in this regard will not be tolerated.



Sindh Food Authority Cracks Down on Substandard Tea and Milk in Hyderabad



Qayyoom Sarohi

HYDERABAD: In an effort to ensure the supply of quality tea and milk to citizens in Hyderabad, the Sindh Food Authority Hyderabad conducted inspections and collected 20 samples of tea leaves and milk.

Under the leadership of Director Operations Rehmatullah Rajar and Deputy Director Fida Hussain Khoso, the team from the Sindh Food Authority Hyderabad visited various tea shops and tea stalls across the city. During the visit, they collected approximately 20 samples of tea leaves and 5 samples of milk, which have been sent to laboratories for quality testing.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Director Fida Hussain Khoso stated that the Sindh Food Authority Hyderabad will not compromise on the supply of hygienic food items to the public. He added that strict legal action will be taken against those who violate the laws of the Sindh Food Authority.

Nation's Tribute to the Brave Soldiers of the Pakistan Army: Afzal Babar

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Dr. Muhammad Afzal Babar, Founder and Central President of the Private Schools Network Islamabad Pakistan, in a passionate statement, praised the Pakistan Army's timely and effective response to last night's aggression by the enemy. He stated that the Armed Forces of Pakistan not only defended the geographical borders of the beloved homeland but also once again proved that every soldier of the nation is ever ready to protect the motherland.

Central Secretary General Maqbool Hussain Dar, in his statement, said that once again, our forces have delivered a clear message to the enemy that Pakistan's sovereignty will not be compro-



mised under any circumstances. The soldiers of the nation are our pride, who remain vigilant day and night to ensure

our peaceful sleep.

Chairman of the Islamabad Board of Education and Central Senior Vice President, Chaudhry Muhammad Arshad, said that the nation stands today because of the blood of its martyrs, and their sacrifices will never be in vain. The nation takes pride in the courage of its army and stands with its soldiers in every field.

Other central and zonal officials including Rao Asif Qayyum, Faisal Ali, Haji Abdul Nadeem Mughal, Imtiaz Ali Khan, Shafiq Ahmad, Syed Sibte-e-Asghar, Syed Muqarab Hussain Shah, Mrs. Shamim, Sarfaraz Syed, Ubaid Azhar, Khawaja Anjum Majid, Mehmood Hussain Rafi, Chaudhry Tanveer Naz,

Raja Imran, Syed Anjum Bukhari, Hafiz Muhammad Arshad, Asghar Ali Sheikh, Saqqa Subhan, Farhat Naseer, Saleem Khan, Chaudhry Muhammad Irfan, Raja Muhammad Rashid, Muhammad Mohsin Sarwar, and others, in a joint statement, said that nations that honor their protectors are never defeated. India should know that every citizen of Pakistan holds love and pride in their hearts for the Pakistan Armed Forces. They praised the Army's brave action, stating that it was necessary to respond to the enemy in their own language, and our forces fulfilled this duty excellently. The central and zonal officials of PSN (Private Schools Network) paid a grand tribute to the Pakistan Army and made it clear that every child of Pakistan stands with its army.

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Pakistan down Indian jets

Pakistan military spokesperson Lt. Gen. Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry said on Wednesday Pakistan had shot down five Indian fighter jets after New Delhi launched overnight strikes in which 26 civilians were killed.

In the sharpest military escalation in more than two decades between the nuclear-armed rivals, the Indian government said it struck nine Pakistani “terrorist infrastructure” sites where a deadly attack in Indian-administered Kashmir on April 22 had been planned. The attack took place on the tourist hill station of Pahalgam in the part of Kashmir governed by India, with 26 men killed.

The Pakistani military said six locations across its territory — Ahmedpur East, Muridke, Sialkot, Shakargarh in the eastern province of Punjab and Kotli and Muzaffarabad in Azad Kashmir — were targeted. Azad Kashmir is a part of the disputed Kashmir valley that is administered by Pakistan.

In televised remarks on Wednesday morning, Chaudhry said Indian aircraft had fired from Indian airspace using long-range weapons.

“Five planes and one combat drone, which had attacked Pakistan were shot down,” he said, naming three Rafales and an MiG-29 and Su-57 each and a combat drone.

An army soldier stands guard on the rooftop of a mosque building damaged by a suspected Indian missile attack near Muzaffarabad. (AP)

He added that the engagements were done as “self defense” after the Indian aircraft attacked Pakistani territory and killed civilians, including women, children and the elderly.

Four local government sources in Indian-administered Kashmir told Reuters three fighter jets had crashed in separate areas of the Himalayan region during the night. Indian defense ministry officials have not officially confirmed the report.

Pakistan’s foreign ministry said the Chargé d’Affaires had been summoned “to receive Pakistan’s strong protest over the unprovoked Indian strikes.”

“It was conveyed that India’s blatant act of aggression constitutes a clear violation of Pakistan’s sovereignty. Such actions are in contravention of the UN Charter, international law, and established norms governing inter-state relations. Pakistan firmly rejected India’s baseless justifications for its hostile conduct,” the foreign ministry said in a statement.

“The Indian side was warned that such reckless behavior poses a serious threat to regional peace and stability.”

May 3 – World Press Freedom Day: Echoes of Complaint, Theme ‘Gone Missing’

As always, this year too, World Press Freedom Day in Pakistan was overshadowed by complaints and grievances — reflecting the unfortunate reality that, as journalists, we have yet to embrace self-accountability, critical reflection, and strategic action. We must realize that merely playing the victim does not resolve problems, nor does it carve new paths for journalism. The truth is, it is the weak who complain, while those with courage, competence, and vision confront challenges head-on, raise their voices effectively, and claim their rightful place through action—not lament.

What we need now is to shift our profession away from a narrative of helplessness and transform it into a dynamic, impactful, and forward-looking struggle.

Every year on May 3rd, World Press Freedom Day is observed globally to highlight the significance of free media, honor the sacrifices of journalists, and uphold the principle of freedom of expression. The 2025 theme for the day, “Artificial Intelligence and Journalism”, was not only timely but also critical, as it pointed toward the technological crossroads where the future of journalism now stands.

Unfortunately, in Pakistan, the theme all but vanished from the discourse. Across the country, the focus of journalists remained squarely on government pressure, censorship, and controversial laws like the PECA Act. While protests outside press clubs made headlines, there was little to no intellectual engagement with the global theme—no seminars, no discussions, no critical exploration

of how AI is transforming news reporting, editing, research, or publication worldwide.

This disconnect is deeply concerning. While the world is embracing AI as a powerful force reshaping every stage of journalism—from story discovery to delivery—our local media continues to revolve around the same age-old grievances. Issues like censorship and legislative suppression are undeniably important and deserving of attention, but they should not overshadow the urgent need to adapt and evolve.

It is high time Pakistani journalists move beyond lament and adopt a forward-looking mindset. They must study new technologies, explore how AI tools can assist investigative journalism, improve fact-checking, and enhance storytelling. Artificial Intelligence can be either a threat or a tool of empowerment—it is the journalist’s choice to ignore it out of fear or to harness it to elevate their profession to new heights.

World Press Freedom Day should not be reduced to a symbolic protest. It is an opportunity for introspection, accountability, and reimagining the future of journalism. If we fail to engage with AI and other emerging challenges like deepfakes, digital editing, and the social media information flood, journalism risks becoming a relic of the past—stuck in a cycle of grievances, disconnected from the future.

We must encourage journalists to expand their vision, embrace research and critical analysis, and craft a new narrative for future journalism—one that is deeply rooted in truth, transparency, and public service, but also boldly adapted to the digital age.



Zain-ul-Abideen Abid

If we continue to ignore the technological wave, the guardians of truth in the near future might not be human journalists but silent algorithms, operating without context or conscience. The profession must not let that happen.

This day reminds us that journalism is more than just a career—it is a living, purposeful struggle for truth. Its protection and evolution are a shared responsibility. Let us not just raise our voices against injustice; let us prepare ourselves to shape the media landscape of tomorrow.

On the occasion of World Press Freedom Day, journalists should present a comprehensive, insightful, and actionable charter that goes beyond mere complaints and grievances. It should define a clear direction for the future of journalism, its ethical and professional standards, and its alignment with modern demands. This manifesto should not only be a declaration of press freedom, but also a pledge for professional growth, self-accountability, adoption of modern technologies, and the cultivation of public awareness. Several key principles must guide this vision: independence of journalism, adherence to ethical values, integration with artificial intelligence, struggle for journalists’ safety and well-being, promotion of investigative journalism, training of young journalists, a culture of accountability, and alignment with global journalistic standards. Such a manifesto can empower journalists to play a positive, proactive, and forward-looking role. The time has come to move beyond a narrative of victimhood and instead define our journalistic identity through professional dignity, independence, and service to the public.

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Pakistan Army is the Army of the State and our Defender

DG ISPR has maintained active engagement with youth and students, reinforcing transparency and communication. During a recent press briefing, he addressed a question by underscoring a vital principle: the Pakistan Army is an institution of the state, not affiliated with any individual or political party. He emphasized that the Army serves the state and operates upon request, extending continuous support to city governments and civil administrations. He also highlighted the Army’s significant contributions to civil works across the country.

Soldiers from Sindh, including Sindhis from the southeastern province and Mohajirs—migrants who moved from India during Partition—have also played a significant role in shaping the Army. Sindhi personnel have served with dedication across various ranks and functions, contributing to the Army’s professionalism and operational strength. The Mohajir community, primarily based in urban centers like Karachi, has maintained a strong presence in the military, with many individuals rising to key positions as officers, soldiers, engineers, and technicians.

Military leaders are also trained to resolve conflicts through diplomacy, ensuring fairness and dignity in their interactions. They are attentive to the emotional and psychological well-being of their troops, and by prioritizing communication, empathy, and understanding, they help maintain a supportive and respectful atmosphere—free from unnecessary hostility or harsh-

ness. The professionalism of the Pakistan Army extends beyond its internal operations to the international stage. Whether participating in peacekeeping missions, joint military exercises, or diplomatic engagements with foreign forces, Army personnel consistently represent Pakistan with honor and integrity. Their conduct adheres to international military standards, reflecting the Army’s commitment to global norms of discipline and decorum.

The Pakistan Army has a longstanding and respected presence in United Nations peacekeeping operations, where its soldiers serve alongside multinational forces. In these diverse environments, Pakistani troops emphasize diplomacy, cooperation, and mutual respect, strengthening the shared mission of global peace and stability.

In addition to peacekeeping, the Army regularly engages in joint training and defense collaboration with foreign militaries. In all such interactions, Pakistani soldiers uphold the highest standards of professionalism and courtesy, reinforcing a positive image of the Army and the nation it represents. This dedication to respectful engagement underscores the Army’s ethos—one that rejects arrogance and embraces humility.

The Pakistan Army’s reputation—both at home and internationally—is built on its consistent adherence to professionalism, discipline, and respect.



Abdul Basit Alvi

Whether serving the public during crises, supporting humanitarian efforts, or representing the nation abroad, Pakistani soldiers demonstrate integrity in every aspect of their service. Their humility and respectful conduct inspire trust among the Pakistani people and earn admiration from the global community. Domestically, the Army is widely regarded as a

guardian of the nation and a pillar of stability, owing to its steadfast commitment to national unity and its leading role in responding to challenges, from natural disasters to periods of political uncertainty. This trust is earned through the Army’s humility, professionalism, and steadfast dedication to serving the people. On the global stage, the Pakistan Army’s reputation for professionalism and respect has solidified its position as a highly regarded military force. Through peacekeeping missions, joint military training, and diplomatic initiatives, the Pakistan Army is recognized for its discipline, outreach, and commitment to maintaining high standards of conduct in diverse environments.

In today’s digital age, where information spreads quickly, managing the narrative is as crucial as any military operation. Among the various threats to national security, the spread of misinformation, propaganda, and disinformation can severely impact the reputation of institutions, governments, and even the nation as a whole. As one of Paki-

stan’s most respected institutions, the Army has faced significant challenges in this area, as hostile narratives and misinformation are often used to undermine its efforts and tarnish its image. In this regard, Director General of Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), Lt Gen Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry, has played a pivotal role in countering misinformation and presenting the truth about Pakistan and its armed forces. His leadership, professionalism, and commitment to transparency have made him a key figure in combating harmful propaganda and promoting a positive image of Pakistan and the Army, both at home and abroad. His clear, diplomatic communication has been essential in counteracting negative portrayals and fostering a balanced, accurate narrative. Furthermore, his efforts to engage with the youth and encourage open dialogue have been particularly well-received, earning him praise from Pakistan’s younger generation.

Pakistan takes pride in its Army, which has once again demonstrated its role as a true guardian and defender of the nation by firmly responding to recent Indian aggression and missile attacks. The Pakistan Army has clearly shown that while we are a peace-loving nation, any act of aggression will be met with a resolute and forceful response.

The people of Pakistan, especially the youth, view the Pakistan Army as a source of national pride and the true defender of the state. They strongly reject any propaganda against the military and deeply appreciate its countless contributions to the country’s progress and well-being.



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

India’s Suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty: A Potential for Water Crisis

Umar Farooq

On April 22, 2025, a sudden attack in Pahalgam, located in Indian-administered Kashmir, resulted in the deaths of 26 civilians, primarily tourists. In response, India suspended the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), a significant water-sharing agreement with Pakistan. This decision has escalated tensions between the two nuclear-armed neighbors, raising concerns about regional stability.

The 1960 Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) which brokered by the World Bank, stood as a symbol of cooperation between India and Pakistan. Under the treaty, Pakistan got control of the three western rivers—Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab—while India got the eastern rivers—Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej. For over six decades, treaty survived wars and multiple conflicts.

The Pakistani government strongly rejected the accusations and condemned the suspension as an act of aggression. In Islamabad’s view, India was turning water into a political weapon. The National Security Committee of Pakistan declared that blocking the flow of water would be seen as an “act of war,” showing just how serious the situation had become. Water, for Pakistan, is not just a natural resource—it is a matter of survival.

India’s decision set a dangerous precedent. The treaty had built-in mechanisms for solving disagreements peacefully, including neutral experts and international arbitration. By acting alone, India ignored these rules and international legal standards. Many legal experts agree that a country cannot walk away from a treaty without mutual agreement or following the proper process. The treaty includes mechanisms for resolving disputes, such as the appointment of neutral experts and arbitration through international courts. Legal experts emphasize that unilateral withdrawal from such treaties is

not permissible under international law, specifically referencing the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, which mandates mutual consent for termination. Pakistan sees this as not just a violation of the IWT, but also a threat to global water-sharing practices. If India can do this, what is to stop other countries from breaking water agreements too? This fear is real, especially in regions like South Asia, where many rivers cross international borders.

Pakistan already faces a water crisis. The country uses almost all of its Indus water, and groundwater is being overused. Farmers in Punjab and Sindh are reporting water shortages, and India’s upstream activities are often blamed. If India decides to stop or reduce water flow, the effects on Pakistan would be disastrous. Agriculture, which employs a major part of the population and contributes to the economy, would be severely affected. Food shortages could occur, and hydroelectric power generation would also drop. Without water, Pakistan’s economy could suffer on a national scale. This explains why Pakistani leaders responded so strongly to India’s move.

The suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty is a serious threat to peace and stability in South Asia. From a Pakistani perspective, it endangers food, energy, and national security. It also challenges a long-standing example of cooperation in a conflict-sensitive region. Without water-sharing mechanisms, the risk of misunderstanding and conflict grows larger. Pakistan must continue to raise this issue on global platforms and use diplomatic, legal, and technical channels to protect its rights. At the same time, both countries need to understand that water can either bring them closer or drive them into deeper conflict. For the future of South Asia, legal agreements must be respected, and diplomacy must win over conflict.

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DPM, Chinese envoy discusses regional security

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong called on

Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar early this morning. Ishaq Dar briefed the Chinese Ambassador on the serious situa-

tion following India's unprovoked violation of Pakistan's sovereignty and the tragic loss of innocent lives. He underscored Pakistan's firm resolve to protect its sovereignty and

territorial integrity at all costs. The two sides exchanged views on regional security developments and agreed to maintain close coordination and communication across all relevant areas.



Solidarity rally by SM Group of Industries sends clear message to the enemy

Zain Khan Malghani

MULTAN: Today in Multan, on the directives of Chairman SM Group of Industries, Chaudhry Zulfiqar Ali Anjum, a powerful rally was organized to express solidarity with the Pakistan Army. The rally began at Chungi No. 8 and proceeded through Chowk Kachehri to Ghanta Ghar Chowk. Leading the rally were GM Admin of Volka Food International, Abdul Wahid; GM Admin of SM Food Makers Multan, Danish Bukhari; along with Admin Officers Hussain and Zeeshan. The rally witnessed enthusiastic participation from the group's staff and workers. Participants carried national flags and chanted resounding slogans of "Long Live Pakistan" and "Long Live Pakistan Army." In their message, they strongly condemned Indian aggression, stating that the cowardly and brutal attack on civilian populations under the cover of darkness was a shameful act unparalleled in history. The participants praised the Pakistan Army for delivering a timely, decisive, and effective response that uplifted the nation's pride and instilled



fear in the enemy. They emphasized that the military once again proved to be one of the world's finest, fully capable of responding boldly and swiftly to any form of aggression. They further affirmed their unwav-

ering support for the armed forces, declaring that every staff member and worker of SM Group of Industries stands shoulder to shoulder with the military and is ready to make any sacrifice for the defense of the home-

land. The entire nation stands united behind its army, sending a clear message to the enemy that the people and armed forces of Pakistan form an unbreakable, courageous front.

NUML Organizes Solidarity Walk to Condemn Indian Aggression



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The National University of Modern Languages (NUML) organized a solidarity walk today to strongly condemn the recent Indian aggression and express unwavering support for the valiant Armed Forces of Pakistan.

The event witnessed active participation from University leadership, faculty members, deans, heads of departments, and a large number of students belonging to different parts of the country. The participants walked across the campus and on the road outside, holding placards and chanting

slogans in support of the armed forces and national unity. During the walk, participants reaffirmed their resolve to stand shoulder to shoulder with the Pakistan Army and emphasised the nation's collective commitment to safeguarding sovereignty and peace. They expressed that

the entire Pakistani nation is united against any external aggression and remains proud of the sacrifices and dedication of its armed forces. NUML remains steadfast in promoting patriotism, peace, and solidarity among its students and academic community.

Demarche to the Indian Chargé d'Affaires



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Indian Chargé d'Affaires was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs today to receive Pakistan's strong protest over the unprovoked Indian strikes at multiple locations across Pakistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir. These strikes resulted in the deaths and injuries of several civilians, including women and children. It was conveyed that India's blatant act of aggression constitutes a clear violation of Pakistan's sovereignty. Such actions are in contravention of the UN Charter, international law, and established norms governing inter-state relations. Pakistan firmly rejected India's baseless justifications for its hostile conduct. The Indian side was warned that such reckless behavior poses a serious threat to regional peace and stability.

Pakistan stands tall after India's cowardly attacks

City Desk



ISLAMABAD: Awaam Pakistan Party strongly condemns the attacks on Ahmedpur Sharqia, Muzaffarabad, Bagh and Muridke. We share the grief of the bereaved families of the 8 martyred Pakistanis. The retaliatory action of the Pakistani forces has made the Indian forces grit their teeth. Our brave warriors have raised the head of Pakistan with pride. Every attack on the integrity of Paki-

stan will be met with a befitting reply. Awaam Pakistan Party Leader Chaudhry Inaam Zafar while expressing his reaction to the aggressive action of the Indian forces, said that 8 Pakistanis were martyred and 35 were injured in the cowardly action of the Indian forces. We share the grief of the affected families. The Pakistani forces are our pride, who have given a clear message that we know how to give a befitting reply to every cowardly action of the enemy. Chaudhry Inaam Zafar said that India carried out 24 attacks at six locations in Pakistan, and all the targets were civilian areas, mosques were martyred. Which makes it clear that India has endangered the peace of the people on both sides. After the cowardly attack by India, Pakistan retaliated vigorously and shot down 5 Indian aircraft, we stand like a lead wall with our Pakistani forces. He further said that India has forgotten that it is competing with the best forces in the world. We will defend our country at the risk of our lives. Every person in the country is with the Pakistani forces. He said that the people of Pakistan are not afraid or bowing down in front of any enemy. Pakistan is a strong state. Those who look at Pakistan with a malicious eye will be given a befitting reply.

No evidence, no global support: Analysts slam warmongering India's attack

Analysts have weighed in on the escalating tensions between Pakistan and India — two nuclear-armed neighbours — following New Delhi's incursion into Islamabad's territory and its forceful retaliation to the aggression. In a befitting response, the Pakistan armed forces shot down five Indian Air Force (IAF) jets, a combat drone, and destroyed brigade headquarters, as well as a number of checkpoints, after New Delhi carried out missile strikes in cities of Punjab and Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK). An intense exchange of fire is ongoing along the de facto border, with the Pakistan Army engaging Indian troops' positions. In his press conference on Wednesday, Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Director-General Lt Gen Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry confirmed that all Pakistan Air Force jets are safe after engaging Indian jets. New Delhi's this act of war has come after its repeatedly blaming Islamabad for the Pahalgam attack on tourists in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir last month, without providing even a shred of evidence. The India's aggression has left people wondering if its this jingoism of war will die down soon or lead to more casualties on both sides of the border. Former foreign minister Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri said the two sides should realise that they are nuclear-armed countries. "So, only someone out of his mind can think about war between them," he added. "Sadly, the Indian government features such people who think less from mind and more from obsession," he maintained. Kasuri pointed out that their lunacy has not just affected Muslims, but other minorities such as Christians, Sikhs and lower caste Hindus as well. "This leadership has only spread madness in the neighbouring country," he said. The former foreign minister also said that downing of Indian fighter jets, particularly Rafales, is a big setback to India. In a statement on Pakistan's downing five Indian fighter jets, CNN Military Analyst Colonel Cedric Leighton USAF (ret'd) said Indian intelligence preparations for this campaign may have been lacking. "They did not project what kind of threat they were going to deal with and where the Pakistani systems were located and how the Pakistanis were going to employ them. Those are the things that might have resulted in something like this," he said.

Turkish Public Diplomacy in Pakistan: Role of Social Media and T.V

Maha Abbas

In the evolving landscape of International Relations, countries use multiple tools to shape global perceptions and influence foreign audiences. Public diplomacy has emerged as a potent tool to achieve this goal. It engages the foreign audience through culture, media, education, and various other creative methods. Türkiye has utilized social media and television dramas to enhance its digital outreach. Television has long since been an influential tool in public diplomacy. In recent years, Türkiye has made extensive use of TV as a

central part of diplomacy in Pakistan. This has been done not only by dramas but also through airing programs celebrating Turkish culture, history, and politics. One of the most significant strategies was the broadcasting of Turkish dramas in Pakistan. The airing of *Diriliş: Ertuğrul* on Pakistani Television (PTV) in April 2020 was a turning point in Türkiye's cultural exchange. The series, dubbed in Urdu, captivated millions of viewers across Pakistan. The impact was profound; within months, the YouTube channel had amassed ten million Subscribers, with Pakistani people accounting for a sizable portion too. The popularity of *Ertuğrul*

Gazi can be attributed to a number of factors. The series' portrayal of Islamic values and historical narratives deeply resonated with the Pakistani audience. This success prompted PTV to acquire rights for other Turkish dramas streaming in Pakistan. Following the success of *Ertuğrul*, Türkiye and Pakistan co-produced *Kudüs Fatih* Selahaddin Eyyubi (Saladin: The Conqueror of Jerusalem). The series premiered in Türkiye on November 13, 2023, and in Pakistan on May 6, 2024. Beyond entertainment, these avenues have become a source of soft power. Research on TRT indicates that viewers who relate to characters in Turkish



soap operas are more likely to support Türkiye and align with their policies. Social media platforms have further amplified the impact of Turkish public diplomacy in Pakistan. Turkish actors from popular series have garnered a large following on Instagram and Twitter. For example, Esra Bilgiç, who played Halime Hatun in *Diriliş: Ertuğrul*, became the ninth most searched figure in Pakistan in 2020. Türkiye and Pakistan have also formalized collaborations to enhance media and communi-

cation ties. Both countries have agreed to form working groups between Pakistan's Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and Türkiye's Directorate of Communications. Turkish embassy has utilized social media to strengthen bilateral ties with Pakistani public. For instance, the embassy hosted a meeting with Turkish businesses operating in Pakistan to discuss future projects. Through social media, Turkish embassies have promoted a narrative of solidarity with Pakistan—emphasizing shared Muslim identity and common interests. Nonetheless, the phenomenon of Turkish media's influence in Pakistan exemplifies the growing importance of non-tradi-

tional forms of public diplomacy. Türkiye's ability to leverage media, provides a new lens to look into the international arena. What sets this strategy apart is its ability to connect with the public's sentiments directly. This helps cultivate mutual understanding through shared narratives. It proves that public diplomacy is not only about soft power, but also about building long-term relations through shared cultural experiences. It underscores the potential of media as a tool to promote peace and cooperation in the global arena. Author: (Student of Bachelors of International Relations at Fatima Jinnah Women University)

Bull & Bears

PSX 100-Share Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
110,009.02	113,568.50
Day's High	Day's Low
112,457.37	107,007.68
Index Value	Change
23,710,191,489	−3559.48
Percentage	Time
−3.13%	7 May, 2025 4:30 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
8,559.33	−38.09
Percentage	Time
−0.44%	7 May, 4:35 pm GMT + 1

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
41,214.43	+385.43
Percentage	Time
+0.94%	7 May, 1:04 pm GMT-4

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
36,779.66	−51.03
Percentage	Time
−0.14%	7 May, 3:45 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	184.25	186.50
Bahrain Dinar	741.00	749.00
Canadian Dollar	204.60	207.00
China Yuan	37.59	37.99
Danish Krone	42.25	42.65
Euro	319.75	322.50
Hong Kong Dollar	35.94	36.29
Indian Rupee	3.23	3.32
Japanese Yen	1.98	2.04
Kuwaiti Dinar	907.80	917.30
Malaysian Ringgit	66.37	66.97
NewZealand \$	165.96	167.96
Norwegians Krone	26.76	27.06
Omani Riyal	728.85	737.35
Qatari Riyal	76.58	77.28
Saudi Riyal	74.95	75.50
Singapore Dollar	218	220
Swedish Korona	28.8	29.10
Swiss Franc	338.61	341.41
Thai Bhat	8.4	8.55
U.A.E Dirham	76.50	77.15
UK Pound Sterling	375.50	379
US Dollar	281.65	283.15

Terminally Ill Patient Donates Life-Saving Device, Sets Powerful Example of Humanity



Commerce Desk

MIRPUR: In a remarkable act of compassion, a terminally ill patient set a powerful example of humanity by donating an expensive medical device shortly before his death to help another person in need.

Muhammad Taj, a resident of Mora Bhattian, Tehsil and District Mirpur, had an imported battery implanted two years ago to regulate his heartbeat. The device, which came with an eight-year warranty, was functioning well when his health began to deteriorate again in April. He was admitted to MH Mangla for treatment.

Knowing his condition was critical, Mr. Taj made a heartfelt will: in the event of his death, the battery should be removed and donated to a deserving heart patient whose life could be saved by the device, which still had six years of use remaining.

Following his wishes, the medical team extracted the battery after his passing and ensured it was donated to another patient in need. Muhammad Taj passed away on April 8, 2025, but his selfless act has left an enduring legacy of humanity and generosity.

His final gesture has been widely praised as a beacon of hope and a shining example of how compassion can create lasting impact—even in death.

Finance

Minister Meets UK's Financial Secretary to the Treasury

Chaudhry Tabraiz Aurah

LONDON: Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, held a meeting with Lord Livermore, the UK's Financial Secretary to the Treasury and Growth Minister at HM Revenue & Customs in London.

Also present at the meeting were Dr. Mohammad Faisal, Pakistan's High Commissioner to the United Kingdom; Khurram Schehzad, Advisor to the Finance Minister; and officials from the Pakistan High Commission in London.

Senator Aurangzeb highlighted Pakistan's ambitious economic reform agenda focused on diversification and export-led growth, which he stated is beginning to yield results. He noted that recent government policies have led to economic stabilization, with improved indicators: Real GDP growth is projected at 3.0% for 2025 and 4.0% for 2026, while inflation has fallen to a historic low of 0.3%.

The Minister also emphasized ongoing efforts to digitize the tax system, which is expected to broaden the tax base and boost revenue. He shared that tax collection rose to 25.9% during



July–March FY 2025. Foreign Direct Investment saw a 14% increase, reaching USD 1.6 billion in the same period, while the policy rate declined to 11%.

Lord Livermore commended Pakistan's reform agenda and acknowledged the country's commitment to broad-based economic transformation. He noted the UK is similarly pursuing reforms across pensions, skills devel-

opment, and trade.

Senator Aurangzeb expressed appreciation for the UK Treasury's continued partnership and support, particularly through the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), which has provided valuable financial and technical collaboration. He reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to strengthening investment and trade ties between the two nations.

Meeting

Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research Rana Tanveer Hussain meeting with EN-GRO CEO Ali Rathore to discuss urea exports and gas supply.



Photo: PID

Aleem Khan slams India's aggression, warns of consequences



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Reacting strongly to last

night's unprovoked attacks by India, President Isteekam-e-Pakistan Party & Federal Minister for Communications Abdul Aleem

Khan stated that targeting civilian areas is a blatant assault on Pakistan's sovereignty which will be safe guarded at all costs. He emphasized that the Pakistan Armed Forces delivered a timely and resolute response that thwarted the enemy's intentions. Abdul Aleem Khan condemned the aggression, calling it a manifestation of the war-mongering mindset of the "Butcher of Gujarat" and warned that India would have to face the consequences of its recklessness. Instead of behaving responsibly, enemy has chosen a path that endangers regional peace and stability, he added.

In his tweet, Federal Minister Abdul Aleem Khan lauded the Pakistan Armed Forces and Air Force for their courageous and determined retaliation, saying it reflects the sentiments of the entire nation. "India has not only been exposed as weak but also as an ignoble adversary. Pakistan is a peace-loving country but any attack on its sovereignty is absolutely intolerable, Abdul Aleem Khan added.

‘War has never been a solution’ says former SAARC President

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry former President, Iftikhar Ali Malik, Wednesday strongly condemned the Indian attack, terming it a grave threat to peace and stability in South Asia.

In a statement here today in the wake of Indian attack he emphasised that such aggressive actions only escalate tensions and endanger millions of lives across the region.

He urged top leadership of both countries to exercise restraint and to prioritize dialogue over conflict, reminding that war has never been a solution to disputes.

He stressed that South Asia, home to nearly two billion people, cannot afford another conflict, particularly when the region is already grappling with economic challenges and humanitarian issues. He called on international organizations, including the United Nations to inter-



vene and facilitate immediate diplomatic engagement between the concerned nations. Highlighting the importance of economic cooperation, Malik noted that peace is essential for the prosperity of the region.

He warned that continuous hostilities would derail efforts towards regional inte-

gration and sustainable development. "Dialogue, mutual respect, and economic collaboration are the only viable paths forward," he said. He appealed for wisdom and maturity from leadership on both sides, stressing that stability and peace are in the best interests of the entire South Asian community, he concluded.

CCP allows Secure Logistics Group to acquire Trax Online

Commerce Desk



ISLAMABAD: The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has approved the 100% acquisition of Trax Online (Pvt.) Ltd. by Secure Logistics Group Ltd. under a Share Purchase Agreement. Both parties had submitted a pre-merger application in line with the Competition Act, 2010. CCP's review identified the relevant product market as Courier and E-Commerce Logistics Services in Pakistan.

The deal is a conglomerate merger with no horizontal or vertical overlaps. CCP concluded that the transaction will not result in domi-

nance or lessen competition in the relevant market. Secure Logistics Group Ltd. (SLGL) is a public listed company offering long-haul and medium-haul logistics, asset tracking, fleet management, and security services. Trax Online (Pvt.) Ltd. is a private company focused on warehousing and door-to-door delivery for e-commerce clients.

The acquisition is expected to enhance operational synergies and support the growth of Pakistan's digital logistics ecosystem.

EcoStar launches Prince Series ACs featuring genuine T3 technology

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Many consumers remain unaware of what real T3 air conditioning technology truly means — and how rare it is to find in the market. With the launch of its new Prince Series, EcoStar is setting the record straight by delivering genuine T3 performance backed by core engineering upgrades: a robust T3 compressor, extra-large indoor and outdoor units, and a double-layered condenser.

"EcoStar has always been committed to bringing smart innovation to Pakistani homes," said Rizwan Butt, Chief Operating Officer for Consumer Elec-

tronics Division, "With the Prince Series, we're not just launching another air conditioner—we're setting a new standard in the market. This is real T3 technology, not a compromise. We've combined advanced technology with practical design to offer an experience that's reliable, intelligent, and truly next-generation."

With the Prince Series, EcoStar continues its mission to deliver high-performance, energy-efficient solutions tailored to the needs of modern consumers. As Pakistan's trusted electronics brand, EcoStar remains focused on pushing the boundaries of innovation to enhance everyday living experiences.

Local businesses wary of conflict

Corporate Pakistan may share in the patriotic surge across the country, but business leaders, mindful of the risks, are calling for swift de-escalation of tensions with India. Some warn the conflict threatens South Asia's economic potential, especially as global trade pivots toward regional integration.

They note the rising pressure on the capital market, currency, and supply chains — particularly in sectors such as pharmaceuticals that depend on imports of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients from India. If tensions persist, they warn, business losses will be unavoidable.

"Pakistan's economy is just beginning to recover, with the public still waiting to feel the gains. War would divert scarce resources towards military spending, deepening the

country's development challenges. We simply can't afford such an adventure," a business leader said privately.

Hostilities spiked after the Pahalgam incident, with the Modi government instantly blaming Pakistan and announcing a series of unilateral measures. These included authorising military action, suspending the 1960 Water Treaty, closing the Wagah border, expelling Pakistani embassy staff, halting visa processing for Pakistani citizens, and ordering Pakistani visitors to leave. Later, India also closed its airspace to Pakistani flights. In response, Pakistan unveiled countermeasures: it threatened to revoke the 1972 Simla Accord, closed its side of the Wagah border effective May 1, expelled all Indian nationals except Sikh pilgrims.

One-minute silence honoring martyrs of Indian aggression to be observevd in PSL match

Mudasir Raja

RAWALPINDI: A one-minute silence will be observed before the start of today's PSL 10 match between Islamabad United and Quetta Gladiators, scheduled to be played at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium on Wednesday, in remembrance of the innocent civilians martyred in the recent Indian cross-border aggression.

According to official details, the tribute aims to honor the lives lost in the unprovoked attack, as part of a broader effort to acknowledge and stand in solidarity with the affected families.

All players, match officials, and spectators present at the stadium will participate in the moment of silence.

Following the solemn observance, the national anthem of Pakistan will be played, symbolizing unity and collective resilience.

The emotional prelude sets the tone for a night where the passion of cricket meets the spirit of national remembrance.

The match itself, a key fixture in the PSL 10 season, is scheduled to begin at 8:00 PM.

Emotions are expected to run high, as the PSL — typically a celebration of cricket — briefly pauses to acknowl-



edge the sacrifices of innocent civilians targeted during the recent tensions.

Organizers and teams alike have expressed their solidarity with the

affected families, emphasizing the importance of remembering the fallen even amid the excitement of cricket.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB)

and team franchises have collectively supported the initiative, underlining the sport's role in expressing unity and respect in times of national mourning.

Effective changes being brought in the rules of Sports Board Punjab: Secretary Sports Punjab

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Muzaffar Khan Sial said that effective changes are being brought in the rules and regulations of Sports Board Punjab for the bright future of sports in the province. He said this while presiding over an important meeting at the Punjab Stadium on Wednesday.

DG Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry, Additional Secretary Mian Usman Ali, Director Admin Dr M Kaleem and other officials participated in the meeting. DG Sports Punjab briefed the meeting about the new rules and regulations of Sports Board Punjab.

Addressing the meeting, Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Muzaffar Khan Sial said that Tehsil, District and Divisional Sports Committees will be formed to improve the sports and administrative affairs in all parts of the province. "The Audit Committee and Human Resource (HR) Committee will also be constituted for ensuring trans-



parency in the financial affairs of the Sports Board Punjab".

Muzaffar Khan Sial said that a Monitoring Cell will be established for the best development of sports facilities across

the province. "Besides this, new lease laws will also be introduced to ensure financial stability in Sports Board Punjab".

He further said that Sports Board

Punjab is being transformed into a comprehensive and effective department for the development of sports culture among the younger generation throughout the Punjab province.

Conquerors and Stars shine in opening round matches

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Skipper Fatima Sana's all-around effort led Conquerors to a commanding 30-run victory over the Invincibles in their National Women's T20 Cup clash at the Oval Cricket Ground on Wednesday.

Batting first, the Conquerors posted a competitive total of 145/9 in their 20 overs.

The innings was anchored by Fatima Sana, who remained unbeaten on a scintillating 85 off just 47 balls, smashing 12 boundaries and three sixes.

She was well-supported by Farzana Farooq (21), Saira Jabeen (11), and Hafsa Khalid (10).

For the Invincibles, Saima Malik was the standout bowler, returning impressive figures of 4 for 13 in her four overs, which included a maiden.

Fatima Khan, Omaira Sohail and Amber Kainat also chipped in with a wicket apiece.

In response, the Invincibles faltered in their chase of the 146-run target, managing only 115/6 in their 20 overs. Opener Muneeba Ali top-scored with a gritty 50



that included five boundaries and a six.

Fatima Khan (31) and Saqia Riaz (10) offered brief resistance, but the rest of the batting lineup struggled, with five batters failing to reach double figures.

Nashra Sandhu led the bowling attack for the Conquerors with figures of 2 for 20 in her four overs.

Fatima Sana, Humna Bilal and Syeda Aroob each took one wicket to ensure a comprehensive team performance.

It is pertinent to mention that the Fatima Sana-led Conquerors are scheduled to play their next match against the Challengers at the National Bank Cricket Stadium on May 10

Usman Tariq's bowling action cleared



Sports Desk

RAWALPINDI: Quetta Gladiators spinner Usman Tariq, who was earlier reported for a suspect bowling action, has cleared his bowling assessment after undergoing testing at the PCB-accredited biomechanics lab in Lahore, Pakistan Cricket Board said on Wednesday.

Usman was reported for a suspect bowling action on 13 April during an HBL PSL X match against Lahore Qalandars.

Following this, the Quetta Gladiators management requested the PCB to allow the bowler to undergo testing, consequent to which he has cleared the bowling assessment.

Trump vows 'seamless' experience for 2026 World Cup fans



Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: US President Donald Trump said Tuesday that all fans from across the globe would be welcome at the 2026 World Cup despite concerns over his border crackdown impacting the tournament.

Trump, who has appointed himself chairman of the White House task force for the tournament, said visitors to the United States could expect a "seamless" experience.

The United States is co-hosting the 2026 World Cup with neighboring Canada and Mexico.

"We can't wait to welcome soccer fans from all over the globe," Trump said at a White House briefing alongside FIFA president Gianni Infantino.

"Every part of the US government will be working to ensure that these events are safe and successful, and those traveling to America to watch the competition have a seamless experience during every part of their visit."

Foreign traveler arrivals in the United States are expected to decline by 5.1 percent in 2025, according to one recent study by Tourism Economics.

The World Tourism Forum Institute has said a mix of stringent US immigration policies and global political tensions could "significantly affect" international arrivals.

Vice President JD Vance, the vice-chair of the World Cup task force, said while foreign visitors would be welcome they would have to leave at the end of the tournament.

"I know we'll have visitors, probably from close to 100 countries. We want them to come. We want them to celebrate. We want them to watch the game," Vance told Tuesday's briefing. "But when the time is up, they'll have to go home."

Infantino, the president of football's world governing body, said his organization had "full and entire" confidence in the Trump administration to help deliver a successful tournament.

"The entire world will focus on the United States of America, and America welcomes the world," Infantino told the meeting. "Everyone who wants to come here to enjoy, to have fun, to celebrate the game will be able to do that."

Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem said US officials were using next month's FIFA Club World Cup as a testing ground for the World Cup, stating that the US expected two million overseas visitors.

"We're processing those travel documents and visa applications already... that is obviously going to be a precursor to what we can do next year for the World Cup as well," Noem said. "It is all being facilitated."

South Africa's Rabada admits to failing drug test

CAPE TOWN: South Africa fast bowler Kagiso Rabada, who returned home from the Indian Premier League last month, admitted failing a drug test and apologised for his actions on Saturday.

Rabada, second in the world Test bowling rankings, said he was serving a "provisional suspension" but gave no other details.

The 29-year-old left the Gujarat Titans a month ago with the IPL franchise saying at the time that he had to deal with an important personal matter.

Canada to host 2026 World Squash Jr C'ships

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Canada will welcome the global squash community from July 20 to 31, 2026 as the official host of the World Squash Junior Championships.

This annual international event featuring the world's top junior athletes will be held at the Mark Sachvie Squash Center at White Oaks Resort and Spa in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, and will be supported by the brand-new Jack Aylott Center at Ridley College, said a press release.

"Squash Canada is honored to be selected as the host of the 2026 World Squash Junior Championships," said Jamie Nicholls, Squash Canada Chief Executive Officer.

"On behalf of Squash Canada

and our event partners, we look forward to welcoming the global community to Canada for a celebration of the future of our sport. We thank World Squash for awarding us this prestigious event at such an important time. With our Olympic era upon us, squash has the wind at its sails, and we intend to build on that momentum with a truly memorable World Junior Championships."

White Oaks, a Canada Select Five Star and CAA Four Diamond resort, boasts three restaurants, a renowned spa, a multi-storey fitness centre and racquet club. It will also showcase the all-glass Jonathon Power Court throughout the event.

Complimenting the primary venue will be Ridley College's brand-new Jack Aylott Center

which features four stunning glass-back courts, plus the three-wall glass exhibition Caldwell Court. White Oaks last hosted the 2014 Women's World Team Championships and is the standing venue for the annual Canadian Junior Open held in December.

The 2026 Championships will present a full slate of elite junior competition, featuring both the Junior Men's and Women's Individual Championships as well as the Junior Men's and Women's Team Championships. With over 200 of the world's top-performing Under-19 athletes expected to compete and delegations from all five Continental Federations, the championship will be a vibrant showcase of emerging international squash talent.

World Squash Chief Execu-

tive Officer William Louis-Marie said, "World Squash is thrilled to partner with Squash Canada for the 2026 World Squash Junior Championships. Canada has a rich history in squash, and we are confident that their passion and expertise will create an outstanding experience for athletes and fans alike."

This event will be a wonderful celebration of junior squash, and we are eager to collaborate with Squash Canada to ensure its success.

Canada will host the World Squash Junior Championships for the first time since the early 1980s, when Calgary staged the junior men's event in 1984 and Ottawa held the inaugural junior women's championship in 1981. The return of world juniors to Canadian soil follows a historic podium finish for Cana-



da's junior women's team at the 2024 World Junior Championships in Houston, where the squad (Hermione Cao, Ocean Ma, Spring Ma and Maria Min)

earned a bronze medal.

The event will also tie in historic junior men's finishes as Nicholas Sachvie, a member of the 2010 bronze medal

team, will serve as tournament co-chair alongside Matt Easingwood.

"White Oaks is honored to host the 2026 World Junior Championships and looks forward to welcoming the global squash community to our facility," said Nicholas Sachvie. "This event holds a special place on the squash calendar and has served as a proving ground for the best squash players on the planet for over 40 years. We look forward to seeing the next wave of talent make their mark on the history of the sport."

As Squash Canada and the squash world continue to prepare for our Olympic era, the 2026 World Squash Junior Championships will continue to serve as a launching pad for the future of the sport and its incredible athletes.

Solidarity with Army

RAWALPINDI: Activists of Municipal Corporation hold rally to express their solidarity with Pak Army, after Indian attack on Pakistan.



Photo: Online

Law makers slam India for cowardly attacks on Pakistan

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui on Wednesday slammed India for its cowardly attacks, saying India made a "historic mistake" by attacking a nation ready to defend itself. Addressing the session of the National Assembly, he said, "India doesn't realize which nation it has provoked. Our nation is awake and ready to respond." He lauded the resolute and effective response of

the Pakistan Armed Forces and specially the Pakistan Air Force that thwarted the enemy's intentions. "I salute our brave forces for protecting the country and giving a strong response," he said. "India has turned into a terrorist and religiously extremist state," he said, adding that it had attacked mosques and civilian populations inside Pakistan on Tuesday night. Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan said the entire nation standing together as one united voice

in defense of country's sovereignty. He lauded the Pakistan's Armed Forces for making the defense of the homeland impregnable. Gohar condemned the cowardly attacks carried out by Indian forces last night, which targeted mosques and civilians. "Our coward enemy will get a response that will be remembered for centuries," he added. He especially praised the Pakistan Air Force for downing Indian aircraft during the overnight confrontation. He reaffirmed Paki-

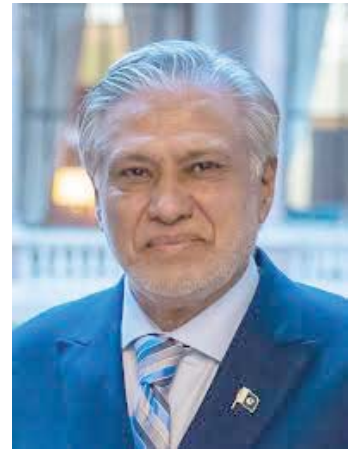
stan's right to defend itself and respond to aggression. Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Zartaj Gul condemning the cowardly Indian attack, said that our enemy carried out attacks under the cover of darkness, and targeted the civilians. She said that this was not an attack on any political party rather, this was an attack on Pakistan. She said, "We must tell the world that India attacked our homeland. Pakistan reserves the right to respond." Zartaj Gul said that Pakistan has long been a victim

of terrorism. Over 80,000 Pakistanis have lost their lives while fighting against terrorism. The country stands united behind its brave forces and lauded them for their befitting response to Indian cowardly attacks. Zartaj Gul called for calling an All Parties Conference (APC) for the national unity. Jamiat Ulema Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) lawmaker, Abdul Ghafoor Haidari strongly condemned last night's unprovoked attack by India, and called it an "unpardonable crime".

Dar vows 'tit-for-tat' response to Indian aggression

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Wednesday accused India of escalating tensions through a "choreographed exercise" following the Pahalgam attack, warning that any future aggression would be met with a forceful response. Speaking at the National Assembly, Dar stated that Pakistan had demonstrated restraint despite India's airstrikes and hostile actions. He revealed that Pakistan had received intelligence of a possible Indian attack at 10 p.m. on Tuesday, prompting defensive measures. "There were instructions to only target Indian jets that released payloads," Dar said. "This is why only five jets were taken down. Had the directive been different, nearly 10-12 jets would have been struck." He said Pakistan has briefed over 40 countries on its stance and offered an impartial investigation into the Pahalgam attack, which



India has blamed on Pakistan. Dar emphasized that the international community had appreciated Islamabad's transparency, while India's narrative had failed to gain traction, similar to the aftermath of the Pulwama incident. "We strongly condemned the Pahalgam attack, even though Pakistan was not directly named in India's accusations," he said.

China ready to play constructive role in easing Pak-India tension



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: China stands ready to work with international community to continue to play a constructive role in easing the current tension between India and Pakistan, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian said on Wednesday. Responding to questions regarding current situation between India and Pakistan, the spokesperson said that China made it clear its position on the ongoing situation between two countries.

"China finds India's military operation early this morning regrettable," he said. Lin Jian said that Chinese side is concerned about the ongoing situation. India and the Pakistan are and will always be each other's neighbors. They are both China's neighbors as well. He remarked that China opposes all forms of terrorism and urged both sides to act in the larger interest of peace and stability, remain calm, exercise restraint, and refrain from taking actions that may further complicate the situation.

Qatar offers role to de-escalate Pakistan-India tension

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday received a telephone call from Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim bin Jaber Al Thani, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar, and discussed the prevailing situation in the region.



During the conversation,

the prime minister of Qatar

said that his country wanted

to play its role in de-escalating the current situation in the region. While thanking Qatar for its solidarity and support to Pakistan at this difficult time, the PM Shehbaz Sharif strongly condemned India's missile strikes targeting six sites in Pakistan, as an unprovoked act of war. Pakistani travel guides He said India's cowardly attack on Pakistan's sover-

eignty and territorial integrity that had resulted in the death of 26 men, women and children, as well as destruction of few mosques, had imperiled peace and stability in the South Asia region. The prime minister noted that while Pakistan desired peace in the region, Pakistan would resolutely defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity with full vigor and force.

Khawaja Salman, thousands of citizens attend martyrs' funeral prayers in Bahawalpur



BAHAWALPUR: Provincial Health Minister Khawaja Salman Rafique, along with thousands of citizens, participated in the funeral prayers for those martyred in the recent Indian attack in Bahawalpur. He offered prayers for the safety and security of Pakistan and its people. Prominent officials, including Commissioner Bahawalpur Division, Deputy Commissioner, District Police Officer, and other key personalities, were also present to pay their respects. In his remarks, Khawaja Salman Rafique condemned India's aggres-

sive actions, stating that the Modi government's targeting of Pakistani civilians is a clear violation of international laws. He emphasized that such cowardly acts could not break the resolve of the Pakistani people, who stand united with their government and armed forces in the face of aggression. He criticised India's false narrative around the Pahalgam incident, describing it as a shameful attempt to destabilise peace in the region. The minister reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to peace and its determination to defend its sovereignty.

Bilawal slams Indian aggression, says Pakistan will give befitting reply



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has condemned the cowardice of Indian forces which resorted to attack during darkness. Addressing National Assembly session, Bilawal said India cannot remain silent and Pakistan will not give a befitting reply to India. PPP Chairman said, "We condemn the cowardly attack by India yesterday on innocent men, women and children who were martyred. We stand shoulder to shoulder with the families of the martyrs.

He added that entire Pakistani nation stands with the victims of Indian aggression. Bilawal asked India dare attack in day light. Bilawal said India was blaming despite Pakistan's assurances that Islamabad was not involved in Pahalgam Attack. PPP chairman said there should be an investigation at the international level on a neutral level so that the world knows that Pakistan was not involved. Bilawal said Pakistan stand with the truth according to international law, adding that Pakistan will expose India's face in front of the world.

Indian claims of striking terror camps in Pakistan fall flat



Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: Indian claims of carrying out precise strikes on terrorist camps in Pakistan have been thoroughly discredited after local and international media representatives were taken to the actual site of the Indian aggression in Muzaffarabad. The area, densely populated with civilians, bore no evidence of militant activity — instead, a mosque surrounded by residential homes was found to be destroyed. According to eyewitnesses and local officials, multiple missiles were fired at around 12:35 PM, targeting the Bilal Mosque located in a crowded neighborhood. The strikes resulted in the martyrdom of three individuals, including the mosque's 80-year-old caretaker, while several others were injured.

Among the victims was a young girl named Nimra who suffered critical injuries when a missile struck her adjacent home. She has been treated in a local hospital, fighting for her life. Locals, speaking to media outlets on-site, outrightly rejected the Indian narrative of targeting terror camps. "There are no terrorist facilities here — only homes, families, and a mosque," one resident said, visibly shaken. Another added, "India has committed a cowardly act by attacking a place of worship and killing innocent people. This aggression will not be forgotten." Muzaffarabad Deputy Commissioner Mudassir Farooq confirmed that multiple missiles were fired at the mosque, labeling the Indian claim of targeting terror infrastructure as "baseless and misleading."