(میخی بناری: مدیث نمبر 6992) **Barkat Rice Mills** 



South Africa Won the World Test Championship Final After 27 Years

LONDON: Aiden Markram's brilliant 136 runs, South Africa won the World Test Championship final after 27 years by defeating Australia by five wickets in the ICC Trophy at Lord's Cricket Ground. (Report on Page 7)



India fails to 'push Pakistan back' onto FATF grey list

amid "strong opposition from member states", sources said on Saturday. Diplomatic sources told Geo News that the Indian

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Zilhaj 18, Sunday, June 15, 2025

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## Ready for response

As regional tensions rise, Iran has paraded drones, missiles and troops to show it is ready to launch an unprecedented attack on its



# 'Tehran will burn' if Iran keeps firing missiles, warns Israel

TELAVIV/DUBAI/WASHING-TON: Israel's Defence Minister Israel Katz on Saturday warned Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei that "Tehran will burn" if it keeps firing missiles at Israeli civilians.

bringing about a reality in which they, and especially Teheran's resi-

dents, will pay a heavy price for the flagrant harm inflicted upon Israel's citizens. If Khamenei continues to fire missiles at the Israeli home front. Tehran will burn," Katz said in a statement.

Earlier in the day, Iran fired a new salvo of missiles at Israel in response to unprecedented The Iranian dictator is taking Israeli air strikes against milithe citizens of Iran hostage, tary and nuclear sites on Iranian soil, raising fears of an escalation in the region

So far, 4 people have been into bunkers. killed and 63 injured in Israel, with several buildings reduced to rubble in counterstrikes launched by Iran after Israel launched an

offensive against it. Explosions have been reported in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem following Iran's latest missile barrage. Members of the U.S. Embassy have taken shelter, and sirens have sounded across Tel

Aviv, prompting citizens to rush

In latest development, three Revolutionary Guards were killed in an Israeli attack on the northwestern Iranian city of Zanjan, Tansnim news agency reported

Israel has also killed three more Iranian nuclear scientists, state television reported Saturday, bringing to nine the overall number slain in Israel's attack on the Islamic republic.

"Three of the country's nuclear scientists — Ali Bekaei Karimi, Mansour Asgari, and Saeed Borji were martyred during the Zionist regime's terrorist attacks," the broadcaster said.

Iran and Israel targeted each other with missiles and airstrikes early on Saturday after Israel launched its biggest-ever air offensive against its longtime foe in a bid to prevent it from developing a nuclear weapon.

## Saad Rafique calls on Shehbaz Sharif, lauds publicfriendly budget

👺 Bureau Report

LAHORE: Former Federal Minister and senior PML-N leader Khawaja Saad Rafique called on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday.

During the meeting, Khawaja Prime Minister on presenting a public-friendly federal budget, dialogue.

describing it as a positive step towards economic stability and much-needed relief for the people.

The two leaders also held a detailed discussion on the current political situation in the country, reaffirming their commitment to Saad Rafique congratulated the addressing national challenges through unity and democratic



## Pakistan stands firmly with Iran, Palestine: Tarar

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar said on Saturday that Pakistan took a clear and strong stand at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) against Israel's unprovoked attack on Iran, expressing full support for the Iranian

Speaking in the National but also stood side by side with

Assembly, he said that the UNSC held a special meeting earlier in the day, during which Iran's representative thanked Pakistan and other countries for their

Today, Pakistan showed why it deserves a seat on the Security Council by firmly standing with Iran and defending international law," he said. "We not only condemned Israel's aggression

our Iranian brothers and sisters." He said that Pakistan believes Iran has the right to defend itself under the UN Charter, and this was clearly explained by Pakistan's representative.

He also highlighted the close friendship and shared culture between Pakistan and Iran, mentioning that Allama Iqbal is highly respected in Iran as 'Iqbal

The minister said Prime

Minister Shehbaz Sharif and the Deputy Prime Minister had already conveyed their condolences and solidarity with Iran after the recent attacks.

He praised Pakistan's actions at the UNSC as reflecting the nation's true feelings and said few countries had shown such a principled stance.

He also mentioned Pakistan's pointing to recent official visits,

including the late Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi's trip to Pakistan, which helped strengthen

Talking about Palestine, the minister said the people of Pakistan have always stood with the oppressed Palestinians. "We believe their sacrifices will be growing relations with Iran, remembered and will not go in vain," he said.

# Pakistan stands with Iran against Israeli aggression: PM Shehbaz Sharif



跨 Spokesman Report

LAHORE: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif held a telephone conversation on Saturday with Dr Masoud Pezeshkian, President of the Islamic Republic of Iran,

Saturday evening. He said Pakistan stood resolutely in solidarity with the brotherly people and the Government of Iran in face of Israel's unprovoked and unjustified aggression. He strongly condemned Israeli attacks against Iran, that violated its sovereignty and territorial integrity, and were in complete defiance of the UN Charter

had the right to self-defence, as provided under Article 51 of the UN Charter, he added.

President Pezeshkian thanked Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif for Pakistan's support and solidarity with Iran at this difficult time, particularly at the UN Security Council. He said this gesture was reflective of the close and brotherly relations between the two countries. He apprised the PM about Iran's perspective on the crisis with Israel and urged the international community, particularly the Islamic countries, to work together closely to counter these threats.

Both leaders agreed to and international law. Iran remain in close contact.

## DPM Dar expresses deep concern over Gaza's worsening situation



跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar Saturday expressed deep concern over the worsening humanitarian situation in Gaza and West Bank, result-

ing from Israel's blatant violations of human rights.

The DPM/FM chaired a high-level meeting to review the status of ongoing assistance provided by Pakistan to the Palestinian people, Foreign Office Spokesperson said in a press release.

Reaffirming Pakistan's unwavering moral, political and diplomatic support for the Palestinian cause, Dar emphasized on the need to enhance the provision of humanitarian relief to the Palestinian people as well as to extend educational assistance to the Palestinian students.

## Iran shoots down another F-35 fighter jet belonging to Israel: Army

**₿ IRNA** 

TEHRAN: Air Defense Forces have shot down another fifth-generation F-35 fighter jet belonging to the Israeli regime, amid the continued exchange of fire between Tehran and Tel

Relations Office said in a statement on Saturday that its Air Defense forces had successfully struck and destroyed another F-35 fighter jet belonging to the Israeli regime over the western part of the country.

It also noted that the fate of the pilot remains unknown and The Iranian Army's Public is currently under investigation.

## PTI leaders highlight various aspects of federal budget 2025-26

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) senior leaders Omar Ayub Khan, Sheikh Waqas Akram, Taimoor Khan Jhagra and Shibli Faraz on Saturday held a press conference where they highlighted various aspects of the federal budget 2025-26.

Speaking to the media, Omar Ayub said his budget speech in the National Assembly was not telecast live. He said that even Wi-Fi service was suspended during his speech because the rulers know that he would hold them mirror. He said that currently the national budget is in a state of "died on arrival".

# **Book launch** ceremony of Masooma-e-Sindh by Zawar **Abdul Sattar** Dars held in Tando Allahyar

#### B Abdul Ghafor Sarohi

TANDO ALLAHYAR: The Aal-e-Rasool (PBUH) have always been a source of spiritual shelter and intercession for the Ummah in both this world and the hereafter. Sindh was honored by Allah Almighty as the land of refuge for the Ahl-e-Bait (PBUH) when they were persecuted and driven caravan of the noble Sadat arrived in

the Abbasid period.

These views were expressed by Zawar Abdul Sattar Dars, Zawar Niaz Hussain Laghari, Riaz Umrani, Khan Muhammad Sehto, Syed Niaz Hussain Shah Bukhari, Dr. Muhammad Hanif Laghari, and Muhammad Yaqoob Khaskheli during a ceremony held yesterday in Tando Allahyar, marking the launch from their homelands. Caravan after of two new books authored by Zawar Abdul Sattar Dars: Masooma-e-Sindh this blessed land, beginning during and Maharaja Dahar Sen. The event the Umayyad era and continuing into was organized by Awaz-e-Adab maga-

zine in collaboration with the Jehanian Adabi Council.

Speakers at the event highlighted that Lady Ruqayya bint Ali (SA), Hazrat Muhammad Hanfiyyah bin Ali (AS), and others arrived in Sindh during the Umayyad rule, while Hazrat Abdullah Shah Ghazi (AS), Lady Khadija Maham bint Imam Musa Kazim (AS), and other noble members of the Aal-e-Rasool (PBUH) migrated during the Abbasid period from the Arabian Peninsula to Sindh. It was pointed out that the very

tyrants who enforced public curses against Amir al-Momineen Hazrat Ali ibn Abi Talib (AS) for 70 years would never have allowed the names of the Aal-e-Rasool (PBUH) to be preserved in official records. Therefore, speakers stressed the urgent need for rigorous academic research to correct the distortions and reclaim the rightful place of the Ahl-e-Bait (PBUH) in Islamic and regional history.

The event also featured the unveiling of the two newly published

## Israel's aggression against Iran may spark World War III, warns Sardar Attique

DHIRKOT/GHAZIABAD: Israeli aggression on Iran is shameful and regrettable. It cannot be condemned enough. Israeli aggressive actions can lead to destruction in the region. Is raeli aggression can pave the way  $\,$ for World War III. Iran has every right to retaliate in self-defense. If Israel is not reined in in time, the situation can get out of control. Israel's aggressive intentions pose a serious threat to world peace.



These views were expressed by President of the Muslim Conference and former Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan Khan while talking to journalists and political activists here today. He said that the entire Muslim Ummah should stand united with Iran. Pakistan has taken a lively and brilliant stand. The stand of the Pakistani government is not only commendable but also worthy of imitation by the Muslim Ummah. Israel wants to devour many countries in the Middle East to fulfill its Greater Israel plan. Israel, as always, has openly supported India in the battle of right and wrong. It is encouraging that Israel seems to be alone in this whole process, which has not been supported by any country in the world except the support of America.

#### Faisalabad cloth traders seek unity and cooperation



FAISALABAD: A delegation of Cloth Board Association Faisalabad reached the central office of Anjuman Tajran City (Registered) to jointly resolve the problems of traders. Anjuman Tajran City (Registered) President Khawaja Shahid Razzaq Saka along with his General Secretary Sheikh Muhammad Saeed, Deputy General Secretary Mian Riaz Shahid, Chaudhry Arshad Gujjar, Mirza Talib Siddique Baig, Mirza Mazhar Siddique Baig, Chaudhry Ijaz Ahmed, Young Traders City President Sohail Niaz Toor, General Secretary Malik Abbas Ashraf were present. The delegation of Cloth Board Association Faisalabad was accompanied by President Sultan Butt, General Secretary Sheikh Muhammad Faisal, Chairman Dr. Mahmood Yousaf, Chief Organizer Sheikh Arsalan Aslam Achi, Senior Vice Chairman Sheikh Yousaf Moti, Sheikh Ehsan Elahi, Imran Rahmani, Waheed Khaliq Ramey, Muhammad Arif, Sheikh Zahoor and other office bearers. Khawaja Shahid Razzaq Saka warmly welcomed the visiting delegation and welcomed them. Addressing the participants of the joint meeting, Anjuman Tajran City (Registered) President Khawaja  $Shahid\,Razak\,Saka\,said\,that\,traders\,need\,unity\,and\,solidarity\,more\,than$ ever before. It is necessary to find solutions to all these problems together. I am happy that the cloth traders have formed their own association for their own recognition. I will extend all possible cooperation to you. On the proposal of Khawaja Shahid Razak Saka, a 10-member board consisting of senior leaders of the Cloth Board Association Faisalabad and Anjuman Tajran City (Registered) will be formed, which will make efforts to solve the problems of traders across the city. On this occasion, Cloth Board Association Faisalabad President Sultan Butt, General Secretary Sheikh Muhammad Faisal, Chairman Dr. Mahmood Yousaf, Chief Organizer Sheikh Arsalan Aslam Achi, Senior Vice Chairman Sheikh Yousaf Moti thanked Khawaja Shahid Razak for such a warm welcome.

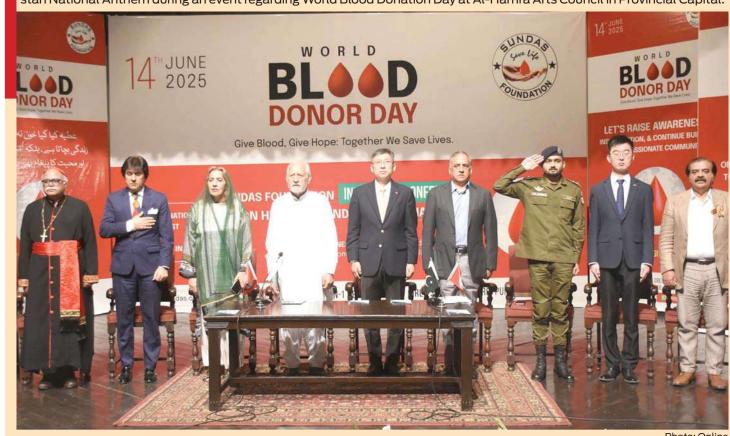
## Awami Tehreek has announced a series of awareness rallies across Sindh

**Correspondent** 

THATTA: Awami Tehreek has announced a series of awareness rallies across Sindh as part of preparations for a countrywide convention against corporate farming land grabs, artificial water scarcity and to mark the 7th death anniversary of Rasool Bux Palijo, the great revolutionary thinker, founder of Awami Tehreek, and a voice for oppressed nations and classes around the world. The press conference was also attended by Noor Ahmad Katiar, central vice president Awami Tehreek, Razzaq Chandio, Shah Muhammad Chang and Mitha Khan Lashari.

## World Blood Donation Day

LAHORE: The The Deputy Consul General of China in Lahore Mr. Cao Ke along with others stand guard in respect of Pakistan National Anthem during an event regarding World Blood Donation Day at Al-Hamra Arts Council in Provincial Capital.





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نيشنل بائي وي اتهار شي (وزارت مواصلات، حكومت پاكتان) مزيد معلومات كيلي (وزارت مواصلات، حكومت پاكتان)

## **Exhibition of Final Year Garments** Manufacturing Students'

#### 👺 Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: Final year students of the Garments Manufacturing program at execution, praising the the National Textile University (NTU) presented their innovative projects in an Fatima Iftikhar and section exhibition held at the univer- coordinator Dr. Aqsa Imran. sity, showcasing their creativity, technical skills, and Hafsah Jamshed, Chairindustry-ready solutions. person of the Textile Engi-The event featured a wide range of apparel designs, This exhibition reflects NTU's from sustainable fashion to high-performance textiles, future engineers in the field of demonstrating the students' ability to connect academic knowledge with real-world applications.

A jury comprising faculty and industry needs.

members and industry experts evaluated the projects based on innovation, functionality, and professional students' work. The project was coordinated by Dr. On this occasion, Dr.

neering Department, stated, commitment to training textiles. We aim to empower garments students to bring their ideas to life and bridge the gap between academia

### Lahore High Court Bar **Association Multan Condmn** Israel attack on Iran

#### S Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: High Court: Bar Association Multan President Muhammad Azhar Khan Mughal, General Secretary Safdar Hussain dent Hafiz Muhammad Shoaib Qureshi, Finance Secretary Hanafiya Abbas Bukhari, Executive Council Muslim countries unite and Members Bilal Abrar Arain, Nader Mirali and Manzar is oppression on an Islamic Bilal addressed a protest country.

press conference against the Israeli attack on Iran and condemned the attack, saying that the attacks on Iran, Libya, Kashmir, Palestine and Gaza are an attack on the sovereignty of inde-Sarsana Sial, Vice Presi- pendent Muslim countries and a violation of international laws.

They demanded that all support them wherever there



## **Namaz Timings**

#### **EMERGENCY**

Rescue (Police) 15
Bomb Disposal 15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/
Islamabad1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance 1122 &
& Rescue Services 4451122
Motorway Police9266044
Motorway Police9270601-20

## **ENQUIRY**

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

## **HOSPITALS**

CMH	5611111
MH	561116
MH	561116
Cantt Hospital	9270907-11
DHQ	5556311-4
RGH	9290301-7
Holy Family	9290322-7
PIMS	9261170-79
Polyclinic	9218300-09
Shifa International	4603666

#### **DEPARTMENTS**

CDA 9221334-43
CDA 9208301-04
Met Office 9250360-6
RDA 5555864
TMA 5770886
Cantonment Board 9270151-3
Islamabad Metropolitan
Corporation 9209224
Potohar Town 9209224
Rawal Town 5773343

#### **COMPLAINTS**

E-7, F-10 & F-11 .. G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8, ......9203883 G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 ..9266316 Wapda Islamabad......9217579-80 Sui Gas Complaint..... 119, 9272249

Israel's aggression in Iran condemned as threat to global peace



👺 Bureau Report

LAHORE: Muhammad Mahboob Siddiqi, General Secretary of the International Human Rights Movement (Pakistan), has issued a strong condemnation of Israel's recent aggression against Iran. stating that Israel has become a wild, extremist, and irrational state that poses a grave threat not only to Palestine but to the entire Middle East and global peace. The attack on Iran is a reckless attempt to ignite a wider regional war.

He emphasized that Israel no longer differentiates between civilians and combatants. It targets innocent children, women, and the elderly without remorse. Violations of international humanitarian and war laws have become a routine part of Israel's strategy. The world has witnessed the genocide in Palestine where thousands of innocent civilians were martyred, hospitals and schools were bombed, and entire neighborhoods were turned into rubble.

# **BISP transitions** to retail payment model to protect beneficiaries: Dr. Tahir

#### **Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: The Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) has announced a paradigm shift in its payment disbursement mechanism, transitioning to an exclusive retail network model starting Monday. This deciprevious campsite-based disbursement

system, directly responding to the ongoing heatwave and prioritizing the safeguarding of beneficiaries from exposure to extreme weather conditions.

In pursuance of this initiative, a highlevel coordination meeting was convened today in Bahawalpur, chaired by the Additional Secretary BISP Dr. Tahir Noor partner banks and zonal staff of BISP. ment along with a receipt, upholding the



The meeting focused on reviewing the principles of fiscal discipline and benefifinal modalities for the Quarter 4 tranche disbursement through bank-designated retail agents across the region, ensuring seamless execution and optimal service

Dr. Tahir Noor underscored the imperative of transparency and accountability, emphasizing that under the retail model, beneficiaries will receive payments from the nearest authorized retail outlets. He directed BISP staff to ensure that every sive operational overhaul replaces the and attended by representatives from single beneficiary receives her full entitle-

ciary rights.

During the meeting, bank representatives provided comprehensive briefings on their preparedness, encompassing the strategic deployment of retail agents, fund allocation and management, robust biometric authentication protocols, and real-time monitoring systems. The stakeholders also deliberated on effective communication strategies to inform beneficiaries about the change in disbursement mechanism, ensuring

The meeting culminated with a collective reaffirmation of commitment from all stakeholders to ensure efficient, transparent, and timely disbursement of funds. The shift to the retail model exemplifies BISP's strong commitment to enhancing governance, strengthening service delivery, and responding effectively to environmental and operational

challenges. The Zonal Director South, District Director Bahawalpur, and Deputy Director (Field Operation) were also in

## Meeting

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Igbal chairing the Central Development Working Party (CDWP) meeting on Saturday, where the forum approved development projects worth Rs. 35.86 billion.



Photo: PID

## Regional Drama Festival closing ceremony held

👺 City Desk

RAWALPINDI: A grand closing ceremony of the Regional Drama Festival was organized by the Punjab Council of the Arts, Rawalpindi. The special guest of the closing ceremony was Malik Iftikhar Ahmed, Parliamentary Secretary for Augaf and Religious Affairs, Government of Punjab. Prominent personalities who attended the event included Founder of Arts Council Naheed Manzoor, renowned poet Dr. Afshan, former Director of Arts Council Chaudhry Waqar Ahmed, PTV's Malik News Producer Malik Waqar, PNCA officers, President of Rawalpindi Islamabad Union of Generalists Abid Abbasi, renowned artists, poets and writers of Rawalpindi Islam and appreciated the Punjab government for organizing the successful



festival. The plays presented in this festival include Yar Main Ek Mian Hoon, Rahat Aur Ferishte, Anjum Malik's Mughal's Jhut Moot, Tahir Siddiqui's Namaish, Munawar Afridi's Shareekan Naun Aag Lag Gayi, Saleem Affandi's ceremony, Director Punjab

Zameen Ka Karz, Sabir Khan's Muhammad's drama Rishte Khan's Sar Par Pairr, Arshad Minhas' Balkara, Pervaiz Ek Jhut So Jhut, Saeed Anwar's William's Gunjhalan, Shazia Main Ek Fankar Hoon, Aslam Sheikh's Andheray Kay Roop and Suleman Sunny's drama

Addressing the closing

Council of the Arts, Rawalpindi Muhammad Shakoor expressed special gratitude to all the distinguished guests, drama teams, members of the scrutiny committee, media, journalists and attendees and said that this festival is an important step for the promotion of fine arts and positive entertainment.

## License Centers established

👺 Zafar Chishti

TOBA TEK SINGH: District Traffic Officer (DTO) Atif Nadeem said that the license centers have been established across the district like across Punjab, where licenses are being issued immediately for the benefit of the citizens. He talking to Daily The Spokes-



man. He said Traffic Police are performing their duties honestly. Indiscriminate actions are being taken against under-age drivers and drivers of motorcycles and other vehicles without license due to accidents, who are facing legal action with heavy fines.

Citizens are requested not to drive a motorcycle or vehicle without a license. Driving License Centers have been set up in every city, visit them today to get your license to reduce traffic accidents significantly.

### Chairperson PAL receives warm welcome at China's prestigious literary gatherings

Kiran Asim

ISLAMABAD: Chairperson of the Pakistan Academy of Letters (PAL) Prof. Dr. Najeeba Arif, recently represented Pakistani iterati in two interna tional conferences in China. The conferences, held in Dunhuang and Yangzhou, China, from May 29 to June 4, 2025, brought together over 400 delegates from nearly 60



countries across six continents. The Chairperson PAL received a very warm reception and she was made to lead a group of 28 delegates from various countries, including the USA, Australia, Ireland, Chile, Nigeria, Thailand, Nepal, India, South Korea, UAE, Madagascar, and China.

Prior to the conference, the Chairperson PAL participated in an interview with reporters from leading Chinese newspapers and television channels. Excerpts from the interview were subsequently aired on various channels, and she continued to receive requests for interviews from journalists throughout her stay.

The opening ceremony of the conference was presided over by China's Vice President, His Excellency Han Zheng. A select group of twelve delegates, including the Chairperson PAL Dr. Najeeba Arif, had the privilege of meeting with the Vice President beforehand, during which he reaffirmed China's commitment to respecting cultural diversity and collaborating with nations worldwide to promote humanity's collective well-being. The Chairperson PAL expressed gratitude for China's support of Pakistan, which the Vice President acknowledged warmly. The ceremony concluded with a traditional Chinese dance performance.

The conference featured eight parallel sessions and the Chairperson PAL gave her speech in the session titled "Equality, Inclusiveness, and Harmonious Coexistence: Multidimensional Narratives of Civilizations from Writers' Perspective."

The Chairperson PAL also delivered a keynote speech in the opening session of the second conference jointly organized by the Canal Walk Organizing Committee for World Canal Cities and Yangzhou University.

The delegates also visited historic sites, museums, and cultural institutions, including the Mogao Caves, Yumen Pass, Yangzhou Grand Canal Museum, slender West Lake, and Marco Polo Memorial Hall. These visits showcased China's rich cultural heritage and provided opportunities for cultural exchange.

# Outstanding Performance by Qadirpur Raan Police

跨 Zain Khan Malghani

MULTAN: In a major breakthrough, the Qadirpur Raan Police successworth Rs. 22 million within just one week, earning widespread appreciation for their swift and professional action. City Police Officer (CPO) Multan, Sadiq Ali Dogar, accompa-

residents, and expressed satisfaction stolen.

over the prompt delivery of justice. During the press conference, CPO Sadiq Ali Dogar awarded DSP Elim Din Malghani a special certificate of fully traced a high-profile theft case appreciation for his excellent performance. He also commended SHO Muhammad Ali and Sub-Inspector Waheed for their dedicated efforts.

According to details, the complainant had gone to his homenied by DSP Sadar Circle, Elim Din town in Gujrat during the Eid holi-Malghani, shared the details of this days. Upon returning home on successful operation during a press 
June 10, 2025, he found his house conference held at the CPO Complex. ransacked and discovered that Ikram Azim, the complainant and intruders had broken in through a Technical Director of Reliance Voting rear window. Further investigation Mills, lauded the police's timely and revealed that 54.5 tolas of gold jewelry efficient response, along with local and Rs. 2 million in cash had been

The police registered FIR No. 619/25 at Qadirpur Raan Police Station and initiated a thorough investigation. DSP Sadar led the inquiry with technical expertise and professional skill. On the very first day, the household staff — including the gardener, guard, sweeper, and cleaner were summoned for questioning. It wasn't long before the culprits confessed to the crime.

In a surprising turn, not a single grain or carat of gold was found missing from the recovered items. Both the cash and jewelry were returned to the rightful owner in full.

This successful recovery not only reflects the high standards of police



milestone in restoring public trust in ence was attended by a large number questions and widely appreciated the professionalism but also serves as a law enforcement. The press confer- of journalists, who engaged with police's commendable performance.

Group Chairman/Chief Editor: Almass Ayoub Sabir

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Naveed Ahmad Khan Editor: Head Editorial Advisory Board: Amjad Mehmood Bureau Chief Karachi: Khurram Jaffrani

Bureau Chief Lahore:

(afrazalishah@gmail.com) AIMS Building, Street No. 4, H-8/1, Islamabad. Head Office:

spokesmanislamabad@gmail.com Phone: +92 51 2227123, WhatsApp +92 346 5008408

Karachi office: A111, Block C, Gulsha-e-Jamal, PRECHS,

Karachi Phone:021-33399390 Email: spokesmankarachi@gmail.com

Asim Nazir Ahmad

(jaffrani@adpluse.pk

Syed Afraz Ali Nazish

Lahore Office: 7-E, Samanberg, Johar Town.

spokesmanlahore@gmail.com

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## Israel vs. Iran: a view from Riyadh

s regional tensions rise following Israeli military strikes on Iran, Saudi Arabia remains committed to its longstanding principles: de-escalation, diplomatic solutions, and international cooperation. The Kingdom has firmly condemned Israel's actions, calling them violations of international law, and warning that continued escalation will only complicate efforts to achieve long-term stability.

Saudi Arabia's foreign policy has consistently prioritized peaceful resolutions, advocating for diplomacy over military confrontation. Riyadh urges all involved parties to exercise restraint and seek constructive dialogue instead of further aggression. The Kingdom has also called on the international community, especially the UN Security Council, to take decisive steps in preventing further destabilization.

In response to the crisis, Saudi leadership has actively engaged with regional and global allies to discuss possible solutions and ensure coordinated efforts toward de-escalation. Riyadh remains committed to fostering discussions that prevent further violence and promote lasting peace.

Saudi Arabia has made its position on sovereignty clear. It will not allow its airspace to be used for any military operations, regardless of their origin or target. This policy underscores the Kingdom's dedication to safeguarding its national security, while maintaining its stance against direct involvement in mili-

To ensure consistency in messaging, Saudi Arabia has strategically emphasized its official statements through media channels. News networks have been instructed to broadcast the Kingdom's position at regular intervals, reinforcing its commitment to diplomatic solutions. Additionally, Saudi analysts appearing on television have been carefully selected to align with the Kingdom's stance, ensuring a unified message that promotes stability.

Beyond the immediate crisis, Saudi Arabia envisions a broader transformation for the Middle East — one that prioritizes security, economic cooperation, and regional integration over conflict. The Kingdom's leadership aims to shift focus away from confrontation toward prosperity, ensuring that nations collaborate to improve living standards and build a more stable future.

As tensions continue, Saudi Arabia remains a stabilizing force, advocating for diplomacy, urging international cooperation, and reinforcing its commitment to regional peace. The Kingdom stands ready to work with its global partners to reduce tensions and guide the region toward lasting security and pros-

As such, global partners are strongly advised to work closely with Rivadh to avert the consequences of a wide-ranging and uncontainable war that will inevitably threaten populations on both sides, damage civilian infrastructure, and increase the cost of commodities, including oil, which veteran Independent Arabia business analyst Ghaleb Darwish predicts could rise above \$100.

This approach highlights Saudi Arabia's role as a responsible leader, ensuring that Middle East conflicts are addressed through peaceful means and that stability remains the priority. Rivadh's continued emphasis on diplomacy and cooperation serves as a crucial foundation for shaping the future of the region.

## Iran Shatters Israel's Invincibility

Israeli F-35I "Adir" stealth jets thundered across Iranian airspace under the cover of darkness. What followed was one of the most aggressive strikes in the history of the Middle East—targeting over a hundred strategic Iranian sites, including nuclear enrichment facilities at Natanz and Esfahan, as well as high-level command posts and residences of Iran's top military leaders. The Israeli offensive, reportedly backed by U. S. intelligence and long in planning through joint CIA-Mossad coordination, left scores of Iranian personnel dead and hundreds wounded, including prominent IRGC commanders and nuclear scientists.

Israel believed this strike would be the final word, a demonstration of supremacy, and an assertion of impunity. Publicly, President Donald Trump attempted to distance the United States from the operation, claiming that Israel had acted alone. However, credible leaks from within the White House told a different story—this was not a rogue mission, but a meticulously coordinated assault approved at the highest levels of Washington. American satellites, logistical resources, and defense planners had all played their part in enabling what was, in essence, a premeditated act of war, cloaked in the garb of plausible deniability.

What was thought to be invinciblethe Iron Dome, David's Sling, Arrow-3, and Patriot batteries—was overwhelmed. Iranian missiles, including the newly unveiled Fattah-2 and Qassem Bassir hypersonic variants, reached speeds of up to Mach 15, maneuvered mid-flight, and evaded radar detection with alarming precision. These missiles, equipped with electro-optical guidance, penetrated the very core of Israel's defense network. For a state that prided itself on technological supremacy and unmatched military intel-

psychological.

This was the first time in its modern history that Israel felt truly vulnerable. The belief that no power in the region could threaten Tel Aviv or breach its airspace had now been shattered. Hyper-

Iran's Fattah-2 system can only be intercepted 5 to 10 percent of the time-far below what any defense shield in the world today is capable of reliably neutralizing. In contrast, the Iron Dome interceptors, costing over \$40,000 each, could not match the

sheer speed and volume of the incoming Iranian projectiles. The sky over Israel, once guarded by billions of dollars in U. S.-funded defense infrastructure, became porous and unpredictable.

Iran's response was not random. It targeted military installations, intelligence outposts, and symbolic structures like the Mossad headquarters and air defense command centers. Civilian casualties. while inevitable, were not the objective. In fact, Iranian officials went to lengths to stress that their operation was calibrated and proportionate—a response to Israel's indiscriminate bombing of Tehran that killed civilians, including women and children. This retaliation, according to one Iranian academic, was meant to make Israel understand what it meant to live under the fear of sudden annihilation—something Palestinians in Gaza had endured for decades.

This conflict has laid bare not just the vulnerabilities in Israel's military doctrine, but also the hypocrisy of Western political narratives. While Israel's strike was praised in Western capitals

retaliation was condemned as disproportionate and provocative. The same American lawmakers who struggle to agree on domestic policies like healththeir support of Tel Aviv. This bipartisan sonic technology changed the rules. alliance, fueled by lobbying, campaign According to open-source estimates, contributions, and ideological allegiance,

refused to acknowledge the fundamental truth: that Israel had violated Iranian sovereignty, launched an unprovoked attack, and triggered a conflict with dangerous global consequences.

And yet, the global tide is shifting. Public sentiment

Europe, Latin America, Asia, and even within the United States is no longer monolithic. The endless footage of Gaza's ruins, the cries of orphaned Palestinian children, and now the images of Israeli neighborhoods under fire have started to humanize both sides of the equation. War is no longer a one-way story. Civilians, whether in Tehran or Tel Aviv, suffer the same pain, loss, and trauma. It is this human cost-so often hidden behind the veil of strategic calculus—that is now forcing the world to rethink its allegiance and moral posture.

The repercussions are not confined to Israel and Iran. Iran's influence extends deeply into the Arab world. Through its network of allies and Shia militias in Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and Yemen, Tehran holds the capacity to ignite a much broader regional war. Meanwhile, Sunni-majority nations like Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Egypt, though ideologically distant from Iran, remain cautious. Their reluctance to support Tehran stems from deep-rooted sectarian and geopolitical divisions. And yet, none of them have openly sided with

watching, calculating, waiting.

There are reports—unverified but persistent—that Iranian systems may have downed at least two Israeli F-35 care or education were suddenly unified in jets. These U. S.-made aircraft, the pride of Israeli air superiority, cost over \$100 million each. The claim, if validated, would be a severe blow to both Israel's military image and the reputation of American defense exports. Israel, which has long relied on technological dominance to deter regional adversaries, now finds its superiority publicly questioned.

> But the ultimate lesson of this confrontation is not military-it is moral and political. Iran, a country sanctioned, demonized, and isolated by much of the West, stood alone. And yet it responded not with chaos, but with calculated, disciplined force. Israel, despite its alliances and unmatched resources, underestimated the capacity of its adversary. And in doing so, it may have permanently altered the strategic balance in the Middle East.

> The path forward is narrow and perilous. Both nations now stand at the edge of an abyss. Escalation could engulf the entire region. The United Nations must intervene decisively, and nations with influence—be it the United States over Israel or Russia and China over Iran—must compel their allies to step back. Dialogue, not drones, must define

> Iran has made its point. Israel must acknowledge its limits. And the world must choose peace over vengeance. In a world already scarred by war, climate crisis, and division, the Middle East cannot afford another inferno. The time for pride is over. The time for peace is now.

Writer is Press Secretary to the President (Rtd), Former Press Minister at the Embassy of Pakistan to France and Former MD, SRBC



## From shining India to shattered India

HE recent defeat of India in the ation Shield. Pak-India war has reshaped South Asia's landscape.

The Modi government and its media, once mocking Pakistan as weak and a beggar, now stand shattered by the collapse of Indian arrogance and pride.

India, long claiming regional military superiority and threatening Pakistan's annihilation, saw its illusions crushed within hours.

Narendra Modi, the butcher of Gujarat, misjudged his strength-just as Nehru did in 1962, leading to a humiliating defeat by China.

M Abdullah Hamid Gul Perhaps, India forgot its past beatings, but now, after 1962 and 1965, the Paki-hatred-filled Indians, Pakistanis have, as a nation, stan defence forces have once again made India

Churchill's words echo: "This is our finest hour. "History will remember that Pakistan humbled a much larger enemy blinded by its delusions of regional leadership.

Pakistanis stood as a fortified wall alongside their defenders

Under the leadership of Asim Munir and Zaheer Babar, modern technology, including electronic and cyber warfare, gave Pakistan aerial, missile and cyber dominance.

This revealed the unmatched professionalism of our military, which compelled a much larger army to retreat—proving wars are won by spirit, not just numbers.

Praise be to Allah, our forces are filled with the spirit of faith.

Pilots showed superb professionalism, utilizing Chinese next-gen sensors, data links and electronic pods.

Wise diplomacy, strong media, national unity and Pakistani morale created chaos within enemy ranks

As a result, the enemy—forced to lick its

wounds—resorted to launching a failed Oper-

So far, Western expectations from India have centered on its crucial role in countering China. However, the combat trials of Chinese technology have outperformed European technology, while Pakistan has emerged as a significant Muslim power, equipped not only with

unwavering resolve, capability and a strong will to repel the enemy but also with national infrastructure to protect and secure its homeland.

The professional expertise of our defence forces has been

acknowledged globally. In contrast to the biased media engaged in lies and war hysteria and the contempt and

established a high standard of perseverance and

Conversely, India has resorted to hate speeches and fake news to spread war hysteria.

Recent actions by the Hindutva Government have severely impacted the peace process in the region and rising Hindu extremism has sounded alarm bells in the area.

May has been a month of achievements and victories in Pakistan's history, marking a hat trick of failures for India.

On May 28, we became the first nuclear power in the Islamic world.

In May 2025, our Air Force falcons shot down six front-line Indian jets—three Rafales, two

Su-30MKIs and one Mirage-2000. On May 10, a coordinated counterattack reduced 26 key Indian sites to rubble, forcing

the U. S.to declare a ceasefire. Beijing stood by our side and continues to do so, while Moscow also supported Pakistan's

India's narrative, lacking international

support, was rejected globally. Modi's illusion of military strength stands shattered.

The story doesn't end here.

After shock after shock, China delivered another blow on May 17, renaming 27 locations in Arunachal Pradesh (Zangnan), including 15 mountains and two rivers, making it clear it won't

tolerate violations of its territorial integrity. Trump's remark calling Pakistanis "fabulous" and his offer to mediate on Kashmir signals recognition of the dispute.

India's failed ventures have allowed China to emerge as an informal guarantor of regional stability, crushing Delhi's ambitions of domi-

Pakistan, alongside Turkey, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Indonesia, now stands as a rising and effective Muslim force.

Modi's India is no longer shining. Operation "Buniyan Marsoos" has exposed the nefarious face of India's Hindutva govern-

ment to the world. India's crony capitalism has benefited a privileged few while the federation remains weak with over a hundred local insurgencies.

Cultural oppression, political exploitation, economic injustice and violations of human rights at the hands of security forces have transformed India into a murderous and horrific

After the recent May conflict, the following strategic realities have emerged.

The military balance between Pakistan and India has shifted, as Pakistan has demonstrated that quality is more significant than size.

China is now not only a genuine party to the Kashmir dispute but also a guarantor of peace, security and stability in South Asia, which includes support for Pakistan's unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The role of India as part of the US Indo-Pacific strategy or as a counter-response to China has now become a question mark.

-The writer is Chairman, Tehrik Jawanan Pakistan. He can be reached at abdullahhamidgul1@gmail.com

## **Hindutva's Domestic Narrative** And its Implication on South **Asian Stability**

Manahil Sagib

he Rise of Hindutva; a political ideology often depicted as a religious doctrine has fabricated stability of South Asia. The concept of "Akhand Bharat" and Hindu-only South Asia has not only given rise to Hindu extremism but also created hatred towards the Muslims and minorities in India. The rise of Hindutva has significantly reconstructed the national identity of India and reshaped its foreign actions. The political agenda of BJP for promoting religious majoritarianism has shifted the socio-political dynamics in the region. Domestically, Muslims and minorities of India are a victim of Hindutva. BJPs policies towards excluding Muslims and implication of article 370 and 35A in Kashmir has resulted in global criticism and tension in the valley. The recent Pahalgam attack and rising Indo-Pak tension is a good example of how the narrative building of India has impacted its domestic policies and how it influenced its foreign relations-primarily with Pakistan. This article explores how the narrative building of Hindutva influenced the domestic mindset of population of India and how it imposes insta-

bility in the region. Apart from the normalization of military attacks, the Pahalgam attack had a broader perspective which demonstrated strong Hindutva narrative building; the hatred towards Muslims and inbuilt anti-Pakistan perspective. The attack highlighted the extent of extremism in India and demonstrated that through public support any act of aggression

is acceptable in the name of conflict resolution

which can include; promotion of war between two nuclear armed states, violation of important treaties, ceasefire violation and limitation of diplomatic engagement. The immediate response by India through Indus Water Treaty suspension, border closure and launch a serious threat to the regional of Operation Sindoor depicts that the approach was rather ideological and it ignored the strategic outcome of it. This ideological narrative was further exploited by Indian media through the constant blame game towards Pakistan for state sponsored terrorism and by spread of misinformation resulting in rise of public sentiments and promotion of Hindutya mindset. Furthermore, the social media warfare significantly shaped the domestic narrative of India; for instance, ban of Pakistani official accounts and websites on various platforms in India promoted only the Hindutva perspective which resulted in further rise of public sentiments.

The Pahalgam attack not only questioned the security legitimacy of India, but it exposed how the Hindutva ideology influences state and public response in acts of terrorism and intensifies conflict between two states. When incidents like Pahalgam occur, in a conflict-prone region like South Asia, it significantly impacts the regional equilibrium. When such incidents are influenced by narratives like Hindutya, it becomes a serious concern for stability. When ideological narratives are infused with political and security agendas, retaliation toward such incidents are rather symbolic, ignoring the longterm implication. Prevention of such circumstances is possible when national discourse is based on rationality rather than ideological extremism, without that, prospect of stability in South Asian region will remain uncertain. Writer is student of National Defence University, Islamabad

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# Pakistan's gems and jewellery sector set to shine at two-day exhibition

KARACHI: The dazzling two day Gems and Jewellery Exhibition being organized by Pakistan Gems and Jewellery Development Company (PGJDC) has officially been inaugurated by the Honorable Provincial Minister Government of Sindh - Syed Riaz Hussain Shah Shirazi, here at Pearl Continental Hotel Karachi on 14th June 2025. Government functionaries, Diplomats including Consul Generals from Countries including Thailand, SriLanka, UAE, Oman, Indonesia, Bangladesh etc and representatives from Chambers of Commerce, Gems and Jewellery Associations and renowned businessmen including ARY Jewellers, Motiwala Jewelletrs, Hilton Jewellers, Hameed Jewellers, Arabian Jewellers, N. M Chhotani Jewellers, Golden Arts etc attended the inauguration ceremony.

While speaking during the Event, the Provincial Minister highlighted that this exhibition will provide a lucrative platform to the local exhibitors to showcase varieties of gems and jewellery products including loose precious, semi-precious gemstones, mineral specimens and fine jewellery (gold, white gold, silver) and gems studded jewellery. He urged the diplomats, foreigners, dignitaries and other participants to capitalize on this exhibition as it will be an excellent window of opportunities for buyers and sellers and will provide an enabling environment for the gems and jewellery traders, exporters and importers to establish linkages with each other.

The Chief Executive Officer PGJDC - Mr. Muhammad Alamgir Chaudhry highlighted the true Gems and Jewellery Potential of the Country and explained that the objective behind this Exhibition is to develop an understanding between the Pakistani Gems & Jewellery Sector and the Business Community so that B2B linkages could be strengthened. He expressed confidence that this Exhibition will play a vital role in enhancing the business growth. He further submitted that organization of this exhibition is among the key steps which the Company is taking towards revival of its initiatives and shows the commitment of the and finely crafted jewellery in front of Government towards development of this industry in Pakistan. He also include New Era Jewellers, Heritage shed light upon the steps being undertaken by the Government for facilitating trade and exports of this sector. He explained that the Government has Road), Nadia Chhotani Designer



SRO 760(I)/2013 so that its impediments could be removed before its rein-

During the Event renowned Gems and Jewellery traders and exporters are displaying their gemstone treasures discerning targeted audiences. These Jewellers, Bilal's (The Diamond Store), Syed Jewellers, The Emerald Royale. Co, Hussain Sons Jewellery (Tariq constituted a committee to review the Jewellery, Haroon Jewellers, Rozari

and Galaxy Gemological Institute.

The participants of the Event highlighted that this exhibition is a positive step taken by MoIP and PGJDC for development of this sector and enhancing gems and jewellery exports and will act as a platform for the gems and jewellery sector of Pakistan to have interaction with each other and enter into long and short term business deals with each other. They further submitted that this Exhibition will certainly help exploiting the true potential of Gems and Jewellery Sector of Pakistan



## Breaking Down Barriers: The Path to Better Mental Hea

**Sahar Fatima** 

Mental health is a vital aspect of our backseat in our fast-paced lives. The stigma surrounding mental health issues help, leading to a decline in their mental and physical health. Recognizing the signs and symptoms of mental health issues, such as changes in mood, appetite, or sleep patterns, as well as withdrawal from social activities, is crucial in providing timely support and inter-

By creating a supportive environment where people feel comfortable

gles, we can work together to break down the barriers that prevent indioverall well-being, yet it often takes a viduals from seeking help. Prioritizing self-care, engaging in activities that bring joy, practicing mindfulness, and can prevent individuals from seeking seeking professional help when needed are all essential steps in maintaining good mental health.

> mental health awareness, we can create a community that values and supports

> the well-being of all its members. Furthermore, by fostering open we can encourage individuals to take proactive steps towards improving their

discussing their mental health strug- mental health, leading to a happier, healthier, and more resilient society.

By investing in mental health support and resources, we can empower individuals to thrive and reach their full

Additionally, promoting mental health education and awareness in schools, workplaces, and communities By working together to promote can help to create a culture of understanding and support, where individuals feel valued and empowered to prioritize their mental health.

By working together, we can build a conversations and reducing stigma, society that prioritizes mental health, supports those in need, and fosters a understanding. culture of compassion, empathy, and

## **Breaking Down Mental Barriers**



This collective effort can lead to a viduals, families, and communities, supportive future for all.

significant positive impact on indi- ultimately creating a brighter, more

## Laws Without Action: The Ongoing Struggle for Implementation in Sindh

International human Rights

ver the years, Pakistan has introduced several laws aimed at protecting the rights of women, children, minorities, and vulnerable communities. Many policy frameworks and development projects are in place to address issues like child marriage, gender-based violence, education, and police accountability. However, the harsh reality remains that the implementation of these laws is almost nonexistent, especially at the grass-

Working as a government research officer and having additional responsibilities of handling complaints and witness protection, I have personally observed the large gap between what is written on paper and what happens in real life. I frequently visit police stations across Sindh to follow up on sensitive cases involving women and children. However, what I find in the field is both discouraging and alarming.

Police officials, particularly SHOs, often refuse to cooperate. In most stations, FIRs are delayed or not registered at all, especially if the

government officer like me brings forward the case. Many SHOs do not take women seriously. They are quick to dismiss complaints or ask the victims to "compromise." Even when I present myself as an official representative of the Human Rights Department, I am met with resistance, disrespect, or simply ignored.

This bias is not just institutional it is cultural. Female officers are still seen as outsiders in a male-dominated system. Despite our legal authority, our voices are suppressed, our complaints are downplayed, and our efforts are often wasted because there is no serious will to act. I find myself working day and complainant is a woman or if a female night, writing reports, attending meet-

ings, and responding to urgent calls, but without timely police cooperation, most interventions lose their value.

The most painful part is that vulnerable people suffer while the system protects the powerful. Women and girls who are victims of child marriage, rape, domestic violence, or forced conversions are often silenced before they even reach the police station. And when they do manage to speak, their voices are lost in bureaucracy and bias.

There are many projects running under different banners-SDGs, protection policies, public awareness drives—but the ground reality does not change unless the police take action. No law can protect people if the law

We, as women officers, are working harder than ever, but we are not being heard. We deserve respect, safety, and support. The government must look beyond reports and statistics. It must address the real problem: the refusal of duty at the grassroots level, especially by those in uniform.

In conclusion, I raise my voice not just for myself, but for all those women who are working to implement laws in difficult conditions—without resources, without recognition, and often without protection. It is time to stop hiding behind policies and start standing up for justice where it is most

#### When Our Brightest Leave, What Future Remains?

a common sight, not just at weddings or airports, where young troubling. Pakistanis depart—not merely from their homeland, but from the dreams and promises it once held.

Bureau of Emigration reveal a staggering 860,000 Pakistanis left the country in 2023 alone, many of whom are our most educated youth (Dawn, May 2025). The reasons for this mass exodus are arewells have become clear: a faltering economy and a diminishing sense of safety. However, the long-term implivacations, but in our cations of this trend are far more

This wave of migration reflects more than just a pursuit of better salaries or more vibrant cities. ened students, and a growing

Recent statistics from the It signifies a profound disillusionment among young people who no longer perceive stability, dignity, or a sense of belonging in Pakistan. When our doctors, engineers, and educators leave, they take with them not only their expertise but also the years of public investment, mentorship, and social contributions that our nation desperately needs.

The impact extends beyond the professional realm. It leaves behind anxious parents, disheart-



void in the institutions that once fostered collective ambition.

The heartbreaking reality is that career pathways linked to national those who once aspired to build a brighter future for their country are now envisioning a life else-

This moment demands more than mere rhetoric; it calls for tangible action. We need to create genuine incentives that we must first cultivate a country not only reward loyalty but also that inspires them to stay. Let's make staying a viable choice. This shift our focus from exporting includes improved compensation hope to nurturing it within our for public sector professionals, investment in local innovation, and establishing grants and

service-free from political favoritism. Most importantly, we need leadership that listens, engages, and empowers young people to envision a dignified future right here at home.

If we want our youth to remain.

Laraib Fatima.

## **Bull & Bears** PSX 100-Share

Index Fluctuation			
Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index			
Current	Prev. Close		
122,143.56	124,093.12		
Day's High	Day's Low		
123,058.06	121,604.59		
Index Value	Change		
19,791,211,697	-1949.56		
Percentage	Time		
-1.57%	13 Jun, 2025 4:30 pm		
Europe: FTS	E 100 Index		
Index Value	Change		
8,850.63	-34.29		
Percentage	Time		
0.39%	13 Jun, 4:35 pm GMT+1		
USA: Dow Jones I	ndustrial Average		

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Averag			
Index Value	Change		
42,572.33	-395.29		
Percentage	Time		
-0.92%	13 Jun, 12:11 pm GMT-4		

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Averag		
Index Value	Change	
37,834.25	-338.84	
Percentage	Time	
-0.89%	13 Jun, 3:45 pm GMT+9	

#### **Open Market Forex Rates**

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	182	186
Bahrain Dinar	748.50	756.50
Canadian Dollar	206	211
China Yuan	38.85	39.25
Danish Krone	42.23	42.63
Euro	326.05	328.80
Hong Kong Dollar	35.59	35.94
Indian Rupee	3.19	3.28
Japanese Yen	1.97	2.03
Kuwaiti Dinar	911.75	921.25
Malaysian Ringgit	66	66.60
NewZealand \$	168.5	170.5
Norwegians Krone	27.3	27.6
Omani Riyal	733.00	741.50
Qatari Riyal	76.81	77.51
Saudi Riyal	75.03	75.8
Singapore Dollar	218	220
Swedish Korona	29.09	29.39
Swiss Franc	335.55	338.35
Thai Bhat	8.4	8.55
U.A.E Dirham	77.00	77.8
UK Pound Sterling	384.30	387.8
US Dollar	283	285.5

## **DGSCO** in auguratesFreelancing Hubs at Sharda and Khundal Shahi

#### 👺 Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: The Director General of Special Communications Organization (SCO) inaugurated new Freelancing Hubs at Sharda and Khundal Shahi this week, promising a bright future for the youth of Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJK).

Both Sharda and Khundal Shahi are not only known for their breathtaking natural beauty but also hold immense historical and cultural significance, making them vibrant centers of tourism and local enterprise. By establishing these Freelancing Hubs in these key locations, SCO aims to blend AJK's rich heritage with modern technological growth, ensuring that even the most picturesque and remote areas have access to cuttingedge digital opportunities.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremonies, DG SCO said that these hubs will open new doors for the youth by providing them with modern facilities, high-speed internet, and a chance to connect with the global digital market. He emphasized that empowering youth with latest technology and freelancing skills is crucial for the economic development of

the region. These hubs will also offer training programs to help young people learn essential freelancing skills, allowing them to earn from home and support their families. Locals expressed their gratitude to SCO, saying that this initiative will create job opportunities and help reduce unemployment in the region.

This step is part of SCO's Vision 2025 under which 65 Freelancing Hubs and 15 Software Technology Parks have already been set up across AJK and Gilgit-Baltistan, benefiting over 1500 freelancers so far. SCO officials said that they remain committed to connecting the people of AJK with the digital world and ensuring that no region is left behind in Pakistan's digital revolution.

## **Historic Flight**

## Uzbekistan Airways lands in Islamabad, enhancing regional connectivity



Naveed Ahmad Khan

flight of Uzbekistan Airways from Tashkent to Islamabad was warmly received today upon its arrival at inent dignitaries and officials from

E. Mr. Alisher Tukhtaev, Ambas- Authority (CAA).

sador of Uzbekistan to Pakistan; Mr. Aftab ur Rehman Rana, Managing ISLAMABAD: The inaugural direct Director of Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation (PTDC), Syed Aftab Ali Shah Gilani, Islamabad Airport Manager; Mr. Bakhtiyor Islamabad International Airport. Muminov, Country Manager of A welcome ceremony marked the Uzbekistan Airways along with historic occasion, attended by prom- diplomats from other Central Asian states and senior officials from Pakistan Airports Authority Among those present were H. (PAA), PTDC, and Civil Aviation

Ambassador Tukhtaev praised the launch of the new direct route, emphasizing its potential to enhance economic and trade ties between Uzbekistan and Pakistan. "This direct air link marks a strategic advancement in bilateral relations and aligns with the broader goals of the Central and South Asia Connectivity Initiatives," he stated.

"This new route will not only deepen bilateral ties across multiple sectors but also play a pivotal role in



boosting regional tourism, fostering tial, he noted that the direct connecpeople-to-people contact, facilitating business travel, educational exchange, and promoting cultural

cooperation," Mr. Alisher added. Mr. Aftab ur Rehman Rana, Managing Director of PTDC, appreciated the efforts of President of Uzbekistan and Prime Minister of Pakistan for their comments to materialize this initiative. He lauded landmarks with greater ease." the inaugural flight as a "significant step forward in strengthening air connectivity between two brotherly nations." He highlighted that this long-awaited air route addresses a consistent demand raised at regional forums such as the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) to improve regional connectivity.

Emphasizing the tourism poten- Box Photos by Ramzan Mughal

tion will encourage two-way tourism flows. "For Pakistani travelers, Uzbekistan's legendary Silk Road cities - Samarkand, Bukhara, and Khiva — are now more accessible than ever. Similarly, Uzbek tourists can now explore Pakistan's majestic northern mountains, spiritual heritage sites, and vibrant cultural

Mr. Rana also pointed out that tourism exchanges between the two countries have steadily increased in recent years due to shared historical ties, cultural heritage, and religious affinity. The new weekly flight provides a reliable and cost-effective travel option for tourists, students, pilgrims, and professionals seeking enriching cross-border experiences.

## *Jemanc*

LAHORE: A youngster is selling second hand caps as per increased demand during the scorching



## PCA firmly condemns the newly granted powers to FBR officers

#### **Example 2** Commerce Desk

KARACHI: The Pakistan Coating Association (PCA), Chairman, Mr. M. Ubaidullah Mian, talking to the press, strongly condemns the recent powers granted to Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) officers to arrest the CEOs, Directors, and  $\,$ CFOs of companies. The Chairman, PCA expressed serious concerns regarding the that could severely disrupt the business proposed expansion of arrest powers in the Finance Bill 2025-26. These provisions would allow FBR authorities to harassment of law-abiding businesses

Executive Officers (CEOs) and Chief Financial Officers (CFOs), without prior approval in so-called "urgent circum-

While the Association fully supports effective and transparent tax collection, it warns against the introduction of unchecked enforcement powers environment. Such broad authority risks misuse, potentially leading to the

arrest senior executives, including Chief and creating an atmosphere of fear and uncertainty for both local and foreign

The potential consequences outlined by the Association include disruptions to business operations, erosion of investor confidence, and further damage to Pakistan's international reputation as a stable and predictable investment destination. The lack of clear procedural safeguards and due process mechanisms raises significant concerns about fairness, accountability, and the rule of law.

#### **Nadeem Karamat elected Chairman of PMEX**

#### Commerce Desk

KARACHI: The Board of Directors of Pakistan Mercantile Exchange (PMEX) has elected Mr. Nadeem Karamat as the new Chairman of the Board. He is an independent director approved by Securities & Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) for appointment on PMEX Board. In addition, the Board welcomed the joining of Mr. Hussain Ahmed Ozgen, Mr. Ismail Hussain Naqvi, and Ms. Natasha Jehangir Khan as independent directors, and Mr. Haroon Ihsan Piracha as

a shareholder director. guished career includes over



he held key leadership roles across multiple regions. He later played a pivotal role in establishing the ECO Trade & Development Bank in Istanbul as its Founding Vice President, representing Pakistan and managing oper-Mr. Karamat's distin- ations across 10 member

## Syngenta Pakistan wins two prestigious awards

#### 

KARACHI: Syngenta Pakistan has proudly secured two top honors at the Pakistan Digital Awards 2025, reaffirming its leadership in agricultural innovation and digital excellence.

At an awards ceremony held on June 12 in Karachi to honor exceptional contri- ment. This initiative had also butions to Pakistan's digital landscape, Syngenta Pakistan emerged as a notable winner across multiple categories. The company was recognized for its excellence in "User & Entity Big Data Analytics -Data-Led Content" for effectively utilizing user-generated content and big data to provide actionable insights that enable farmers to make informed decisions for improved crop manage-



earned a Gold award at the MaSE Best Practice Awards. Additionally, Syngenta was honored in the "Best Biotechnology-Quantis" category, which plays a vital role in reducing abiotic stress in crops. Quantis not only enhances crop resilience but also promotes sustainable, high-yield farming, demonstrating a significant breakthrough in agricultural

## RCCI Opposes Section 37AA of Finance Bill 2025-26 and Calls for Urgent Revisions

#### **Example 2** Commerce Desk

RAWALPINDI: The Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI) has voiced strong opposition to the proposed Section 37AA grants sweeping arrest and prosecu-Board of Revenue (FBR). Speaking at a hostile environment for entrepre-

President Usman Shaukat expressed grave concerns over the draconian ness- and investment-friendly," he said. nature of these provisions.

President Shaukat emphasized of the Finance Bill 2025-26, which that such unchecked powers would severely damage investor confidence, tion powers to officers of the Federal disrupt business operations, and create

Sialkot Chamber of Commerce, RCCI rollback of Section 37AA and urge the government to make the budget busi-

> RCCI also categorically rejected the imposition of new taxes across sectors, including the 18% General Sales Tax (GST) on solar panels and the proposed carbon levy, warning that these measures would stifle industrial

growth, hamper exports, and burden 20, it would initiate protest actions, the common citizen.

At the conclusion of the press conference, all participating chambers united in their demand for an urgent meeting with the Prime Minister to discuss and resolve these critical issues. The Sialkot Chamber further announced that if the government fails to respond positively by June

including a "No Export Week" and a complete halt in the filing of tax returns.

RCCI stands in solidarity with the business community nationwide in calling for immediate policy revisions to safeguard economic stability and foster a more supportive business

#### ICC world cricket championship 2025

## South Africa Won the World Test Championship Final After 27 Years

LONDON: Aiden Markram's brilliant 136 runs, South Africa won the World Test Championship final after 27 years by defeating Australia by five wickets in the ICC Trophy at Lord's Cricket

Australia is finally under, South Africa has become the ICC World Test Champion, the latest cricket news is that. South Africa escaped the choke, removed the label of chokers. It did not even repeat the choke from Australia in the 1999 World Cup semi-final. It won its first ICC event after almost 3 decades.

South Africa won the ICC World Test Championship 2025. At Lord's Cricket Ground in London, it defeated defending champion Australia by 5 wickets and crowned the World Test Championship. The third new champion has emerged at the end of the third World Test Championship. South Africa has become the third country to become the champion after New Zealand and Australia.

South Africa started the innings at 213 for 2 in the first session of the fourth day of the WTC final at Lord's on Saturday when captain Temba Bavuma was caught by the keeper by Pat Cummins with a one-run increase. This was the breakthrough that Australia needed and this was the fear that the Proteas were afraid of chokers Bavuma after adding just one more but Aiden Markram was there. It is a different matter that the new batter Stobbs could make 8. At that time. when South Africa were 6 runs away, the man of the match Aiden Markram scored 136 runs off 207 balls and was caught beautifully by Travis Head. The bowler was Hazlewood

South Africa won the match by wickets after achieving the target of 282 runs. Mitchell Starc took 3 wickets for Australia, giving away 65 runs.

at the start of the final day of the Test.



two partners at the other end, Markram picked up where he left off overnight, playing cautiously and without any unnecessary risks.

Australian captain Pat Cummins gave his team an early victory by dismissing his counterpart Temba to the score of 65. Bavuma, though, walked off to thunderous applause from the Lord's crowd, the match-winning third-wicket partnership that dashed Australia's hopes on the third day breaking at 147.

Australia wasted their remaining two reviews in quick succession. At Alex Carey's insistence, the first review of the day was wasted on a catchback appeal by Tristan Stubbs. Starc tried to block the very next ball but was unsuccessful. With 69 more runs needed to win Carey once again convinced Cummins to make his final review when David South Africa was slow but steady in Bedingham appealed for lbw. Starc's reaching the finish line. Despite losing subsequent over was overruled.



Markram completed South Africa's 250 in the next over. Australia opted for the second new ball as soon as it was available, and brought Josh Hazlewood

back into the attack, who Markram greeted with a boundary. However, the South African opener fell off the last delivery of the over when Travis Head





caught him brilliantly at mid-wicket. he was out, the batter took his team Australia congratulated Markram instead of the usual celebration on the wicket, and the South African players stood up in unison at Lord's to await his match-winning innings.

The final six runs did not come without using every minute of this extended time allowance and some late drama. An appeal for a catchback against Kyle Vereen was rejected as the batsman attempted to ramp up for the winning run. The umpire rejected the appeal but there was no review. While

over the finish line with one ball to spare, ending South Africa's 27-year wait for an ICC knockout.

Short scores: Australia 212 (Beau Webster 72, Steven Smith 66 Kagiso Rabada 5-51, Marco Johnson 3-49) and 206 (Mitchell Starc 58\*, Alex Carey 43; Kagiso Rabada 4-59,

South Africa 138. Pat Cummins 6-28, Mitchell Starc 2-41) and 282/5 (Aiden Markram 136, Temba Bawma 66: Mitchell Starc 3-66) South Africa won by 5 wickets.

## CM Punjab Summer Games Inter-Division Day 2

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The second day competitions of Inter-Division phase of Chief Minister Punjab Summer Games were organised at various venues of Nishtar Park Sports Complex (NPSC) on Saturday. The final phase events of Chief Minister Punjab Summer Games are being organized under the banner of Punjab Sports Department till June 18, 2025.

The exciting Inter-Division kabaddi matches of Chief Minister Punjab Summer Games are being organized at Punjab Stadium, male and female hockey matches are being conducted at Pitch-1 and Pitch-2 of National Hockey Stadium while Nishtar Park Sports Complex (NPSC) Gymnasium Hall is hosting badminton (male and female) and volleyball events.

Director General Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry witnessed the volleyball matches. Director Admin Dr M Kaleem, Director Sports Rana Nadeem Anjum and other officials were also present on this occasion.

Director General Sports Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry in a statement on Saturday said that the traditional sport kabaddi is the true identity of this region and several potential players are emerging from the platform of Chief Minister Punjab Summer Games kabaddi and other competitions. "Punjab has been

omen for the future of these traditional games".

As per details, in CM Summer Games boys' hockey event, Guiranwala trounced Dera Ghazi Khan by 10-0 at the National Hockey Stadium pitch-2. Gujranwala's Rana Ahmed netted three goals, Ehtasham struck two goals while Adil, Asim, Iftikhar, M Ali and Abdullah contributed one goal each in their team's huge victory. The match between Faisalabad

and Rawalpindi failed to produce any result as both teams struck three goals each in the allotted time. Faisalabad's Azhar-ul-Haq scored two goals and M Owais made one goal and Rawalpindi's Ahmed Mustafa contributed two goals while the third goal was scored by Saif Ahmed.

On the other hand, Faisalabad division girls' hockey team defeated Rawalpindi by 2-0 at National Hockey Stadium. Faisalabad's Sehrish blessed with plenty of kabaddi and and Dua scored one goal each while

desi kushti talent which is a good Rawalpindi girls failed to open their (25-19, 25-19)account despite their several goal scoring moves.

In another match of girls' event, DG Khan thrashed Guiranwala by 4-0. DG Khan's Emaan struck two goals while the remaining two goals were scored by Maryam and Saima.

In Chief Minister Punjab Summer Games Kabaddi competition, Sargodha Division defeated Dera Ghazi Khan by 46-31 points while Faisalabad Division thumped Rawalpindi Division by 44-27 points. The players of winning teams danced in jubilation in the ground.

In CM Summer Games volleyball event, Sahiwal division team shocked strong Lahore team by 2-0 with a set score of 25-21 and 25-18.

Results of other volleyball matches: Faisalabad beat DG Khan by 2-0 (25-15, 25-18)

Gujranwala beat Multan by 2-0 (25-13, 25-18)

Bahawalpur beat Sargodha by 2-0 Sahiwal by 3-0.

Faisalabad beat Rawalpindi by 2-0 (25-23, 25-13).

Sahiwal beat Bahawalpur by 2-0

(25-16, 25-06). Gujranwala beat DG Khan by 2-0

#### (25-12, 25-17). **Badminton results:**

Pool A Women Team Event: Gujranwala beat Multan by 3-0, Faisalabad beat DG Khan by 3-0, Faisalabad beat Multan by 2-1, Rawalpindi beat DG Khan by 3-0.

Pool B Women Team Event: Bahawalpur beat Sargodha by 3-0, Bahawalpur beat Lahore by 2-1, Sahiwal beat Sargodha by 2-1.

Pool A Men Team Event: Multan Beat Gujranwala by 3-0, Faisalabad beat DG Khan by 3-0, Faisalabad beat Multan by 2-1, Rawalpindi beat D. G Khan by 3-0.

Pool B Men Team Event: Sargodha beat Bahawalpur by 2-1, Lahore beat Bahawalpur by 3-0, Sargodha beat

## Punjab Sports Minister inspects hostels of players participating in CM Punjab Summer Games

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Provincial Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Malik Faisal Ayub Khokhar on Saturday visited the Nishtar Park Sports Complex (NPSC) to ins the hostels of players participating in the Chief Minister Punjab Summer Games 2025 being organized under the auspices of Punjab Sports Department.

Director General Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry gave a detailed briefing on the facilities being provided to the players. He said that international standard facilities including housing, food, medical aid and security are being provided to more than 700 players residing in the Nishtar Park Sports Complex hostel.

Provincial Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Malik Faisal Ayub Khokhar himself checked the quality of drinking water and received feedback from players especially female athletes regarding the cleanliness and other amenities. The players declared the facilities being provided satisfactory and ideal.

Provincial Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Malik Faisal Ayub Khokhar on this occasion announced that on the special instructions of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, all the players participating in the CM Summer Games will be provided with a three-time standard meal.

The minister added that Punjab govt is focusing on encouraging young talent and promote a dynamic, healthy and organized sports culture in the province. "We are committed to providing our youth a bright future in the playground".

#### Pakistan squash team heads to Asian Championships in Malaysia

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Pakistani squash contingent, including World Champion (U23) Noor Zaman and Nasir Iqbal, Pakistan's Shining Star, is set to depart for Malaysia today to participate in two prestigious squash championships.

They will participate in 23rd Asian Individual Championships from June 18 to 22 and 2nd Asian Squash Doubles Championships from June 23 to 27.



## Babar, Rizwan among 15 to attend Skills Development Camp form June 16

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Babar Azam, Mohammad Rizwan and Naseem Shah are among the 15 cricketers in the first batch who have been called to attend first phase of PCB's Skills Development Camp (SDC), hosted by the National Cricket Academy (NCA) from Monday (June 16) to Saturday (June 21).

The PCB has outlined that the central feature of the camp is one-on-one coaching sessions. These personalised interactions will allow each player to engage directly with coaches, understand the finer details of their game and identify areas that

Aamir Jamal, Abrar Ahmed, Ahmed Daniyal, Babar Azam, Hasan Nawaz, Maaz Sadaqat, Mohammad Abbas Afridi, Mohammad Haris, Mohammad Nawaz, Mohammad Rizwan, Naseem Shah, Sahibzada Farhan, Saim Ayub, Salman Mirza and Sufyan Moqim will attend the first phase.

A total number of 47 cricketers will attend the 20-day Skills Development Camp in three phases during which the cricketers will undergo training and fitness sessions. The three phases have been divided into need attention. It is about giving six-day each with 15, 16 and 16

players the clarity and tools to men cricketers to attend.

The other two phases will be held between 23 – 28 June and 30 June - 5 July. The names of the second and third batch of players will be announced in due course.

Director High-Performance Aqib Javed in his remarks said, We have invited 47 players to the 20-day skills camp at the National Cricket Academy following detailed discussions with whiteball head coach Mike Hesson. This is an invaluable opportunity for the players to take a brief pause from competitive cricket and focus on enhancing their fitness and refining key aspects

of their game. "With a busy international

calendar ahead, this window allows us to provide targeted support to the players, so they can return better prepared for the challenges to come.

"There is a complete alignment between the coaching staff at the National Cricket Academy and the national men's team. We are working in close coordination to ensure that every initiative contributes to the long-term progress of Pakistan cricket.

Aqib Javed further said, in addition to supporting player development, this camp will also serve as a useful resource for the selectors as they begin to shape squads for both the Pakistan men's side and the Pakistan



Shaheens ahead of upcoming international commitments."

Furthermore, the players will take part in fitness and fielding sessions from 6am to 8am, while skill-based sessions (net practice) will be held from 2.30pm to camp for Pakistan men's team Karachi from 10 July.

6.30pm at the LCCA Ground and in preparation for the bilateral NCA from Monday to Thursday. On Friday and Saturday, the players will feature in match

scenarios at the LCCA Ground. The PCB further said that the

series against Bangladesh and the West Indies will be held in Karachi from 7 July. Camp for Pakistan Shaheens ahead of their tour to England will commence in

# The Spokesman

# High-level meeting ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar chairs a high-level meeting to review the status of ongoing assistance provided by Pakistan to the Palestinian people, in Islamabad on Saturday.

# Pakistan wants resolution of Kashmir issue for durable peace in South Asia: Bilawal

跨 Spokesman Report

BRUSSELS: The head of the Pakistan parliamentary delegation and former foreign minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Saturday apprised the international community that Pakistan wanted permanent peace in South Asia region, resolution of longstanding Kashmir issue, water problems and terrorism through composite dialogue but India was not ready in this regard.

Addressing the press conference to international media in Brussels, the Chairman of Pakistan Peoples' Party (PPP) called the internation ally community to play its vital role and to engage with India and emphasize that military confrontation was not a solution to the Kashmir dispute or terrorism, stressing that dialogue was the only way forward.

It was a moral obligation, he said that all international community should play its part to encourage both sides to engage in dialogue through



dialogue to tackle the issues

"Escalation is not a solubetween two nuclear states," Bilawal stressed.

Former Foreign Minister said that Pakistan was desirous of durable peace in

diplomacy for peace in the the sub-continent, but not Sharif nominated a parliamenregion, adding that Pakistan escalation or weaponization of tary delegation from Pakistan wanted bilateral composite water. The United States (US) was willing for mediation on Kashmir dispute, but India with international community had always adopted non-setion of the issues confronting rious attitude to sort out the defusing tension between two problems with Pakistan, he

> highlighted. stand off with India, Prime terrorism and water issues Minister Muhammad Shehbaz between India and Pakistan.

to advocate for the peace in the region through engaging by urging them to play role in countries.

"We believe that there is no

During the five days misadventures between two nuclear powers, international community had taken serious steps for finally made ceasefire between two countries," the PPP chairman added.

He said that Kashmir dispute was pending on the agenda of the UN since many decades. He urged the UN to make the Kashmir issue a top most agenda for its peaceful settlement.

"We are here to present Pakistan's stance on recent tensions with India and expose New Delhi's anti-Pakistan agenda". He emphasized that the Jammu and Kashmir dispute must be resolved in line with United Nations Security Council resolutions.

Bilawal Bhutto held press conference along with parliamentary delegation including Federal Minister for Climate Change Dr. Musadik Malik, PPP Senator Shery Rehman, Former Foreign Minister He said that following the military solution of Kashmir, Hina Rabbni Khar and former federal minister for Defence Khurran Dastigar and others.

## Pakistan calls for enhancing aid, educational assistance for Palestinians

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Saturday stressed the need to enhance humanitarian relief and educational assistance for Palestinians bearing the brunt of Israel's military operations in Gaza and the West Bank, the Pakistani foreign office said in a statement.

The Palestinian death toll from the 20-month Israel-Hamas war has passed 55,000, the Gaza Health Ministry said this week. Israeli forces have destroyed vast areas of Gaza, displaced about 90 percent of its population and in recent weeks have coastal territory into a military buffer zone that includes the now mostly Pakistan to the people of Palestine.

uninhabited southern city of Rafah.

Pakistan has dispatched several aid consignments for the people of Palestine since last year and also granted scholarships and admissions to hundreds of Palestinian students in Pakistani universities since the war began in 2023.

"Reaffirming Pakistan's unwavering moral, political, and diplomatic support for the Palestinian cause, the DPM/FM emphasized the need to enhance the provision of humanitarian relief to the Palestinian people as well as to extend educational assistance to the Palestinian students," the foreign office said.

The statement was issued after Dar transformed more than half of the chaired a meeting to review the status of the ongoing assistance provided by

## AJK Premier condemns Israel's attack on Iran, terms it an act of aggression



👺 Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: The Prime Minister Azad Kashmir Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq has strongly condemned Israel's attack on Iran, terming it as an act of aggression and a flagrant violation of international law. In his special statement, the AJK premier reminded the world that such actions were a clear viola-

tion of the United Nations Charter, which upholds sovereignty and integrity of all nations.

He demanded the world community to hold Israel accountable for violating international law and committing crimes against humanity. Referring to systematic genocide of Palestinian people, the PM said that Israel has martyred more than 80,000 innocent Palestinians destroyed their property. Terming Israel as a terrorist state, he said the warmongering regime led by Neytanyahu was hell bent on destroying peace in the Middle East. He said that being a sovereign state Iran reserves the right to defend its

## **Motorways of Karachi-**Hyderabad-Sukkur to start this year



👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Communications Abdul Aleem Khan has disclosed that in line with the promise to the public, construction of the Karachi-Hyderabad-Sukkur Motorways will have to commence this year.

He added that the Islamic Development Bank has expressed willingness to fund the project while final decision regarding the loan approval

is expected in September this year after its board meeting.

Commenting on the media talk of Chief Minister of Sindh regarding the Motorways, Abdul Aleem Khan expressed that as the Federal Minister, he takes responsibility for the past year only but does not want to comment on the inaction previous Governments regarding the construction of the Sukkur, Hyderabad, and Karachi Motorways.

## Khalid Hussain Magsi condemns Israeli aggression, expresses solidarity with Iran

**E** City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Science and Technology, Khalid Hussain Magsi has strongly condemned the recent Israeli aggression, terming it a direct attack on global peace and a blatant violation of international laws.

that supporting the oppressed is a said.

diplomatic, moral, and humanitarian responsibility.

He expressed full solidarity with the brotherly nation of Iran, reiterating Pakistan's commitment to stand by its allies in times of crisis.

"This aggression by Israel is not just a regional matter-it's a serious threat to international peace and a direct defi-In a statement, Magsi emphasized ance of international norms," Magsi

He stressed that protecting humanity cannot be achieved through words alone, but through decisive and effective actions.

He also condemned the violation of state sovereignty, calling it a grave breach of global protocols and laws.

Magsi urged the international community to play its role in halting Israel's aggression and to uphold the principles of justice and peace.



#### 

ISLAMABAD: Federal Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif on Saturday called on the Organisation of Islamic Coopera-

tion (OIC) to hold an emergency condemned Israel's brutal meeting to develop a joint strategy in response to Israel's ongoing aggression.

Speaking in the National

actions, especially its military aggression against Iran.

He called it a serious threat to regional and global peace. "Palesthe minister tinian children are being killed,

## Khawaja Asif calls for OIC session to devise joint strategy against Israel yet there are more protests in and will continue to support it on coastal borders during recent military operation Bunyanum non-Muslim countries than in international forums," he said. Muslim nations," he remarked

with regret. He said Iran is not just a neighbour but a brotherly country with deep-rooted ties

with Pakistan He warned that if the Muslim world doesn't act together, every country will eventually become a target. "The way Israel has targeted Yemen, Iran, and Palestine shows a larger plan. Most Muslim nations are already facing security risks. Strong leadership is needed now," he said.

Khawja Asif said, "Israel has innocent blood on its hands. Pakistan stands firmly with Iran was closely watching Pakistan's

The minister referred to India's recent aggression, saying it had faced consequences. "India's false pride has been broken, and their leadership is now embarrassed at home. This was only possible due to our strong military and

the unity of our people," he said. He praised the armed forces and the people for standing firm in the face of threats. "We proved to the world that Pakistan is not weak — not yesterday, not today," he declared. He said enemies tried to weaken Pakistan, but

their plans failed. He highlighted how the world

tensions, and how Pakistan's armed forces defended the nation forced the enemy to retreat," he

The defence minister said that while Pakistan's military strength is commendable, the economy must also be strong.

He praised Pakistan's youth, especially cyber experts, for delivering a strong blow to India during a recent cyber conflict. "Our young people shut down lights in stadiums, disrupted IPL Their skills surprised the world,"

He added that the recent country," he said.

Marsoos was a turning point, both strategically and for bravely. "Our navy's response national morale. He said Pakistan's response to Indian attacks was firm and timely. "We struck back with full force," he said.

Khawaja Asif also spoke about Pakistan's sacrifices in the fight against terrorism. "Our soldiers and civilians have lost lives in attacks, especially in Balochistan. Groups like the TTP and BLA are fighting India's war on our soil," he claimed.

He strongly condemned matches, and even affected dams. anyone who supports these militants. "Such people are not Pakistanis. They are enemies of the

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