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A Leading National Daily



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Pakistan successfully launches advanced remote sensing satellite

Pakistan has achieved another major milestone in the field of space research by successfully launching its advanced remote sensing satellite (KZ-1A/PRSC-S1). The satellite was sent into space on Thursday from the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in China in collaboration with Pakistan's space research organisation SUPARCO



LHC gives relief to Salman Shehbaz in bounced cheque case

Lahore High Court has declared null and void the order of the Sessions Court regarding registering of a case against Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's son Salman Shahbaz Sharif in a bounced cheque case. Chief Justice of the High Court, Miss Alia Neelam, heard the case.

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Meeting

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif chairs a meeting of the Steering Committee on Anti-Terrorism and Harden the State on Thursday. Field Marshal and Chief of The Army Staff General Syed Asim Munir is also present among others.



Photo: PID

PM vows to root out terrorism through multi-pronged strategy

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif Thursday while chairing a review meeting of the Steering Committee on Counter-Terrorism and Establishment of the State Writ (Harden the State), expressed resolve to eradicate the scourge of terrorism from the country.

Speaking during the meeting here, he said, "The state of Pakistan is determined to root out the scourge of terrorism and the world recognizes our successful operations against terrorists"

"The state of Pakistan has adopted a multi-pronged strategy in the war against terrorism," he said adding, "Pakistan has made full and effective use of important elements such as ground operations, relevant legislation, meaningful public communication and discouragement of extremist thinking."

The committee directed effective coordination between the federal and provincial governments against terrorism and strict implementation of its recommen-

dations in this regard.

"The role of the brave sons of the armed forces in this war against terrorism is commendable and laudable," he remarked.

He said, "The entire nation, including me, is proud of the officers and officials who laid down their lives for the country and their families who were imbued with the spirit of sacrifice."

"The entire Pakistani nation, the brave forces, law enforcement agencies, and intelligence agencies are united and focused in the war against terrorism," he added.

The prime minister said, "Pakistan's brave forces fought the terrorists vigorously in Operation Radd-ul-Fasaad and Zarb-e-Azb, and the world recognized Pakistan's victory in the recent historic Marka-e-Haq."

He acknowledged that the provincial governments, the Intelligence Bureau, the Ministry of Interior, the Counter-Terrorism Department, especially the Punjab Counter-Terrorism Department, had taken very effective steps in

this war against terrorism.

He said, "Record increase in the Pakistan Stock Exchange and improvement in global ratings indicate the stability of Pakistan's economy and this will restore the confidence of foreign investors."

"The implementation of the repatriation programme for Afghan nationals residing illegally in Pakistan in accordance with international laws is continuing effectively," he observed.

Deputy Prime Minister Muhammad Ishaq Dar, Field Marshal Chief of Army Staff Syed Asim Munir, National Security Adviser Lieutenant General Muhammad Asim Malik, Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar, Federal Minister for Law Azam Nazir Tarar, Federal Minister for Economic Affairs Division Ahad Khan Cheema, Adviser to the Prime Minister for Inter-Provincial Coordination Rana Sanaullah, Minister of State for Interior Talal Chaudhry, Chief Secretaries of all provinces, Inspectors Generals and relevant government officials attended the meeting.

Tarar welcomes verdicts on May 9



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar on Thursday hailed the recent court verdicts against those involved in the May 9 riots, calling them a "historic precedent" that will deter future conspiracies against the state.

Talking to the media, Tarar termed the ransacking of Lahore's Jinnah House to the work of "professional dacoits" and emphasized that the culprits have now been sentenced. "The verdicts have set a precedent, henceforth, no one would dare to commit such a conspiracy again," he stated.

The minister said the country is now on a path of unity and progress, with the legal actions reinforcing national stability. Tarar said the "sinister motives" behind the May 9 events have been exposed and defeated.

Hostile rhetoric against the state has been neutralized and Pakistan has established its hegemony, he said, adding "Modi is being grilled in the Indian parliament as a defeated Modi and a defeated person."

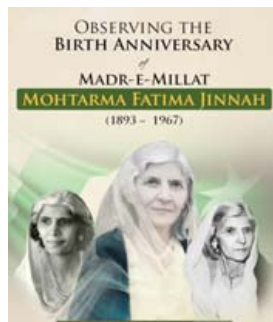
Nation observes birth anniversary of Mader-e-Millat Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah

Tooba Khan

ISLAMABAD: The nation today is observing the birth anniversary of Mader-e-Millat Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah, the younger sister of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and a leading figure in the movement for Pakistan. Tributes are being paid across the country to honor her dynamic role in the creation of a separate homeland for Muslims.

Born on July 31, 1893, Fatima Jinnah's contributions to the freedom movement were immense. She stood shoulder-to-shoulder with her brother, serving as his trusted advisor and confidante. Her most significant role was in mobilizing and uniting the women of the subcontinent, who played a vital and organized part in the struggle for independence. This effort earned her the revered title of "Mader-e-Millat," or the "Mother of the Nation."

After the formation of Pakistan, she continued her public



service by co-founding the All Pakistan Women's Association (APWA), which was crucial in the rehabilitation of women migrants. Her legacy is one of unwavering courage, dedication, and a firm belief in democratic values. She challenged military dictatorship in the 1965 presidential election, becoming a symbol of resistance for the pro-democracy movement.

Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah passed away in Karachi on July 9, 1967. Her unwavering support for civil rights, devotion to her brother, and advocacy for women's empowerment continue to inspire the people of Pakistan.

No sugar crisis, sufficient stock available: Rana Tanveer

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Categorically dismissing reports of a sugar shortage due to exports as a misleading perception, Federal Minister for National Food Security, Rana Tanveer Hussain asserted on Thursday that Pakistan continued to hold a surplus of the commodity and the government has implemented a system to ensure sugar remains available at officially fixed prices.

"A perception is being created as if there is a major issue regarding the availability, supply, or pricing of sugar," the minister said while addressing a press conference.

He added that the government has launched a crackdown on hoarders and profiteers, including retailers and even mill owners were being checked, to control manipulation in the market.

Referring to criticism over the government's initial approval of sugar exports followed by import plans, Rana Tanveer said these narratives ignored historical trends and factual data. Citing records from the past ten years, he explained that sugar exports have traditionally been allowed soon after the crushing season and were occasionally followed by imports—except in one or two years.

CJCSC General Sahir Shamshad meets Egyptian president, military chief in Cairo



Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC) General Sahir Shamshad Mirza, NI (M), is currently on an official visit to Egypt for the third round of Defence and Security Talks, where he held high-level

meetings with the country's top civil, military, and religious leadership.

According to a statement by ISPR, General Sahir Shamshad called on His Excellency Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt; General Abdel Maged

Continued on Page 7

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Kashmiris Remember Ghazi Millat’s Services on 22nd Death Anniversary

 Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: The 22nd death anniversary of the founding president of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Ghazi Millat Sardar Muhammad Ibrahim Khan was celebrated with great devotion and respect across the state.

In the capital Muzaffarabad, a ceremony was organized by the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Cell to pay tribute to the services of the founding president of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Ghazi Millat Sardar Muhammad Ibrahim Khan on the occasion of his death anniversary in the hall of Khurshid Library.

The ceremony was attended by the Minister of Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Cell, Ms. Imtiaz Naseem as the chief guest. On this occasion, the Minister of Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Cell, Ms. Imtiaz Naseem,




while addressing the ceremony, said that I pay tribute to the services of the founding president of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Ghazi Millat Sardar

Muhammad Ibrahim Khan for the freedom movement of Kashmir and the completion of Pakistan. Before the establishment of Paki-

stan, on July 19, 1947, the Kashmiris had expressed their decision to join Pakistan by submitting a resolution in which Sardar Muhammad Ibrahim Khan was the frontline leader.

The ceremony was also addressed by Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami Azad Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan Dr. Mushtaq, Pakistan Peoples Party Central Leader Assembly Shaukat Javed Mir, Muslim Conference Central Leader Sajjad Abbasi, All Parties Hurriyat Conference Leader Mush-taq-ul-Islam, Senior Lawyer Mujahid Naqvi, Director Liberation Cell Dr. Raja Muhammad Sajjad Khan, Presi-dent PML-N City Women's Wing Ms. Saira Chishti, President Pensioners Association Raja Mumtaz Khan, Senior Trader Leader Abdul Razak Khan and others, and Founding Presi-dent Ghazi Millat Sardar Muhammad Ibrahim Khan.

Indian Home Minister’s provocative statement on Hurriyat Conference is a manifestation of panic

 Spokesman Report



ISLAMABAD: The All Parties Hurriyat Conference (Azad Kashmir Branch) strongly condemns the recent provoca-tive and fabricated statements of Indian Home Minister Amit Shah in which he has made a blatant attempt to defame the peaceful freedom struggle of the Kashmiri people by calling the Hurriyat Conference a “terrorist organization” on the floor of the Indian Parliament.

Convener All Parties Hurriyat Conference Mr. Ghulam Muhammad Safi has said in his strong response that this statement is not only ir-responsible but also a clear proof of the mental panic born of India’s continuous failures in Kashmir, public resistance, and increasing global attention.

He clarified that the Hurriyat Conference is an authentic, peaceful, and democratic political representative voice of the people of Jammu and Kashmir which is working for the right to self-determination of the Kashmiri people in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations.

Right to self-determination is an internationally recognized principle Ghulam Muhammad Safi said that the United Nations had passed a clear resolution on January 5, 1949, recognizing the right of Kashi-miris to self-determination, which India has postponed without imple-menting till date.

Awareness Seminar on Birth and Death Registration Rules 2025 held in Attock

 Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK,: An awareness seminar regarding the newly introduced Birth and Death Registration Rules 2025 was organized by the Local Government and Community Development Department at the District Council Hall, Attock. The event aimed to inform public representa-tives, government officials, and stakeholders about the revised legal framework concerning vital registrations. During the session, the Deputy Director of Local Government and other attending officers delivered comprehensive briefings and presentations explaining the rules in detail.

Among the prominent participants were PML-N leader from constit-ucency PP-3 Malik Hamid Akbar, Additional Deputy Commissioner (General) Attock Anil Saeed, Assistant Commissioner Attock Ms. Anza Abbasi, Central President of the All Pakistan Secretary Union Council Association Malik Aftab Ahmed of Bolianwal, Advocate Samina – Vice President of the Bar Association Attock, as well as presidents and representatives of Anjuman Annol, Manzil Welfare Organization, and WESA Welfare Association Hazro. General Secretary of Attock Traders Market also attended the event, reflecting broad civic engagement.

New official rates for essential commodities fixed in Attock

 Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: The District Price Control Committee of Attock has official-ly fixed new rates for essential food items including pulses, rice, meat, milk, yogurt, and bread. According to a notification issued by Deputy Commissioner Attock, Rao Atif Raza, the new prices have been enforced with immediate effect and will remain in place until further orders.

As per the notification, Super Kernel (old) rice will now be sold at Rs. 320 per kg, Irri rice at Rs. 120 per kg, mutton at Rs. 1600 per kg, and beef at Rs. 800 per kg. Medium-quality chickpeas (dal chana) are priced at Rs. 295 per kg, fine-quality dal chana at Rs. 265, thick lentils (dal masoor moti) at Rs. 265, dal mash (S. Q) at Rs. 400, washed dal moong at Rs. 350, medium white chickpeas at Rs. 255, large black chickpeas at Rs. 285, and small black chickpeas at Rs. 260 per kg. Besan (gram flour) will be sold at Rs. 300 per kg. The price of milk has been fixed at Rs. 180 per liter and yogurt at Rs. 200 per kg. A 100-gram tandoori roti will cost Rs. 14 per piece.

The rates for sugar and wheat flour will follow the prices set by the provincial government of Punjab.

The Deputy Commissioner stated in the notification that any shop-keeper or trader found charging above the official rates will face legal action. Furthermore, he instructed that all traders must display the official price list prominently at their shops to facilitate consumers.

Federal Minister announces scholarships to Balochistan’s students for education progress

QUETTA: Federal Minis-ter for Poverty Alleviation and Social Protection Syed Imran Ahmed Shah on Thursday announced more scholarships for students of Balochistan University, Girls College Pishin and Quetta in order to improve standard of education in the province.



He said that a Pakistan free from terrorism and unrest is the message of Pakistan, we have to come forward with sincerity for the development and prosperity of Pakistan and Balochistan.

He expressed these views while addressing a seminar organized on the topic of sustainable environment for women entrepreneurs.

On this occasion, Federal Minister of State for Education and Profes-sional Training Wajiha Qamar, Speaker Balochistan Assembly Captain (retd) Abdul Khaliq Achakzai, Deputy Speaker Balochistan Assembly Ghazala Gola, Provincial Minister for Education Raheela Hameed Durrani, Secretary Women Development Department Saira Atta, Chief Executive Officer of Pakistan Poverty Evaluation Fund Nader Gul Bareach, Director to Minister Rana Suhail Akhtar and others were present.

The Minister Imran Shah said that he could even sacrifice his life for the development and prosperity of Balochistan and Pakistan, on direc-tive of PM, I have brought the vision of the Quaid-e-Azam, a prosperous Balochistan, a developed Pakistan. He said that a narrative message of Pakistan in which we all should contribute, a Pakistan free from terrorism and unrest is the message of Pakistan,

Our children, girls, youth, educated people, provincial autonomy is the message of Pakistan, the world would see in Pakistan that despite nuclear power; the field marshal and the Pakistani army, land, navy and air force have proven that Pakistan is a power. He said that Modi and India would not allow more bullying in the region,

Hazrat Imam Ghazali has described life in the best way that if there is no knowledge, then the living and the dead are the same, if there is knowledge but no action, then there is loss, there would be gain only when there is sincerity and the one who is successful in sincerity is the one who does not become arrogant, despite having knowledge, we are left behind due to lack of sincerity.

“We have done politics as an act of worship, my politics is not for voters or supporters, but for brotherhood”, he said and added that in Sahlwal, my daughters go to college in a rickshaw, the people of Balochistan are very close to me.

All Parties Conference

ISLAMABAD: Leader of PTI Asad Qaiser addressing during All Parties Conference, in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online

A rich tribute on the 22nd death anniversary of Ghazi Millat Sardar Muhammad Ibrahim Khan

 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: On the occasion of the 22nd death anniversary of Ghazi Millat Sardar Muhammad Ibrahim Khan, the architect of the Kashmir freedom movement, the first President of the State of Jammu and Kashmir and the pioneer of the accession to Pakistan, a dignified prayer meeting was held at the central office of the Hurriyat Conference in collaboration with the All-Party Hurriyat Conference (Azad Kashmir Branch) and the Kashmir Liberation Cell. The meeting was presided over by Convener of the All-Party Hurriyat Conference, Mr. Ghulam Muhammad Safi.

A large number of representatives of political, social, religious and intellectual circles, Hurriyat leaders, youth workers and media representatives attended the meeting. The participants paid tribute to Ghazi Millat's national services and his unparalleled leadership for the Kashmir freedom movement and described him as an unforgettable character in the polit-



ical history of the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

Convener of All Parties Hurriyat Conference Mr. Ghulam Muhammad Safi said that Ghazi Millat Sardar Muhammad Ibrahim Khan was not only a pioneer of national unity but also an ideological leader who did not compro-mise on principles.

At the end of the meeting, special prayers were offered for the forgiveness of Ghazi Millat Sardar Muhammad

Ibrahim Khan, the elevation of his ranks, the success of the Kashmir freedom movement, the ranks of the martyrs, the release of the prisoners of Hurriyat and the steadfastness and success of the Kashi-miri people. The meeting was attended by former President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Alhaj Sardar Yaqoob, senior Hurriyat leader Muhammad Farooq Rahmani, Naib Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami Azad Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan Maulana Noor Al-Bari, senior Hurriyat

leader Mahmood Ahmed Saghar, Sardar Inayatullah Arif, Advocate Sardar Abdul Razzak, Director Liberation Cell Officer Khan, Mir Tahir Masood, Madam Shamim Shawl, Dawood Khan, Haji Muhammad Sultan, Syed Ijaz Rahmani, Sheikh Abdul Matin, Raja Khadim Hussain Sheikh Yaqoob, Zahid Safi, Adeel Mushtaq, Sheikh Abdul Majid, Syed Gulshan, Zahid Mujtaba, Javed Iqbal, Manzoor Ahmed Dar, Secretary Infor-mation Mushtaq Ahmed Butt and others.

Courage of Pakistani Forces: A shield against Indian aggression

 Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: President of All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Confer-ence and former Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan has made a detailed statement on the latest situation in occupied Kashmir, the Kashmir freedom move-ment, the role of the Pakistan Army and the propaganda being carried out by India that Kashmir is the jugular vein of Pakistan, without which Paki-stan is incomplete.

India is committing serious human rights violations in occupied Kashmir and the silence of the international

community is confirming this atrocity. Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan clarified that after the abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A by the Indian government on August 5, 2019, a new chapter of oppression and oppres-sion has been opened on the Kashmiri people, but the morale of the Kashi-miris has not weakened.

He said that even today, young Kashmiris are continuing the struggle for freedom by sacrificing their lives. The Muslim Conference stands behind the oppressed people of occu-pied Kashmir and the struggle for freedom of Kashmir will be continued on every front.



The Kashmiri people should be given their right to self-determina-tion in the light of the UN resolutions. Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan, while appreciating the role of the Pakistan

Army, said that the Pakistan Army, which protects the borders of the motherland, has always shown soli-darity with the Kashmiris.

The courage, steadfastness and sacrifice that the Pakistani forces have shown on the borders is a source of pride for the entire nation.

On the one hand, India gives the impression of the largest democracy to the world, on the other hand, it is busy suppressing the voice of the oppressed in occupied Kashmir with military force. He said that sustain-able peace in the region is not possible without a solution to the Kashmir issue.



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SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr	3:44 am
Zohr	12:14 pm
Asr	5:07 pm
Maghrib	7:09 pm
Isha	8:44 pm

EMERGENCY

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

ENQUIRY

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

HOSPITALS

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

DEPARTMENTS

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

COMPLAINTS

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

New research reveals urgent need for consistency in accounting for carbon-related instruments

City Desk

LAHORE: With no IFRS Accounting Standard dedicated to accounting for carbon-related instruments, a new global study by ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) and the Adam Smith Business School at the University of Glasgow reveals the growing complexity and diversity in how companies account for these instruments, and the consequences for various stakeholders in the corporate reporting ecosystem. The study, Reality of accounting for carbon-related instruments, analyses the annual reports of 300 companies in high-emitting sectors across the globe.

"Without guidance from standard setters, companies are developing their own accounting policies and providing information based on their own discretion. While the application of judgement when applying accounting policies is welcome, the use of substantially different accounting policies and different terms to describe these instruments, undermines transparency and comparability," said Dr Ioannis Tsilavoutas, professor of accounting at the University of Glasgow.

Citizens can now send complaints via mobile: Mahmood Javed Bhatti

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Adviser Provincial Ombudsman Punjab Mahmood Javed Bhatti has said that hearing the complaints of citizens against government and non-government departments is our top priority so that their problems can be removed and redressal of complaints is an important responsibility of the Provincial Ombudsman Punjab. Citizens can send their complaints to our register office via mobile.

Secretary General of Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry Multan Division Saeed Altaf Agha said that while the aim of the Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry Multan Division is to ensure measures for economic stability through products at the domestic and foreign levels, they are also playing an important role in redressing the grievances of oppressed men and women.

He expressed these views while addressing a seminar organized by the Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry Multan Division in connection with the awareness campaign of the country in cooperation with the Provincial Ombudsman Punjab.

On this occasion, President of Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry Multan Division Farah Saqib said that



the Provincial Ombudsman Punjab is committed to redressing the grievances of the oppressed people.

The steps are commendable, while Senior Vice President Nadia Wasim

thanked Kiran Amjad Sahiba, Director of State Bank of Pakistan Multan. The seminar was attended by Hamza Naeem, Kamil Rizwan, Ayesha Sahiba, Tehmina Muneez, Rabia Khand, Ayesha Yasin,

Shahzana Asif, Falza Mumtaz, Rifaat Faisal, Quratul Ain, Seerat Fatima, Khalida Javed, Asiya Shafi, Sadaf Zahoor, Fawzia Sheikh, Anam Mumtaz and others. Mahmood Javed Bhatti further

said that the complainants can submit their complaints in the form of an application at a nominal cost. After the investigation, the complainants are informed and their redressal is ensured in a real sense.

Meeting

ISLAMABAD: Federal Health Minister Mustafa Kamal chaired high level meeting of National EPI to review the programme on Thursday.



Photo: Online

Women University Celebrates Employees Dedication with Madr -e-Millat Fatima Jinnah Award

Quratul Ain Asim

MULTAN: The Women University Multan in collaboration with Young Pakistanis Organization Multan with profound delight presided over the most prestigious "Madr-E-Millat Fatima Jinnah Award" to honor and commend high-achieving teachers and administrative coordinators for their remarkable contributions to academia, research and managerial development. The event, was held at VC Secretariat, Katchery Campus, was graced by the esteemed presence of Vice Chancellor, Prof Dr. Kalsoom Pracha, Shakir Hussain Shakir, Prof Dr. Hameed Raza Siddiqui Registrar Dr. Malika Rani,



distinguished academic and visionary leaders.

Speaking at the event, the Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Kalsoom Pracha said Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah was a pivotal figure in Pakistan's creation. Her emphasis on education and empowerment laid the groundwork for future generations of women

to contribute meaningfully to Pakistan's development. Prof. Dr Kalsoom Pracha expressed her deep admiration and gratitude to all the awardees for their exceptional dedication and invaluable contributions, which have significantly contributed to the university's continued success. She further said that Women University

has set a shining example of how to build a loyal, motivated, and appreciated workforce. Prof. Dr Hameed Raza Siddiqui said Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah set such an example of struggle, courage and sacrifice that bears a significant place in our political history.

Mr. Shakir Hussain said the career of Madar-i-Millat Ms. Fatima Jinnah was path-making years during the independence struggle. Around 26 administrative employees were awarded. The awardees expressed gratitude for the recognition and affirmed their resolve to continue their efforts in making meaningful contributions to their communities and the nation at large.

GCWUF Summer Camp concludes with AI, Professional Growth, and Wellbeing

Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: Government College Women University Faisalabad (GCWUF) successfully concluded its Summer Camp 2025, themed "Transforming the Academic Ecosystem with AI, Professional Growth, and Wellbeing", with a vibrant closing ceremony held on July 31 at Jinnah Auditorium. The three-week summer camp, from July 3 to 31, aimed to equip faculty and staff (Grade 16 and above) with essential skills in AI Tools in Education, professional growth & well-being, and time & stress management. The event was graced by Chief Guest Ms. Sadia Taimur, MPA and Parliamentary Secretary for the Women Development Department, along with MPAs Ms. Qudsia Batool and Ms. Uzma Raja, members of the GCWUF Syndicate.

Ms. Sadia Taimur applauded the vision of the Vice Chancellor for focusing on developing resources with learning the latest technologies. Declared the Training in AI, wellbeing, and professional growth essential for empowering women educators and creating inclusive academic environments.

Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Kanwal Ameen (T. I.), Patron-in-Chief of the Summer Camp, expressed gratitude to the chief guest and guests of honour. She informed us that the camp provided hands-on, future-ready training to empower our educators to face contemporary academic challenges.

PTI leaders sentenced to 10 years in prison for May 9 violence

Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: The Anti-Terrorism Court has pronounced verdicts in major cases related to the violent incidents of May 9. The court sentenced Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) central leaders Omar Ayub, Shibli Faraz, Zartaj Gul and Sahibzada Hamid Raza to 10 years in prison each, while Junaid Afzal Sahi was sentenced to 3 years in prison. Fawad Chaudhry, Zain Qureshi and Khayal Castro were acquitted. A total of 108 out of 185 PTI leaders and workers were given various sentences in Faisalabad. These verdicts were pronounced under the provisions of the Anti-Terrorism Act, which included cases of vandalism and violence during the May 9 protests. Convicted persons:

1. Shibli Faraz, 2. Sheikh Rashid Shafiq, 3. Omar Ayub, 4. Ashraf Sona, 5. Rai Hassan Nawaz, 6. Rai Murtaza Iqbal, 7. Miss Zartaj Gul, 8. Miss Farah Agha, 9. Miss Farkhunda Kokab, 10. Chaudhry Bilal Ijaz, 11. Muhammad Ahmed Chattha, 12. Chaudhry Asif Ali, 13. Shakir Ahmed Khan Niazi, 14. Sardar Azimullah Khan, 15. Mehr Muhammad Javed, 16. Muhammad Asner Iqbal, 17. Miss Kanwal Shozab, 18. Abdul Rauf, 19. Muhammad Shahbaz, 20. Shahid Iqbal, 21. Zaheer Abbas, 22. Imran son of Abdul Razaq, 23. Muhammad Amin Ali, 24. Zeeshan, 25. Tayyab Hussain, 26. Insha Azhar, 27. Aamir Sultan, 28. Muhammad Azam, 29. Mohsin son of Khurshid, 30. Umair, 31. Abdul Rahman son of Shafiq Shah, 32. Aqib, 33. Ahad son of Tariq, 34. Rizwan, 35. Arsalan son of Nazir, 36. Khalil, 37. Bilawal, 38. Farhan son of Maqsood, 39. Ramadan, 40. Abdul Rahman son of Ramadan, 41. Ahmed son of Farooq, 42. Afrasiab, 43. Arsalan son of Sultan, 44. Taqi Abbas, 45. Zain Abbas son of Javed Iqbal, 46. Rafaqat, 47. Mahboob Ali, 48. Muhammad Omar, 49. Muhammad Noman son of Muhammad Hussain, 50. Naveed son of Safdar, 51. Muntazar alias Moon son of Omar Hayat, 52. Ali Haider son of Imran, 53. Ali Raza, 54. Shiroz Abbas, 55. Mustansir, 56. Imran son of Rafiq, 57. Muhammad Asif son of Muhammad Tufail, 58. Haider son of Raza, 59. Sohail, 60. Faisal, 61. Usman, 62. Waqas son of Ramadan, 63. Saqib, 64. Huzaifa, 65. Faizan-ullah, 66. Nadeem Ahmed, 67. Shahbaz Shakeel, 68. Syed Huzaifa, 69. Zain Abbas son of Nasir Abbas, 70. Areeb, 71. Habibullah, 72. Shah Zaman, 73. Syed Qandir Hussain, 74. Jehanzeb Khalid, 75. Miss Tamhina Riaz, 76. Ali Raza son of Shafi, 77. Bilal son of Afzal, 78. Muazim son of Aslam, 79. Shafiq son of Mushtaq, 80. Ayaz Khan Tareen, 81. Kashif Ali Khan son of Karamat Ali Khan, 82. Junaid Afzal Sohi, 83. Sahibzada Hamid Raza, 84. Miss Tamhina Riaz, 85. Muhammad Azam, 86. Noman Ali, 87. Asif son of Khurshid, 88. Dr. Qaiser Abbas, 89. Asad alias Muhammad Waqas son of Aslam, 90. Kaleem Alam, 91. Muhammad Nadeem, 92. Rana Nasir Ali, 93. Muhammad Yunus son of Talib, 94. Muhammad Rehman son of Asif, 95. Rashid Ali son of Muhammad Sardar, 96. Naveed Sabir, 97. Shaheer son of Sajid, 98. Saifullah, 99. Abdullah son of Nawaz, 100. Bilal son of Iqbal, 101. Mirza Khan, 102. Muhammad Qasim, 103. Matlab Chishti, 104. Shakoor Ali, 105. Babar Saleem, 106. Umar Tahir, 107. Rana Aftab.

Two drug traffickers held

FAISALABAD: The police arrested two drug traffickers and seized heroin and ice on Thursday.

According to a police spokesperson, a team of Dijkot police raided and arrested

Shahid and Sajid with 1.22-kg heroin and 620-g ice.

The police have registered a case and started an investigation.

Agriculture Department Punjab crackdown against illegal sale of phosphine tablets

Zafar Chishti

LAHORE: Campaign Continues against illegal sale of Phosphine tablets used in wheat procurement.

According to the Details, The Pesticide Warning & Quality Control of Pesticides Wing of the Agriculture Department Punjab has launched stringent operations against the illegal sale of toxic phosphine tablets, which are used for wheat storage.

These operations are ongoing across various districts of the province.

So far, 22 FIRs have been registered, and 100 kilograms of illegally



stored phosphine tablets worth Rs. 700,000 have been recovered and confiscated. During these operations, 17 individuals have been taken into custody.

Phosphine tablets are highly toxic chemicals. Their use without proper conditions and expert supervision poses a severe risk to human life and environmental safety.

These actions by the Agriculture Department reflect a firm commitment to ensuring public health, food safety, and the legal and safe use of agrochemicals.

Strict legal action will continue without discrimination against those involved in this illegal trade.

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Saudi Arabia steps up fight against human trafficking with bold reforms, global partnerships

Saudi Arabia is intensifying its battle against human trafficking through sweeping reforms and new initiatives for protecting victims and holding perpetrators accountable, a top rights official announced on Thursday.

President of the Human Rights Commission and Chair of the Saudi National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking, Hala bint Mazyad Altuwaijri underscored the Kingdom’s commitment to human rights under the leadership of Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and with the firm backing of Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman.

A major development in this regard, she revealed, is the establishment of the General Directorate for Community Security and Combating Human Trafficking Crimes, launched under the directive of the crown prince. Operating within the General Directorate of Public Security, the body is tasked with combating trafficking-related crimes and ensuring public safety.

Altuwaijri highlighted that Saudi Arabia has bolstered its legal and institutional frameworks by adopting a National Policy for the Elimination of Forced Labor, alongside revising several laws, regulations, and protective measures. These reforms are designed to safeguard labor rights and offer protections for victims, witnesses, whistleblowers, and experts involved in trafficking cases.

To ensure a long-term impact, the National Committee is actively executing its national action plan, developing a national referral mechanism for victims, and creating a comprehensive database of trafficking cases. It has also issued official trafficking indicators guidelines to help authorities identify and respond to incidents more effectively.

Emphasizing the need for multilateral collaboration, Altuwaijri announced the launch of a joint fund in partnership with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to support trafficking victims. She stressed that forging strong national, regional, and international partnerships is essential to both prevent and combat human trafficking in all its forms.

The Kingdom’s latest efforts signal a growing momentum toward not just reforming internal policies but also becoming an active player in the global fight against human exploitation.

Recognition of State of Palestine: End of Impunity for Israel

If by September 2025, as promised by a growing coalition of European Union states, over 100 Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) nations, and key United Nations members, the State of Palestine is formally recognized, it will transform not just the diplomatic landscape but the lives of millions in Gaza and the West Bank. For seventy-seven years, Palestinians have lived stateless, denied protection under international law, treated not as a people but as a problem. This collective recognition would change that overnight, ending decades of unchecked Israeli impunity, shifting the balance of law, morality, and diplomacy, and offering Palestinians their first tangible hope of freedom, justice, and survival.

Global recognition would isolate Israel diplomatically like never before, branding it as the lone rejecter of peace among nearly all UN member states, with only the United States and a handful of allies shielding it from sanctions and prosecution. It would give Palestine stronger legal standing before the International Criminal Court and other UN agencies, enabling war crimes investigations into Israel’s actions in Gaza and the West Bank and making arms sales and military aid to Israel politically toxic and legally indefensible.

On July 25, 2025, French President Emmanuel Macron stunned Washington and Tel Aviv by announcing that France would recognize Palestine at the United Nations General Assembly in September, stating, “We cannot resign ourselves to endless war. Recognizing Palestine is not a reward for violence

but a step toward peace, justice, and shared humanity.” France, a permanent UN Security Council member, shattered the decades-old Western condition that Palestinian statehood required Israeli approval—a condition perpetually sabotaged by occupation and annexation.

Just days later, on July 29, 2025, UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer convened an emergency Cabinet meeting and declared, “We will recognize a Palestinian state before the UN General Assembly unless Israel takes substantive steps to end the appalling situation in Gaza, agrees to a ceasefire, halts annexation in the West Bank, and commits to a two-state solution.” The UK, once one of Israel’s staunchest allies, is now preparing to break from Washington’s unconditional support, a dramatic shift driven by growing domestic and international outrage.

At a high-level UN conference on July 22, 2025, co-chaired by France and the UAE, France’s Foreign Minister Jean-Elro Baro described Gaza as “a charnel house where corpses look famished and spirits are desperate. The time for half-measures is over. France will fully recognize Palestine by September.” The conference saw Saudi Arabia and other Arab nations back this roadmap, while the Palestinian Authority pledged democratic reforms, elections in 2026, an end to militant funding, and Hamas’ exclusion from Gaza’s future governance—

removing long-standing excuses Israel has used to block statehood.

Even long-standing defenders of Israel are faltering. During his July 2025 visit to Scotland, U. S. President Donald Trump, once Netanyahu’s most loyal ally, admitted publicly, “There is starvation in Gaza, and we have to get more involved in distributing aid.” Though still reluctant to confront Israel directly, his acknowledgment signals cracks in Washington’s unwavering shield, driven by global outrage and domestic anger over American complicity in supplying bombs used on civilians.

Meanwhile, Israel’s leadership clings to narratives that no longer withstand scrutiny, claiming Hamas hoards aid while Israeli bombs have destroyed Gaza’s infrastructure and decimated its leadership. Officials suggest Palestinians can “leave Gaza” for other nations, reducing an indigenous people to permanent refugees, while annexing West Bank land piece by piece. These absurdities expose a truth the International Court of Justice underscored in its July 2025 ruling: Israel is operating an illegal occupation, deliberate starvation, and ethnic cleansing campaign, shielded only by U. S. veto power and Western complicity.

For decades, Israel hid behind myths of morality and victimhood, presenting itself as the Middle East’s only democracy defending against hostility. That veil has

now been torn apart by the undeniable images of slaughtered children, bombed hospitals in Rafah, uprooted olive groves in the West Bank, and millions imprisoned under siege. The world sees not a beacon of democracy but a state waging systematic war on a stateless people, turning Gaza into a slaughterhouse under a policy of siege and starvation.

The coming September session of the United Nations could mark the beginning of the end of Israel’s impunity. With NAM nations, Spain, France, the UK, Ireland, Norway, and more EU states ready to recognize Palestine, history is shifting decisively. Recognition will not immediately free Gaza or rebuild what decades of bombs have destroyed, but it will change the rules of the game.

It will make occupation and siege crimes in the eyes of the law, not “disputes,” and finally give Palestinians a sovereign platform to fight for their survival and dignity. This is no longer about politics or negotiation; it is about humanity reclaiming its voice after decades of silence, choosing justice over complicity, choosing statehood over statelessness, choosing life over slaughter. The world has looked into the mirror and seen the cruel face of Israel’s actions—and at long last, it is choosing to stand with Palestine, with recognition, law, and morality as its weapon for long-denied peace.

The writer is Press Secretary to the President (Rtd), Former Press Minister, Embassy of Pakistan to France and Former MD, SRBC, he is living in Macomb, Michigan, USA



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

Antibiotics in the Food We Consume: A Hidden Threat to Human Health

Food is central to life, culture, and family in every home. While we value taste and nutrition, we often overlook what may be hidden in our meals. In countries like Pakistan, where food production is becoming more industrialized, a silent but dangerous element is creeping into our diets: antibiotics. These drugs, once seen solely as life-saving medications, are now present in the meat, milk, eggs, fish, and even vegetables we consume—posing serious threats to human health.

Antibiotics revolutionized medicine by enabling us to treat once-fatal infections. However, over the years, they have been widely and often carelessly used in agriculture. In the race to meet growing food demands and cut costs, antibiotics are frequently added to animal feed—not to cure illness, but to promote growth and prevent infections. In Pakistan’s booming poultry industry, for example, animals are often dosed with antibiotics whether they are sick or not. The same is true for cattle, fish farms, and even dairy production.

The issue doesn’t end with meat and dairy. Manure from these animals, still containing antibiotic residues, is often used as fertilizer or ends up in water sources. Vegetables grown in such contaminated environments can carry antibiotic traces as well. This means that vegetarians and vegans are also exposed, not just meat eaters.

Pakistan’s situation is worsened by weak regulatory systems. Antibiotics are readily available over the counter, and most farmers use them without proper knowledge or guidance. There are no enforceable national standards for the withdrawal period—the time needed for antibiotics to clear from an animal’s system before its meat or milk enters the food chain. As a result, contaminated

products make their way to market without detection. A 2023 study in Lahore found that 40% of sampled chicken contained illegal levels of tetracycline. Similar results were observed in fish and milk from Sindh.

Consumers are largely in the dark. There is no labelling to indicate whether meat or milk is antibiotic-free. Vegetables aren’t traced back to their sources, and food safety agencies rarely conduct regular residue testing. With no way of knowing what’s safe, the public remains exposed to an invisible health hazard.

This crisis cannot be viewed in isolation. It is a One Health issue, meaning the health of humans, animals, and the environment are deeply interconnected. Antibiotics that seep into water and soil can lead to resistant bacteria in the environment, which can reach humans through multiple channels. Yet, ministries responsible for health, agriculture, livestock, and the environment in Pakistan operate in silos, with little coordination. While Pakistan does have a National Action Plan on AMR, it suffers from poor funding, weak enforcement, and lack of accountability.

Other countries offer examples Pakistan can learn from. The European Union banned the use of antibiotics as growth promoters in 2006 and set strict residue limits. Countries like Denmark and the Netherlands reduced antibiotic use in animals through improved hygiene, controlled prescriptions, and farmer incentives. In contrast, Pakistan remains one of the top 20 global users of veterinary antibiotics—with little oversight.

To tackle this crisis, urgent action is required on multiple fronts:

1. Policy reform is needed to ban non-therapeutic antibiotic use in agriculture and enforce withdrawal periods. The Drug Regulatory

Authority must be strengthened to regulate antibiotic sales, and provincial food safety authorities should conduct regular testing and penalize violators.

2. Farmer education is essential. Many are unaware of the damage antibiotic misuse causes. Training programs, campaigns in local languages, and integration of antibiotic stewardship into agricultural and veterinary education can close this knowledge gap.

3. Surveillance systems must be upgraded. Pakistan lacks a national database to track antibiotic residues in food and AMR trends in animals. Accredited labs should be established in every province to support monitoring and enforcement.

4. Consumer rights and awareness must be promoted. Labeling food products as “raised without antibiotics” will empower buyers to make informed choices and encourage ethical practices. Public awareness campaigns through TV, schools, and social media can foster safer food habits.

5. Private sector accountability is crucial. Retailers and restaurant chains should refuse to buy from farms that misuse antibiotics. NGOs and donors can support sustainable agriculture initiatives.

While systemic reform is necessary, individuals can also make a difference. Choosing antibiotic-free products, supporting organic farms, and practicing food hygiene can reduce risks. Still, these are protective steps—the root solution lies in stopping the contamination at its source.

Antimicrobial resistance is a creeping crisis, one that could quietly dismantle our medical defenses. But it’s also a crisis we can prevent—if we act now with informed policies, united institutions, and public participation. The power of the plate is real. Let’s use it wisely, before the medicines that once saved us lose their power entirely.

Safety Concerns in Operation Theaters: A Case Study of Pakistani Hospitals;

The state of hospital operation theaters and their tools in Pakistan is a matter of grave concern, reflecting the broader challenges faced by the country’s healthcare system. Operation theaters, which are supposed to be the most sterile and well-equipped areas of a hospital, often fail to meet even the most basic standards of hygiene and functionality. This dire situation not only compromises the quality of medical care but also puts patients’ lives at significant risk. The condition of these theaters is a stark reminder of the systemic issues plaguing Pakistan’s healthcare infrastructure, including inadequate funding, poor maintenance, and a lack of accountability.

One of the most pressing issues is the lack of proper sterilization in operation theaters. Sterilization is crucial to prevent infections and ensure patient safety, but many hospitals in Pakistan struggle to maintain this standard. Autoclaves, which are essential for sterilizing surgical instruments, are often outdated, malfunctioning, or simply unavailable. In some cases, surgical tools are reused without proper sterilization, increasing the risk of infections such as sepsis, hepatitis, and HIV.

The physical infrastructure of operation theaters is also in a deplorable state in many hospitals. Poor ventilation, inadequate lighting, and outdated electrical systems are common issues that hinder the efficiency of surgical procedures. Leaking roofs, cracked walls, and unhygienic floors are not uncommon, creating an environment that is far from the sterile conditions required for surgeries. The lack of regular maintenance and upgrades means that these problems persist,

further deteriorating the quality of care provided to patients.

The root cause of these issues lies in the chronic underfunding of Pakistan’s healthcare system. Public hospitals, which cater to the majority of the population, receive insufficient budgets to maintain their facilities and purchase essential equipment. Corruption and mismanagement further compound the problem, diverting resources away from where they are needed most. The result is a healthcare system that is ill-equipped to meet the needs of its citizens, particularly in critical areas such as operation theaters.

The consequences of these shortcomings are dire. Patients are forced to endure substandard care, with many suffering from preventable complications or even losing their lives. Surgeons and medical staff are left to work in challenging conditions, often feeling frustrated and helpless. The lack of trust in public hospitals drives many people to seek treatment in private facilities, which are often unaffordable for the majority of the population.

Addressing the condition of operation theaters and their tools in Pakistan requires urgent and comprehensive action. Increased funding, better management, and stricter oversight are essential to improve the quality of healthcare facilities. Investing in modern equipment, training staff, and maintaining infrastructure can go a long way in ensuring that hospitals are equipped to provide safe and effective care. Until these steps are taken, the state of operation theaters in Pakistan will remain a glaring example of the challenges faced by the country’s healthcare system, leaving countless lives at risk.

Mushaal Hussein Mullick pays tribute to Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah on her birth anniversary

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Mushaal Hussein Mullick, Chairperson of the Peace and Culture Organisation, wife of incarcerated Kashmiri Hurriyat leader Mohammad Yasin Malik, and former Special Assistant to the Prime Minister (SAPM) on Human Rights and Women Empowerment, paid a heartfelt tribute to Begum Fatima Jinnah on her birth anniversary, honoring her as a beacon of courage, resilience, and empowerment.

In her statement, Mushaal lauded Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah-Mader-e-Millat (Mother of the Nation)-for her unwavering struggle alongside Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah in the creation of Paki-

Message of H. E. Reza Amiri Moghadam on the Birth Anniversary of Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah

On the occasion of the July 31th, the Birth Anniversary of Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah, Mader-e-Millat of Pakistan, I would like to pay my sincere tribute to her exemplary and

inspiring character. Everybody in Pakistan honors her visionary leadership, relentless courage, and invaluable contributions to the Pakistan and Muslim World.

stan, as well as her pioneering role in advancing women's rights and democratic values.

"Mohtarma Fatima Jinnah was not just a leader but a revolutionary force who defied oppression and stood firm for justice, much like the brave women of Kashmir today," said Mushaal. "Her legacy inspires

millions, especially women in conflict zones like Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJK), to rise against tyranny and fight for their rights with dignity and determination."

Highlighting the parallels between Begum Fatima Jinnah's resistance against authoritarianism and the

Kashmiri freedom struggle, Mushaal emphasized that the Mother of the Nation remains a symbol of hope for oppressed peoples worldwide. She recalled Fatima Jinnah's bold 1965 presidential campaign calling it a testament to her fearless leadership.

Mushaal urged the women of Pakistan and Kashmir to embrace Fatima Jinnah's spirit, stressing that "true empowerment lies in unity, education, and unyielding resolve against injustice." She also called upon the international community to recognize the sacrifices of women in freedom movements, from Pakistan's independence to Kashmir's ongoing struggle for self-determination.

The Chairperson concluded by reaffirming her commitment to



human rights, gender equality, and Begum Fatima Jinnah's mission of a peace advocacy, vowing to continue just and equitable society.

Pakistan Joins Ethiopia in Historic 700 Million Plant in One Day Initiative



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: In a remarkable show of international cooperation, Pakistan has joined Ethiopia in planting 700 million seedlings in one day under the "Renewal Through Planting" campaign which has been launched this year under the Green Legacy Initiative of Prime Minister H. E. Dr. Abiy Ahmed.

A joint plantation drive and media briefing to this end were held at the Ethiopian Embassy in Islamabad to mark Pakistan's participation which saw diverse attendance, including diplomatic corps, government officials,

parliamentarians, business leaders, religious figures, youth, media, and civil society representatives.

H. E. Dr. Musadik Malik, Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, graced the event as the chief guest, while H. E. Hamid Asghar Khan, Additional Secretary (Africa) from Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, attending as the guest of honor.

Addressing the gathering, H. E. Dr. Jemal Beker, Ambassador of Ethiopia to Pakistan, highlighted the Green Legacy Initiative, launched in 2019, as a vital effort by Ethiopia to restore ecological balance, reduce



carbon emissions and soil erosion, and promote food security and sustainable development in the country.

He emphasized that Pakistan's participation in the "Renewal Through Planting" campaign underscores its commitment to strengthening ties with Ethiopia and sends a powerful message that Pakistan is not alone in its fight against climate change.

The Ambassador also announced that a high-level delegation of Ethiopian officials and climate experts would visit Pakistan soon to show solidarity and participate in "Green Dialogues" and plantation campaigns

across the country.

The Federal Minister commended the Ambassador for his exceptional efforts in promoting green behaviors and values throughout Pakistan.

He lauded Prime Minister H. E. Dr. Abiy Ahmed's visionary leadership and his exemplary role in advancing the international climate agenda.

The Minister acknowledged Ethiopia's initiatives, such as the Green Legacy and Yeleamat Tirufat (Bounty of Basket), as inspiring examples of resilience and stressed the importance of learning from such successful endeavors.

Photos by Sultan Bashir online

Ministry of Investment of Saudi Arabia Grants Investment License to EZ Wage

Bureau Report

LAHORE: The Ministry of Investment of Saudi Arabia has granted an Investment License to EZ Wage, marking a significant achievement for one of the leading players in the Earned Wage Access (EWA) industry in South Asia and the Kingdom.

This milestone allows EZ Wage to attain 100% foreign ownership in the Kingdom, emphasizing not only its innovative approach but also Saudi Arabia's commitment to cultivating a diverse and dynamic economy.

Speaking at the occasion, CEO and Founder Fatima Batool stated, "We're proud to be among the first Singapore-based fintech startups to secure 100 percent foreign ownership in Saudi Arabia, thanks to the Ministry of Investment (MISA). This is more than a license; it is a launchpad for impact, innovation, and inclusion in one of the world's fastest-growing economies. Here's to supporting Vision 2030 and shaping the future of fintech in the Kingdom."

With the MISA license, EZ Wage is now strategically positioned to bring its transformative wage access model and financial solutions to the Saudi market and the region, delivering real-time financial access to employees, supporting financial inclusion goals, and forming key partnerships with local enterprises, HR platforms, and digital banks.

This announcement also reinforces Saudi Arabia's growing role as a regional fintech hub, welcoming mission-driven innovators aligned with the Kingdom's evolving economic landscape. EZ Wage's entry into the market is set to open new avenues for digitization, talent development, and inclusive financial growth in the region as well as in South Asia and Southeast Asia.

Housing and Works Sub-Committee Takes Notice of Non-Possession Issues

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Meeting of the Sub-Committee on Housing and Works — Assurance for Resolution of Affected Persons' Issues

The second meeting of the Sub-Committee of the Standing Committee on Housing and Works was held today, July 30, 2025, at the Federal Government Employees Housing Authority (FGEHA) in Islamabad. The meeting was chaired by Member of the National Assembly and Convener of the Sub-Committee, Mr. Anjum Aqeel Khan.

Other committee members, including MNA Mr. Mehboob Shah and MNA Mr. Abrar Ahmad, also attended the meeting. Additionally, Mr. Ashfaq Ghuman, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Works, and Captain (R) Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, Director General FGEHA, were present.

The purpose of the meeting was to review pending dues related to land acquisition, payments for constructed properties, and delays in various housing projects.

During the session, affected parties from sectors G-14/1, G-15/3, F-14, and F-15 presented their grievances, with particular emphasis on the issue of non-possession in Sector G-14/1. Taking notice of the complaints, the Director General instructed that these matters be addressed on a priority basis. He directed the Director (Land) to engage with the allottees, listen to their concerns, and formulate a practical strategy to ensure early possession.

Convener Anjum Aqeel Khan assured that the Sub-Committee will make every possible effort to resolve the issues of all affected individuals and will maintain close coordination with the relevant departments. At the conclusion of the meeting, the affected parties expressed satisfaction with the committee's attention and seriousness and voiced hope that their longstanding issues would soon be resolved. Participants appreciated the role of the Sub-Committee and stated that such meetings play a vital role in strengthening communication and building trust between the affected persons and the relevant institutions.

Pakistan Spearheads Global Efforts to Achieve SDGs by 2030

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: At the 6th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament in Geneva, Mr. Isphanyar Bhandara took part in a high-level panel discussion on "Achieving the SDGs by 2030: What New Opportunities for International Cooperation."

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a global framework to end poverty, protect the planet, and

ensure dignity and opportunity for all by 2030.

Speaking on behalf of Pakistan, Mr. Bhandara highlighted that Pakistan was among the first nations to adopt the SDGs as a national agenda. Despite fiscal limitations, the country has advanced by investing in education and skills, expanding infrastructure, empowering women and youth through legal protections, enhancing climate resilience, and aligning national

laws such as the Juvenile Justice System Act and the Transgender Persons Act with the SDG framework.

He concluded with substantive recommendations for stronger international cooperation, urging the developed world to support developing countries through clean energy and agricultural innovation, knowledge exchange, and reforms in the global financial architecture to ensure inclusive progress toward 2030.



ISSI hosts event to Commemorate Morocco's 'Enthronement Day'

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Centre for Afghanistan, Middle East and Africa (CAMEA) at the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI), in collaboration with the Pakistan Africa Institute for Development and Research (PAIDAR), organized an event to commemorate Morocco's 'Enthronement Day'. The proceedings began with the national anthems of Pakistan and the Kingdom of Morocco and were moderated by Ms. Amina Khan, Director CAMEA. Speakers included Ambassador Sohail Mahmood, Director General ISSI; Ambassador Mohammed Karmoune,

Dean of the African Diplomatic Corps and Ambassador of Morocco to Pakistan; Ambassador Syed Adil Gilani, Ambassador of Pakistan to Morocco; and Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman BOG ISSI. The Chief Guest on the occasion was Mr. Mushahid Hussain Sayed, President PAIDAR, and the Keynote Speaker was Ambassador Hamid Asghar Khan, Additional Foreign Secretary (Africa), MOFA.

Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, highlighted the historical context of Pakistan-Morocco relations, recalling Pakistan's support for Morocco during its struggle against colonial rule. He shared how prominent Moroccan leader Ahmed

Balafrej was granted Pakistani passport and how Pakistan's then Foreign Minister, Sir Zafarullah Khan, facilitated him to present Morocco's case at the United Nations.

Ambassador Sohail Mahmood, in his remarks, said that over the past 26 years, under His Majesty King Mohammed VI's wise and dynamic leadership, Morocco has been on a journey of forward-looking and systematic reform leading to remarkable renewal and progress.

Ambassador Karmoune highlighted Morocco's economic and social progress despite global challenges, noting significant growth in industrial exports

and tourism. He invited Pakistani investors to explore opportunities in Morocco's large-scale development projects and benefit from its extensive trade network.

Ambassador Hamid Asghar Khan said the glue that holds Morocco together is His Majesty, whose leadership ensures good governance and a focus on public service.

Ms. Amina Khan highlighted that the relationship between Pakistan and Morocco is marked by mutual trust, cultural affinity, and a shared vision for peace and prosperity.

Ambassador Syed Adil Gilani, while expressing his views, said that Morocco is an example of prosperity and development



with landmark achievements in various fields like governance.

Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, in his vote of thanks,

expressed his good wishes for the people of Morocco and said that the relationship between Pakistan and Morocco is exem-

plary and the strategic location of Morocco provides it with a gateway to international markets.

Bull & Bears

PSX 100-Share Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
139,390.42	138,412.25
Day's High	Day's Low
140,215.22	139,083.74
Index Value	Change
29,659,828,937	+978.17
Percentage	Time
+0.71%	31 Jul, 2025 4:30 pm
Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
9,132.81	−4.13
Percentage	Time
−0.045%	31 Jul, 4:35 pm GMT +1
USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
44,453.20	−8.08
Percentage	Time
−0.018%	31 Jul, 1:15 pm GMT-4
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
41,069.82	+415.12
Percentage	Time
+1.02%	31 Jul, 3:45 pm GMT+9
Open Market Forex Rates	

SECP seeks public feedback on proposed amendments to Private Fund Regulations, 2015

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) has published a Consultation Paper proposing significant amendments to the Private Fund Regulations, 2015, inviting comments from the public and all relevant stakeholders. The proposed amendments introduce a more structured and globally aligned approach to private fund regulation.

Key changes include streamlined terminology, with the consolidation of Private Equity and Venture Capital under a unified "Private Fund" framework, along with clearly defined subtypes aligned with international classifications. The amendments also expand investor eligibility by introducing income-based thresholds and formally defining Qualified Institutional Buyers (QIBs) to broaden access while maintaining investor protection. Additionally, governance enhancements feature strengthened roles and responsibilities for trustees and fund managers, alongside the introduction of formal exit strategy frameworks and defined fund termination protocols.

As part of its inclusive and transparent consultative process, the first stakeholder consultation session was successfully held in Islamabad, with participation from industry representatives, fund managers, legal advisors, and other stakeholders. The session provided a valuable platform for discussion, feedback, and collaboration. To ensure broad-based input, two additional sessions are scheduled to be held in Lahore and Karachi in the coming week.

SECP encourages all relevant stakeholders to share their views on the proposed amendments by August 12, 2025. The Consultation Paper is available on the official SECP website.



Delegation of Islamabad Businessmen Pays Condolences to Qazi Muhammad Akbar's Family

Spokesman Report

CHAKWAL: A representative delegation of prominent business personalities from Islamabad, comprising former President FPCCI & ICCI Malik Zubair, former Chairman Founder Group & former ICCI President Khalid Iqbal Malik, UBG Secretary General Zafar Bakhtawari, former ICCI President Ahsan Bakhtawari, and former Chakwal Chamber President Waqar Bakhtawari, visited Chakwal to offer heartfelt condolences to Qazi Muhammad Ashraf and Qazi Usman, the brother and son of the late Qazi Muhammad Akbar, Group Leader Chakwal Chamber of Commerce and former Vice President FPCCI, on his demise.

Khalid Iqbal Malik stated that Qazi Muhammad Akbar was a visionary and honest personality who played a pivotal role in organizing the business community and making the Chamber proactive. "We are all indebted to his contributions," he added.

Zafar Bakhtawari said that Qazi Muhammad Akbar was not only a strong administrator but also a compassionate friend. "With his passing, the business community of Chakwal has lost a true leader. His role



in establishing and developing the Chakwal Chamber is of utmost importance, and we pay homage to his services for the business community."

Ahsan Bakhtawari and Waqar Bakhtawari expressed that the demise of personalities like Qazi Akbar is not only a loss for his family but a tragedy for the entire business community.

"We share the grief of Qazi Usman and Qazi Ashraf and stand with them at every step," they said.

On this occasion, Qazi Muhammad Ashraf thanked the delegation for their visit and said that his late brother always led a life of principles and honesty.

Qazi Usman said that the loss of their esteemed father is an indescribable sorrow, but his upbringing and name will continue to guide them. "We are deeply grateful to all those who stood by us in this hour of grief," he added.

The delegation included ICCI Executive Members Malik Mohsin Khalid, Raja Naveed Satti, Malik Abdul Aziz, Nisar Mirza, Babar Chaudhry, Imtiaz Abbasi, Asad Aziz, Khalid Chaudhry, Zahid Qureshi, Shah Faisal, Chaudhry Ashraf, Malik Nadeem, and others.

Prominent personalities from Chakwal's business community were also present, including Chakwal Chamber President Aamir Najeeb Bhutta, Senior Vice President Riaz Farooqi, former Presidents Khawaja Arif, Khurram Kamran, Chaudhry Shehzad Saadat, Khawaja Nazir Sultan, Malik Hafeez Anjum, Mian Khawar, Malik Ghulam Murtaza, Malik Ghulam Hur, among others.

Waiting for customer

RAWALPINDI: A street vendor set up charming lights to enhance the look of Sweet lime fruits, selling them in good quantity and earning a handsome amount of daily wage for the livelihood of his family.



Photo: Online

Potential end of China's PV export rebates signals looming global solar price surge

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Industry observers urge buyers in emerging markets to lock in prices ahead of likely cost increases.

A major policy shift in China, the world's dominant solar photovoltaic (PV) supplier, could soon trigger upward pressure on solar module prices globally, particularly impacting emerging markets.

According to recent reports in Chinese media, Beijing is reportedly considering the full withdrawal of its export tax rebate policy for solar PV products. The rebate, which had already been reduced from 13% to 9% earlier in 2024, has been a key support mechanism for manufacturers navigating the competitive global market.

The potential move to scrap it entirely is being closely watched by solar industry stakeholders worldwide.

"This rebate cut, if finalized, could represent a significant inflection point for global solar pricing," said one energy analyst tracking Chinese trade policies. "With



margins already razor-thin, the removal of rebates will likely be passed on to buyers in the form of higher module prices."

To illustrate the scale of the policy's impact, top-tier manufacturers have historically benefitted massively from the rebate. For instance, Jinko Solar, one of China's leading solar companies, reportedly received an "export tax rebate (VAT exemption-credit-refund)" of RMB 5.599 billion for 2024.

China currently supplies nearly 90% of

the world's solar panels, making its internal policy shifts consequential for international markets. Analysts suggest that developing nations where procurement cycles are often price-sensitive could be disproportionately affected by the ripple effects of such a policy change.

There are already signs of market recalibration. Some suppliers in Southeast Asia and the Middle East have reportedly begun preparing for gradual price adjustments to protect operating margins amid growing uncertainty.

A procurement consultant based in the Gulf commented, "We've heard from multiple vendors that they're factoring in potential rebate elimination scenarios into their Q3 and Q4 pricing models. This isn't panic, it's planning."

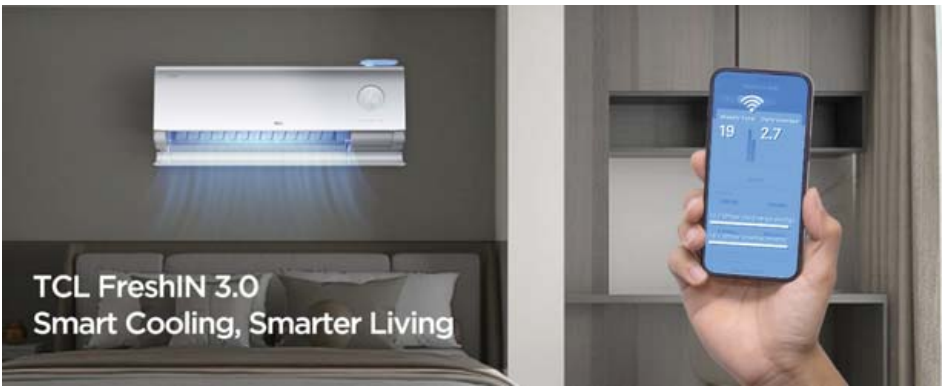
For large-scale buyers and EPC contractors, the evolving situation underscores the importance of timing. Locking in orders while current prices hold could prove to be a strategic move in an otherwise unpredictable pricing environment.

Pakistan's Smartest Air Conditioner with Real-Time Air Quality Monitoring

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: TCL, Pakistan's No.1 LED TV Brand, proudly announces the launch of its most advanced air conditioning innovation to date, FreshIN 3.0. Designed to redefine home comfort and wellness, the FreshIN 3.0 introduces smart air management that goes beyond just cooling, offering a healthier, quieter, and more connected living experience.

At the heart of FreshIN 3.0 is TCL's revolutionary Fresh Air Inlet with Oxygen Boost, which brings in purified, fresh outdoor air, significantly improving indoor oxygen levels, a



game-changing feature for modern Pakistani households increasingly concerned about indoor air quality. What truly sets FreshIN 3.0 apart is its built-in smart air quality sensors, which monitor and display real-time air

quality directly on the unit. For the first time in Pakistan, users can instantly know the purity level of the air they breathe, adding a new layer of transparency and trust to their cooling solution.

Commenting on the launch, Majid Khan Niazi, Director of Marketing at TCL Middle East and Africa, said: "With FreshIN 3.0, TCL is transforming air conditioning into a complete wellness experience. This is not just about cooling anymore — it's about healthier air, smarter living, and a commitment to environmental quality inside the home. We're proud to introduce this breakthrough product to Pakistani consumers."

Bank Alfalah announces PKR 15.27 Billion PAT for 1H-2025

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: The Board of Directors of Bank Alfalah Limited (BAFL), in its meeting held on July 31, 2025, approved the Bank's financial results for the half year ended June 30, 2025.

Bank Alfalah reported profit after tax (PAT) of PKR 15.27 billion for the half year ended June 30, 2025, translating to earnings per share of PKR 9.68 (June 2024: PKR 13.06). The Board of Directors declared a second interim cash dividend of PKR 2.50 per share (25%), cumulatively bringing the

cash dividend for the year to PKR 5.00 per share (50%) (HY 2024: PKR 4.00 per share (40%).

The Bank was able to offset the impact of interest rate cut through current account growth. Further, balance sheet positions taken last year supported both net interest income as well as resulted in opportunities for capital gains. The changing dynamics of pricing of some products and remittances added pressure on the bottom line; we expect these will majorly settle in the second half of the year.

TPL Properties Breaks Ground on Lagoon Views 1 at The Mangrove



Commerce Desk

KARACHI: TPL Properties held a ceremony to break ground for Lagoon Views 1, the first residential tower at The Mangrove, Karachi's first mixed-use sustainable development located at Cantonment Board Korangi Creek.

The event brought together senior leadership from across the TPL Group, including TPL Properties, TPL REIT Management Company (RMC), and TPL Developments, marking the formal launch of a project that blends smart living with ecological responsibility.

"Lagoon Views 1 is more than just a building. It is the beginning of a new way of

life for Karachi," said Mr. Ali Jameel, CEO of TPL Properties. "Our goal is to shape urban living that is both intelligent and environmentally responsive."

The architectural design of the Mangrove project is being developed in collaboration with the SSH, a well known firm known for creating human-centric, future-forward spaces.

Launched in February 2025, the completion and handing over of Lagoon Views Tower 1 are expected by third quarter of 2029, with available units already seeing high interest from overseas Pakistanis and urban investors alike. Bookings are open at the Mangrove Site office.

Malik Faisal inaugurates Wrestling Sports Complex and Mini Stadium in Gujranwala

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: Provincial Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Malik Faisal Ayub Khokhar inaugurated modern Wrestling Sports Complex and Mini Stadium in Gujranwala on Thursday.

MNA Shahid Usman, MPA Nawaz Chohan, MPA Shazia Fareed gave a detailed briefing to Punjab Minister for Sports regarding newly constructed projects. Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Muzaffar Khan Sial, Deputy Project Director North Zone Syed Ahmed Aizaz, Divisional Sports Officer Faisal Ameer, international wrestling star Inam Butt, top sports personalities, several notables of the area and a large number of wrestling enthusiasts were present at the opening ceremony.

Addressing the opening ceremony, Provincial Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Malik Faisal Ayub Khokhar said that sports infrastructure is being established across Punjab province under the vision of Punjab Chief Minister. "There



is no doubt that wrestling is the identity of our region and the Wrestling Complex is a gift for the city of wrestlers from Punjab Chief Minister".

Provincial Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Malik Faisal Ayub

Khokhar informed that the Wrestling Complex is built by the Punjab Sports Department with the cost of Rs 155 million while the cost of Mini Stadium is Rs 7.5 million. "The Mini Stadium is equipped with several world class sports

facilities and we are quite up beat that numerous new wrestlers will be identified through this Wrestling Complex".

He said that there is capacity of 400 persons in indoor hall while 500 people can witness wrestling event in outdoor field. "The wrestling complex is equipped with mud and mat wrestling facilities besides having floodlights and gymnasium. The complex can also organise international level events".

The sports minister said that the Mini Stadium is laced with the facilities of football, hockey, volleyball, open gym, jogging track, modern flood lights with the capacity of more than 4,000 spectators.

Provincial Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Malik Faisal Ayub Khokhar further said that the youngsters of the region will have more opportunities for training and polishing their skills with the construction of Wrestling Complex. "Today, the utmost demand of the youth of this region has been fulfilled. It is our mission to incline youth towards healthy sports activities".

More than 3,000 boys and girls have been registered for Azadi Family Fun Race

Tahir Amin Malik

Director General Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry has presided over an important meeting regarding upcoming grand event of Azadi Family Fun Race at the National Hockey Stadium on Thursday.

Director Admin Dr M Kaleem, Director Sports Rana Nadeem Anjum and all officers from Punjab Sports Department and Sports Board Punjab participated in the meeting which was convened to review the preparations of Azadi Family Fun Race scheduled to be conducted on August 9, 2025.

Addressing the meeting, Director General Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry said that more than 3,000 boys and girls have been registered for taking part in the Azadi Family Fun Race. "The grand Family Fun Race will be a memorable event of Jashan-e-Azadi in which three different races for boys, girls and women will be conducted. An eye catching lighting performance will also be presented at the prize distribution ceremony".

Director General Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry further said that there will be great



coordination among different departments such as City District Administration, Police Department, Rescue-1122 and Traffic Police to conduct Azadi Family Fun Race smoothly. "Top level physiotherapists will also be present at the route of Azadi Family Fun Race to tackle any fitness issue. Apart from this, water points and medical camps will also be established to cope with any medical and health emergency".

Director General Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry said that there will be separate races for girls, boys and women in the Azadi Family Fun Race and prizes will be given to top 100 performers. "It will be a mega festive event in which starting and finishing points and the entire route will be decorated with colourful national flags," he added.

Director General Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry on this occasion appreciated Divisional Sports Officer Lahore Tanveer Shah, Deputy Director Yasmeen Akhtar and other officers for making best arrangements at registration booths. The heads of technical, school, sports gear and other committees briefed the DG Sports Punjab regarding their respective preparations in the meeting.

Daniyal Ijaz wins 17th Islamabad Open Bowling Championship

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Daniyal Ijaz clinched the title of the 17th Islamabad Open Bowling Championship, outplaying his competitors with an impressive score of 268 points.

Faheem Khan secured second

place with 187 points in the event held in the federal capital.

The championship, organized by the Islamabad Tenpin Bowling Association (ITBA) in collaboration with the Pakistan Tenpin Bowling Federation (PTBF), attracted participation from top bowlers across

Islamabad.

President of the PTBF, Ijaz-ur-Rehman, distributed trophies among the winners during the prize-giving ceremony. Also present at the occasion were former PTBF Secretary General Muhammad Hussain Chattha and ITBA



President Rana Afzal Akhtar.

In their congratulatory remarks, Ijaz-ur-Rehman, Chattha and Akhtar lauded

Daniyal Ijaz for his dominant performance and extended best wishes to Faheem Khan for securing the runner-up position.

Tamasha secures exclusive digital streaming rights for Asia Cup till 2027



Sports desk

ISLAMABAD: Tamasha, Pakistan's leading digital entertainment platform by Jazz, has secured the official exclusive digital streaming rights for all Asia Cup tournaments till 2027 for the territory of Pakistan. The landmark deal includes the Men's Asia Cup 2025 and 2027 tournaments, as well as the Men's and Women's Under-19 and Emerging Teams tournaments — more than 150 match days in total — marking a major milestone in Pakistan's digital sports broadcasting landscape.

The highly anticipated Asia Cup 2025 is scheduled to begin on September 9, featuring top teams including Pakistan, India, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka in a fast-paced T20 format. With up to three potential Pakistan-India clashes, and the first fixture set to be played on 14 September, the excitement of fans is set to reach new heights as Tamasha prepares to deliver the entire tournament to digital audiences nationwide.

Commenting on the development, Aamer Ejaz, President Digital at Jazz, said: "This exclusive acquisition reflects Tamasha's growing stature as the go-to digital platform for premium sports content in Pakistan. We're excited to bring millions of fans closer to the action by delivering a seamless and high-quality viewing experience for one of the region's most exciting cricket tournaments".

Since its inception, Tamasha has redefined live sports streaming in Pakistan, hosting marquee global events such as the ICC Champions Trophy, English Premier League, Wimbledon, and the Olympics. Available on Android, iOS, and Android TV, Tamasha ensures audiences can enjoy live action whether on the go or on the big screen at home.

Beyond sports, Tamasha offers a robust entertainment catalogue with 90+ live TV channels, Pakistani and international films, web series, and short-form content. In 2024, it delivered 12.5 billion minutes of content and hosted 250 days of live action. With the Asia Cup 2025-2027 rights now part of its portfolio, Tamasha continues to raise the bar and reinforce its leadership in digital entertainment.

West Indies name T20I squad for Pakistan series with key inclusions



Cricket West Indies (CWI) has announced the T20I squad for the three-match series against Pakistan, including four key changes from the team that previously played against Australia.

The series will be played from July 31 to August 3 at the Broward County Stadium in Florida, USA.

Shamar Joseph, along with batters Keacy Carty, Alick Athanaze, and Johnson Charles, were drafted in place of Alzarri Joseph, Evin Lewis, Brandon King, and Shimron Hetmyer, respectively.

Pacer Alzarri Joseph has been rested for the series, whereas Lewis, who was not in the playing XI in the final T20I against Australia due to injury, is unavailable.

Shimron Hetmyer and Brandon King will not be participating due to side strains they incurred during the final T20I against Australia. King's fitness will be evaluated again before the ODI matches.

West Indies will take on Pakistan in the opening T20I on July 31 at the same venue in Lauderhill.

Salman Ali Agha will continue to lead the Pakistan side in the T20I series.

The tour will then move to the Caribbean, where Mohammad Rizwan will captain Pakistan in the three-match ODI series, beginning August 8 at the Brian Lara Cricket Academy in Trinidad & Tobago.

West Indies squad

Shamar Joseph, Keacy Carty, Rovman Powell, Sherfane Rutherford, Jason Holder, Romario Shepherd, Roston Chase, Jewel Andrew, Shai Hope (C), Akeal Hosein, Shamar Joseph, Gudakesh Motie, Jediah Blades, Matthew Forde

Pakistan vs West Indies Three T-20 Match Series

Pakistan to take on West Indies Challenge in Three T-20 Cricket Match Series started on 31 July

Asim Tanveer

LAUDERHILL: Pakistan are all set to take on West Indies in the eighth bilateral T-20 series between the two teams after they first faced each other in April 2011 in the T-20 format.

The three T-20 beginning on Thursday, 31 July (1 August, 5am Pakistan time) at the Central Broward Park & Broward County Stadium in Florida is the first meeting between the two teams in T20Is since December 2021.

The second and third T20I are scheduled to take place on 2 and 3 August at the same venue with the first ball slated to be bowled at 8pm local time (3 and 4 August, 5am Pakistan time).

Pakistan will take the field in Lauderhill, a venue that has played host to 12 ODIs and 17 T20Is since May 2010, for the second time after beating Ireland by three wickets in the ICC Cricket World Cup 2024.

Overall Pakistan have won 15 of the 21 T-20 played between the two teams with hosts winning three and as many ending in no result. Both the teams will be looking to make amends to their recent most T-20 series results after visitors conceded 2-1 to Bangladesh and hosts 5-0 to Australia.

Pakistan arrived in Lauderhill on Monday, 28 July and took part in two intensive training sessions. Haris Rauf, Hasan Ali

and Shaheen Shah Afridi have returned to the T20I squad.

Pakistan T-20 captain, Salman Ali Agha:

"We are really looking forward to playing at this wonderful venue and our time here so far has been exciting. I feel the three T-20 will also be entertaining and as a team we are eagerly looking forward to take the field.

"We have a fine blend of youth and experience in our squad and it is highly productive that we are going into yet another T20I series as the build-up towards the T-20 World Cup picks up pace.

"The West Indies are a formidable T-20 side despite the results not going their way recently and I feel we'll have to play our best

possible game in order to outfox them in this series."

Pakistan T-20 Squad: Salman Ali Agha (captain), Abrar Ahmed, Faheem Ashraf, Fakhar Zaman, Haris Rauf, Hasan Ali, Hasan Nawaz, Hussain Talat, Khushdil Shah, Mohammad Haris (wicket-keeper), Mohammad Nawaz, Sahibzada Farhan (wicket-keeper), Saim Ayub, Shaheen Shah Afridi and Sufyan Moqim

Series schedule: (T20Is to begin at 8pm local time)

31 July – First T20I v West Indies, Central Broward Park & Broward County Stadium, Lauderhill, USA

2 Aug – Second T20I v West Indies, Central Broward Park



& Broward County Stadium, Lauderhill, USA

3 Aug – Third T20I v West Indies, Central Broward Park & Broward County Stadium,

Lauderhill, USA

8 Aug – First ODI v West Indies, Brian Lara Cricket Academy, Trinidad & Tobago

10 Aug – Second ODI v West

Indies, Brian Lara Cricket Academy, Trinidad & Tobago

12 Aug – Third ODI v West Indies, Brian Lara Cricket

Academy, Trinidad & Tobago.

Meeting with Ambassador of KSA

LAHORE: Saudi Ambassador Nawaf bin Saeed Ahmad Al-Malkiy meetings PML-N President Nawaz Sharif and Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz in Lahore.



Photo: DGPR

Palestinian PM affirms support and endorsement for New York Declaration in letters to Saudi and French FMs

Agencies

NEW YORK: Prime Minister's Office — Prime Minister Dr. Mohammad Mustafa has officially conveyed the State of Palestine's full support and endorsement for the New York Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution and its Annex, in letters addressed to Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan and French Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot.

This endorsement follows

the conclusion of the United Nations High-Level International Conference on the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine, held at UN Headquarters in New York from 28 to 30 July 2025, and co-chaired by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Republic of France.

In his letters, Prime Minister Mustafa extended the deepest gratitude of the State and Government of Palestine for the tireless efforts made by both the Government of Saudi Arabia, under the wise leadership of the Custodian of



the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud, and

the Government of France, under the leadership of President Emmanuel Macron, for their pivotal role in organizing and ensuring the success of

this landmark international conference.

The Prime Minister also expressed great appreciation for the personal efforts of His Highness Prince Faisal bin Farhan and Minister Jean-Noël Barrot, as well as of their dedicated teams in coordinating and facilitating the work of the eight working groups established during the conference. He commended their efforts to secure the broadest possible international participation and engagement in shaping the outcomes of this pivotal event.

PM Shehbaz thanks Trump for role in finalizing “historic” US-Pakistan trade agreement

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday expressed his gratitude to US President Donald Trump for his role in finalising a “historic” trade agreement between Pakistan and the United States.

“I wish to convey my profound thanks to President Trump for his leadership role in finalization of the historic US-Pakistan trade agreement, successfully concluded by our two sides in Washington, last



night,” the prime minister wrote on his X timeline.

He said that the “landmark” deal would enhance

the bilateral growing cooperation to expand the frontiers of enduring partnership in days to come.

US President Trump announced on his Truth Social account, “We have just concluded a Deal with the Country of Pakistan, whereby Pakistan and the United States will work together on developing their massive Oil Reserves. We are in the process of choosing the Oil Company that will lead this Partnership. Who knows, maybe they'll be selling Oil to India some day.”

Earlier, Trump administration slapped 25% tariff and an unspecified penalty on goods

imported from India starting on Friday.

“We have, over the years, done relatively little business with them (India) because their tariffs are far too high, among the highest in the world, and they have the most strenuous and obnoxious non-monetary trade barriers of any country... India will therefore be paying a tariff of 25%, plus a penalty for the above, starting on August first,” Trump wrote in a separate strongly worded post on his social media platform.

Ombudsman orders removal of K-Electric CEO Moonis Alvi in harassment case

Bureau Report

KARACHI: The Provincial Ombudsman Sindh The Protection against Harassment of Women at the Workplace ordered the removal of K-Electric's Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Syed Moonis Abdullah Alvi, from his position over charges of workplace harassment on Thursday.

According to details the decision comes after a detailed inquiry found Alvi guilty of harassing a senior female executive during her tenure at K-Electric.

The ombudsman has also imposed a fine of Rs 2.5 million on K-Electric CEO Moonis Alvi, which must be paid directly to the complainant, Ms Mahreen Aziz Khan, a resident of DHA Karachi.

Failure to pay will result in the seizure of his property and the blocking of his



CNIC, as per the court's orders. According to the complaint, the



woman was appointed Chief Marketing Officer at K-Electric in 2019.

She alleged that CEO Moonis Alvi persistently pressured her to accompany him for private dinners at night and made inappropriate remarks about her body figure.

Ironically, this development follows K-Electric's official reappointment of Alvi as CEO on July 7, 2025, to take effect from July 30, 2025.

The Board of Directors had unanimously decided to extend his leadership, citing his performance and “future-ready” vision.

Moonis Alvi, who joined K-Electric in 2008 and served as CFO, company secretary, and head of treasury, had been CEO since 2018.

With three decades of financial expertise, he was instrumental in transforming K-Electric into a digital and customer-centric utility.

Saudi Ambassador calls on Nawaz Sharif, CM Maryam

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Saudi Ambassador Nawaf bin Saeed Ahmad Al-Malkiy meets PML-N President Nawaz Sharif and Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz in Lahore on Thursday.

During a meeting, detailed discussions were held on matters of mutual interest, economic cooperation, defense partnership and the unity of the Muslim Ummah.

Both sides agreed to further strengthen the historical, political, economic and defense ties between the two brother countries.

On the occasion Nawaz Sharif and Punjab CM offered best wishes for the health of King Salman bin Abdulaziz and Crown Prince Muhammad

bin Salman.

On the occasion CM Maryam said that the land of Saudi Arabia holds a special spiritual and emotional place in the heart of every Muslim as Saudi Arabia under the leadership of King Salman bin Abdulaziz is the sign of hope, dignity, and development for Ummah. She said relations between Saudi Arabia and Pakistan were based on mutual trust, shared values and long-lived brotherhood.

CM Punjab said relation with Saudi Arabia is the primary pillar of Pakistan's foreign policy, which is consistently strengthening in political, economic and other fields.

CM Punjab also thanked the Saudi Government for hosting 2.5 million Pakistanis living in Saudi Arabia.

NA Speaker stresses stronger Pak-UK parliamentary ties



Chaudhry Tabraiz Aurah

LONDON: National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, underscored the significance of enhanced parliamentary exchanges and technical collaboration in fostering institutional linkages and deepening mutual understanding between Pakistan and the United Kingdom.

He noted that more frequent interactions between the National Assembly of Pakistan and the UK House of Commons are integral to strengthening bilateral cooperation.

He expressed these views during a meeting with Sir Lindsay Hoyle, Speaker of the UK House of Commons, held on the sidelines of the 6th World Conference of

Speakers of Parliament, organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in Geneva on Thursday.

Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq briefed his counterpart on the grave human rights violations in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK), stressing that the continued denial of the right to self-determination for the Kashmiri people remains the foremost obstacle to lasting peace and prosperity in South Asia.

The meeting concluded with both Speakers reaffirming their shared commitment to democratic values and the importance of parliamentary diplomacy in addressing common challenges through sustained dialogue and cooperation.

US sanctions Palestinian Authority officials, PLO members

Reuters

The United States is imposing sanctions on Palestinian Authority officials and members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, saying the groups are undermining peace efforts, the State Department said in a statement on Thursday.

The move prevents those targeted from receiving visas to travel to the United States, the statement said.

“It is in our national security interests to impose consequences and hold the PLO and PA accountable for not complying with their commitments and undermining the prospects for peace.”

71% of Office Workers in Pakistan Anticipate Cyber Attacks

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: One of the core reasons why businesses remain vulnerable to cyberthreats is that they underestimate their risk or overestimate the strength of their existing defences. According to a recent Kaspersky survey entitled “Cybersecurity in the workplace: Employee knowledge and behavior”, 71.3% of professionals surveyed in Pakistan, whose work requires the use of computers, asses the risk of a cybersecurity incident happening to their company as quite possible.

“In today's digital landscape, cybersecurity is a collective responsibility that extends beyond the IT department. Every employee should remain vigilant against evolving threats. Regular cybersecurity training, use of relevant IT solutions, well-defined policies and an incident response plan are essential pillars of organizational cyber resilience. When every team member is informed and prepared, the organization stands stronger against cyber threats,” says Toufic Derbass, Managing Director for the META region at Kaspersky.

To help organizations strengthen their defenses, Kaspersky believes that

employee education and cybersecurity training is necessary as human error is a common cause for cybersecurity breaches. Solutions such as Kaspersky Automated Security Awareness Platform can help with practical cybersecurity skills such as recognizing phishing emails and suspicious links. Upskill cybersecurity teams with Kaspersky online trainings, and with Kaspersky Threat Intelligence. In addition, Kaspersky's Digital Footprint Intelligence can help with monitoring external threats for companies' assets, strengthening defense against credential leaks. Implement robust monitoring and cybersecurity solutions, for example from the Kaspersky Next product line. Encourage employees to report suspicious activity without fear of blame, reward proactive security behaviors to reinforce good habits, for example during phishing simulations.

The survey was conducted by Toluna research agency at the request of Kaspersky in 2025. The study sample included 2800 online interviews with employees and business owners using computers for work in seven countries: Türkiye, South Africa, Kenya, Pakistan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE.