**Barkat Rice Mills** 

NA Speaker lauds armed forces for crushing Fitna al Khawarij in Lower Dir

National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq on Saturday commended the security forces for successfully eliminating ten members of Fitna al Khawarij during an operation in Lower Dir.



**SCBAP** annual election schedule announced, polling on October 16

SCBA Returning Officer Syed Zulfiqar Abbas Naqvi anno the schedule. The last date for clearing life membership/d set for September 16 while the provisional list of eligible

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### prayers of the Martyrs

BANU: Prime Minster of Pakistan Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif along with Field Marshal COAS Syed Asim Munir and others offer the funeral prayers of the martyrs of Pak Army during Banu terrorists attack.



# Afghanistan, choose between Pakistan and Khawarij, says PM Shehbaz

### **Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday said that Afghanistan has been clearly told to "choose between Pakistan and the Khawarij," stressing that Afghan nationals are involved in cross-border terrorism inside Pakistan.

PM Shehbaz and Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir visited Bannu and attended a high-level meeting on counterterrorism.

funeral prayers of 12 Pakistan activities in Pakistan are based in Army martyrs who laid down their lives during an operation against India-backed Fitna al-Khawarij terrorists in South Waziristan.

During the visit, the Corps Commander Peshawar briefed the PM Shehbaz and Field Marshal Asim Munir in detail on the regional security situation.

According to security sources, it was conveyed that the master-

Both leaders also joined the minds and facilitators of terrorist tial. Afghanistan and receive backing from India.

PM Shehbaz reaffirmed that Pakistan's response to terrorism would continue forcefully, leaving no room for ambiguity.

He emphasised that Afghan nationals crossing illegally into Pakistan and engaging in terror activities pose a serious threat, and the urgent repatriation of undocumented Afghans is essen-

Rejecting political exploitation of the issue, the prime minister said the Pakistani nation fully rejects divisive narratives on terrorism.

He warned that "anyone who facilitates or sympathises with Khawarij and India's terror proxies is serving their agenda, and they will be dealt with in the language they deserve."

He added that the people of Pakistan, particularly the resil-

ient communities of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, stand united like a "fortified wall" alongside the state and armed forces against India's proxies.

PM Shehbaz also assured that any required administrative or legal measures to strengthen the fight against terrorism would be implemented immediately.

Earlier, upon PM Shehbaz's arrival in Bannu, Field Marshal Asim Munir received him at the Bannu Cantonment.

# Nation united against terrorism, foreign proxies: PM

### 👺 Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif here on Saturday reaffirmed that the entire nation, along with Pakistan's brave armed forces, stands united against menace of terrorism and foreign-sponsored proxies, particularly those backed by India involved in subversive activities in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The prime minister made these remarks while speaking to the media after visiting Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif the Combined Military Hospital (CMH) in stressed that Pakistan desired for peaceful Fitnatul Khwarij elements.

Bannu, where he inquired about the health of security personnel injured during a recent operation against Fitnatul Khwarij in South Waziristan.

Accompanied by Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir and Corps Commander Peshawar, the Prime Minister praised the courage, high moral and dedication of the injured soldiers, commending their selfless service to the nation.

Addressing the occasion, Prime



relations with all neighboring countries, including Afghanistan. However, he urged the interim Afghan government to make a clear choice between maintaining good ties with Pakistan or continuing to harbor tage peace in Pakistan," he asserted.

"The banned TTP and Fitntaul Khwarij are responsible for attacks on innocent civilians and our security forces. Such hostile forces will not be allowed to sabo-

 $Continued\ on\ Page\ 7$ 

### B Qayoum Sarohi

HYDERABAD: After causing devastation in Punjab, the floods have now hit Sindh, bringing destruction in their wake, authorities said on Saturday.

Due to the rising water levels in the Indus River, dozens of villages in upper Sindh's katcha areas have been inundated, forcing residents to begin relocating on their own

# Dozens of villages submerged in Sindh, crops destroyed

in the absence of official machinery. In Ghotki, more than 20 villages in the katcha region are now underwater.

dozens of villages.

In Naushahro Feroze, the water level continued to rise, causing the zamindara

 $Se same\ and\ sugarcane\ crops\ have\ been$ completely destroyed in floodwaters, which also forced residents to stay in their homes. A deluge of 350,000 cusecs was

embankment to collapse, submerging

currently passing through Naushahro

In Kandhkot, nearly 80% of the katcha areas have been submerged. Residents of the affected regions complained about the absence of administration officials to launch rescue operations.

Many residents were forced to pay private boat owners thousands of rupees per person to evacuate from the flooded

### 35 Indian-sponsored terrorists killed in two **KP operations: ISPR**

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The security forces killed 35 terrorists affiliated to the Indian proxy group Fitna Al Khwarij in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in two separate operations between September

According to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), security forces conducted an intelligence-based operation in Bajaur after receiving reports about the presence of militants.

During the operation, the hideout was effectively targeted, and 22 militants operating under Indian patronage were killed in a heavy exchange of fire.

The ISPR stated that security forces also carried out Waziristan, where 13 more militants were neutralised.



However, during an intense fire exchange, 12 brave soldiers of the motherland were martvred.

According to the ISPR, the slain militants were involved in various terrorist activities. Weapons and ammunition were recovered from their possession.

Intelligence reports have confirmed the involvement another operation in South of Afghan nationals in these heinous acts, the ISPR added. Continued on Page 7

# PM commends security forces for eliminating 35 Fitna al Khwarij terrorists

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister rity forces for eliminating 35 with the bereaved families. Fitna al Khwarii terrorists in He said in the fight again two different operations in terrorism, the security forces District Bajaur and District South Waziristan.

The prime minister paid tribute to them. tribute to twelve security forces Jawans who fought with bravery and embraced martyrdom while fighting the

terrorists, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

The prime minister prayed Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif for the high ranks of Shuhada on Saturday lauded the secu- and expressed his condolences

were standing like solid rock and the entire nation paid

The prime minister also reiterated the resolve to eradicate terrorism of all kinds from the country.

### Death toll in Punjab floods rises to 100, over 4.57m people affected

跨 Bureau Report

LAHORE: The death toll from various flood-related incidents in Punjab has risen to 100, the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA), Punjab, said in a report on Saturday.

Detailing the damage caused by floods in Punjab, the PDMA Dam is 93% full, while Tarbela report said that 4.57 million Dam has reached 100% people and over 4,700 villages in Punjab have been affected.

According to Punjab Relief Commissioner Nabeel Javed, 2.512 million people and over Thein Dam is at 89% capacity.

2.019 million livestock have been relocated to safer areas from the affected regions. In the flood-hit districts,

authorities have also estab-

lished 392 relief camps, 493 medical camps, and 422 veterinary camps The Relief Commissioner further stated that Mangla

capacity. In India, the Bhakra Dam on the Sutlej River is 88% full, Pong Dam is 94% full, and

# Ishaq Dar to attend OIC foreign ministers meeting in Doha today

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Ishaq Dar will attend the OIC Council of Foreign

Ministers meeting scheduled to take place tomorrow (Sunday) in Doha.

Sources said that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is also expected to participate in the Arab-Islamic Summit to be held the day after tomorrow in

Preparations for Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar's visit finalised. The meeting of Islamic and Arab foreign ministers will review the

to Qatar have been

situation following the recent Israeli attacks on Qatar. Dar is expected to express

strong solidarity and support for Qatar. The meeting will include a

strong condemnation of the recent Israeli aggression, and participating foreign ministers from Muslim and Arab countries will deliberate on a joint strategy to counter Israeli

### **A Special Message**

# AJK Minister Pir Mazhar departs for Gaza on humanitarian mission

#### **Spokesman Report:**

TUNISIA/ RAWALPINDI: The AJk Information Minister Peer Seyad message from Tunisia coast while giving gesture solidarity with the People Gaza Palestine He said to his lovers one and the people of Kashmir that

Till today you have been supporting us safely, God willing. politically for a special purpose. Now we are on a special journey.

Your support in this is very impor-

a social media campaign, I request all my friends and all my companions that those who supported us in the polit-Mazhar Saeed Shah has issued special ical campaign should also support this campaign. Just do not write me as a minister in it, write me as a member of the assembly of Azad Kashmir. There is a special interest in this, we will explain I hope all the companions are well. it to you on our return. If we return

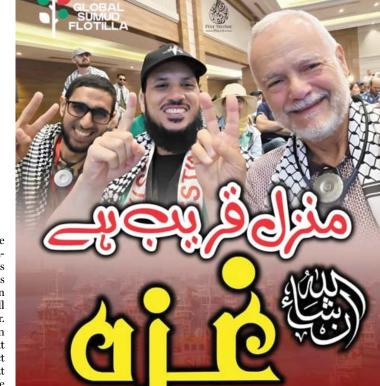
We may have three chances: either we will be martyred or, God willing, we will reach Gaza as victors, God tant and it is the duty of all of us that willing, with supplies and aid. The among the people. Alhamdulillah, then

you can join this caravan. By running let us go at all, stop us on the way and send us back. The fourth option may be that, God forbid, they will arrest us. In any case, you have to stay with us, support us in any case, and make this campaign of ours a goal of your life in the future every year, so that you too can participate in the purposeful and great caravan.

So the request is that any of these four situations occur and as long as we are walking in this convoy, we should launch a campaign in a full-fledged manner so that awareness is created we are participating in this caravan, so third option may be that they will not Alhamdulillah. Here I am also talking and supporter and may you all be the pray for us daily and also surround us of the enemies.

to everyone about the Kashmir issue and we have talked to Turkish parliamentarians, French parliamentarians and other people. The parliamentarians have assured us that, God willing, upon our return from this flotilla, we will launch a similar campaign for Kashmir. All my colleagues are participating in this with courage and it may be that after that, if I do not receive any direct message from you, it will not mean that I have gone away from you people. We are with you people and you are with us in this convoy...

May Allah Almighty be my supporter



with this campaign, you should also Almighty protect us from all the evils

supporter and supporter and along by reciting Ayatul Kursi. May Allah

### Inauguration

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister Syed Imran Ahmed Shah inaugurated the newly established Sheikh Abdul Qadir Jillani Research Institute (SAJRI) in Rawat on Saturday.



### Floods ruin South Punjab's economy: Jahangir Tareen

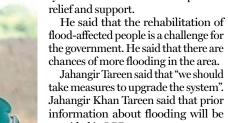
### 

MULTAN: Renowned businessman Jahangir Khan Tareen on Saturday said that recent floods have ruined economy of South Punjab, as all the communication systems are completely in disarray.

Jahangir Tareen expressed these views while talking with different delegations in Lodhran. Later, he left for Khanwah Ghulwan by helicopter.

On his arrival, he was warmly received by former tehsil nazim Irshad Abbas Ghullu and his brother Nadeem Abbas.

Heavy contingents of police were present to perform their security duty. the people of flood-affected areas.



PML-N will get two-thirds majority in the upcoming legislative

provided in LPP. He said, "I forbid politics, I need no votes and will not ask for anyone to vote". Jahangir Tareen said that "my

responsibility to correct the derailed

system". He assured them of all possible

team supervised relief work in Khyber Pukhtonkhwa (KP).

### RPO Babar Sarfaraz Alpa and DPO Sardar Mavarhan Khan hold open court in Fateh Jang

👺 Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: Regional Police Officer (RPO) Rawalpindi Region Babar Sarfaraz Alpa and District Police Officer (DPO) Attock Sardar Mavarhan Khan organized an open court at the TMA Hall, Fateh Jang, under the open-door policy of the Punjab Government.

During the session, citizens submitted their written applications. The RPO issued directives on all complaints and instructed the concerned officers to submit reports within the given timeframe.

Speaking on the occasion, RPO Babar Sarfaraz Alpa said that ensuring the provision of justice to citizens without discrimination and delay is among the top priorities of the police, and all possible measures are being taken in this regard.

### Police force is fully capable of dealing with all kinds of situations: RPO Malakand

### **Bureau Report**

SWAT: Regional Police Officer Malakand Division Sher Akbar Khan has said that the police force is fully capable of dealing with all kinds of situations and all possible steps are being taken to protect the lives and property of the people. He said that police patrols have been



increased in the upper areas of Swat to further stabilize the law and order situation. He expressed these views while talking to journalists in his office yesterday. RPO Sher Akbar Khan said that maintaining law and order in the area is the top priority of the police and for this purpose the force is being equipped with modern training, resources and strategies He said that in the current situation the police force is not only alert but also ready to deal with any unusual situation. Terming public cooperation as key in establishing peace, he appealed to the citizens to immediately report suspicious activities to the police so that timely action can be taken. The RPO further said that the police force is active day and night to restore peace in Swat and Malakand division and coordinated steps are being taken to thwart any kind of mischievous act.

# Man files petition in LHC to ban Facebook and TikTok for children

Bureau Report

LAHORE: A Lahore man, Azam Butt Saturday filed a petition in the High Court to prevent minors from using social media, In the petition, where the Federal Government, Pakistan Telecommunication Authority and other concerned institutions were made parties, it was stated that the children are exposed to inappropriate content using Facebook and TikTok and it has a very negative impact on their education.

It was also stated that due to these platforms exposing minors to such content, they are being involved in immoral activities. The petitioner stated that there is a ban imposed on such platforms for the minors in developed countries but PTA has not yet taken any such action putting the children's future at risk. It was requested that the court orders legislation banning the use of Facebook and TikTok for minors.

#### Jahangir Khan Tareen held talks with Jahangir Khan Tareen said that "we Lodhran Pilot Project (LPP) Dr. Abdul fected people. rescued four thousand flood-affected Jahangir Tareen said, "This is our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Saboor, briefed him about the flood-afpeople to safe locations".

### 👺 Bureau Report

NEELUM: PML-N, the largest political force in Azad Kashmir, will form the government by securing a two-thirds majority in the upcoming Legislative Asse mbly elections. Political rivals are fleeing the field even before the elections.

They will start a new era of development in Azad Kashmir. PML-N President, Azad Kashmir Member of Assembly, former Speaker Shah Ghulam Qadir, while addressing a public meeting in Constituency L-26 Kundal Shahi, said that the development work of PML-N in Azad Kashmir is incomplete where it was left. The people have been left at the mercy of circumstances.

of the government, all sectors are badly affected. The people are once again looking towards PML-N. It Qureshi, Raghib Farid Qureshi, has decided in principle to contest elections in both constituencies of Neelum Valley. Traditional poli-

tics has disappointed the people. PML-N believes in the politics of serving the people.

If the development works of PML-N Mian Nawaz Sharif, Mian Shahbaz Sharif, Maryam Nawaz Sharif in Pakistan and Azad Kashmir are removed, ruins will be left behind. When it comes to the interests of the people of Azad Kashmir, the PPP and the Sindh government oppose it. Happiness is knocking on the doorsteps of the people. At the ceremony, hundreds of people led by Naveed Iqbal Qureshi, Iqbal Akhtar Naeemi, Ghulam Rasool Qureshi bid farewell to the PPP and PTI. Sabir Ali Qureshi, Sultan Mahmood, Azhar Mahmood, Owais Mahmood, Sultan Zakir, Mazhar Farid, Mansoor Qureshi, Due to the mismanagement Asad Qureshi, Ilyas Qureshi, Asad Qureshi, Sultan Mehboob Ahmed Qureshi, Marghub Ahmed Sultan Tariq Qureshi, Saad Qureshi, Haris Qureshi, Hasnat Qureshi, Faizan Zakir Qureshi,



assembly elections: Shah Ghulam Qadir

Abdul Rehman Qureshi, Shabbir Hussain Qureshi, Naseer Qureshi, Qari Abdul Quddus Qureshi, Naveed Qureshi, Mustanir Qureshi, Barkatullah Qureshi, Muhammad Aslam Qureshi, Waqar Qureshi, Azkar Qureshi, Nazir Qureshi, Khayyam Qureshi, Kashif Qureshi, Hameeduddin Qureshi, Nafees Iqbal Qureshi, Iqbal Akhtar Naeemi, Shabbir Qureshi, Qari Munir Hussain, Arwaq, Aitesam Qureshi, Zohaib Qureshi, Suhaib Qureshi, Saad Hussain, Baitullah Qureshi, Aimal Qureshi, Aqdas Qureshi, Shahab Qureshi, Faizan Qureshi, Muhammad Inam, Muhammad Adnan Rabbani, Muhammad Shafi. Hanan Shafi, Zafar Iqbal, Ahmed Zafar, Muhammad Ali, Tauseef Tariq, Allah Dad Siddiqui, Wali Dad Siddiqui, Rehan Qureshi, Abdul Rashid Qureshi, Shahid Qureshi, Ulfat Qureshi, Kifayat Qureshi, Liaquat Qureshi, Rauf Qureshi, Ghulam Yasin, Nazir Qureshi, Bashir Qureshi, Adnan Qureshi, Ehtesham Ulfat, Waqar Rauf, Usman Liaquat,

Talha Liaquat, Zardar Qureshi. Naseer Qureshi, Muhammad Ayub, Anis Qureshi, Idrees Qureshi, Moin Qureshi, Mateen Qureshi, Hasnain Ayub, Hasnain Raza, Saqlain Raza, Sibtain Raza, Hassan Raza, Hasnat Qureshi, Muhammad Rizwan Raza, Sharifullah Qureshi, Mazhar Qureshi, Moeed Qureshi, Mufid Qureshi, Manzoor-e Qureshi, Amin Qureshi, While the family of Haji Muhammad Yousuf (deceased) from Kundal Shahi Dhanna announced to leave the PPP and

PT and join the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N). The new members include Ghulam Hassan Qureshi, Inayatullah Qureshi, Ghulam Din Qureshi, Nematullah Qureshi, Javed Iqbal Qureshi, Qalam Din Qureshi, Qureshi, Safir Ahmed Qureshi, Naseer Ahmed Qureshi, Irshad Hussain Qureshi, Mazhar Iqbal Qureshi, Amjad Iqbal Qureshi, Hussain Qureshi, Abdul Shakoor

Zubair Iqbal Qureshi, Aqib Javed Qureshi, Jamshed Igbal Qureshi, Chirag Din Qureshi, Salam Din Qureshi, Siraj Din Qureshi, Asrar Din Qureshi, Abdul Majid Qureshi, Umair Iqbal Qureshi, Siddiq Ahmed Qureshi, Sudhir Qureshi, Munir Qureshi, Zameer Qureshi, Sajid Qureshi, Wasim Qureshi, Sameer Qureshi, Idrees Qureshi, Ahmed Raza Qureshi, Nabeel Ahmed Qureshi, Ahsan Raza Qureshi., Anas Raza Qureshi, Muhammad Dawood Qureshi, Aqeel Ahmed Qureshi, Shahzad Ahmed Qureshi, Adeel Hussain Qureshi and others have joined the Pakistan Muslim League-N. On this occasion, former government minister Mustafa Bashir, Alif Din Qureshi, Rahimullah former special assistant Khawaia Qureshi, Maroof Hussain Bashir Ahmed, District President Arsal Khan Siddiqui, Ranan Ansir Ahmed, Muhammad Nawaz Awan, former assembly candidate Raja Bashir Khan and a large Iftikhar Ahmed Qureshi, Mumtaz number of PML-N workers and elders of the area were present.

Qureshi, Abdul Manan Qureshi,





# **Namaz Timings** Maghrib

EMERGENCY
Rescue (Police) 15
Bomb Disposal 15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/
Islamabad1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance 1122 &
& Rescue Services 4451122
Motorway Police9266044
Motorway Police 9270601-20
Warran Balles

#### Women Police **Stations**

21411111		
Islamabad 922259	16	
Rawalpindi 9270601-2	20	

ENQUIKY		
Edhi Ambulance	115	
PIA Flight Info	114	
PIA Cargo	9280979	
Railway Inquiry	117	
Railway Exchange .	9270831-5	
WASA Rawalpindi .	5555489	
C A A	0201002	

### HOSPITALS

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

#### **DEPARTMENTS**

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

#### **COMPLAINTS**

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

Senior *Minister Marriyum* Aurangzeb Reached Flood-Affected Area of Älipur



Bureau Report

LAHORE: On Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif's directions, Senior Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb reached flood-affected area of Alipur. She reached Lati Mari and Saitpur late night on an emergency visit, and noted that several villages were affected by severe flood in Alipur. Administration was busy providing relief activities to the victims, as the evacuation operation was underway under the supervision of Madam Senior Minister,. Rafts were also being used for safe evacuation from remote areas of Alipur. She also monitored the provision of food and ration to the flood victims, and would herself go to Saitpur with tents and other equipment for the rescued flood-affected people.

# Lower Dir operation: 10 Indian-sponsored terrorists killed, seven soldiers martyred

#### Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Security forces conducted a major intelligence-based operation (IBO) in Lal Qilla Maidan, Lower Dir, on September 11, killing 10 Indian-sponsored terrorists belonging to Fitna al-Khawarij.

Seven soldiers of Pakistan Army embraced martyrdom while fighting gallantly to rescue civilians held hostage by the militants, according to Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR).

The operation was launched on credible intelligence that terrorists were hiding in the area. As the forces encircled their hideout, intense exchange of fire ensued, leading to the elimination of 10 Khawarij.

Weapons and large quantities of ammunition were recovered from the

Naik Abdul Jalil, Naik Gul Jan, Lance ISPR said in a statement.

Naik Azmat Ullah, Sepoy Abdul Malik, Sepoy Muhammad Amjad, Sepoy Muhammad Dawood, and Sepoy Fazal Qayyum.

ISPR paid tribute to their supreme sacrifice, noting that they laid down their lives to protect innocent civilians from the clutches of terrorists.

Intelligence reports confirmed that Afghan nationals were involved in facilitating the terror network. Pakistan has urged the interim Afghan government to fulfil its commitments and ensure Afghan soil is not used for terrorism against Pakistan.

"Sanitisation operation is being conducted to eliminate any other Indian sponsored Kharji found in the area, as the security forces of Pakistan are determined to wipe out the menace of Indian-sponsored terrorism from the country and such sacrifices of our brave The martyrs have been identified as men further strengthen our resolve,



### Trail 5 reopen

ISLAMABAD: Families visit the Trail 05 on Margalla Hills after reopening as it was closed from 2 weeks for people due to the flood condition warning by Weather Forecasters, in Federal Capital.



## Every one of our soldiers possesses like Major Adnan Aslam, says Chaudhry Inaam Zafar

### 👺 City Desk

RAWALPINDI: Political and social leader Chaudhry Inaam Zafar paid tribute to the Pakistan Armed Forces for their successful counter-operations against anti-state elements. He stated that the enemy must understand that every Pakistani soldier is fully capable of displaying the same courage and bravery as Major Adnan Aslam. "We stand with the grieving families of the twelve martyred soldiers," he added. "Awaam Pakistan, alongside their armed forces, will bravely face every attack from hostile elements."



Pakhtunkhwa and strongly Chaudhry Inaam Zafar also condemned India's cowardly inated. "This strike is enough to

their successful operations the military operations, 35 in various areas of Khyber terrorists from the group "Fitna-e-Hindustan" were elimpraised the security forces for actions. He said that during send a message to the enemy.

India must rein in its malicious agenda. If the enemy continues its conspiracies, our forces will

uproot them completely." He reiterated that every Pakistani soldier possesses the full potential for bravery and courage, just like (Shaheed) Major Adnan Aslam. "The way Major Adnan Aslam embraced martyrdom while protecting his comrades and fearlessly confronting enemy attacks has created a new chapter in history. His martyrdom is an irreparable loss. We salute his

He also noted that, according to ISPR, the use of Afghan soil against Pakistan is a serious concern, and Awaam Pakistan strongly condemn it.



ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Myanmar to Pakistan H.E.Wunna Han and H.E Ammad Rasheed Honorary Consul of the Republic of Tunisia in KPK posing for a photo during a dinner hosted by Additional Foreign Secretary Ambassador Hamid

### Mobile Association distribute cooked food in Flood victims

### **Zafar Chishti**

TOBA TEK SINGH: According to the Details, Officials of Kamalia Tajer Ethaad visited the flood affected area of 733 GB, where even after so many days, the roads are still covered in 4 to 5 feet of water. The Mobile Association affiliated with Kamalia Tajer Ethaad along with Ch. Kamran Ahmad Nusrat distributed cooked food juice packets and water bottles to more than 400 Flood victims. On this occasion, the Patron-in-Chief of Kamalia Tajer Ethaad Chaudhry Kamran Ahmad Nusrat, said that the flood victims are our brothers and it is our moral duty to take



care of them. He further said that Kamalia Tajer Ethaad has always served the people selflessly and Inshallah, this service will continue. The Tajer Ethaad is helping the flood victims on a daily basis. The service will continue until the flood victims return to their homes. Chaudhry Kamran Ahmad Nusrat said that I am also grateful to the district administration, which took timely action and shifted the flood

# JICA and Punjab Government Maternal and Newborn Healthcare in Southern Punjab

### **Example 2** Commerce Desk

LAHORE: The Japan Internain collaboration with the Governservices for mothers and newborns are trained through the project. in the districts of Multan, Khanewal and Vehari.

programs, infrastructure improvement, essential medical equipment tional Cooperation Agency (JICA), provision and clinical training for frontline health workers. 57 Medical ment of Punjab, has successful- Officers, 226 Skilled Birth attendly advanced its flagship initiative, ants (LHVs/Midwives), 249 Lady "Project for Strengthening Maternal Health Supervisors, 1108 Lady Health and Newborn Healthcare in Punjab", Workers, 85 District Supervisors and focused on enhancing healthcare 9 Data analyst in the target districts

From September 9-12, 2025, a review mission comprising JICA Launched in December 2021, officials and members of the project's significant strides have been made Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) in expanding access to quality health- was conducted. The delegation partic-

care through capacity-building ipated in a JCC meeting and project dissemination seminar in Lahore, followed by site visits to key project locations in Multan and Khanewal.

During the visit, officials expressed strong satisfaction with the progress of the project, noting its effectiveness in addressing critical healthcare gaps for women and newborns. The delegation observed live on-the-job training sessions for 20 Lady Health Workers and 02 Lady Health Visitors, Health promotion sessions in communities at Basic Health Unit (BHU) Mari Sahu, Tehsil Kabirwala, District Khanewal.



to enhancing the visibility of the around maternal and newborn health. in other regions of Pakistan.

Both JICA and the Punjab govern- Maternal and Newborn Healthcare The project's progress is expected to ment reaffirmed their commitment project and raising public awareness serve as a model for similar initiatives

Sunday, September 14, 2025

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### **UN General Assembly** endorses New York **Declaration**

he UN General Assembly Friday endorsed by a large majority of votes a declaration on the peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine and implementation of the two-State solution with Israel, with Pakistan calling it a "timely" initiative that seeks to breathe new life into the peace process.

The New York Declaration is the outcome of an international conference held in July at UN Headquarters, organized by France and Saudi Arabia, which resumes later this month.

The General Assembly comprises all 193 UN Member States and 142 countries voted in favour of a resolution backing the document.

Israel voted against it, alongside nine other countries – Argentina, Hungary, Micronesia, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Tonga and the United States – while 12 nations abstained.

Prior to the vote, French Ambassador Jerome Bonnafont recalled that the New York Declaration "lays out a single roadmap to deliver the two-State solution"

This involves an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, release of all hostages held there, and the establishment of a Palestinian State that is both

The roadmap further calls for the disarmament of Hamas and its exclusion from governance in Gaza, normalization between Israel and the Arab countries, as well as collective security guarantees.

Speaking ahead of the vote, Israeli Ambassador Danny Danon said that "this one-sided Declaration will not be remembered as a step toward peace, only as another hollow gesture that weakens this Assembly's credibility.'

He claimed that "Hamas is the biggest winner of any endorsement here today" and will declare it "the fruit of 7 October".

The high-level international conference in July was held against the backdrop of the war in Gaza and deteriorating prospects for the two-

In remarks to the opening segment, UN Secretary-General António Guterres noted that "the central question for Middle East peace is implementation of the two-State solution, where two independent, sovereign, democratic States - Israel and Palestine - live side-by-side in peace and security.'

Explaining his vote, Ambassador Asim Iftikhar Ahmad, permanent representative of Pakistan to the UN, said Friday's endorsement reflects Islamabad's commitment to the realization of a just and lasting peace.

Pakistan, he said, strongly condemns the ongoing Israeli aggression in Gaza, which has claimed the lives of over 64,000 people. The relentless destruction of homes, schools, hospitals, and other civilian infrastructure constituted a grave violation of international humanitarian

law and has inflicted untold suffering on the Palestinian people. "Equally alarming are the continued attempts by the occupier to expand illegal settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in flagrant defiance of international law and relevant Security Council reso-

lutions, the Pakistani envoy said. These actions not only exacerbate the humanitarian catastrophe but are also an attempt to undermine the prospects for a two-State solu-

Ambassador Asim Iftikhar Ahmad called for an immediate, unconditional and permanent ceasefire across Gaza and all occupied Palestinian Territories; a full and unimpeded humanitarian access to the besieged and starved Palestinian population," he said, emphasizing that the occupation must end.

In conclusion, he called for translating the international commitments into concrete actions, advancing the long-overdue realization of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and statehood.

# Netanyahu; Hitler Reborn

of history's darkest chapters — a crime against humanity that rightly haunts the conscience of the world. Denying or minimizing it is itself a crime in many countries, because it represented the systematic attempt to wipe out an entire people. Every year in France, I attended commemorations at the Grand Mosque of Paris where stories were told of the mosque's imam and caretaker risking communities. their lives to hide Jewish families from Nazi persecution. These events reminded us that, at their best, Muslims welcomed Jews with open hearts, offering them land, orchards, homes, and safety when they had none.

It is against this moral backdrop that we must examine Israel's current actions in Gaza and the West Bank. Just as the Holocaust was condemned as barbaric and inhuman, the wholesale destruction of Palestinian life and society today demands the same universal condemnation. To call one crime against humanity intolerable while excusing another is hypocrisy that cannot stand.

Since its inception, Israel has rarely known peace with its neighbors. Syria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Sudan, and now Qatar — the list of countries drawn into conflict with Israel is long. Even nations without direct borders with Israel have found themselves entangled in disputes. Israel insists that it is the "chosen people" reclaiming land promised by God. Yet, year after year, as its military might grows with U.S. backing, Israel expands its borders, seizes more Palestinian land, and drives more families into exile.

What was once a narrow strip of conflict has become a permanent state of war. The world is witnessing the steady annihilation of Gaza and the West Bank. Entire neighborhoods are being reduced to rubble, hospitals flattened, churches and schools destroyed, and journalists deliberately targeted. Two U.S. senators

Bank and confirmed what Palestinians have long said: this is not simply a war eignty. Yet condemnation alone carries on Hamas. This is a war on an entire no consequence. As long as the United people — on civilians, children, women, the elderly, and all who remain in their financially, sanctions, embargoes, and ancestral homeland.

Gaza City, Khan Younis, Rafah, Jenin, Nablus — these names once stood for vibrant they are synonymous with devastation. Satellite images reveal entire blocks leveled. The death toll has climbed into the tens of thousands, with

thousands of children among the victims. Malnutrition and disease spread through overcrowded shelters where water is scarce and medicine nonexistent.

**Qamar Bashir** 

Israel claims it is fighting terrorism, but its bombs fall on bakeries, schools, mosques, and even Christian churches. If Hamas were the sole target, why are children starving? Why are doctors performing surgeries without anesthesia? Why are journalists wearing press vests still being killed? These are not accidents; they are the deliberate use of overwhelming force to erase a population and make life unlivable for those who survive.

The recent Israeli strike in Doha, Qatar. marks another dangerous escalation. Qatar hosts one of the largest U.S. military bases in the region, yet even that did not shield it from Israeli aggression. By striking Doha, Israel not only violated Qatari sovereignty but also humiliated its American ally, whose intelligence and military coordination made the attack possible. The strike killed civilians of multiple nationalities and sent a chilling message: no country is beyond Israel's

European leaders, including the President of the European Commission, the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, as barbaric because it sought to erase a

condemned this blatant violation of sover-States shields Israel diplomatically and accountability measures remain empty threats.

Israel's obsession with Iran further exposes its expansionist ambitions. Netanyahu and his allies have spent years warning of an Iranian nuclear bomb, yet no credible evidence has ever proven Iran was building one. Even

if it had, many nations possess nuclear weapons without being attacked. Iran, unlike others, has never committed acts of terrorism on American soil. Its people have suffered sanctions, isolation, and threats because Israel insists on framing it as an existential menace.

When Israeli and American defense officials congratulated each other after striking Iran's facilities, they did so without proof, without justification, and without remorse. Once again, the goal was not security but dominance to weaken a regional rival and preserve Israel's military superiority at any cost.

The pattern is clear. Israel wages war after war, reduces entire cities to rubble, kills civilians by the tens of thousands, and yet faces no real consequences. The United States, its closest ally, provides diplomatic cover at the United Nations, blocks accountability at the International Criminal Court, and funds its military with billions annually. Israel acts with impunity because it believes itself untouchable — a nation beyond the law.

But history teaches us that crimes against humanity cannot be excused by claims of divine promise or national security. The Holocaust was condemned

he Holocaust remains one recently returned from Gaza and the West and the Prime Minister of Spain, have people. Today, the world watches as Palestinians face the same erasure, and silence is complicity.

To compare Israel's current actions with the Holocaust is not to diminish the suffering of Jews in Europe. On the contrary, it is to insist on moral consistency. If we rightly condemn the Nazis for slaughtering millions, then we must also condemn the slaughter of Palestinians. Crimes against humanity are crimes, no matter the perpetrator, no matter the

Israel's leaders claim divine right to occupy and expand. But religion cannot excuse barbarism. Military might cannot justify the starvation of children. Political alliances cannot erase the moral stain of mass displacement. If the Holocaust was humanity's warning that "never again" should such atrocities occur, then Gaza and the West Bank are humanity's test — a test we are failing.

The Holocaust remains an undeniable crime, a stain on history. But today, Israel's destruction of Gaza and the West Bank echoes that same barbarity. To call one wrong while excusing the other is hypocrisy that corrodes the very idea of human rights. Whether the victims are Jewish, Muslim, Christian, or any other faith, their humanity is equal. Their suffering is equal. Their right to live free from annihilation is equal.

Israel must be held accountable for its actions, just as the Nazis were. International law, global conscience, and simple human decency demand it. If we fail to condemn Israel's crimes with the same force as we condemn the Holocaust, then "never again" becomes meaningless words. The world owes Palestinians and itself — better.

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



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

# Foreign Investment: A Catalyst for Pakistan's Economic Revival

role in the economic development of nations across the globe. For Pakihas become a key strategy to revitalize its economy and fuel growth. The influx ously underfunded or overlooked by domestic of foreign funds not only injects capital into the country but also brings in new technologies, development of new industries, the expansion of

significance of foreign investment as a catalyst for Pakistan's economic revival examining how such investments can drive growth, create jobs, boost exports and improve infrastructure.

Foreign direct investment (FDI) contributes significantly to Pakistan's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and economic growth. FDI inflows have

steadily increased in recent years, indicating and best practices in various fields. This knowlgrowing investor confidence in the country's potential. FDI brings in capital that can be used for infrastructure development, manufacturing expansion and other key sectors helping to stimulate economic activity to create a multiplier effect on the overall economy.

Dr. Muhammad Shahzad Ashfaq

One of the key benefits of foreign investment is the improvement of infrastructure in Pakistan. Foreign investors often collaborate with the government to develop critical infrastructure projects such as roads, ports and power plants. These investments not only improve the overall business environment but also create long-term benefits for the economy by enhancing connectivity, reducing logistic costs and attracting more investors to the country.

Foreign direct investment (FDI) plays a crucial role in Pakistan's economic development by providing much-needed capital, technology and expertise. FDI inflows are instrumental in

productivity and enhancing competitiveness in the global market. One of the key advantages of stan, attracting foreign investment attracting foreign investment is the infusion of capital into sectors that may have been previinvestors. This injection of funds can lead to the managerial expertise, and market access. The existing businesses or the creation of job oppor-

tunities for the local workforce. Moreover, foreign investment brings with it advancements in technology and management practices that can catalyze growth and innovation within domestic industries. By partnering with foreign companies, Pakistani firms can gain access to stateof-the-art technology, research

and development capabilities, edge transfer not only enhances the quality of products and services but also fosters a culture of continuous learning and improvement within the domestic business environment.

Another significant benefit of attracting foreign investment is the potential for increasing exports and improving the balance of trade. Foreign investors may choose to set up export-oriented ventures in Pakistan leveraging the country's competitive advantages such as low labor costs and strategic geographic location. This can lead to a boost in export earnings a reduction in trade deficits and an overall increase in foreign exchange reserves. Additionally by integrating with global value chains through foreign investment, Pakistan can enhance its economic linkages with other countries and diversify its export markets, reducing dependency on a limited number of trading partners. Foreign investment serves as a crucial cata-

oreign investment plays a crucial jumpstarting economic activities, improving lyst for Pakistan's economic revival by boosting GDP, creating jobs, enhancing skills, promoting exports, and improving infrastructure. As Pakistan continues to attract foreign investment. policymakers must create a conducive environment that fosters investor confidence, streamlines regulations, and promotes transparency. Leveraging foreign investment effectively, Pakistan can unlock its economic potential, drive sustainable growth, and build a competitive economy in the global arena.

Furthermore, foreign investment sustainable development in Pak that offer sound infrastructure, efficient logistics networks, and reliable utilities. Channeling foreign investment into infrastructure projects such as transportation, energy and telecommunications, Pakistan can improve its business environment, attract more investors, and support long-term economic growth. Investments in renewable energy, sustainable agriculture and environmentally friendly initiatives can contribute to the country's efforts towards achieving sustainable development goals to mitigating climate

change impacts. Pakistan, like many developing countries, recognizes the immense potential foreign investment holds in revitalizing its economy and fostering sustainable growth. In recent years, Pakistan has increasingly focused on attracting foreign direct investment (FDI) as a key strategy to boost various sectors, create employment opportunities that enhance technological advancements. The country's efforts to attract foreign investment have been driven by a desire to strengthen its economic foundations improve infrastructure and diversify its industrial base.

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### When Marbles Rolled and **Gulli Took Flight**

Qudrat Ullah

city neighborhoods, native games like mulakhra wrestling in Sindh, gulli-danda, bandar killa, bantay, pittu garm, kite-flying, kabaddi, stapoo, kokla chhapaki, aankh macholi, ludo, and carrom board are now fading into memory. Urbanization, technology, and shifting aspirations have pushed them aside. Yet these simple pastimes carried within them the spirit of

community, culture, and joy -a heritage now at risk of being forgotten.

Afternoons once rang with the shouts of children in the streets and open grounds. Boys, pockets full of bantay, waited eagerly for their turn, while others struck a gulli with a danda, sending it soaring. In Sindh, villagers watched

Girls drew stapoo squares on dusty ground, hopping amidst laughter. In cities, ludo and Families occasionally revive ludo and carrom at carrom boards turned afternoons and power outages into arenas of rivalry and delight. For girls, the decline was sharper still. In

earlier days, village lanes and courtvards gave them freedom to play stapoo or rope skipping etc. With urban sprawl and stricter social restrictions, these societal outlets have vanished. Today, few girls know the thrill of hopping across stapoo squares drawn in chalk or laughing with friends as they stumble on a line. The loss is not just of a game but of companionship, confidence, and physical expression.

The commercialization of sports played its role too. Modern games thrive on sponsorships, televised leagues, and merchandise, while local ones, rooted in community spirit, cannot adapt. Though kabaddi has seen formal leagues and mulakhra still draws crowds during Sindh festivals, these remain rare exceptions. The ordinary

nce the lifeblood of villages and sight of children crouched over marbles, chasing a gulli down a lane, or families battling over ludo has become nostalgic rather than normal.

This disappearance is not merely about entertainment. It is about losing culture, identity, and community. These games were bridges across generations. A grandfather could teach his grandson how to aim a marble, or a mother could show her daughter the rhythm of stapoo. Uncles revealed ludo tricks, while cousins fought joyfully

over carrom coins. They were shared rituals, binding young and old in the same language of play. Their absence has left behind a silence that no video game or imported sport can truly replace.

Yet hope remains. In some rural areas, kabaddi and mulakhra still attract crowds, especially during harvest festi-

mulakhra bouts-contests of pride and honor. vals. In some areas, a few children still clutch marbles or sketch stapoo grids on the ground. gatherings, the laughter around them echoing with the warmth of old times. These sparks suggest that revival is possible—but it requires a conscious choice. We must recognize that these games are not backward relics but cultural treasures, carrying within them the heartbeat of the land.

The story of desi sports in the subcontinent is, ultimately, a story of memory and belonging. If neglected, gulli-danda, bantay, ludo, and carrom will survive only as fading tales told by grandparents. But if cherished, they can, once again, fill our afternoons with laughter and the joyous chaos of play. In an age of digital isolation, reviving these games is not just about preserving heritage-it is about giving our children back the freedom to run, to compete, and to belong.

> The writer is a Lahore-based public policy analyst and can be reached at qudratu@ gmail.com

# IMF says Pakistan's flood spending, budget agility to be reviewed

Islamabad: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) expressed deep condolences on Saturday for the loss of life caused by devastating floods in the country and said its upcoming Extended Fund Facility (EFF) review mission will evaluate whether the government's fiscal policies and emergency provisions can effectively address the crisis, a senior official of the Washington-based lender said.

IMF mission will assess whether the FY26 budget, its spending allocations and emergency provisions remain sufficiently agile to address the spending needs necessitated by the floods, said Mahir Binici, the IMF's resident representative in Pakistan.

The flash floods have killed 972 people so far, according to the National Disaster Management Authority.

The floods have destroyed crops, livestock and homes across Punjab and are now pushing into Sindh, threatening fresh food inflation and deeper hardship. The State Bank of Pakistan is expected to keep its key rate at 11 per cent on Monday, a Reuters poll showed, tural damage could shave up to 0.2



An analyst estimated agricul-

as policymakers weigh inflation risks percentage points off growth this economic resilience to climate vulnerfrom crop losses against a slowing year, with reconstruction-led demand abilities and natural disasters. The offering only a partial offset. The IMF board approved a fresh \$1.4 billion loan upon successful completion of reviews in May to help Pakistan strengthen its under the EFF, the official said.

disbursement of funds is contingent

ISLAMABAD: Ambassadors of Rwanda, Kenya, Somalia, Zimbabwe, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Uzbekistan, and Ethiopia, together with the President of the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI), the Chief Executive Officer of Pak Observer, and distinguished guests from London and Uganda, posed for a group photograph during a dinner hosted by Additional Foreign Secretary Ambassador Hamid Asghar.



### Federation of African Journalists condemns killing of media workers in Gaza

DAKAR,: The Federation of African Journalists (FAJ), the pan-African branch of the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ), has strongly condemned the ongoing killing and abuse of journalists and media workers in Gaza by Israeli forces.

According to FAJ, at least 221 Palestinian journalists and media workers have been killed since the start of the war. The federation expressed solidarity with the Palestinian Journalists Syndicate (PJS), whose members continue to work under extreme danger, fear,

"What we are witnessing is



history," FAJ said in a statement. It noted that journalists have been killed both on duty and at home with their families. Press offices, radio stations, and

consistent pattern of violations suffered serious injuries, been with few parallels in recent denied urgent medical care, or forced to work without protective equipment.

The federation condemned the detentions, ill-treatment of journalists, smear campaigns, clearly marked media vehicles and digital harassment aimed at not an isolated tragedy but a have been struck. Others have silencing coverage. Equipment,

personal archives, and liveliment, it said, must be investihoods have also been destroyed. "These abuses amount to

grave breaches of international humanitarian and human rights law," FAJ declared, urging Israel to immediately protect journalists and civilians, end the targeting of the media, and prevent further harm. The federation demanded independent and public investigations into every killing and attack, with prosecutions of those responsible.

FAJ also called for concrete measures to ensure safe reporting conditions, including protective gear, evacuation arrangements, stable communications, and the release of all detained journalists. Allegations of torture and mistreat-

gated without delay.

In line with IFJ's position, FAJ pledged unwavering support to the PJS and its 800 members in Gaza. The federation stressed the urgent need for contributions to the IFJ's International Safety Fund, which provides emergency support to victim journalists.

FAJ urged governments, regional bodies, and UN agencies to act swiftly to safeguard Palestinian journalists, protect media infrastructure, and guarantee independent reporting. It also renewed calls for states to adopt an international convention on the protection of journalists, as proposed by the IFJ, to ensure binding guarantees for their safety and independence.

# UK and Europe's Largest Milad-un-Nabi to Be Held Today: Ch. Shokat

跨 Chaudhry Tabraiz Aurah

LONDON: Ch. Shokat Ali, Chairman of the British Muslim Friends of Labour, has announced that the largest annual Milad-un-Nabi 機能 procession in the UK and Europe will be held tomorrow, Sunday, 14 September 2025, at 12:00 pm at Darul Uloom Qadria Jilania, Waltham

Speaking to Chaudhry Tabraiz Aurah, Bureau Chief of the Daily Spokesman UK & Europe, Ch. Shokat Ali extended invitations to community

leaders, dignitaries, and devotees, stressing that participation in this grand gathering would serve as a symbol of unity and devotion.

The procession is expected to attract thousands of participants from across the UK and Europe, who will come together to commemorate the life and teachings of the Holy Prophet with reverence.

### Around 45 Palestinians killed in ongoing Israeli strikes across Gaza since dawn



GAZA: At least 45 Palestinian civilians, including 29 from Gaza City, were killed on Saturday by Israeli gunfire and ongoing shelling across different areas in the Gaza Strip, according to medical sources.

According to the sources, today's death toll was as follows: 24 were transferred to Al-Shifa Hospital, eight to the Ahli Arab (Baptist) Hospital, five to Al-Awda Hospital, one to Al-Aqsa Hospital, four to Nasser Hospital, and three to the Palestine Red Crescent Hospital.

Nasser Hospital had previously announced the deaths of two Palestinians who were seeking aid by Israeli forces' fire near aid centers north

Additionally, five more Palestinians were killed after the occupation targeted a group of civilians in the Al-Karama area, northwest of Gaza City. The occupation forces destroyed the Al-Nour Tower in the Tal Al-Hawa neighborhood, southwest of Gaza City.

On Friday alone, 70 Palestinians were killed in the Gaza Strip, bringing the death toll from the ongoing Israeli aggression on the Strip since October 7, 2023, to 64,803 fatalities and 164,264 wounded.

### US envoy, APTMA officials take up trade issues

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Acting US Ambassador Natalie A Baker met with officials

(APTMA) in Islamabad on Saturday and discussed a variety of issues with them. During the meeting, promoting bilateral trade and economic relations between Pakistan and the US were discussed in detail.

The meeting was attended by APTMA Chairman Kamran Arshad,

Chairman North Asad Shafi, Vice Chairman Ahmed Shafi and others. Expanding trade and investment relations and reducing trade deficit were also discussed in the meeting.

Chairman Kamran Arshad gave a detailed presentation on Pakistan's

Kamran Arshad said Pakistan's local cotton production has declined in the past years and this year too, due to a poor cotton crop and a large amount of cotton will have to be imported.

Kamran Arshad said the US is the largest supplier of cotton to Pakistan and Pakistan is the largest importer of US cotton in the world.

Import of US cotton compensates for the loss in local cotton produc-

# Iraq signs \$1bn investment deals with World Bank's IFC

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Iraq signed on Saturday investment deals worth \$1 billion in its energy, agriculture and finance sectors with the World Bank's private sector arm, as the country seeks to build on its economic recovery

At a ceremony marking two decades of the International Finance Corporation's presence in Iraq, Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani announced the new contracts with his country's private and public

In as statement, the IFC announced "\$1 billion in new investments and engagements in energy, infrastructure, agribusiness, and finance". "Attracting foreign capital has contributed to supporting Iraq's economic stability," Sudani said.

Sudani's media office said the deals include a \$500 million contract to invest in associated gas — the excess of natural gas released during oil drilling — and development of gas facilities in the southern prov-

# The Digital Sting: Unmasking Cyberbullying

hey say words can't damage is real. Even if the bully like a school yard or playground, hurt, but online, they can cut deeper than ever before. In a world where likes, shares and comments in the digital dominate our daily lives, a age, affecting single cruel message can go individuals viral in seconds, leaving behind across various real emotional scars. You can't demographics, block the pain. You can't delete in particular, the damage. This is the new face teenagers and of bullying, powered by tech- young adults. nology. Welcome to the digital Unlike traditional bullying, which bullying can occur. The sting of cyberbullying, where the which is often confined to places anonymity afforded by the

hides behind a screen.

Cyberbullying has emerged as a pervasive threat



cyberbullying follows victims into the privacy of their own

homes, making it difficult to escape and as technology continues advance, so too do the methods platand

sharing embarrassing photos without consent and even purposely excluding someone

from an online group, but the list does not stop there! forms through Victims can feel like there's no escape, even in their own homes. The impact of cyberbullying can

forms of harassment.

internet can embolden perpebe profound and potentially irretrators, leading to more severe versible. They could incorporate: Social withdrawal, anxiety Cyberbullying encompasses and depression, low self-esspreading rumours online, viliteem, academic challenges and fication, sending threatening in calamitous cases, suicide and messages, dehumanisation, self-harm.

But it does not have to be this

Addressing cyberbullying involves an intricate approach, requiring the collaborative efforts of friends, family, educators and implement programmes that experiences and develop coping salman2011@gmail.com.

educate students about the effects strategies. of cyberbullying and promote empathy and kindness. While respecting privacy, parents and guardians can monitor their children's online interactions to identify potential bullying situations. mechanisms for victims of cyberbullying and students should feel access to counselling and support

Enough is enough, the silence

ends now, and so does the cruelty behind the screen. It's time to shut down cyberbullying before it shuts down another life.

Aleena Salman is a grade 10 Schools should have reporting student of Lahore Grammar School who enjoys writing about topics that matter to young safe opening up. Support systems people and hopes to inspire can be established as providing change through words. For any feedback or suggestions, you the community. Schools can groups can help process their may reach the author on: aleen-

Sunday, September 14, 2025

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

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close	
156,141.24	157,020.79	
Day's High	Day's Low	
157,816.76	156,103.81	
Index Value	Change	
29,119,347,852	-879.55	
Percentage	Time	
-0.56%	11 Sept, 2025 4:30 pm	
	- 400	

Europe: FTSE 100 Index		
Index Value	Change	
9,297.58	+72.19	
Percentage	Time	
+0.78%	11 Sept, 4:35 pm	

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average		
Index Value	Change	
46,098.60	+607.68	
Percentage	Time	
+1.34%	11 Sept, 1:49 pm GMT-4	

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		
Index Value	Change	
44,372.50	+534.83	
Percentage	Time	
+1.22%	11 Sept, 3:45 pm GMT+9	

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

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	185.5	190.5
Bahrain Dinar	749.30	756.80
Canadian Dollar	204	209
China Yuan	39.36	39.76
Danish Krone	43.9	44.30
Euro	332	336
Hong Kong Dollar	36	36.35
Indian Rupee	3.13	3.22
Japanese Yen	1.89	1.99
Kuwaiti Dinar	916.90	925.90
Malaysian Ringgit	66.47	67.07
NewZealand \$	164.35	166.35
Norwegians Krone	27.97	28.27
Omani Riyal	733.90	741.40
Qatari Riyal	77.24	77.94
Saudi Riyal	75.40	76.15
Singapore Dollar	218.25	223.25
Swedish Korona	29.71	30.01
Swiss Franc	350.41	353.16
Thai Bhat	8.62	8.77
U.A.E Dirham	77.15	78
UK Pound Sterling	384	388
US Dollar	282.5	282.8

### Weekly inflation decreases by 0.2pc:



**Commerce Desk** 

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) reported that the weekly inflation in the country has decreased by 0.2

According to details surfaced on Friday, the prices of 22 items have been increased in a week. The prices of onions, tomatoes, potatoes, rice, eggs and sugar have witnessed surge in a week. Meanwhile, the prices of dal moong, dal mash, LPG, wood, clothes have also been increased. The price of onions increased by 12.17 per cent, while the price of tomatoes surged by 10.47. The prices of potatoes, rice, eggs have been increased by 3.57%, 1.63% and 1.52%, respectively.

# 'Smaller provinces vital for Pakistan's economic growth,' says top business leadership

👺 Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: The country's top business leadership has supported the division of Punjab, the country's largest province in terms of population, into the proposed twelve provinces, saying that this will not only ensure rapid development of Punjab but will also help reduce the feeling of deprivation among the people through fair distribution of resources.

This was stated today by former minister and United Business Group Patron-in-Chief SM Tanveer, President of Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry Atif Ikram Sheikh, President of Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry Rehan Naseem Bharara, former President Faisalabad Chamber Mian Javed Iqbal and Vice President of FPCCI Ms. Quratul Ain while addressing a joint press conference.

Mr. SM Tanveer said that due to the spread of population, there are administrative difficulties in running Punjab.

Atif Ikram Sheikh, President of the Federa-



some parts of the country are not getting their will also help in better running of administration of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and full share in terms of population and income. tive affairs and quick decision-making. Industry, said that there are also complaints that While the creation of new provinces in Punjab

Industry President Rehan Naseem Bharara said that by making Faisalabad a separate province, its problems will be resolved on a priority basis while also ensuring fair distribution of

To raise the effective voice of the business community at the highest level with a firm commitment to economic prosperity and improving the quality of life of the community, especially in Faisalabad. Former President Faisalabad Chamber and Group Head Mian Javed Iqbal also supported the creation of new provinces in Punjab and said that this would relieve those setting up industries here from administrative difficulties.

Vice President of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Ms. Qurat-ul-Ain said that the creation of administratively small provinces began during the reign of Hazrat Umar Farooq (RA), which was also aimed at improving the administrative and financial conditions. She said that even today this idea is alive with its full effectiveness and we should consider it as the Sunnah of the Companions and follow it along with admin-Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and istrative and other benefits.

### Waiting for assistance

JALALPUR PIR WALA: Flood-affected people stand in a queue to receive food and relief items at a distribution camp.



Photo: APP

## **Ahad Cheema vows** early opening of ASAN Khidmat Center

😂 Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: al Minister for Economic Affairs and Establishment Division Ahad Cheema on Friday vowed to inaugurate the first ASAN Khidmat Center in Islamabad as soon as possible, aiming to revolutionize public service delivery in Pakistan.

The initiative follows a recent Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Pakistan and Azerbaijan to adopt Azerbaijan's successful citizen-centric service model, a news

by the Ministry of IT and local agencies.



Telecom on the project, which would be established in collaboration with the Capital Development Authority (CDA), NADRA, Islamabad Police, and other key departments.

Federal Minister for IT & Telecommunication Shaza Fatima Khawaja also attended the meeting along with senior representatives The minister was briefed from various federal and

# PVARA invites global Expressions of Interest for VASP licensing

**Example 2** Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Virtual Asset Regulatory Authority (PVARA), established under the landmark Virtual Assets Ordinance, 2025 (Ordinance No. VII of 2025), has issued a global call for Expressions of Interest (EoIs) from established Virtual Asset Service Providers (VASPs) and digital asset exchanges seeking to enter Pakistan's growing virtual economy.

The initiative, announced Saturday, marks a pivotal step in formalizing and fostering a secure, innovative virtual assets ecosystem, aligning with international standards set by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), IMF, and World Bank, a news release said.

Pakistan's virtual assets market, with over 40 million users and an estimated annual trading volume exceeding \$300 billion, represents one of the world's most dynamic frontier opportunities.

The Ordinance, promulgated on July 8, 2025, and published in the Gazette of Pakistan on July 9, empowers PVARA to license, regulate, and supervise VASPs, ensuring robust anti-money laundering (AML), counter-terrorism financing (CFT), and cybersecurity measures, while promoting Shariah-compliant innovation



through regulatory sandboxes.

"This EoI is our invitation to the world's leading VASPs to partner in building a transparent and inclusive digital financial future for Pakistan," said Bilal bin Saqib, Chairman of PVARA and Minister of State for Crypto and Blockchain.

As per the eligibility criteria, PVARA said VASPs and exchanges operating in at least one international jurisdiction (e.g., licensed under US SEC/MSB, UK FCA, EU VASP, UAE VARA, or Singapore MAS) with proven AML/CFT/KYC-compliant operations could submit their EoIs.

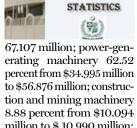
### **Machinery imports** witness 29.37pc surge in one month

ISLAMABAD: The imports of the overall machinery group experienced a substantial increase of 29.37 percent during the first one month of the current fiscal year (July 2025-26) compared to FY 2024-25.

The growth in machinery imports would help elevate productivity and spur technological advancements in essential sectors, leading to economic expansion and progress in infrastructure development.

The total imports of the machinery group during the one month of the FY 2025-26 stood at \$927.534 million against the imports of \$716.945 million of the corresponding period the last year, according to official data of the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS).

The import of agriculture sector machinery and equipment surged by 123.94 percent from \$6.435 million to \$14.411 million; textile from \$ 31.151million to \$



PAKISTAN BUREAU

tion and mining machinery 8.88 percent from \$10.094 million to \$ 10.990 million; other apparatus 21.74 percent from \$38.322 million to \$ 46.654 million; other machinery by 54.19 percent from \$ 149.843 million to \$231.038 million: office machinery by 97.93 percent from \$ 31.700 million to \$62.743 million; mobile phone by 125.65 percent from \$64.413 million to \$145.345 million; and the telecoms-related equipment by 86.89 percent from \$102.734 million to \$191.999 million.

However, during the period under review the import of electrical machinery and apparatus witnessed a decline of 16.46 percent from \$ machinery 115.42 percent 349.992 million to \$292.371

# Finance ministry told to rule on SECP chairman's removal

SECP chief accused of illegal salary increases, Rs14bn irregularities

### ★ Tariq Khattak

LAHORE: Lahore High Court Justice Ahmad Nadeem Arshad has directed the Federal Ministry of Finance to decide on SECP Chairman Akif Saeed's dismissal petition following allegations of unauthorized salary increases and Rs14 billion financial irregularities.

The public interest petition filed by Muhammad Rafiq through lawyer Mian Muhammad Aslam seeks the removal of the Securi-

of Pakistan chairman for allegedly exceeding his legal authority. The case centers on claims that Saeed unilaterally increased his salary and benefits without proper authorization. At the same time, Auditor General's report revealed massive irregularities within the regulatory body

Justice Arshad heard arguments from the petitioner's counsel, who presented evidence of systemic financial mismanagement at SECP. The lawyer argued ties and Exchange Commission that recent audits uncovered Rs14 moves to curtail the salary powers

billion in financial irregularities during Saeed's tenure as chairman. These findings allegedly point to broader governance failures within Pakistan's premier capital markets The petition challenges Saeed's

decision to raise his own compensation package without seeking approval from relevant authorities. Recent media reports revealed the SECP chief's annual pay package reached Rs41 million, prompting legislative shock and subsequent



of regulatory heads. Legal experts note that SECP's governing frame-

work does not grant the chairman across SECP's senior leadership unilateral authority to modify his remuneration structure. The petitioner contends this action represents a clear abuse of office and a violation of established protocols governing executive compensaunauthorized increases allegedly benefited multiple commissioners, including Abdul Rehman Warraich, and Executive Directors, including Asif Jalal Bhatti. The evidence is showing a pattern of backdated salary adjustments

structure. The Rs14 billion irregularities figure represents a significant portion of SECP's operational budget and raises questions about internal financial controls. tion in regulatory bodies. The If substantiated, these findings could necessitate comprehensive reforms to the commission's financial management systems and oversight mechanisms, to prevent similar irregularities in the future and restore investor confidence in SECP's financial management.

Market participants and corporate sector representatives are awaiting clarity on the matter. Any prolonged leadership vacuum could hamper the commission's ability to address pressing regulatory issues.

The Federal Ministry of Finance has not indicated a timeline for its decision on the dismissal petition. The ministry's ruling will determine whether Saeed continues in his role or faces removal. This outcome will likely set precedents for accountability standards within

Arshad Nadeem kicks

Championship

**₿** Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Olympic gold medalist Arshad Nadeem has arrived in Tokyo and begun preparations for the upcoming World Athletics Cham-

pionship, which starts on

The star athlete took

drills to boost fitness ahead of the event.

Saturday in Japan.

for September 18.

sports

**Sports Desk** 

many talented players.

students the best opportunities.

and to discover new talent in cricket.

off training in Tokyo ahead of World Athletics

part in a gym training session in Tokyo, focusing on weight training

Arshad Nadeem will be in action on September 17 in the javelin

throw qualifying round, while the final of the event is scheduled

Roots schools promote cricket

RAWALPINDI: Roots School System has launched a comprehensive plan to promote cricket at the school level, which includes organizing training camps and major tournaments. The initiative

will provide students ample opportunities to participate in sports

forward players at the grassroots level. He mentioned that trials for boys and girls from all classes have been completed, revealing

Head Coach Zahoor Bhatti, in a conversation with APP on Friday, said that the institution is taking practical steps to bring

"Training camps are now starting, where young athletes will receive world-class coaching", he said adding that during the camps,

special attention will be given to batting, bowling, fielding, and

fitness to prepare these youngsters for national and international

representation. Daily practice sessions will help improve their skills.

the school are equipped with sports fields and facilities, offering

"At the end of the camps, final teams will be selected, followed by separate tournaments for boys and girls", he informed.

DUBAI: Mohammad Haris' sparkling half-century and an

all-round bowling performance powered Pakistan to a massive

win against Oman in the fourth fixture of the ACC Men's Asia Cup

Set 161-run target, Oman faltered in the chase and were even-

Oman had a similar start to Pakistan as they lost their opener

After an early wicket, Hammad Mirza and Aamir Kaleem tried to stabilize Oman in the chase with a brief stand of 22 off 12 balls. However, Amir departed after making 13 from 11 balls. As a

result, Oman were reduced to 24-2 in 3.1 overs. Their chase was further dented with double blows in the seventh over and eighth over. Pakistan continued to strike at regular intervals with no significant contribution from Oman's middle order. Eventually, the whole team was bundled out for a modest score, resulting in a massive 93-run for Pakistan. For Pakistan, Sufiyan Muqeem, Faheem

Jatinder Singh in the second over. Saim Avub castled Jatinder for

2025 here at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Fr

Asia Cup 2025: Haris,

tually bowled for a modest 67 runs in 16.4 overs.

crush Oman for 67

spinners star as Pakistan

These competitions will give young players a chance to showcase their talents and foster a healthy competitive spirit among schools.

Lauding the school principal for her personal efforts and key role in promoting school cricket, Bhatti said that all campuses of

# Wasim Akram tells Pakistan, India to forget noise and 'enjoy' Asia Cup clash

**Sports Desk** 

ISLAMABAD: Pace bowling great Wasim Akram has urged Pakistan and India's cricketers to ignore the noise and enjoy the game when they meet in a highly charged Asia Cup T20 match on Sunday.

The Group A match in Dubai is the first clash on the cricket field between the countries since a military conflict four months ago took relations between the nuclear-armed neighbours to their lowest point in decades. India resisted calls to boycott the

match between the pair, who have not played in any bilateral series since deadly attacks in Mumbai 2008 were blamed on Pakistan militants. "Enjoy, it's a game of cricket," legendary

left-armer Akram told AFP of the match, which potentially could be the first of three high-octane meetings between the countries in the T20 tournament.

"Forget about everything other than cricket. One team will win, and one team will lose," he said.

"Just enjoy the moment if you win



and show discipline because this is just a game. It's for both teams and for both sets of fans."

A full house of 25,000 is expected at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium and Akram recalled how he thrived in such pressure situations during his 19-year international career.

"I enjoyed every game against India,

the game. Pressure will come, enjoy that and so did players from the opposition," said Akram, who led a Pakistan touring team to India in 1999 despite threats from extremists.

> The 59-year-old was also part of Pakistan's 1987 tour during which the two countries came close to war.

Akram advised an inexperienced Pakistan team to think of the bigger picture and not get carried away by the hype

of playing T20 world champions and

"Pakistan have a chance as they won a tri-series last week," said Akram, referring to a T20 series with Afghanistan and the UAE.

"They should not think that we just need to win against India, think of winning the Asia Cup," he said.

"You can lose to a big team but even then, stand up and play well in the tour-

"I don't think the match will be one-sided like India against UAE," said Akram of India's opening romp on Wednesday where they needed just 4.3 overs to reach their target after dismissing the hosts for 57.

"Anything can happen in this tour-

Pakistan beat Oman by 93 runs in their opening match on Friday.

Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Hong Kong

and Bangladesh are in Group B. The top two teams from each Group will qualify for the Super Four.

The Asia Cup final will be in Dubai on

## Pakistan, India set for blockbuster Asia Cup battle today

**Sports Desk** 

ISLAMABAD: An India-Pakistan cricket match is always a blockbuster, but emotions will run even higher in Sunday's Asia Cup clash between the nuclear-armed neighbours, who engaged in a military conflict earlier this year.

Even before the clashes in May, which nearly escalated into a fullblown war, bilateral cricket ties had been suspended.

The arch-rivals now play each other only in multi-team tournaments.

Political relations have deteriorated further since the clashes, with several former Indian players urging the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) between the teams since the recent

umar Yaday and his Pakistan counterpart Salman Agha ruling out dialling down aggression in the much-anticipated Group A fixture.



their Asia Cup title and are deterto boycott what will be the first meeting mined not to let geopolitics derail their

"Once the BCCI said they are aligned While the threat of a boycott is over, with the government, we are here to sparks may fly with India captain Surya-play," India's batting coach Sitanshu Kotak told reporters on Friday.

"Once we are here to play, I think players are focused on playing cricket. keeping everybody focused on the job at captain Salman Ali Agha said on Friday. I personally don't think they have hand. That will be no different. India, the reigning 20-overs world anything in mind apart from playing champions, are firm favourites to retain cricket, and that's what we focus on."



Pakistan coach Mike Hesson also

"Being part of a highly-charged event is going to be exciting," the New Zealander said this week

wants his team to stay focused, though the significance of the match is not lost

very much focused on improving as a team day by day and not getting ahead of ourselves.

India appear by far the strongest side in the eight-team tournament, having reinforced themselves with the selection of pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah and top order batter Shubman Gill.

They were ruthless in their ninewicket demolition of the United Arab Emirates, whom they routed for 57 in 13.1 overs before returning to chase

down the target in 27 balls on Thursday. Pakistan also opened their account with an easy victory against Oman, but their batting has been rather incon-

sistent. Pakistan are without former skippers Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan but will take heart from winning a T20 tri-series in the UAE, also involving Afghanistan, before heading into the

"We have been playing good cricket the last two to three months, and we "From my perspective ... it is about just have to play good cricket," Pakistan

"If we can execute our plans for a long "We know India are obviously hugely enough period, we are good enough to confident and rightfully so. But we are beat any team."

# Asia Cup T20: Sri Lanka thrash Bangladesh by six wickets in opening match

ISLAMABAD: Sri Lanka made a flying start to their Asia Cup 2025 campaign, crushing Bangladesh by six wickets in the Group B clash at Sheikh Zayed Stadium on Saturday.

Chasing a modest 140-run target, the Islanders overpowered the Bangladeshi bowling attack, reaching 142 for four in the 15th over.

The result marked a dominant opening statement from Charith Asalanka's side, who showed no hesitation after opting to bowl first earlier in the day. Bangladesh innings

Bangladesh, invited to bat, faltered early as openers Tanzid Hasan and Parvez Hossain departed without scoring. Skipper Litton Das (28) tried to rebuild but lacked support.

Towhid Hridoy (8) was run out cheaply, while Mahedi Hasan (9) fell lbw. Middle-order pair Jaker Ali and Shamim Hossain, however, rescued the

innings with a crucial 86-run stand.



Shamim struck 42 off 34 balls, while Jaker remained unbeaten on 41 off 34 deliveries, guiding Bangladesh to 139 for 5 at 6.95 runs per over.

Wanindu Hasaranga led Sri Lanka's attack with 2 for 25, while Nuwan Thushara and Dushmantha Chameera took one wicket each.

Match context

At the toss, Asalanka said his decision to field first was based on the freshness of the pitch. He confirmed Hasaranga's return to the side and said Sri Lanka were playing a 7–4 combination with three

Bangladesh skipper Litton Das, mean- Pathirana.

while, expressed confidence in batting first, saying the surface looked good for

Sri Lanka's aggressive reply, however, quickly flattened those hopes, leaving Bangladesh winless in their second group game after having earlier beaten Hong

Bangladesh squad: Litton Das (captain, wk), Tanzid Hasan, Parvez Hossain Emon, Saif Hassan, Towhid Hridoy, Jaker Ali, Shamim Hossain, Nurul Hasan, Mehidy Hasan, Rishad Hossain, Nasum Ahmed, Mustafizur Rahman, Tanzim Hasan, Taskin Ahmed, Shoriful Islam, Mohammad Saifuddin.

Sri Lanka squad: Charith Asalanka (captain), Pathum Nissanka, Kusal Mendis, Kusal Perera, Nuwanidu Fernando, Kamindu Mendis, Kamal Mishara, Dasun Shanaka, Wanindu Hasaranga, Dunith Wellalage, Chamika Karunaratne, Maheesh Theekshana, Dushmantha Chameera, Binura Fernando, Nuwan Thushara, Matheesa

### 35 Indian-sponsored terrorists killed in two **KP operations: ISPR**

Ashraf, and Saim Ayub picked up two wickets each.

Continued from Page 1

The ISPR said that the continued use of Afghan soil by Fitna remained a matter of serious

Pakistan expects the interim of its soil for terrorist activities resolve, the ISPR added.

against Pakistan, it added.

Sanitisation operations were being conducted to eliminate any other Indian-sponsored Khwarij Al Khwarij against Pakistan in the area, as the security forces remained determined to eradicate the menace of Indian-sponsored terrorism from the country, Afghan government to fulfil its and the sacrifices of the brave responsibilities and deny use martyrs further strengthen this

### Nation united against terrorism, foreign proxies, says PM

### Continued from Page 1

PM Shehbaz Sharif emphasized that national progress and development were directly linked to peace and stability. He reiterated that the sacrifices of Pakistan's martyred troops would be honored and upheld.

He also announced that an important meeting of the Federal Cabinet would soon be convened aimed at to counter terrorism.

"The enemies of Pakistan cannot impose their destructive ideology on our nation. We will defeat them together with full forces any more.

Upon his arrival at Bannu

might," he underlined.

Cantt, the Prime Minister was received by Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir and Corps Commander Peshawar. He was given a comprehen-

sive briefing on the region's security landscape, including threats posed by Fitntaul Khwarii, Indian-backed proxies and their facilitators operating across the western border. He said these hostile elements would not be allowed to attacks our innocent civilians and our brave security

### Pakistan cleared from WADA Watchlist: A major victory for athletes confirmation from WADA reitdoping requirements by January

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: After months of uncertainty, Pakistan has dispelling concerns about potensuccessfully removed itself from tial sanctions. the World Anti-Doping Agency significant achievement for the nation's sports community.

following the completion of all pending corrective actions.

erated that Pakistan is no longer under enhanced monitoring, Sources indicate that this turn-

(WADA) watchlist, marking a around was the result of dedicated efforts by ADOP staff, guided closely by the Pakistan Sports WADA confirmed that the Board (PSB). Under the leadercompliance procedure against ship of DG PSB Yasir Pirzada, Pakistan's Anti-Doping Organ- corrective measures were impleisation (ADOP) has been closed, mented promptly encompassing policy alignment and procedural reforms to ensure compliance A subsequent September with international standards.



wada

This development comes on the stan in September 2024, stating heels of a warning issued to Paki- that failure to meet essential anti-

athletes and sports federations", said Yasir Pirzada. For a country poised to showcase its talents on major sporting stages, this clearance from WADA represents a crucial step forward.

2025 could lead to automatic

Such a status would have

barred Pakistani athletes from

competing under their national

flag and risked international

"This is not just a bureaucratic

victory; it is a lifeline for Pakistani

non-compliance.

isolation in sports.

# The Spokesman

### Field Marshal visit Flood Relief Camp

PUNJAB: A view of the glimpses of the visit of Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, COAS to Kasur Sector and the Flood Relief Camp in Jalalpur Pirwala, Multan to review the prevailing flood situation and ongoing relief efforts.



# President Zardari highlights culture's role in solidifying Pak-China friendship

**Spokesman Report** 

HENGDU: President Asif Ali Zardari on Saturday reaffirmed Pakistan's readiness to work with China and other nations to expand cultural exchanges, strengthen creative industries, and promote mutual understanding and a culture of toler-

Speaking at the second Holden Panda Awards Inte national Culture Forum in Chengdu, China, the president said culture remained a vital bridge to peace, prosperity and a shared future for humanity.

The president highlighted the power of art and culture in uniting people and connecting

civilisations. The forum was attended by



representatives, artists and representatives, artists, and international delegates, the international delegates, the President's Secretariat Press President's Secretariat said in Wing said in a press release.

The forum was attended by

senior Chinese leaders, cultural senior Chinese leaders, cultural

a statement. President Zardari underlined that the enduring Pakistan-China friendship stood as a model of mutual respect and

As the two countries prepare to celebrate the 75th anniversary of diplomatic ties next year, he recalled that the partnership is not only strategic but also a living testimony to the deep bonds of friendship between their peoples.

President Zardari ext learning" and emphasised the importance of the Global Development Initiative (GDI), the Global Security Initiative (GSI), and the Global Governance Initiative (GGI) - highlighting their focus on sustain-

able development, regional stability, and more inclusive international cooperation.

On this occasion, he thanked the Government of Sichuan Province, the China Federation of Literary and Art Circles, and the organisers for hosting the forum.

He also expressed special gratitude to Li Shulei, Member of the Political Bureau and Secretariat of the Commu-Pakistan's full support for nist Party of China Central China's vision of "civilisa- Committee, and Minister of tion exchange and mutual the Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee, for his warm hospitality.

He also felicitated the organisers on the successful holding of the Second Golden Panda Awards International

# Field Marshal stresses early completion of infrastructure projects to combat floods

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Field Marshal, Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) Syed Asim Munir has visited flood-devastated areas of Kasur and Jalalpur Pirwala in Multan to assess the situation and review the ongoing operations. The Field Marshal's visit was mainly focused on ensuring better coordination between the Pakistan Army soldiers and civil administration for effective assistance to the affected

According to an ISPR statement released on Saturday, the Field Marshal stresses early completion of infrastructure projects to combat floods received a detailed briefing on the ground situation, with officials informing him about the scale of damage, current rescue missions, and relief operations. Chief Secretary Punjab and senior civil officers were also present during thebriefing.

Field Marshal Asim Munir highlighted the importance of good governance and people-focused development. He stressed that infrastructure projects to protect must be completed quickly. He said and Multan.

Pakistan cannot afford to lose lives and properties every year due to poor preparations.

While meeting flood affectees, who were safely evacuated by the Pakistan Army and civil administration, the COAS assured them of continued support in their resettlement and rehabilitation. The affectees expressed deep gratitude to the Army for its timely response during this crisis.

The Field Marshal stresses early completion of infrastructure projects to combat floods also met troops, Rescue 1122 teams, and police officials working in flood relief operations, commending their high morale and dedication. He said their tireless efforts in close cooperation with civil administration are a true example of service to

Later, Field Marshal Asim Munir carried out an aerial reconnaissance of the flood-affected regions along the Lahore-Kasur and Multan-Jalalpur Pirwala areas.

Upon his arrival in the flood-affected areas, the COAS was received communities from recurring floods by Corps Commanders of Lahore

# PM to attend Emergency Arab-Islamic Summit in Doha on Israel's aggression

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will visit Qatar to participate in the Emergency Arab-Islamic Summit being held in Doha on Monday.

The Summit, co-sponsored by Pakistan, has been convened in the wake of Israel's airstrikes on Doha and the escalating developments in Palestine, following Israeli attempts to occupy Gaza, expand settlement activities in the occupied West Bank and forcibly displace the Palestinians.

Heads of States and Governments to its relations with Qatar and has member countries are expected to participate in the Summit.

The Summit will be preceded by the preparatory meeting of the Foreign regional unity, the Prime Minister Ministers on Sunday. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign

Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar will participate in the preparatory session.

**Aleem Khan** 

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for

Communications Abdul Aleem Khan

on Saturday strongly condemned the obstinacy and brutal conduct of

He stated that Israel stands

a ruthless and oppressive figure that

has brought shame upon humanity

by bombing innocent children and

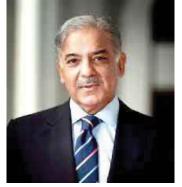
unarmed civilians, said a press

Commerce Desk

Benjamin Netanyahu.

condemns Israeli

brutality, says Muslim Ummah has to unite



and senior officials from the OIC strongly condemned Israeli aggression against Qatar and other states.

In a gesture of solidarity and visited Doha on 11th of this month and met with Qatari leadership to express Pakistan's unwavering support for the security and sovereignty of Qatar and its commitment to Pakistan accords high importance peace and stability in the Middle East.

The minister further said that

Israeli aggression against Qatar is

deplorable, marking it as the 5th

Islamic country to face such attacks

within a single year which is an

alarming situation for the entire

Muslim Ummah and Arab countries.

countries remain divided each one

could eventually become a target.

However, if the Muslim States unite,

Israel would never dare to commit

such atrocities, in future.

In his message posted on X,

### Ahsan Iqbal calls for unity, knowledge to reclaim true spirit of Islam

跨 Bureau Report

LAHORE: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Prof. Ahsan Iqbal has urged the Muslim world to reflect on its weaknesses, rise above

2025 at the Nisar Fatima Muhammad (PBUH), it is

here on Saturday, he said Allah," he remarked. Islam is a religion of peace,

Women Studies (NFISWS), carry forward the message of

The planning minister said compassion, and brotherhood, despite being a population yet extremist elements are of two billion, Muslims had spreading hatred in its name. failed to raise a strong voice "If we truly follow the mission against atrocities in Gaza, divisions, and reclaim the true of the Holy Prophet (Peace where innocent women and spirit of Islam through unity, Be Upon Him), it becomes children were being targeted. knowledge, and character our responsibility to guide He urged the Ummah to those who are misguided introspect and overcome Addressing the National with love, not hostility. Since weaknesses that had rendered Women Seerah Conference no Prophet will come after it marginalized in global



# Imaan Mazari submits plea for saving recording of her argumentation with IHC CJ

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: In an important development following an exchange of hot words between Islamabad High Court (IHC) Chief Justice (CJ) Justice Sardar Muhammad Sarfraz Dogar and rights activist and lawyer Advocate Imaan Mazari, the latter on Saturday submitted an application to the court registrar, requesting him to save the CCTV footage of the incident that took place in the courtroom number 1 on September 11.

The lawyer also requested that she be also provided a copy of the footage.



Imaan also submitted a USB along with the application.



court case for allegedly calling him a "dictator". A heated exchange between the two took place during the hearing of a plea filed on behalf of Baloch nationalist Dr. Mahrang Baloch, who has been in custody since March.

the removal of Mahrang's name from the Exit Control List (ECL).

Mazari was representing her in the court, when, at one point, the IHC chief justice remarked, "If I issue any order in this case, then Miss Mazari would go downstairs

The IHC CJ had on Thursday and hold a programme, saying that warned Imaan of a contempt of a dictator is sitting here." Published by: Almass Ayoub Sabir from Zero Point Printers Rawalpindi

The petitioner had sought

tricity bills in flood-affected areas. Chairing a high-level meeting on the issue, the prime minister said a comprehensive relief package

### PM announces relief for flood-hit power consumers, halts collection of August bills

isolated in the world today while Federal Minister Abdul Aleem Khan

Netanyahu has proven himself to be emphasized that as long as Muslim

LAHORE: Prime Minister Sheh- and announced after the conclusion a major relief measure for flood-hit people, directing electricity distribution companies to immediately stop the collection of August 2025 elec-

baz Sharif on Saturday announced of talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF). He further instructed that elec-

tricity bills already paid by flood-affected consumers for August 2025 will be adjusted in the upcoming

Highlighting the scale of devastation, PM Shehbaz Sharif said floods regarding electricity bills for the had displaced and affected millions affected regions would be finalized of people across Pakistan.