



Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



فرمان رسول ﷺ
نبی کریم صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم کی زوجہ مطہرہ و عائشہ رضی اللہ عنہا نے بیان کیا کہ رسول اللہ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم نے فرمایا تھا کہ: "ایہ جبرائیل علیہ السلام ہیں اور تمہیں سلام کہتے ہیں۔ میں نے کہا اور ان پر بھی سلام اور اللہ کی رحمت ہو۔ بیان کیا کہ نبی کریم صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم دو چیزیں دیکھتے تھے جو ہم نہیں دیکھتے تھے۔ (صحیح بخاری، حدیث نمبر 6201)

Barkat Rice Mills (Pvt) Limited



PTA chief files intra-court appeal against removal from office

PTA Chairman filed an appeal under the Intra-Court Appeal Ordinance 1972. In the appeal he said that the appellant is the current chairman of the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA). Chairman PTA previously appointed as Member (Administration) in PTA on May 24, 2023 and then he was appointed as Chairman PTA on May 25, 2023.



First woman appointed SSP investigation in KPK history

Ali Ayesha Gul, a native of Swabi district, has been appointed SSP Investigation Peshawar. Ayesha Gul belongs to the Police Service of Pakistan group and has previously served as AIG Gender. The Inspector General of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Police issued the official notification confirming her new posting. As SSP Investigation, Gul will oversee all inquiry and investigative operations in the provincial capital.

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Meeting

DOHA: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif meets the Emir of Qatar H.H. Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al Thani on the sidelines of the emergency Arab-Islamic Summit in Qatar on Tuesday.

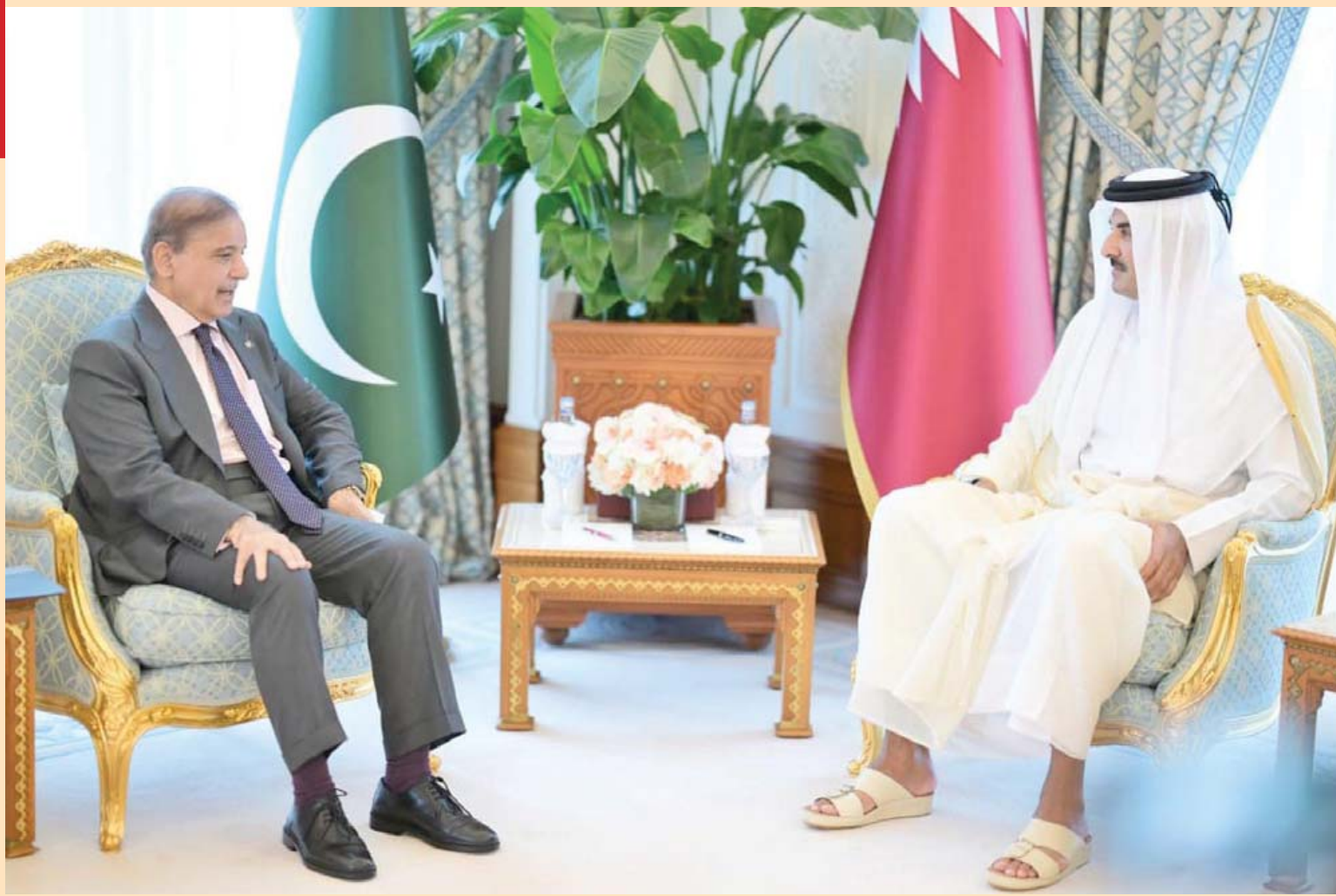


Photo: PID

PM meets Qatari Emir, reaffirms Pakistan's all-out support

Spokesman Report

DOHA: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif held a meeting with Emir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani during which he reaffirmed Pakistan's all-out support and solidarity with Qatar at this critical time, terming Israel's attack a flagrant violation of the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity, as well as a serious breach of international law.

In the "warm and cordial meeting" held on Monday on the sidelines of the emergency Arab-Islamic Summit convened in Doha, the prime minister reiterated Pakistan's strongest condemnation of the Israeli strike on a residential area in Doha that led to the loss of precious lives and injured several others. Deputy Prime Minister and

Foreign Minister Senator Ishaq Dar and Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, Chief of Army Staff, were also present in the meeting. Recalling his recent meeting with the Emir during his visit to Doha last week, Prime Minister Shehbaz emphasised, once again, that Pakistan and Qatar's fraternal ties were historic, longstanding and abiding, and they would grow stronger in the coming days.

He stressed that Israel's aggression in the Middle East must be stopped immediately, and unity within the Ummah was vitally important in the face of repeated Israeli provocations. In this regard, he deeply appreciated Qatar's decision to convene the Arab-Islamic Summit in Doha. The prime minister recalled that at Qatar's request, Pakistan had sought an emergency session

of the UN Security Council to discuss the deteriorating situation in the Middle East. The Emir of Qatar expressed appreciation for the prime minister's participation in the Arab-Islamic Summit as well as for his visit to Doha on September 12 to express solidarity with Qatar at this difficult time. Both leaders agreed to remain in close contact in view of the unfolding situation in the region.

Arab Summit sent strong message of no more tolerance for Israeli aggression: PM



Spokesman Report

DOHA: Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has said that the Doha Arab-Islamic Summit had sent a strong and unified message on behalf of the Muslim world that Israel's aggression could no longer be tolerated. The prime minister, in a bilateral meeting with President of Iran, Dr. Masoud Pezeshkian, on Monday, on the sidelines of the Emergency Arab-Islamic

Summit convened in Doha, reiterated Pakistan's strongest condemnation of Israeli aggression against Qatar on September 9. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar, Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, Chief of Army Staff, Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif and Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar were also present in the

meeting. Both leaders expressed their solidarity and support for Qatar and called for unity among the ranks of the Ummah in the face of Israeli aggression. Recalling the Iranian President's visit to Pakistan last month, the prime minister reaffirmed Pakistan's desire to enhance its bilateral relations with Iran across all areas of mutual interest. The prime minister conveyed

his warm regards and respect for the Supreme Leader of Iran, Ayatullah Ali Khamenei. President Pezeshkian appreciated Pakistan's strong position on the Palestine issue and expressed his desire to continue working closely with the prime minister to further strengthen Pakistan-Iran relations. The two leaders agreed to continue to remain in contact, in view of the rapidly evolving regional situation.

Armed men loot over Rs200 million from security company van near Turbat



Munir Jam

QUETTA: A private security company van travelling from Turbat to Karachi with Rs220.5 million cash was looted by armed men. According to the police, the SOS Security Company vehicle was intercepted by unidentified gunmen at Dasht Khadan Cross, where the cash was taken away. The looted money included Rs145.5 million belonging to Meezan Bank Limited and Rs75 million belonging to Bank Alfalah Limited. The incident occurred on the M-8 highway, the main road from Turbat to Gwadar, which usually remains busy with traffic. Despite the presence of a security checkpoint near the location, the suspects managed to escape with the cash. Law enforcement agencies reached the scene after being alerted, cordoned off the area and launched a search operation.

Pakistan among 15 other countries express concerns on Global Sumud Flotilla to Gaza security

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan among 15 other countries on Tuesday expressed their concerns about the security of the Global Sumud Flotilla which is being participated by the citizens of their country to deliver humanitarian aid to the conflict-impacted Palestinians in Gaza.



"The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh, Brazil, Colombia, Indonesia, Ireland, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain and Türkiye express their concern about the security of the Global Sumud Flotilla, a civil society initiative in which citizens of their countries are participating," Foreign Office, Spokesperson, Ambassador Shafqat Ali Khan in statement here issued said. He said the Global Sumud Flotilla has informed about its objective of delivering humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip, and raising awareness about the urgent humanitarian needs of the Palestinian people and the need to stop the war in

Gaza. "Both objectives, peace and humanitarian aid delivery, together with the respect of international law, including humanitarian law, are shared by our Governments. We therefore call on everyone to refrain from any unlawful or violent act against the Flotilla, to respect international law and international humanitarian law," Ambassador Khan said. He recalled that any violation of international law and human rights of the participants in the Flotilla, including attack against vessels in international waters or illegal detention, would lead to accountability.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to visit Saudi Arabia today

Spokesman Report

DOHA: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will embark on an official visit to Saudi Arabia today (Wednesday), where he is scheduled to hold an important meeting with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. According to official sources, the meeting between Prime

Minister Sharif and the Saudi Crown Prince will take place on Wednesday evening, during which various aspects of bilateral relations as well as regional and international issues will be discussed. The delegation will include Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, senior ministers, and top government officials.

Ishaq Dar calls Israeli strikes on Qatar 'rogue actions'



Monitoring Desk

DOHA: Pakistan has "very large" and "effective" armed forces capable of conventional warfare. Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar said in an interview with Al-Jazeera, while addressing questions on how Islamabad might respond if a united Middle Eastern force was created to counter Israeli aggression. The interview recorded ahead of an Arab-Islamic summit in Qatar and aired late Monday, featured Dar in conversation with anchor Osama Bin Javed, asked if an alternative body outside the United Nations could intervene in Gaza. Dar suggested that a mechanism similar to

UN sanctions could be developed. He further stated that Arab states had already discussed the possibility of forming a "combined security force" saying: "Why not? They should have combined force, according to their own capacity and strength. Not for aggression, but for stopping the aggressor and occupier". When pressed on Pakistan's role as a nuclear power, Dar emphasised that its nuclear arsenal was strictly a deterrent. "We have no intention of using it. But Pakistan has a very large, effective army, air force and navy. We have proved that we can beat our opponent conventionally if challenged", he said.

AJK PM Haq stresses dialogue over protest, cites fiscal wins and infrastructure projects

 Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq said his government has always prioritized dialogue when demands are made within the framework of the constitution and the law of the land. Speaking to a private news channel, the AJK premier said that in the recent past the government had held cabinet-level talks with the Awami Action Committee, with two rounds concluding successfully.

He added that the government remains open to dialogue if the committee wishes to engage. He, however, warned that when the writ of the state is challenged and youth are incited towards violence, the matter moves beyond politics and becomes a law-and-order issue.

He said the Joint Public Action Committee had initially launched its protests over the Neelum-Jhelum Hydel Project and inflated electricity bills. The demands put forth by the committee, he said, were generously accepted while keeping in view the larger interests of the people of the region.”



Now that the committee's demands have been met there is no justification for engaging in any such activities that not only disrupt normal life

but also create a chaotic situation that benefits only our enemies”, he remarked.

The premier noted that Azad Kashmir has 33 constituencies representing 3.3 million people, and that an assembly of this size cannot be held hostage by a few thousand protestors. Referring to his government’s performance, the PM Haq said he inherited a debt of 10–11 billion rupees along with long standing disputes over cheap electricity and flour dating back to the Mangla Dam and Neelum-Jhelum projects. Despite this, he added, a fiscal deficit of 70 billion rupees was managed this year through local resources.

He stressed that Azad Kashmir still enjoys low-cost electricity compared to the rest of the country. Haq praised the role of Army Chief Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir in internationalizing the Kashmir issue, saying the “Battle of Truth” had lifted the fog of uncertainty surrounding the Kashmir issue followed by India’s August 5, 2019 actions. “The government will continue its mission of public service and will use all available resources to ensure public welfare,” the AJK premier said.

Young Supreme Court lawyer Muhammad Ali Shahid is giving a presentation




 Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: On the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the Azad Jammu and Kashmir Supreme Court, young Supreme Court lawyer Muhammad Ali Shahid is giving a presentation. A large number of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Supreme Court and High Court judges, ministers, Member or Central Bar Council distinguished lawyers, and journalists were present on the occasion.

Love for the Holy Prophet (PBUH) is part of the faith of every Muslim: Akbar Ali Harl



 Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: A Milad-e-Muhammad (PBUH) gathering was organized by Spire Group of Colleges Gulberg Campus on the occasion of the 1500th birth anniversary of the Holy Prophet (PBUH). This event was organized at Spire Group of Colleges Gulberg Campus. The Milad-e-Mustafa was conducted by Miss Mehwish. While the students offered flowers of devotion to the Holy Prophet (PBUH). On this occasion, Principal Akbar Ali Harl and others narrated the biography of Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) in their address. Akbar Ali Haral has said that love for the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) is part of the faith of every Muslim. These celebrations of Eid Milad-un-Nabi are a means of refreshing our faith with the promise of adopting the good character of the Prophet in our lives. Allah Almighty created the universe and if we look at it, the most needy creature in the universe is man because man has the most desires.

The greatest of all these blessings is the religion of Islam, and to convey this religion to us, Allah Almighty sent His beloved Muhammad Mustafa (peace be upon him) among us. Allah Almighty called him (peace be upon him) Rahmatul-lil-alamin. The Almighty says: “We have sent you (peace be upon you) as a mercy to all the worlds.”

Hurriyat leaders and party leaders met with President Muslim Conference

 Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: Prominent political and Hurriyat leaders held separate meetings with President Muslim Conference and former Prime Minister Azad Kashmir Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan at MLA Hostel Muzaffarabad, in which detailed discussions were held on the current political situation in Azad Kashmir and occupied Kashmir, including party affairs. The meeting was attended by Hurriyat leader Syed Yousuf Naseem Advocate, Secretary General of Muslim Conference Ms. Mehran-un-Nisa, Chief Organizer Muslim Conference Raja Saqib Majeed, former Minister Shamim Ali Malik, Advocate Maimuna Kiyani, Member District Council Nasreen Akhtar, Advocate Syed Yasir Naqvi, Sajjad Anwar Abbasi, Syed Tasawar Abbas Moosavi, Muneeb Qureshi and other leaders. The meeting was attended by serious human rights violations in occupied Kashmir, the plight of political prisoners and the struggle for freedom. Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan said that the Muslim Conference will continue to fully support the right of Kashmiris to self-determination and will highlight the legitimate position of Kashmiris at every forum. During the meeting, a fruitful discussion was held on the current political situation of Azad Kashmir, organizational matters, and future course of action.

He went to the residence of senior physician Dr. Bashir Kanth, where he inquired about his well-being and expressed his best wishes for a speedy recovery. On this occasion, Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan paid tribute to the medical services of Dr. Bashir Kanth and said that the people of the state appreciate his services. Later, Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan also went to CMH Muzaffarabad, where he visited former MLA and senior parliamentarian Lala Hanif Awan. He prayed for the recovery of Lala Hanif Awan and also expressed his condolences to his family. Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan said that the political and public services of Lala Hanif Awan are worthy of imitation, and we all pray for his complete recovery.

TDCP MD visits Murree, reviews initiatives to promote tourism



RAWALPINDI: Tourism Development Corporation of Punjab (TDCP) Managing Director Asim Raza paid a detailed visit to Murree on Tuesday, reviewing ongoing initiatives to promote tourism in the hill station.

He visited Sehr Bagla, Aliot, Gharial, Ocha, Mehra, Sandhian, Karam Kot, Barian, and Lakot areas to assess measures being undertaken to facilitate visitors.

Regional Manager Patriata Chairlift Mian Moazzam Nazir briefed him on the arrangements made for tourists. On the occasion, the TDCP MD also inaugurated the Golf Cart Project.

Later, Asim Raza met Deputy Commissioner Murree Agha Zaheer Abbas Shirazi and Additional Deputy Commissioner General Kamran Sagheer to review collaborative efforts for boosting tourism.

Speaking to the media, the TDCP MD said Murree remained a prime tourist destination, attracting large numbers of visitors from across the country.

He noted that under the vision of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif and the leadership of Tourism Minister Maryam Aurangzeb, modern projects were being launched in Murree, including eco-friendly resorts, a theme park, a sky glass walkway bridge, a safari train, golf carts, and a paragliding club. He added that in coordination with the district administration, work had also begun on the restoration and beautification of hiking tracks to further enhance Murree’s appeal as a modern, eco-friendly tourist destination.

Dengue fever

ISLAMABAD: Activists of Civil Society holds awareness walk regarding the Prevention from Dengue fever at F-9 Park in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Scholars call for revival of reading culture

 Qayoom Sarohi

HYDERABAD: Scholars, writers and educationists have stressed that despite the dominance of digital media, books continue to hold unmatched value as a source of knowledge, wisdom and intellectual vitality.

Speaking at a lecture titled “Relevance and Importance of Books in the Modern Age” held at the Institute of Sindhology, University of Sindh Jamshoro on Tuesday, they called for greater research, translation of unique foreign books and publication efforts to preserve languages—particularly Sindhi—and to cultivate a stronger culture of reading.

In his presidential address, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sindh Professor Dr. Khalil ur Rehman Khoubati said that books



published by the university’s various chairs had long remained out of the reach of ordinary people.

He announced that the Sindh Culture Department had allocated Rs. 2 million to the Dr. N. A. Baloch Chair for reprinting rare books. Prominent writer, translator and

intellectual Javed Rajpar in his keynote lecture emphasized the need to cultivate libraries in every home.

Registrar Prof. Dr. Mushtaque Ali Jariko praised Rajpar’s thought-provoking lecture and remarked that books were found everywhere in the world—from railway stations to airports—and young people in Sindh too must develop the habit of reading.

Director Institute of Sindhology Dr. Fayaz Latif, Dr. Muhammad Inas Rajpar, Director Mirza Qaleech Baig Chair Dr. Nawab Ali Kaka, Advisor Planning and Development Sajid Qayoom Memon, Director Dr. N. A. Baloch Chair Dr. Shazia Pitafi, Director Benazir Bhutto Chair Dr. Rehana Mallah, Dr. Rasheeda Bhatti, veteran journalist and poet Niaz Panhwar, Salma Shaikh and several others.

Training programs play a key role in enhancing the capabilities of employees: Gondal

 Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: Training programs play a key role in enhancing the capabilities of employees and help in further improving the performance of the organization, said General Manager (Operations) FESCO Engineer Umar Hayat Gondal while addressing the closing ceremony of the Upper Technical Subordinate Staff (Pre-Promotion) Course at WAPDA Engineering Academy Faisalabad. On this occasion, he congratulated the participants who completed the course and appreciated their professional skills. He hoped that they would perform their professional responsibilities with more hard work, dedication and honesty. He further said that this course held at WAPDA



Engineering Academy Faisalabad is an important milestone in the training

programs of the organization which provides an opportunity to officers and employees to enhance their skills according to modern requirements. 38 employees from FESCO (Faisalabad), GEPCO (Gujranwala), HEZCO (Hazara), IESCO (Islamabad), LESCO (Lahore), MEPSCO (Multan) and PESCO (Peshawar) participated in the course. Zahoor-ur-Rehman LS-1 of PESCO won the first position, Muhammad Sajid LS-1 of FESCO and Adeel Mushtaq SSO-1 of IESCO jointly won the second position while Liaquat Ali SSO-1 of MEPSCO secured the third position. At the end of the ceremony, the special guest General Manager (Operations) FESCO Umar Hayat Gondal presented certificates and shields to the participants of the course.



Islamabad

30° – 38° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 4:28 am
Zohr 12:03 pm
Asr 4:28 pm
Maghrib 6:13 pm
Isha 7:37 pm

EMERGENCY

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

ENQUIRY

Edhi Ambulance115
PIA Flight Info 114
PIA Cargo 9280979
Railway Inquiry117
Railway Exchange9270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi5555489
CAA 9281092

HOSPITALS

CMH561111
MH561116
MH561116
Cantt Hospital.....9270907-11
DHQ5556311-4
RGH9290301-7
Holy Family.....9290322-7
PIMS9261170-79
Polyclinic9218300-09
Shifa International4603666

DEPARTMENTS

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

COMPLAINTS

Water Tanker Service
E-7, F-10 & F-11 9204654
G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8 9203883
G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 9266316
Wapda Islamabad..... 9217579-80

FIA arrests suspect in hawala-hundi case

LAHORE: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) Corporate Crime Circle Lahore has arrested a most-wanted suspect involved in illegal foreign remittances through hawala/hundi in connection with the abduction of Pakistani citizens abroad.

According to the FIA spokesperson, the accused, identified as Muhammad Idrees, was a key member of a criminal network operating from Iran. He was allegedly involved in orchestrating the abduction of two Pakistani nationals who were traveling to Iran.

The suspect reportedly received Rs. 5 million in ransom from the victims' families in Pakistan, which he later transferred abroad using illegal hawala-hundi channels to hide the criminal proceeds.

Initial investigations revealed that the accused was part of a wider network involved in kidnapping Pakistani pilgrims visiting Iran. He would extort significant amounts from their families back home in exchange for their safe release.

Muhammad Idrees had been on FIA Lahore's wanted list for a considerable time. He has now been taken into custody, and further investigations are underway, added spokesperson.



Bureau Report

KARACHI: Ms. Sadia Rashid, President of Hamdard Foundation Pakistan, has lauded the initiatives of 5 Corps Pakistan Army and Karachi Garrison Education System (KGES) for the education and training

of differently-abled children, terming them praiseworthy and exemplary.

Speaking at a meeting held at Hamdard Corporate Head Office Karachi with Brig (R) Ahmed Farukh, Director KGES, Major (R) Abdul Jabbar, and Ms. Sabeen, Principal of KGES

Special Education School, she emphasized that children with disabilities are a valuable national asset. Providing them with education and vocational training not only secures their own future but also contributes to the progress and welfare of society. Hamdard's COO

Pakistan Army's Initiatives for Special Children's Education are Exemplary: Sadia Rashid

Faisal Nadeem and Director Syed Muhammad Arsalan also attended the meeting.

Ms. Rashid assured that Hamdard Foundation will continue to support and strengthen its partnership with KGES Special Education School to ensure equal learning oppor-

tunities. She added that education helps such children recognize their abilities and live with confidence, while vocational skills open doors to self-reliance and employment.

Brig (R) Farukh informed that the KGES Special Education School, established in 2019,

is designed to meet the individual learning needs of differently-abled children through tailored programs and vocational training. The meeting also discussed other aspects of special children's welfare and agreed to further enhance mutual cooperation in the future.

Assistance in Capital

ISLAMABAD: Deserving people are having meal at free distribution center in Sector G-8, which is a good act by generous people in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Commencement ceremony was held of first undergraduate class at University of Kamalia

Zafar Chishti

TOBA TEK SINGH: The commencement ceremony of the first undergraduate class at University of Kamalia was held at the city campus. The special guests of the ceremony were former Principal Government Teachers' College Kamalia Professor Abdul Rehman Chaudhry and Chairman Akhwat Foundation Dr Amjad Saqib. MNA Riaz Fatyana, MPA Ashifa Riaz Fatyana, Former Chairman Municipal Committee Kamalia Malik Sharif, Former Independent Candidate for Provincial Assembly Chaudhry Khushi



Jutt, Former Independent Candidate for Provincial Assembly Chaudhry Shahid Gujar, Vice Chancellors of various universities, govern-

ment officials, students, parents and a large number of citizens attended the event. Professor Abdul Rehman Chaudhry said that the start

of undergraduate classes is a historic milestone for the region, which will provide local students with quality education opportunities in their own city instead of going to big cities. Dr. Amjad Saqib said that education is the guarantor of the progress and dignity of nations, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Yasir Nawab said that the commencement of the first undergraduate class reflects our commitment to provide world-class education and research opportunities to the youth of this region. During the ceremony, the university signed MoUs with four different national universities.

Awareness Session on Combating Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Directorate of Public Relations, FIA, organized an awareness session at Islamabad Model College for Girls, Korang Town,



focusing on human trafficking and irregular migration. The objective of the session was to educate young students about the risks associated with human trafficking, irregular migration, and fraudulent overseas employment offers. Deputy Director Mahmood Ali Khokhar and Inspector Ammar Mazhar briefed the participants on the importance of safe and legal migration pathways. Students were informed that irregular migration poses serious threats to life, leads to legal complications, and results in exploitation. Participants

were cautioned against fraudulent job offers abroad, particularly in the field of Information Technology. Over 100 students attended the session, showing keen interest and actively engaging in the question-and-answer segment. The faculty appreciated FIAs initiative and emphasized the need to extend such awareness programs to more educational institutions to inform a larger number of students about the dangers of human trafficking.

If plots are not allotted through balloting by September 26, the Mazdoor Union will launch a protest movement: Chaudhry Muhammad Yaseen

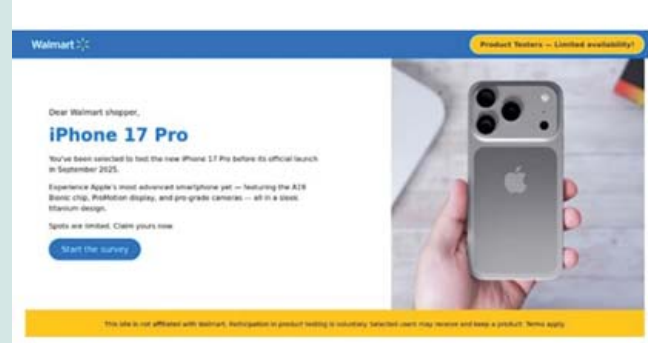
City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Despite clear orders from the honourable Supreme Court and honourable Islamabad High Court, the CDA administration is still not holding the balloting of employees' plots, which has caused deep unrest amongst the staff. The CDA Mazdoor Union believes in dialogue and is willing to negotiate with the administration on the issue of plots, but if the balloting is not held by September 26, the Union will launch a protest movement at the directorate level.

These views were expressed by CDA Mazdoor Union General Secretary Chaudhary Muhammad Yaseen while addressing a protest gathering outside the Chairman's Office, which was attended by thousands of employees from all CDA directorates.

The protest was also addressed by Mazdoor Union President Aurangzeb Khan, Raja Shakir Zaman Kayani, Haji Sabir, Mirza Saeed Akhtar, Malik Asim, Izhar Abbasi, Azhar Khan Tanoli, Chaudhry Zahid Ahmed, Waris Dileep, Zahid Bhatti, Sajid Rasheed, Qari Sher Alam Sialvi, Chaudhry Wajid Gujar and others

Kaspersky: New iPhone launch once again ignites scam campaigns worldwide



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: As Apple opened preorders for the new iPhone, Kaspersky detected a spike in scam exploiting the device's launch hype, with fraudsters deploying fake websites, bogus lotteries, and phony "tester" recruitment schemes to harvest personal data and financial information. These attacks pose significant risks including personal data theft and financial loss.

One of the scams involves counterfeit websites which mimic Apple's official store, luring users with preorders for the iPhone 17 "before it sells out", only to capture bank card details upon checkout.

A deceptive site posing as Apple's official website with a Book Now button leading to a financial data submission form

Scammers are also running fraudulent lotteries promising free iPhone devices as prizes, requiring participants to pass a survey, submit personal information (email addresses, phone numbers, etc.) and pay a delivery or a service fee. There is also a fake feedback pane with users claiming to have received their "prizes".

Additionally, fraudsters are advertising "tester" opportunities for the iPhone 17, enticing tech-savvy users to provide contact details and shipping addresses, as well as pay a fee for delivery in exchange for supposedly early access units, which are never delivered and result in spam overload or targeted phishing follow-ups.

Alkhidmat Razi Hospital delivering quality healthcare services

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Alkhidmat Razi Hospital Islamabad has achieved yet another milestone in delivering quality healthcare services. Since its establishment in October 2017, the hospital has provided trusted medical care to more than 2 million patients.

A ceremony was held at the hospital to mark this achievement, attended by Medical Director Dr. Tahir Farooq, Deputy Medical Director Dr. Shahid Ansari, Deputy Director Medical Dr. Mahwish Faisal, Admin Manager Usman Saeed, Patient Welfare Officer Syed Ismail Shah, Tariq Malik (Director Linear Pharma), and Zafar Yaseen (CEO



of renowned construction company AAA Yaseen Builders). During the event,

patients were welcomed with flowers, books, and special gifts for children.

According to the hospital spokesperson, state-of-the-art operating theaters,

MRI, CT Scan facilities, and diagnostic laboratories are available at the hospital. A dedicated team of experienced doctors and healthcare professionals is serving patients around the clock using the latest medical equipment.

The hospital's service statistics reveal that so far, 12,441 childbirths have been successfully conducted, along with 29,420 surgeries for various diseases, while specialized treatments in nephrology and other departments have also been completed with success.

Currently, the hospital has 126 specialist doctors, 247 nurses and paramedical staff, providing timely and quality care in both emergency and general OPD departments.

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Accountability elusive despite UN’s Gaza genocide conclusion

An independent UN inquiry on Tuesday accused Israel of committing genocide in Gaza, the same day that Tel Aviv launched the first phase of a ground assault on Gaza City, threatening the lives of hundreds of thousands of stranded Gazans. The Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory issued the most damning report of Israel’s post-Oct. 7 onslaught yet, concluding that the Israeli government and forces had committed “four of the five genocidal acts” defined in the 1948 Genocide Convention.

The report accused senior Israeli officials, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, former Defense Minister Yoav Gallant and President Isaac Herzog, of inciting genocide. The commission of inquiry found that “genocide is occurring in Gaza and is continuing to occur.” Two years after Israel waged war on the Strip, the 72-page report pointed to the scale of the killings, aid blockages, forced displacement and the destruction of a fertility clinic in the territory to support the genocide finding.

As expected, Israel immediately rejected the report, with the Foreign Ministry describing it as “fake.” “Israel categorically rejects this distorted and false report and calls for the immediate abolition of this Commission of Inquiry,” it added in a post on X.

But while the report does not speak on behalf of the UN, it comes at a time when more evidence is coming out of Gaza, underlining the fact that Israel is deliberately targeting civilians, using starvation as a weapon, preventing the flow of aid and destroying all means of life in the enclave. The death total has crossed the 64,000 mark, but this figure does not include the tens of thousands who remain missing and are believed to be under the rubble.

It is not only this UN body that has concluded that Israel is committing genocide. Last month, the International Association of Genocide Scholars, a global network of more than 500 academics specializing in genocide studies, adopted a resolution declaring that Israel’s military actions and policies in Gaza meet the legal definition of genocide, as set out in the Genocide Convention.

Also, several leading human rights organizations, including Amnesty International and Israel’s B’Tselem and Physicians for Human Rights-Israel, accused Israel of committing genocide in Gaza. Amnesty described Israel’s military campaign as a “live-streamed genocide.” Groups like Human Rights Watch and Doctors Without Borders have also condemned Israel for its war crimes and genocidal acts in Gaza.

Nuclearization of South Asia: Risks and Rewards of Pakistan Nuclear Posture

Arooba Abbasi

“Security for one country leads to insecurity for others.”

(Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev)

South Asian nuclearization has a substantial impact on Pakistan’s foreign policy, necessitating certain diplomatic maneuvering and strategic deliberation in reaction to local problems. From a realistic viewpoint, Pakistan became a nuclear state due to a “perceived security dilemma” and did not sign the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty (NPT) in 1970 because its neighbor, India, failed to do so. Nonetheless, indeed without nuclear weapons, the conception of the world is illusory. Pakistan maintains its leadership position in promoting global peace and security and is an advocate of multilateralism. It believes that the best way to guarantee peace and stability in the anarchic international political system is to have strong, peaceful relations between the nations, with a strong non-proliferation regime serving as its cornerstone.

However, since the subcontinent’s independence from British rule, both India and Pakistan have been bitter rivals to each other and two of them have been involved in multiple wars and ongoing conflicts. This enmity sparked the security threats and a new weapons race between them. Both have a long history of wars, beginning with a conventional weapons race that eventually evolved into a nuclear arms race. These conflicts led to four wars between both countries. Pakistan in the 19th century, accelerated its Nuclear Program to create a Balance of power in the region.

The Indo-Pak rivalry for deterrence has

always been at odds with international nonproliferation norms and the writ of the regime, which includes numerous treaties, extensive bilateral and multilateral diplomatic agreements, domestic and multilateral agencies, as well as national laws of participating nations. The phrase “ugly stability” was created by analyst Asley Tellis when Ind-Pak get engaged in three wars against one another in 1948, 1965, and 1971. Restoring strategic equilibrium to South Asia required Pakistan to react to India’s nuclear detonations in May 1998. India, which already possessed an edge in conventional warfare, threatened to use nuclear extortion after conducting covert nuclear tests. Pakistan on the other hand, conducted nuclear tests for defensive purposes in response to India’s covert nuclear activity. Pakistan is well aware of the obligations and dangers that come with having nuclear weapons. Therefore, Pakistan has suggested a balanced and reciprocal withdrawal of conventional forces. South Asia is becoming more and more nuclearized, which could trigger a full-scale nuclear war over the ongoing hostilities between India and Pakistan, but “Mutual Deterrence” has aided in maintaining peace and stability in South Asia.

Pakistan’s doctrine progressed from Minimum Credible Deterrence to Full Spectrum Deterrence, which was based on historical warfare. Technological developments, cross-border terrorism, financial limitations, and non-state players are some of the difficulties. The nuclearization of South Asia is marked by territorial disputes, historical animosities, and an arms race between Pakistan and India. From the Minimum Credible Deterrence (MCD) policy in 1998 to Full Spectrum Deterrence (FSD) in 2010, Pakistan expanded its tactical and operational capabilities to sustain strategic stability. The

nuclearization of the region was unavoidable given the widespread instability, social upheaval, and turbulence that have occurred on the South Asian subcontinent. There are few of the massive problems that nuclearization cannot solve. The vast majority of both nations’ populations live below the poverty line, and illiteracy, poor living conditions, and climate change are just a few of the challenges that these long-time rivals must overcome.

The main issue between them is the Kashmir dispute, which requires a settlement based on the desires of the local Kashmiri community. Prosperity and peace in the region depend on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute being resolved. The only way to end their animosity is for India and Pakistan to engage the Kashmiri delegation in the diplomatic process and work toward a permanent solution of the highly contagious issue.

Although many confidence-building measures have been established between India and Pakistan, including an agreement to reduce the transportation of nuclear weapon materials, nothing can be achieved in the face of globalization and the threat of terrorism by non-state actors and due to insurgencies which plays a key role in destabilizing the region. The appropriate resolution of these challenges is critical to the subcontinent’s stability. To achieve economic, political, and social stability, the arms control race between India and Pakistan should be given top priority. For the advantage of the underprivileged sector across the border, both countries should cooperate and maintain bilateral trade links. Trade between them could have a favorable impact and help to derail Pakistan’s economy while also benefiting India.

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Trump Requests Asia & Europe to Train U. S. Workforce

America was once the undisputed school of the world in science, technology, and engineering, a nation where others came to learn and then carried its lessons home. From the mid-20th century until the late Cold War, American factories, laboratories, and shipyards symbolized the pinnacle of industrial might. In 1950, the United States accounted for nearly 40 percent of global manufacturing output, its shipyards produced vessels at an unmatched pace, and its computing and aerospace industries led the world into the space age. Yet in a recent post, President Donald Trump admitted what few American leaders have been willing to say aloud: that the United States has fallen behind in industries it once dominated, and that it must now invite foreign countries not only to invest but to send their experts to train Americans in high-tech manufacturing.

Trump’s invitation, therefore, is both an admission of weakness and a recognition of necessity. He knows that foreign investment alone is not enough; factories and plants can be built with money, but skills cannot. To rebuild lost capacity, America needs foreign trainers who can transfer knowledge and expertise to American workers. This is why he implicitly points to Taiwan, home of TSMC, the world’s unrivaled semiconductor giant; to South Korea, where Samsung and SK Hynix dominate chips and Hyundai and Samsung Heavy Industries lead global shipbuilding; to Japan, still synonymous with bullet trains, advanced electronics, and industrial precision; to Germany, Europe’s powerhouse in machinery and engineering; and to France, where Alstom continues to pioneer high-speed rail. Switzerland’s ABB represents another pillar of excellence in precision engineering.

There is also China, the unspoken giant in Trump’s message. Today, China builds nearly half of the world’s ships, produces the bulk of rare earth minerals, and fields CRRC, the largest train manufacturer on earth. It is making rapid gains in semiconductors, despite American sanctions. Yet Trump could not openly ask China to train American workers without signaling humiliating dependence on a rival. His omission was deliberate, but the shadow of China looms large in the industries he listed.

The contrast between America’s past and present could not be sharper. In 1945, U. S. factories produced 96,000 airplanes, 57,000 ships, and millions of vehicles, an industrial surge that not only won the war but cemented American global dominance. By the 1980s, however, Japan had become the world’s largest shipbuilder, South Korea soon overtook it, and today China controls nearly 45 percent of global shipbuilding output, while the United States accounts for less than one percent. In semiconductors, America once produced over 35 percent of global supply in 1990; today, its share has shrunk to around 12 percent, with the cutting edge concentrated in East Asia. In high-speed rail, America has none, while China has built over 26,000 miles of bullet train tracks in just 15 years. These numbers tell the story more starkly than words. America’s industrial supremacy has been hollowed out, leaving behind a shell of what it once was.

Trump’s realization, while late, is significant. By calling on foreign trainers, he acknowledges that rebuilding industrial power requires more than tariffs or subsidies; it requires knowledge transfer. Yet even this approach is incomplete. America cannot rely forever on outsiders to teach what it once knew. Without rebuilding its research base, restoring university funding, and encouraging innovation, the country risks temporary fixes without long-term solutions. Trump’s policies, particularly his tightening of green cards and student visas, contradict his new appeal. America has historically thrived by welcoming foreign talent, with nearly half of Silicon Valley startups founded by immigrants. Restricting these flows undermines the very revival he envisions.

For a genuine renaissance, the United States must rebuild an entire ecosystem of innovation. That means investing heavily in research and development, raising public and private R&D spending back toward the 3–4 percent of GDP levels that once fueled its leadership. It means reforming education to emphasize science, technology, engineering, and mathematics from the earliest levels, while also revitalizing trade schools and vocational programs. It requires partnerships between universities, industries, and government to create hubs where innovation is tied directly to production. And it demands immigration policies that attract, not repel, the brightest minds from across the globe. Without this, inviting foreign trainers will only delay the inevitable decline.

There are lessons here not just for the United States but for the developing world as well. Nations in South Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America, including Pakistan, must recognize that industrial and educational neglect leads to dependency and decline. Trump’s words, though spoken for America, apply universally: without a strong base in research, training, and industry, no nation can secure its independence or its future. For Pakistan, the warning is urgent. It must align its education system with critical industries like electronics, semiconductors, rail technology, and advanced machinery if it hopes to avoid perpetual reliance on others.

In the end, Trump’s message is both sobering and revealing. America, once the global teacher, now seeks to become the student again. The post was not simply a call for investment but an acknowledgment that the world has changed, that others now hold the expertise once uniquely American. Whether this realization sparks a genuine revival remains uncertain. But one truth is clear: without rebuilding its foundations in research, education, and industry, the United States will remain dependent on those who once depended on it. The story has come full circle, and whether America can reclaim its role at the top of the global industrial order will depend not just on foreign trainers but on its own will to reform, rebuild, and innovate.

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

A Quiet Start to a Green Future

Mianwali’s first electric bus isn’t just a transport milestone — it reflects how democratic politics, and sincere leadership can drive development to overlooked regions. As crowds cheered Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif at Jahaz Chowk, the silent bus symbolized both sustainability and the promise of governance that connects progress with the people’s everyday struggles.

For Mianwali — a district often sidelined in Punjab’s development landscape — this step carries symbolic weight. The introduction of 15 electric buses, expected to serve more than 10,000 passengers daily, makes the case that democracy delivers when leadership prioritizes equity. With wheelchair access, reserved seating for the elderly and differently-abled, Wi-Fi, charging ports, and safety measures like women-only compartments and CCTV, the fleet represents public transport built around dignity. A dedicated depot for charging, washing, and parking underlines administrative commitment to keeping the system reliable.

Maryam Nawaz Sharif credited this to effective coordination in health and rescue operations. She praised workers who carried children, the elderly, and even livestock to safety, presenting it as a vision of “a Punjab where all lives — human and animal — are valued equally.” Such framing tied relief efforts to a democratic ethos of universal care.

Self-reliance was another thread of her speech. By insisting that operations were carried out without foreign aid, the chief minister framed development not only as a question of resources but also of dignity. This emphasis on provincial capacity reflected the political vision that democracy must be resilient enough to stand on its own feet.

Looking beyond emergencies, she promised accelerated development for Mianwali and

its neighbouring districts, including Layyah, Bhakkar, and Khushab, assuring that these districts would see progress within two years “unmatched in Punjab’s history.” She also announced Rs. 26 billion for a new sewerage system in Gujrat, casting it as evidence of political will to tackle long-neglected infrastructure.

Closing her address, she defended her hands-on role in flood relief. Critics may call it symbolic, but she argued it energized the bureaucracy. “If people were sitting on the ground, so were we,” she said. It was a striking reminder of how political leadership in a democracy is measured not just in policies but in presence — leaders seen standing with the people.

For Mianwali, the electric buses are the most tangible result of the day. Though modest compared to Punjab’s long-term transport ambitions, the project represents the fusion of sustainability, inclusivity, and affordability. For working-class passengers, women, and differently-abled commuters, it offers proof that public infrastructure can be people-centred.

Challenges remain: depots must be well-managed, batteries maintained, and schedules enforced. Expanding to larger cities will test administrative capacity and financial discipline. The target of 1,500 buses is ambitious — but delivering them across the province will be the real test of provincial leadership.

For now, Mianwali tells a different story. Its silent buses are more than just vehicles; they are symbols of how democracy can extend progress beyond provincial capitals, how true leadership can turn policy into people’s pride, and how sustainability can be woven into everyday governance. If these principles last beyond the fanfare, Mianwali’s start could well become a blueprint for Pakistan’s democratic development.

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PM launches Mashreq Digital Bank in Pakistan, hails it a milestone for digital economy

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday formally inaugurated Mashreq Digital Retail Bank in Pakistan, marking a significant step toward transforming the country's banking landscape into a modern, paperless, and digital economy.

Speaking at the launching ceremony, the prime minister congratulated Chairman Mashreq Bank, Abdul Aziz Al Ghurair, for successfully bringing the UAE-based digital banking platform to Pakistan. He praised the Ghurair family for its instrumental role in strengthening economic ties between Pakistan and the United Arab Emirates.

"The launch of Mashreq Digital Bank is a major development that will promote a cashless, digital transaction culture in Pakistan. Our youth, which is both a challenge and an opportunity, will benefit greatly from this innovation," the prime minister said.

He assured full government support to the venture, stating that key economic sectors including banking, agriculture, and investment required digital transformation for sustainable development.

He emphasized the need for the country to adopt modern tools to overhaul its conventional economic system. "We must speed up our transition to a digital economy, which will not only enhance efficiency but also broaden financial inclusion across the country," he said.

Finance Minister Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb expressed the hope that Mashreq Bank will bring strength, innovation, and inclusivity to Pakistan's financial ecosystem.

He noted that recent macroeconomic improvements were being recognized by international credit rating agencies and stressed the importance of maintaining policy consistency to ensure long-term stability.

Muhammad Aurangzeb highlighted that the new digital bank would contribute significantly to documenting the informal economy by bringing millions of unbanked citizens into the formal financial sector.

Chairman Mashreq Abdul Aziz Al Ghurair praised the prime minister's leadership, stating, "Under his guidance, Pakistan's economy has stabilized and is moving toward inclusive growth. His vision gave us the confidence to invest in Pakistan's digital



banking sector."

He added that Pakistan was emerging as a digital economic powerhouse in South Asia.

CEO of Mashreq Pakistan,

Muhammad Hamayun Sajjad, revealed that digital transaction volumes in Pakistan had surged by 35%, yet a significant portion of the population remained unbanked. He announced

that Mashreq's goal was to onboard 10 million new users into the digital banking system.

Minister for Planning and Development Ahsan Iqbal, Petroleum Minister

Ali Pervaz Malik, Railway Minister Hanif Abbasi, Minister for Maritime Affairs Junaid Anwar, and Governor State Bank of Pakistan Jameel Ahmad were also present on the occasion.

Dr Shamshad for prioritizing climate resilience through green finance under CPEC

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Former Governor of State Bank Dr Shamshad Akhtar on Tuesday warned that Pakistan's climate crisis could shave off up to three per cent of GDP over the next 15 years and urged policymakers to prioritize green finance as a national imperative under its bilateral cooperation with China under China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

She was speaking at a high-level conference on Green Industrialization under CPEC 2.0 organized by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) here under its Green CPEC Alliance. She suggested that Pakistan must align its frameworks with China's rapidly evolving climate finance ecosystem to secure sustainable development. The forum also witnessed launch of the SDPI Report on Greening Pakistan's Special Economic Zones: Technical Roadmap

and Policy Lessons from China.

SDPI Executive Director Dr Abid Qaiyum Suleri described CPEC as "an opportunity not just for growth but for green industrialization." He warned against slowing climate action amid shifting US commitments to the Paris Agreement, proposing that Pakistan and China must step up to fill the leadership vacuum.

Mustafa Hyder Sayed, Executive Director of the Pakistan-China Institute, said CPEC's second phase must focus on renewables, battery storage, and eco-industrial parks.

Hamid Sharif, former Managing Director of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), said Pakistan's weak investment climate and bureaucratic inertia are deterring foreign capital.

Wang Shengjie, Head of the Political Section at the Chinese Embassy, reaffirmed China's commitment to making Pakistan a "priority partner"

in its green transition.

Professor Yixian Sun from the University of Bath said China has emerged as a new global environmental leader, voluntarily channeling climate finance toward adaptation and mitigation. "Clean energy has become a new driver of China's economy, contributing significantly to GDP growth," he noted.

Haroon Sharif, the Chairman of Pakistan Regional and Economic Forum, argued that CPEC 2.0 will only succeed if Pakistan creates space for private capital. "No economic corridor delivers results unless it attracts investment," he said. He urged Pakistan to establish climate-based banking infrastructure, derisking mechanisms, and private sector-led institutions to finance CPEC's green transition. "CPEC 2.0 should cater to Pakistan's young population, reduce energy costs, and improve market competitiveness," he added.



Pakistan showcases commitment to global cancer care at IAEA

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD / VIENNA: At the IAEA General Conference side event titled "Beyond Boundaries: The Rays of Hope Anchor Centres Network and the Future of Cancer Care", held in Vienna, Pakistan underscored its strong commitment to combating cancer through advanced treatment facilities, international collaboration, and capacity building initiatives.

Delivering Pakistan's statement, the Chairman of the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC), Dr. Raja Ali Raza Anwar, highlighted that cancer remains a major health challenge in the country, with more than 180,000 new cases emerging annually.

To address this burden, PAEC has established 20 cancer hospitals across Pakistan, staffed by highly trained professionals, collectively serving over 80% of the nation's cancer patients. These facilities provide high-quality diagnostic and treatment services either free of charge or at subsidized rates, directly contributing to the UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3: Good Health and Well-Being.

Dr. Anwar further said that Pakistan has also partnered with the IAEA's "Rays of Hope" initiative, extending expertise, training, and best practices to devel-



oping countries under the framework of South-South Cooperation and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals. A milestone achievement came in 2023 when the Nuclear Medicine, Oncology and Radiotherapy Institute (NORI) in Islamabad was designated as an IAEA Anchor Centre. In addition to serving people in the capital region, the hospital also treats patients from neighbouring countries. NORI is equipped with advanced facilities such as the CyberKnife, the first of its kind in Pakistan's public sector.

Since its designation, NORI has played a key role in education, training, research, and quality assurance. It has

hosted three international hybrid seminars, each attracting over 500 virtual participants, and contributes actively to international research forums, including MD Anderson courses. He added that NORI is also leveraging innovative tools such as Virtual Reality Headsets provided by the IAEA to advance training in cervical cancer treatment.

Concluding the statement, Dr. Raja Ali Raza Anwar said that Pakistan reaffirms its commitment to working closely with the IAEA and international partners to reduce the global cancer burden and to further strengthen the "Atoms for Health" agenda.

Defence & Martyrs Day of Pakistan commemorated in solidarity with Flood Affectees at London

Chaudhry Tabraiz Aurah

LONDON: In a simple and dignified ceremony, the High Commission for Pakistan in the UK, commemorated the Defence and Martyrs Day of Pakistan in Pakistan High Commission London, today.

The ceremony also marked solidarity with the affectees of ongoing floods in Pakistan.

Dr Mohammad Faisal, Pakistan's High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, hoisted the Pakistan Flag to the tune of the National Anthem. Officers and officials of the High Commission were present during the ceremony.

Highlighting the significance of the occasion in his address, the High Commissioner called upon every Pakistani to rekindle their spirit of loyalty and service to the nation.

He paid a glowing tribute to the martyrs and brave sons of the motherland, stating that their sacrifices forge a national resilience that strengthens Pakistan in the face of adversity.

Dr. Faisal underscored the armed forces' pivotal role in safeguarding Pakistan's defense and security. He noted that their professionalism is globally recog-



nized, particularly after the successful Operation Bunyanum Marsoos that culminated in the victory in Marqae-Haq. The world saw that Pakistan defeated an enemy larger in size and resources, stated the High Commissioner.

A pledge was made that the entire nation stands united as one, alongside its defense forces, to thwart any nefarious designs against the state and protect the sovereignty of Pakistan at all costs.

Special prayers were held for peace & prosperity of Pakistan, blessings for Martyrs and heroes and the affectees of floods in Pakistan.

Every year Pakistan Missions' abroad commemorate Defence & Martyrs Day with zeal and fervour across the globe where Defence & Diplomatic Corps and community members are invited. However, this year the ceremonies have been curtailed to express solidarity with the flood affectees.

National Dialogue Calls for Stronger Action to End Child, Early and Forced Marriages in Pakistan

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Strengthening Participatory Organization (SPO), with support from the U. S. Department of State and Save the Children, successfully hosted the National Civil Society Dialogue and Dissemination Event on Ending Child, Early, and Forced Marriage (CEFM) under the Grassroots Action to End Child, Early, and Forced Marriage Project. The event, held at the Crystal Ballroom, Marriott Hotel, Islamabad, featured two

panel discussions moderated by Ms. Farhat Ali Sheikh (Board Member, SPO) and Ms. Munazza Ali (Project Manager, Save the Children).

Key panelists included Dr. Manizeh Bano (Executive Director, Sahil), Ms. Afreen Kanwal (Child Protection Specialist, CEFM), Mr. Nisar Ahmed (Executive Director, Peace by Youth), Commissioner Salahudin Norzai (Naseerabad), Ms. Kiran Balouch (Chairperson, Balochistan Commission on Status of Women), Mr.

Qamar-ul-din Channa (Child Protection Authority), Dr. Ghazala Ghalib Khan (Expert on Law and Sharia), Mr. Khalid Khan (Deputy Commissioner, Jaffarabad), youth champions Ms. Aqsa Abdul Raheem and Mr. Arsalan Khan, Dr. Nikhat Shakeel Khan (Member, National Assembly of Pakistan & Convenor, Parliamentary Caucus on Child Rights), and Dr. Shazia Sobia Aslam (State Coordinator, Sindh, Parliamentary Caucus on Child). Guest speakers Ms. Saima Agha (MPA & Parliamentary Secre-

tary for Sports and Youth Affairs, Sindh) and Mr. Muhammad Saleem Khosa (Director General, Balochistan Charity Registration Authority) also shared their perspectives and reaffirmed their commitment to advancing child protection efforts.

Mr. Khurram Gondal, Country Director of Save the Children, called the initiative "a vital step in addressing one of Pakistan's most pressing social challenges," adding that "true change requires more than policies; it demands consistency, commitment, and the collec-

tive efforts of government, civil society, and local partners." He commended the strong engagement of local NGOs and district governments and reaffirmed Save the Children's continued support for the cause.

Sharing key program insights, Mr. Jamil Asghar Bhatti, Manager Project and Grants for the CEFM program at SPO, revealed that a recent analysis in Sindh and Balochistan found nearly 60 percent of respondents were married before the age of 18.

Senator (R) Javed Jabbar,



Former Chairperson and Co-founder of SPO, applauded the effort as "a critical step toward empowering girls and safeguarding their future," highlighting Pakistan's proud history of trailblazing women leaders such as Fatima Jinnah and Benazir Bhutto, figures who

"would never have achieved such milestones had they been married off at a young age."

Closing the event, Ms. Arifa Mazhar, Chief Executive of SPO, urged stakeholders to move beyond a project-based approach toward a sustained, community-driven movement.

Bull & Bears
PSX 100-Share
Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
156,180.94	155,384.50
Day's High	Day's Low
156,467.91	155,781.84
Index Value	Change
27,833,446,946	+796.44
Percentage	Time
+0.51%	16 Sept, 2025 4:30 pm
Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
9,195.66	−81.37
Percentage	Time
−0.88%	16 Sept, 4:35 pm GMT +1
USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
45,752.70	−130.75
Percentage	Time
−0.28%	16 Sept, 1:17 pm GMT-4
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
44,902.27	+134.15
Percentage	Time
+0.30%	16 Sept, 3:45 pm GMT+9
Open Market Forex Rates	

TECNO Launches
Latest Spark 40 in
Pakistan

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: TECNO has officially launched the Spark 40 in Pakistan, the newest addition to its popular Spark Series. Designed to deliver power, style, and durability, the Spark 40 combines a sleek slim build, a 5200mAh battery with 45W Fast Charging, and reliable toughness — making it more than just a smartphone, but a life-style partner for today's youth.

Power That Never Lets You Down, At the heart of the Spark 40 is a 5200mAh battery that powers users through gaming, streaming, and work all day long. With 45W Super Charge technology, down-time is minimized, ensuring uninterrupted performance on the go.

Trendy, Slim & Stylish by Design, As thin as 7.67mm, the TECNO Spark 40 is designed with a premium finish that captures the spirit of today's trendsetters. Sleek, stylish, and practical, it brings together beauty and functionality in one seamless design.

Govt increases
price of HSD by
Rs 2.78 maintains
old price of petrol

ISLAMABAD: The government has increased the price of high-speed diesel by Rs 2.78 per liter while maintaining the old price of petrol.

Thus, the price of high-speed diesel has been increased from Rs 269.99 to Rs 272.77 per liter while maintaining the old price of petrol at Rs 264.61 per liter, said a press release issued by the Ministry of Finance on Monday.

These prices are applicable from September 16th to September 30, 2025.

The government has accordingly decided to revise the existing consumer prices of petroleum products, it said adding that the above price adjustments are in line with government's policy of passing on the variations of prices in the international market to the domestic market.

Private Sector Pivotal in Expanding
Pakistan-Azerbaijan Economic Ties:
Khazar Farhadov

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Pakistan, Khazar Farhadov, has said that the private sector can play a vital role in transforming the deep-rooted brotherly relations between Pakistan and Azerbaijan into strong economic and trade partnerships. He was addressing an awareness session on "Online Digital Trade" held at the S. M. Munir Auditorium, Chamber House Islamabad.

The event was attended by ICCI President Sardar Tahir Mehmood, Founder Group Chairman Tariq Sadiq, President Azerbaijan-Pakistan Joint Chamber of Commerce & Industry (APJCCI) Waqar Zafar Bakhtawari, ICCI Senior Vice President Tahir Ayub, Vice President Irfan Chaudhry, UBG Secretary General Zafar Bakhtawari, ICCI Council Members Mian Akram Farid and Shaukat Masud Ch Masood, executive members Mohsin Khalid and Zulqarnain Abbasi, along with leading figures of the business community.

The Ambassador said that Pakistan and Azerbaijan are determined to expand cooperation across multiple sectors, with trade and investment as top priorities. He noted



that direct air connectivity has significantly improved, with five weekly flights from Lahore and two from Islamabad, strengthening business and people-to-people contacts. The

number of flights will soon be increased to further boost the current \$100 million trade volume.

Speaking on the occasion, newly elected ICCI

President Sardar Tahir Mehmood said that Pakistan greatly values its friendship with Azerbaijan and stressed the need to convert political goodwill into strong economic partnerships.

APJCCI President Waqar Zafar Bakhtawari described the Joint Chamber as an "economic bridge" between the two countries and emphasized its role in building sustainable trade and investment linkages. He stressed that regular B2B meetings, joint trade exhibitions, and sectoral collaborations are essential for unlocking bilateral trade potential.

ICCI Founder Group Chairman Tariq Sadiq recalled Azerbaijan's consistent diplomatic and moral support for Pakistan and said the session would help open new avenues of economic cooperation. He added that the efforts of Zafar Bakhtawari had brought the business communities of both countries closer together.

Babak Huseynli, Trade Facilitation Coordinator for Pakistan-Azerbaijan, Agha Haider Zain, also speak on the occasion. In his vote of thanks, ICCI Senior Vice President Tahir Ayub reaffirmed the commitment to elevate Pakistan-Azerbaijan ties to new heights and said the establishment of the Online Trade & Investment Platform would be fast-tracked.

Pak-Iran JEC Meeting

TEHRAN: Federal Minister for Commerce, Jam Kamal Khan and Iranian Minister for Roads and Urban Development, Farzaneh Sadeq, exchanging the notes after signing protocols in Pak-Iran 22nd JEC Meeting on Tuesday.



Photo: PID

CDC Expands RAAST Aggregator
Network with Onboarding of
KTrade Securities

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: The Central Depository Company of Pakistan (CDC) has onboarded KTrade Securities Limited to its RAAST Aggregator Platform, extending the reach of instant digital fund transfers to an even wider base of retail investors. The signing ceremony took place at CDC House, where Mr. Badiuddin Akber, Chief Executive Officer of CDC, and Mr. Mahmood Ali Shah Bukhari, Chief Executive Officer of KTrade Securities Limited, formally signed the agreement.

RAAST, Pakistan's instant payment system launched by the State Bank of Pakistan, has been a game-changer for financial inclusion. Its integration into the capital market through CDC's Aggregator has eliminated the delays and inefficiencies traditionally associated with investor fund transfers. Now, every investor sub-account is assigned a unique RAAST Investment ID (in IBAN format), allowing seamless and secure settlement of funds directly from an investor's bank to their brokerage account—typically completed within minutes.



CDC continues to complement the RAAST framework with other digital initiatives such as Asaan Connect—a one-window investor onboarding platform—and Emlak Financials—Pakistan's first mutual fund aggregation portal.

Together, these solutions strengthen CDC's role as the backbone of Pakistan's capital market infrastructure while advancing the country's journey toward a more inclusive, efficient, and technology-driven financial system.

Business community
expresses dismay over
policy rate stance

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: The businessmen and industrialists voiced their concern over the status quo of Monetary Policy Committee for keeping policy rates unchanged at 11 percent despite steady stability in macroeconomic indicators and economic outlook of the country.

President SITE Super-highway Association of Industries Masood Pervaiz said that business community continues to contribute to national exchange through

export income, tax generation and the creation of jobs yet they are not encouraged by the state and the government with incentives and policies.

President Federal B Area Association of Trade and Industries (FBATI) Shaikh Muhammad Tehseen expressed dismay over the unchanged policy rate, saying the business community was expected that low interest rates to growth exports, generate jobs and tax revenues for economic growth but they were not given an opportunity in the country, unfortunately.

9th Pakistan Industrial
Expo 2025 Announced



Commerce Desk

LAHORE: The Ninth edition of the Pakistan Industrial Expo (PIE 2025) will be held from September 27 to 29, 2025, at the Expo Centre Lahore. Building on the momentum of the recently concluded UAE-China Tyre & Auto Parts Expo, PIE 2025 aims to position Lahore as the next hub of international industrial collaboration, with upcoming events also planned in Saudi Arabia, Kenya, and South Africa.

This year's expo will feature participation from over 200 leading companies from Pakistan and China, representing key industrial sectors such as CNC machinery, auto parts, hardware and tools, agricultural machinery, and industrial equipment and components. This was announced by Mr Fa Wenyan, CEO if the Everest International Expo, a leading Chinese event company, while addressing a press conference at the Lahore Press Club here on Tuesday. He was accompanied by the Managing Partner of his organisation Armughan

Muqem, Dr. Qaiser Abbas, Vice-Chancellor University of Sargodha, Vice Chairman Constructors Association Pakistan Chaudhry Naeem Akhtar and Deputy General Manager of the Everest Zishan Hashmi.

Mr. Armughan Muqem – Managing Partner, Everest International Expo said this year's Expo is bigger, better, and more impactful. Pakistani companies will get the chance to meet Chinese exhibitors face to face, explore new technologies, and build business partnerships that can transform local industries.

Dr. Qaiser Abbas – Vice Chancellor, University of Sargodha said PIE 2025 is not only about trade—it is also about knowledge and innovation.

"PIE is more than just an exhibition; it is a symbol of the enduring industrial partnership between Pakistan and China," said Deputy General Manager Zishan Hashmi. "Our goal is to empower industries from both nations to collaborate, compete globally, and grow together," he added.

EBM ranks 5th on “Employer of Choice” Gender
Diversity Awards Top 10 List

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: English Biscuit Manufacturers (EBM), Pakistan's leading FMCG company, has been recognized among the Top 5 companies at the 4th Annual Employer of Choice Gender Diversity Awards 2025.

Securing the 5th position, this recognition reflects EBM's ongoing commitment to building an inclusive workplace where women and men have equal access to opportu-

nities, benefits, and leadership roles.

The awards, organized by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the Pakistan Business Council (PBC), celebrate organizations that champion diversity by embedding strong, forward-looking policies into their workplace culture.

Speaking on the achievement, Shahzain Munir, Executive Director at EBM said, "We're proud to be ranked among the Top 5 on this

year's list. This recognition highlights our commitment to creating a workplace that supports our people and enables them to thrive.

Dr. Zeelaf Munir, Chairperson of the Pakistan Business Council added, "This recognition shows we are heading in the right direction. But with 63% of private companies in Pakistan still having less than 5% women in senior leadership, we know much more needs to be done.



Astana showcases 86 priceless artifacts of world religions

Spokesman Report

The exhibition “Priceless Treasures of the World’s Religious Traditions” has opened at the National Museum of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Kazinform News Agency reports.

The exhibition features 86 unique artifacts representing Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, and Judaism, including copies of sacred texts and religious items. Among the highlights are crosses, icons, liturgical vessels, Islamic calligraphy and prayer rugs, Buddhist meditation bowls, as well as a menorah and a tallit. All exhibits were brought from the collections of the National Museum and the International Center for Dialogue of Religions and Confessions.

“The goal of the exhibition is to raise people’s awareness of the rich spiritual heritage and attributes used by different religions. This is an important step towards dialogue between faiths and strengthening mutual understanding,” Deputy Chairman of the International Center for Interfaith and Interreligious Dialogue Bakytzhan Yesbergenov says.

The event was organized as part of the XXII meeting of the Secretariat of the Congress of World and Traditional



Religions’ Leaders.

Organizers say the event is called to strengthen interfaith dialogue and demonstrate respect for spiritual values

of the mankind.

Earlier, Head of State Kassym-Jomart Tokayev met Secretary General of the Muslim World League Sheikh

Mohammad bin Abdulkarim Al-Issa, who had arrived in Astana to participate in the VIII Congress of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions.

Pakistan, Kazakhstan to launch direct flights, fast-track visas to boost trade ties

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Kazakhstan have agreed to enhance connectivity and trade cooperation through the launch of direct flights, fast-track business visas, and joint business forums, as Kazakhstan’s Ambassador, Yerzhan Kistafin, called on Federal

Minister for Communications Abdul Aleem Khan here on Tuesday.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed key matters concerning bilateral relations, trade cooperation, and strengthening institutional ties between the two countries, said a press release.

They deliberated on the initiation of direct flights between Pakistan and Kazakhstan, facilitation for the business community and collaboration between the Chambers of Commerce of both brotherly countries.

Federal Minister Abdul Aleem Khan emphasized that enhancing mutual connectivity is a top priority for both countries in order to significantly increase trade volume. He announced that Kazakhstan’s business community will be granted two-year visas within 24 hours from Pakistan. Moreover, a proposal is under consideration to issue five-year multiple-entry visas to members of the Chamber of



Commerce to enable seamless business travel between the two countries.

Ambassador Yerzhan Kistafin welcomed the idea of organizing a Business Forum in Lahore and agreed to host joint business meetings in major Pakistani cities. He confirmed that, similar to Karachi, a business forum will also be held in Lahore to further boost bilateral trade relations.

The meeting also included discus-

sions on the recent visit of Kazakhstan’s Deputy Prime Minister and other Ministers to Pakistan. Federal Minister Abdul Aleem Khan shared that he will represent Pakistan at the upcoming Global Transport Conference in Kazakhstan.

Ambassador Yerzhan Kistafin expressed Kazakhstan’s desire to develop a trade corridor to Pakistan using its own resources. He noted

that various routes including through Afghanistan, China, and Iran are being explored to make this initiative viable.

Aleem Khan stated that both countries possess significant potential and it is now time to take practical steps towards realizing these opportunities.

During the meeting, both dignitaries also exchanged views on the current regional situation and the challenges ahead.

Hurriyat leaders and party leaders met with President Muslim Conference Sardar Attique Ahmed, paid tribute to Pakistan Army successful operation

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: Prominent political and Hurriyat leaders held separate meetings with President Muslim Conference and former Prime Minister Azad Kashmir Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan at MLA Hostel Muzaffarabad, in which detailed discussions were held on the current political situation in Azad Kashmir and occupied Kashmir, including party affairs.

The meeting was attended by Hurriyat leader Syed Yousuf Naseem Advocate, Secretary General of Muslim Conference Ms. Mehran-un-Nisa, Chief Organizer Muslim Conference Raja Saqib Majeed, former Minister Shamim Ali Malik, Advocate Maimuna Kiyani,

Member District Council Nasreen Akhtar, Advocate Syed Yasir Naqvi, Sajjad Anwar Abbasi, Syed Tasawar Abbas Moosavi, Muneeb Qureshi and other leaders.

The meeting was attended by serious human rights violations in occupied Kashmir; the plight of political prisoners and the struggle for freedom.

Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan said that the Muslim Conference will continue to fully support the right of Kashmiris to self-determination and will highlight the legitimate position of Kashmiris at every forum. During the meeting, a fruitful discussion was held on the current political situation of Azad Kashmir; organizational matters, and future course of action.

Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan said that a coordinated strategy will be adopted to make the party workers active and active and appropriate opportunities will be provided to the youth in leadership.

At the end of the meetings, prayers were offered for the national and state interests, state integrity, and the achievement of the right of self-determination of the Kashmiris.

President of the Muslim Conference Sardar Atiq Ahmed Khan said that the Muslim Conference is the only political party that is not only the foremost party of the Kashmiris but also the party that advocates the Kashmir Freedom Movement and the Pakistan Completion Movement.

Every child, every old man, every young man and woman of the state can find the Kashmir Freedom Movement in the Muslim Conference. The Muslim Conference is not a party of any community, it is a bouquet of all communities.

The Muslim Conference is a representative party of Kashmiris, the workers should maintain unity in their ranks, the Muslim Conference has come out of difficult situations, the time is not far when the Muslim Conference will once again emerge and come to the fore across the state.

The people of the state are still the Mujahid e Awval Sardar Muhammad Abdul Qayyum Khan. The state party is fully representing the Kashmiri nation by observing the thoughts of

the Muslim Conference.

He further said that the first party of the state, the Muslim Conference, has its roots in the people and those who have abolished the Muslim Conference have always been disappointed.

He said that the Muslim Conference is the state representative party of Azad Kashmir and has always played a role in the welfare and development of public rights. The workers are a valuable asset of the party who have stood by the party even in difficult times and never compromise on their ideology.

President Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan visited well-known and senior personalities in Muzaffarabad. He went to the residence of senior physician Dr. Bashir Kanth, where he inquired about

his well-being and expressed his best wishes for a speedy recovery.

On this occasion, Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan paid tribute to the medical services of Dr. Bashir Kanth said that the people of the state appreciate his services. Later, Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan also went to CMH Muzaffarabad, where he visited former MLA and senior parliamentarian Lala Hanif Awan.

He prayed for the recovery of Lala Hanif Awan and also expressed his condolences to his family. Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan said that the political and public services of Lala Hanif Awan are worthy of imitation, and we all pray for his complete recovery.

Uzbekistan Dominates Men’s Boxing at World Championships 2025 in Liverpool

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The World Boxing Championships 2025, held from September 4 to 14, concluded with historic achievements for Uzbekistan.

This year’s event was the first-ever senior world championship organized under the aegis of World Boxing, bringing together 540 athletes from 68 countries to compete across 20 medal events: 10 for men and 10 for women.

The Uzbek delegation, featuring 18 boxers in both the men’s and women’s teams, produced one of the finest

performances in the nation’s history.

By the end of the tournament, Uzbekistan had secured a total of 11 medals: 6 gold, 2 silver, and 3 bronze, which placed them second in the overall team standings.

The men’s team, however, was the undeniable highlight, topping the men’s rankings with six gold medals and one silver. Notably, all gold medals in the men’s categories were won exclusively by boxers from Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan, reflecting the dominance of Central Asia in world boxing.

Among the champions, Turabek Khabibullaev and Fazliddin Erkin-

boev earned their first world titles, while Asadkhudja Muydinkhujaev and Abdumalik Khalokov entered history as two-time world champions.

For Turabek Khabibullaev, Akmaljon Isroilov, Javokhir Ummataliev, and Fazliddin Erkinboev, the championship was a debut, as each secured gold in their very first senior world appearance.

With six gold medals, Uzbekistan’s men’s team achieved a historic milestone, setting a new record for the nation at a single world championship.

The women’s team also made their mark by repeating their best-ever



result at the world level, collecting one silver and three bronze medals.

Their success confirmed that Uzbekistan’s boxing strength is not

only growing among men but also steadily rising among women athletes.

Uzbekistan’s remarkable performance in Liverpool underlines the

country’s proud boxing tradition and demonstrates its potential to dominate the sport in the new era of World Boxing.

Uzbekistan reveals trade turnover with Turkmenistan

UZA

TASHKENT: Uzbekistan’s trade turnover with Turkmenistan reached \$586.6 million from January through July 2025, Trend reports.

Data obtained from the National Statistics Committee indicate a decrease of approximately 22.5 percent compared to the same period in 2024 (\$757.0 million), but an increase of about 19.1 percent compared to 2023 (\$492.4 million).

Uzbekistan’s imports from Turkmenistan totaled \$503.1 million, showing that trade is largely driven by Uzbek demand for Turkmen goods, primarily energy resources, chemicals, and raw materials.

Over the first seven months of 2025, Uzbekistan’s total foreign trade turnover reached \$44.4 billion, marking a year-on-year increase of \$7.38 billion, or 19.9 percent.

Uzbekistan maintains trade relations with 197 countries worldwide, with the largest shares of foreign trade turnover accounted for by China (18.2 percent), Russia (16.1 percent), Kazakhstan (5.9 percent), Türkiye (3.6 percent), and South Korea (2.2 percent). To note, trade turnover between Turkmenistan and Tajikistan increased by more than 85% in seven months.

Day of Judgement will decide who stood with Gaza and who abandoned it

S. H Jilani

History will write with ink of sorrow that Gaza thirsted beside the Nile, its children crying for water while a mighty river flowed past in silence. History will write that oceans of oil lay beneath the sands of Arabia, yet Gaza’s hospitals went dark, its ambulances silent, its wounded left to bleed without help. History will record that the Muslim world counted more than fifty million soldiers, yet not one soldier marched to defend Gaza, not one army rose to break the siege of the innocent.

History will speak of the banquets, the palaces, the songs and the festivals, where billions were squandered in celebration, while in Gaza there was neither bread nor water, neither medicine nor shelter. It will testify that proud voices spoke in the name of Islam, but their words were drowned in the cries of the dying, for they did not stop the massacres.

History will not forget that many among the people condemned their rulers, yet continued to feed the enemy’s markets, refusing even the smallest sacrifice. It will write that while the bombs fell on Gaza, the streets of the West filled with protest, while much of the Muslim world sat in silence its scholars revisiting old disputes, its people distracted by shadows, while their brothers and sisters lay buried beneath rubble and dust.

And history will not show mercy. It will hold the rulers guilty, and it will not absolve the ruled. For when Gaza was destroyed, silence was complicity. When Gaza burned, indifference was betrayal. But beyond history lies the Day of Judgment—when no ruler and no common soul will escape accountability. On that day, it will be made clear who stood with Gaza, and who abandoned it. On that day, excuses will vanish, and only truth will remain.

Punjab govt working round the clock for relief, rehabilitation of flood victims: Minister Azma

LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Information and Culture Azma Bokhari on Tuesday said that Punjab was facing the worst floods in the country’s history, and Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz along with the provincial administration was working round the clock for relief and rehabilitation.

“Alhamdulillah, the Punjab government is extending all possible assistance to victims from its own resources and has not sought support from the federation or any other organization,” she added. She stressed that Maryam Nawaz had diverted all available resources and government machinery to the flood-hit areas. “At present, our only focus is public service. It is due to political compulsion that we are tolerating our allies, but this does not mean we have to listen to PPP’s failed theories and false philosophies,” she remarked.

MoU

SHANGHAI: President Asif Ali Zardari, with First Lady Bibi Aseefa Bhutto Zardari and Chairman PPP Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, witnesses the signing of a tripartite MoU for the construction of Shennong College, a vocational institute to train Pakistani farmers, signed by Longping High-Tech, Beijing Jialong Technology and ASM Services on Tuesday.



Photo: PID

President Zardari witnesses signing of three MoUs in Shanghai

Spokesman Report

SHANGHAI: President Asif Ali Zardari on Tuesday witnessed the signing of three Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) aimed at advancing Pakistan's agricultural, environmental and mass transit initiatives.

The president was flanked by the First Lady Bibi Aseefa, Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, and Senator Saleem

Mandviwalla, a Presidency's news release said.

The first MoU related to the development of a Controlled Agriculture Science and Education Park to enhance agricultural production efficiency and strengthen food security.

The signatories were Shanghai Huawei Agritech Group, Meskay & Femtee Trading Company, with Shahid Tawawalla representing the Pakistani side.

The second MoU was a tripartite memorandum for the construction of Shennong College, a vocational institute in Pakistan that will provide advanced integrated technology and training to farmers. The signatories included Longping High-Tech Information Technology (Beijing) Company, Limited (Chairman Mr Chen Zhixin), Beijing Jialong Technology Company, Limited (Vice Chairman Jialong), and

ASM Services represented by Shahid Tawawalla.

The third MoU was about a Tyre Recycling Project, promoting environmentally sustainable waste management practices. The signatories were Maritime Silk Road Holdings (Qingdao) Company, Limited, represented by Cheng Long, and ASM Services represented by Shahid Tawawalla.

Expressing his views on the occasion President Zardari

said these MoUs reflect a practical step towards strengthened cooperation between Pakistan and China in agriculture, technology, and environmental management.

Pakistan's Ambassador to China Khalil Hashmi and China's Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong were present, along with Sindh Ministers Sharjeel Inam Memon and Syed Nasir Hussain Shah.

PM Shehbaz directs complete assessment of rain, flood damages

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday directed all the relevant authorities to prepare a comprehensive and realistic assessment of human and financial losses, including damages to crops, livestock and communication infrastructure in the rain and flood-affected areas.

He stressed that after the completion of the assessment, the government could formulate a comprehensive rehabilitation strategy by effectively carrying out the restoration efforts in the affected areas and supporting the affected population.

The prime minister chaired a review meeting regarding loss of lives and properties across the country due



to recent rains and floods, including estimated damages to crops and livestock, the PM Office Media Wing said in a press release.

In the meeting, the prime minister directed all the federal and provincial authorities to work in close liaison and extend full cooperation to each

other in this regard.

The prime minister directed that all the provinces and relevant departments should conduct a detailed assessment

of the damages caused by the floods and recent rains across the country so that a clear and effective strategy for recovery could be implemented.

Mustafa Kamal launches National Anti-Dengue Campaign 2025

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Health, Mr. Mustafa Kamal, formally inaugurated the National Anti-Dengue Campaign 2025 in Islamabad today. Addressing the ceremony, the Minister emphasized that "Prevention is better than cure. We must not wait for patients to arrive at hospitals but ensure that they are protected from diseases. The Ministry of Health is working on an effective and integrated strategy to eliminate dengue."

Highlighting the gravity of the issue, the Minister said that dengue is a serious public health threat, spread by mosquitoes breeding in clean



water. He noted that after recent rains, there has been a significant rise in reported

cases. According to the latest figures, over 300 cases have been reported from rural

Islamabad and more than 100 cases from urban areas. He reiterated that eliminating

the dengue mosquito remains a top priority for the Ministry.

Underscoring the importance of health services, Mr. Kamal remarked:

"Health is a sacred responsibility. People come into contact with the health system in times of suffering. Allah loves His creation, and when you work tirelessly in the heat and sun to protect people from illness, the Almighty is pleased. We must serve humanity for the sake of Allah's pleasure."

Reaffirming his commitment, the Health Minister declared that despite all challenges, the Ministry of Health is determined to make the National Anti-Dengue Campaign a success.

Defence Minister Calls on Chief of the Naval Staff



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif visited Naval Headquarters, Islamabad, and called on Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Naveed Ashraf. During the meeting, discussions were held on the regional maritime security environment and operational readiness of Pakistan Navy.

The Naval Chief apprised the Defence Minister on the prevailing maritime challenges and Navy's comprehensive preparedness to address them. He further provided

an overview of ongoing and future initiatives aimed at enhancement and modernization of PN capabilities.

The Defence Minister took a keen interest in the recent inductions of advanced platforms and cutting-edge equipment, which will significantly strengthen Pakistan's maritime defence. He appreciated Pakistan Navy's critical role in safeguarding the country's maritime interests and assured that the Ministry of Defence remains committed to supporting Navy's operational and developmental requirements.

Islamabad Bar slams IHC for stopping Justice Tariq Jahangiri from work



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Representatives of the Islamabad Bar Council on Tuesday condemned Islamabad High Court's (IHC) decision to stop Justice Tariq Mahmood Jahangiri from performing his judicial duties.

Speaking at a press conference, Islamabad Bar Council member Aleem Abbasi said, "We appeared before the division bench of IHC Chief Justice Sardar Muhammad Sarfraz Dogar and asked the judges to listen to us. Today is the darkest day; we will remember it as a dark day."

He said this was the first time that a judge had stopped a fellow judge from work, as no judge of the

Supreme Court or the High Court could stop a fellow judge from work. He said, "We condemn this decision of the Islamabad High Court. This day will always be remembered as a black day. A wrong tradition is being set."

"We have called a meeting of the general body of the Islamabad Bar Council tomorrow. We will announce a complete strike at the District Courts and Islamabad High Court tomorrow. We will take out a rally after the general body meeting."

"What will you do if the Peshawar High Court stops you from performing your judicial duties tomorrow?" Abbasi asked Justice Dogar.

Fazl meets Qatari Ambassador, condemns Israeli attacks

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI-F) chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman on Tuesday visited the Embassy of Qatar in Islamabad and met with Qatari Ambassador Ali bin Mubarak Al-Khater, where he condemned recent Israeli attacks on Qatar and expressed solidarity with the Gulf state, reprinted 24NewsHDTV Channel.

During the meeting, Maulana Fazlur Rehman praised Qatar's role in supporting the Palestinian cause and lauded Doha's efforts in convening the extraordinary Arab-Islamic summit. "The prompt decision to hold this summit is commendable. The Doha conference will serve as a starting point for unity in the Islamic world," he said.

The JUI-F chief stressed that unity

and cooperation among Muslim countries was no longer optional but a necessity. "The Muslim world needs a joint defense pact. Mutual solidarity is vital to counter aggression," Fazlur Rehman added. He further emphasized that confronting Israeli aggression required a collective response.

Ambassador Al-Khater thanked the JUI-F chief for his show of solidarity, noting that the Pakistani nation's support at this critical time was deeply appreciated. "Pakistan's expression of unity during Israeli aggression is commendable," the ambassador said

