e Spokesman

Barkat Rice Mills

NA Speaker praises security forces for eliminating seven India-backed Khawarij

In his statement, the Speaker praised the unwavering courage and steadfast commitment of the armed forces in confronting and neutralizing extremist threats and Indian-sponsored proxies.



Senator Rubina Khalid visits floodaffected areas of Swat in solidarity with

Senator Rubina Khalid stated that Bilawal Bhutto Zardari chose

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Rabiul Awwal 28, Monday, September 22, 2025



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(a) @daily spokesman



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Address to overseas Pakistanis

LONDON: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif addresses Overseas Pakistanis on Sunday.



No Pakistan-India ties without Kashmir resolution: PM Shehbaz

S Chaudhry TabraizAurah

LONDON: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has said that normal relations between Pakistan and India cannot be established without resolving the Kashmir issue.

Addressing the overseas Pakistani community in London, the prime minister stated that Pakistan and India have fought four wars, costing billions of dollars — funds that should have been spent on the development and prosperity of the people.

and must learn to live together,

expressing Pakistan's willingness September 22. to engage in dialogue based on

The prime minister, however, stressed that "the blood of Kashmiris will not go in vain".

PM Shehbaz is scheduled to depart from London for the United States today (Sunday), where he will address the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on September 26.

According to a statement issued by the Foreign Office, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will lead the Pakistan delega-He emphasised that Paki- tion to the high-level segment of stan and India are neighbours the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly from

The prime minister will be accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Ishaq Dar, other ministers and senior officials.

In his address to the General Assembly, the prime minister will urge the international community to resolve the situations of prolonged occupation and denial of the right to self-determination in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir (IIOJK) and

Palestine. He will, in particular, draw the attention of the international community towards the grave crisis in Gaza, and call for deci-

sive action to end the suffering of the Palestinians.

The prime minister will also highlight Pakistan's perspective on the regional security situation, as well as other issues of international concern, including climate change, terrorism, Islamophobia, and sustainable development.

Prime Minister Shehbaz will attend several high-level events on the sidelines of the UNGA Session, including important meetings of the UN Security Council, High-Level Meeting of the Global Development Initiative (GDI), and a Special High-Level Event on Climate Action,

Kidnapped AC Ziarat found dead in Harnai

Photo: PID

👺 Munir Jan

QUETTA: Tragedy struck Balochistan on Sunday as the body of Assista Commissioner

(AC) Ziarat, Muhammad Afzal, was recovered from the Zardalo area of Harnai district, a month and a half after his abduction

According to Risaldar Levies Headquarters Ziarat, Muhammad Imran Damar, two bodies were found in the area, one of which has been confirmed to be that of the slain officer.

The second body is yet to be identified, though it is suspected to be that of Afzal's son, who was abducted alongside him. However, Levies officials stated that facial identification was not possible, and confirmation will only be made once the bodies reach the District Headquarters (DHQ) Hospital in Harnai.

Seven Indiansponsored terrorists killed in Dera Ismail Khan operation: ISPR



Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Security forces killed seven terrorists, including Afghan nationals and suicide bombers, during an intelligence-based operation (IBO) in Kulachi, Dera Ismail Khan District, on 20 September 2025, the military's media wing said on Saturday.

According to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the operation was launched on the "reported presence of Khwarij belonging to Indian proxy, Fitna al Khawarij."

During the exchange of fire, troops successfully neutralised the militants. "Seven

Indian sponsored khawarij, including three Afghan National khawarij and two suicide bombers, were sent to hell," the ISPR statement said.

The military media wing stressed that Pakistan expects the Afghan authorities to prevent their soil from being used against its territory. "Pakistan expect the Interim Afghan Government to uphold its responsibilities and deny its soil for terrorist activities against Pakistan," it stated.

Weapons and explosives were recovered, while a sanitisation operation is underway to clear the area of any remaining militants. The ISPR reaffirmed that "the security forces of Pakistan are determined to wipe out the menace of Indian Sponsored Terrorism from the country."

Pakistan advancing united on diplomatic, defence and economic fronts: Ishaq Dar

Chaudhry TabraizAurah

LONDON: Deputy Prime befitting reply to India and Minister Ishaq Dar has said successfully reasserted itself on that for the first time in histo- the world stage with a renewed ry, Pakistan is moving forward diplomatic identity. in a united manner on diplo-

He said that this collective effort had allowed the nation to strengthen its global standing while reinforcing its

Dar said Pakistan, despite its smaller size, had given a

> economic foundations The Deputy Prime Minister declared that through unity

and consistent hard made stronger economically and politically than ever before, expressing optimism that this new direction would secure the country's place as a resilient and respected power in the international commu-

matic, defence, and economic work, Pakistan was now being fronts. Addressing a ceremony in London, he recalled the difficult circumstances under which the present government assumed office, noting that the Prime Minister and his team worked tirelessly to steer the country out of crisis.

Former military secretary testifies against Imran Khan, Bushra Bibi in Toshakhana II

News Desk

case

ISLAMABAD: The Toshakhana II case against Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi has taken a new turn as the statement of former military secretary Brigadier (retd) Muhammad Ahmed has come to light, reported 24NewsHD TV channel

Testifying before the court, the retired officer revealed that the PTI founder had instructed him not to deposit the gifts received from Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman into the Toshakhana.

According to Brigadier (retd) Ahmed, the gifts included a Bulgari jewellery set, bottles of oud, olive oil, dates, and a book.

He said photographs of all the items were taken as per official protocol, and representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were present at the time of their receipt during the former Prime Minister's visit to Saudi Arabia from May 7 to May 10, 2021. The Foreign Ministry, he added, had also formally informed the Prime Minister's Office in writing about the gifts.

Britain, Australia and Canada recognise Palestinian state

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Britain, Canada and Australia all recognised a Palestinian state on Sunday in a move borne out of frustration over the Gaza war and intended to promote a Mark Carney's address on

two-state solution, but which is also bound to anger Israel and its main ally, the United States. The three

nations' decision aligned them with about

140 other countries which also the Palestine State "Canada back the Palestinians' aspiration to forge an independent homeland from the Israeli-occupied territories.

particular symbolic weight State of Israel," Carney said in given its major role in Israel's a statement. creation as a modern nation in the aftermath of World War II. Palestine, led by the Pales-

Today, to revive the hope of peace for the Palestinians those who seek peaceful coexand Israelis, and a two-state istence and the end of Hamas. solution, the United Kingdom This in no way legitimises formally recognises the State of terrorism, nor is it any reward Palestine," Prime Minister Keir for it," Carney said.

Canadian Prime Minister

suit this week at the United

Nations General Assembly in

Other nations, including France, are expected to follow

Starmer said on X.

New York.



recognises the State of Palestine and offers our partnership in building the promise of a peaceful future for both Britain's decision carried the State of Palestine and the

> "Recognising the State of tinian Authority, empowers



CHICKEN FRIES

 CHICKEN CROQUETTES CHICKEN PARATHA (4 PCS)

 KOFTA BONELESS BREAST PLAIN PARATHA (20 PCS)



Monday, September 22, 2025

Azad Kashmir PM calls for unity, salutes Pakistan Army at Rawalakot Rally

Bureau Report

RAWALAKOT: Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq has announced one billion rupees package for Poonch to address the longstanding deprivations of the people of the region.

While addressing the Muarka Haq, Banyan Al-Marsoos Jalsa held here today at Sabir Shaheed Stadium Rawalakot, the PM emphasized on forging unity and solidarity across all levels of society.

Highlighting the Pak Army's significant contribution in defending the geographical and ideological frontiers, the PM said that Kashmiris stand shoulder to shoulder with Pakistan's armed forces."We have to differentiate between occupying forces and protecting forces," he remarked.

The Prime Minister in his address praised the Pakistan's civil and military leadership for signing the historic loyalty and love for Pakistan, he



defense agreement with brotherly country Saudi Arabia.

He paid tribute to AJK's political leadership across the spectrum, stressing that unity and collective struggle were essential to defeat the enemy's designs.

Reiterating his unconditional

declared that this bond would remain permanent.

The well attending gathering was attended and addressed by former prime ministers Sardar Atiq Ahmed Khan, Raja Farooq Haider Khan, Sardar Tanveer Ilyas, Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan; PPP

Senior Minister Colonel (R) Wagar Ahmed Noor; ministers Raja Faisal Mumtaz Rathore and others.

The speakers expressed strong support for Pakistan's armed forces and government, lauding the historic victory over India during as well as the recently signed defence pact President and MLA Chaudhry Yasin; between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.

RAWALPINDI: Secretary General of All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference and former Deputy Speaker Ms. Mehranun-Nisa has said that the base camp of the freedom movement cannot tolerate any

Muslim Conference will continue to play its role:

chaos, chaos or insecurity. Patriotic forces should unite and play their role to protect the ideological and geographical borders of Pakistan. The Muslim Conference will

Mehran-un-Nisa



 $continue \ to \ play \ its \ role \ as \ a \ state \ party \ for \ political \ stability, \ mutual \ toler$ ance, peace and security in the free state. Ms. Mehran-un-Nisa said that the workers of the Muslim Conference will participate fully in the meeting to be held in the garden on September 22 on behalf of all political parties. The Muslim Conference is the only state political force that guarantees the rights of the people of the state, which is waging a peaceful political struggle for the independence of the state, the stability of Pakistan and the freedom of occupied Jammu and Kashmir.

12th annual Urs of Syed Jafar Hussain Badshah held

TAXILA: The 12th annual Urs of Syed Jafar Hussain Badshah, popularly known as Bacha Sahib, was held at Dargah Hussainia Saifia. On this occasion, the esteemed spiritual leaders, scholars, and clerics paid glowing tribute to Bacha Sahib for his scholarly, spiritual, and religious services.

The Urs ceremony was attended in large numbers by Bacha Sahib's son Syed Hafiz Qasim Bacha (Afghanistan), Syed Ubaid-ur-Rehman Bacha, Maulana Hameed Jan, Qari Habib Jan, Syed Ahmad Hussain Bacha, Mufti Ahmad Hasan Bacha, Syed Mohsin Bacha, Syed Abdullah Bacha, Safiullah, Shafiqullah, Najeebullah, Ateequllah, Sahibzada Mian Asif Muhammadi Saifi, Dr. Colonel Sarfraz, Saeed Pirzgar (Iran), Qari Islamuddin, Sved Wazir Bacha, Sved Ayaz Ali Shah, Sved Kamal Shah Gilani, Sahibzada Ibrahim Rohani, Sufi Muhammad Faroog, Professor Ali Raza Bukhari, Sufi Tauqeer-ul-Islam Hussaini Saifi, Mukhtar Ajmal Bhatti Advocate, Haji Muhammad Hanif, Muhammad Usman Hussaini Saifi, Muhammad Tahir Hussaini Saifi, Sufi Muhammad Rafiq, Shamsuz-Zaman, as well as Bacha Sahib's successors, disciples, followers, and

Women's University Multan hosts first-ever expo for women with disabilities



Quratul Ain Asim

MULTAN: The Women University Multan, in collaboration with the Society for Special Persons (SSP) and the Zubaida Ajmal Centre for Indedent Living (ZACIL) of Women with Disabilities, successfully organized "Azm-e-Nau: Pakistan's First Women with Disabilities Entrepreneur Expo" at Katchery Campus. The event was hosted by Directorate of Student Affairs. As a Chief guest Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Kalsoom Pracha graced the event. While other guests were Ms. Zahida Hameed, President Society for Special Persons, Dr. Farzana Amjal (Member Zubaida Amjal center for Independent Living) and Mr. Ejaz Ahmed, Chairman Director Society for Special Persons.

Vice Chancellor, the Women University Multan, Prof. Dr. Kalsoom Pracha, graced the occasion as Chief Guest. She appreciated the efforts of participating women entrepreneurs and emphasized the University's commitment to fostering inclusivity and equality in all spheres of life. She noted that such platforms not only highlight the potential of women with disabilities but also strengthen Pakistan's progress toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly those relating to gender equality, decent work, and reduced inequalities.

Speaking on the occasion, Ms. Zahida Hameed and Dr. Farzana Amjal highlighted the pressing need for inclusive policies and active support for women with disabilities.

CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif's innovative plan for waste disposal in Punjab: Directs to use colored dustbins for waste collection



Bureau Report

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif has introduced an innovative plan for waste disposal in Punjab, as she directed the authorities concerned to use colored dustbins for collection of waste in the province. In the first phase, she directed to implement 'Smart Waste Management Process' in government and private educational institutions across Punjab, under which five-colored dustbins would be placed in government and private educational institutions. Senior Minister for Environment and Climate Change Marriyum Aurangzeb will supervise the project. Targets have been assigned to Education Minister Rana Sikandar Hayat and Local Government Minister Zeeshan Rafique; whereas deadlines have been set for installing colored dustbins in all schools by September 30.

Madam Chief Minister said that inspection would begin from October 1, and fines would be imposed for not having colored dustbins. She added that different types of garbage would be collected in different colored garbage bins, Environmental Protection Agency has issued an official notification for the purpose. She noted that paper and $\,$ garbage will be collected in yellow bins; bottles, glass pieces and waste materials used in laboratories would be put in green bins; fruit peels, wasted food, leaves and rotten vegetables would be thrown in purple (gray) bins; red garbage bins would be used for iron and other metal waste; and orange bins would be used to collect plastic waste, and essential items would be used to make the waste reusable.

In a capital

ISLAMABAD: A view of open manhole in the middle of a road at sector G-8, in the Federal Capital, needs the attention of concerned authorities.



Injustices have been committed against the Indus under the Indus Waters Treaty: Dr. Hassan

👺 Qayoom Sarohi

HYDERABAD: World-renowned water expert and advocate of the Indus River, Dr. Hassan Abbas, has said that injustices have been committed against the Indus under the Indus Waters Treaty, and the matter must be taken to the International Court of Justice. He warned that while the world is rapidly dismantling dams, if we too do not and a major flood could occur as soon allow rivers to flow naturally, they will carve destructive paths of their own,



as next year.

Addressing a program organized by

at the Hyderabad Press Club under the theme "Floods of 2025: Causes and Lessons", Dr. Hassan Abbas said that the Indus Waters Treaty brought grave injustices to Sindh river. Not only did India construct dams and canals on the Indus, but neighboring countries were also permitted to build dams. He natural routes of the Indus River are not further stated that India is dumping sewage from four major drains into the Indus, which primarily affects South Punjab and eventually impacts Sindh

the Hyderabad Roshan Khayal Forum as well. Dr. Abbas remarked that those polluting rivers have been given protection under the Indus Waters Treaty a fact the framers of the treaty should have considered. He stressed that political leadership must take this issue to international forums.

Dr. Hassan Abbas warned that if the restored, it will create its own destructive path, leading to catastrophic consequences — a disaster that could strike as

PIDE Seminar Calls for Gender-Sensitive Disaster Response in Flood-Hit Pakistan

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE) hosted a seminar titled "Understanding Gendered Vulnerabilities in Flood-Affected Areas of Pakistan," highlighting how disasters exacerbate existing social inequalities, particularly for women, minorities, and marginalized groups. The session, moderated by Dr. Rabia Manzoor, Deputy Chief (Policy) PIDE brought together experts and practitioners including Ms. Nilofer Afridi Qazi (social worker and disaster management specialist), Mr. Raza Narejo (Acting Country Director, Islamic Relief Pakistan), and Ms.

Jayaa Jaggi (Minority Women Forum). According to the press release issued from the PIDE, Ms. Nilofer Afridi Qazi emphasized that disasters do not create



vulnerabilities but amplify pre-existing ones such as poverty, illiteracy, and lack of resources. Drawing on her fieldwork in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan, she shared striking cases where women could not be rescued during floods because cultural taboos prevented male rescuers from assisting

them. Similarly, women in purdah were

often left out of aid distribution as they

could not interact with male relief

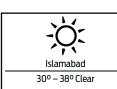
workers. She also highlighted neglected

issues like menstrual health, pointing to her initiative on locally made reusable sanitary pads as a sustainable solution for displaced women.

Speaking from Islamic Relief's decades-long humanitarian engagement, Mr. Raza Narejo stressed that women are systematically excluded during relief distribution. In conservative areas, aid was often handed only to men, leaving women without access to essentials such as clothing, hygiene

supplies, and maternal health products. Ms. Jayaa Jaggi shed light on the intersectional vulnerabilities of minorities, persons with disabilities. and female-headed households. Relief points were often physically inaccessible for wheelchair users and the visually impaired, while basic facilities such as toilets and water pumps were missing or unusable..

Speakers called for a shift from reactive to proactive disaster governance that integrates gender sensitivity, cultural awareness, and inclusivity into every stage of planning and response. By centering the voices and needs of women, minorities, and vulnerable communities, Pakistan can transform its disaster management system into one that not only saves lives but also safeguards dignity and equality during



Namaz Timings

Maghrib ..6:06 pm

EMEDGENCY

EINIEIZOEIZO I
Rescue (Police) 15
Bomb Disposal15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/
Islamabad1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance 1122 &
& Rescue Services 4451122
Motorway Police9266044
Motorway Police 9270601-20

Women Police Stations

ENCHID

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

ПОЗРП	ALS
CMH	561111
MH	561116
MH	561116
Cantt Hospital	9270907-1
DHQ	5556311-4
RGH	9290301-7
Holy Family	9290322-7
PIMS	9261170-79
Polyclinic	9218300-09
Shifa International	4603666

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

DEPARTMENTS

COMPLAINTS

E-7, F-10 & F-11 ... G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8,9203883 G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 ..9266316 Wapda Islamabad......9217579-80 Sui Gas Complaint..... 119, 9272249 Wasa Water Tank0331-5022125

Finnah Iqbal Forum to hold flood relief sitting on September

E City Desk

RAWALPINDI: Jinnah Iqbal Forum will organize a flood relief sitting on Monday, September 22, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. at Jinnah Iqbal Education, Asghar Mall Scheme, Rawalpindi.

Former Interior Minister Malik Habib Khan will grace the occasion as Chief Guest, while Muzaffar Mehmood Qureshi, former Federal Secretary, will preside over the sitting. Distinguished guests of honor include Col Bakhtiar Hakeem, Supreme Court Advocate Sajjad Akbar Abbasi, and renowned poet & columnist Nasim Sehar.

During the event, Dr. Sadia Kamal, President of Journalist Union, will receive flood relief items for distribution among women and girls in the flood-affected Punjnad

Chairman Rana Abdul Baqi has appealed to citizens to join hands in this noble cause and extend their support.

CM Maryam directly monitoring relief operations in flood-hit areas of Punjab

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Due to the worst floods in Punjab's history, surveys are being initiated immediately in affected areas to provide relief to the people regarding ongoing rescue and rehabilitation activities. All Deputy Commissioners of Punjab have been instructed to prepare estimates of the losses suffered by flood victims under their supervision and to immediately send reports to Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif and Chief Secretary Punjab. In a high-level meeting chaired by Maryam Nawaz Sharif, it was decided that

The Irrigation Department teams are fully mobilized, and all possible measures are being taken to protect Jalalpur Pirwala, said Provincial Irrigation Minister Kazim Pirzada.

He added that Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif herself is receiving hourly reports from Jalalpur city and its adjoining areas. The Irri-



gation Department is continuously monitoring the water's velocity and spread through gauges. "By the grace of Allah Almighty, Jalalpur city will

remain safe. Insha'Allah, it will not be affected any further by floodwaters. The process of filling the six breaches on both sides will begin very soon, and the situation will normalize shortly," he stated.

He further said that the protective embankment extending from Lodhran and Jalalpur up to the motorway suffered breaches, creating difficulties.

Every citizen of Punjab should be reassured that all resources of the province are being directed toward flood victims. Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif's resolve for the rescue, relief, and rehabilitation of the flood-affected people is unwavering.

She will soon announce a comprehensive rehabilitation program. Citizens are advised not to pay attention to rumors circulating on social media. Chief Minister Punjab will not ignore any flood-affected area or individual. With the grace of Allah Almighty, Punjab is in responsible and safe

Relief Foods

ISLAMABAD: A volunteer collecting relief food bags for flood affected people of Punjab, alongside a road, in the Federal Capital.



May every Pakistani's dream of owning a home come true, says Asma Butt

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: At the special invitation of Sheikh Waheed, CEO of Waheed Group of Companies, the inauguration ceremony was attended by Ms. Asma Ismail Butt, CEO of Dolphin Communication, along with Naeem Pasha, Raja Sarfraz, representatives from the Rawalpindi and Islamabad Chambers of Commerce, and a large number of business personalities from the twin cities.

On the occasion, Sheikh Waheed expressed his gratitude to the guests and said that Rawalpindi is a densely populated city, and that's why many people are now looking to invest in property outside the city. Every Pakistani holds the dream of owning a home every necessary resource.



ative and added that Owning Hafeez Apartments are an in their heart. Our aim is to a home is every Pakistani's excellent choice to fulfill that optimism that the project will provide residents here with dream. I pray that everyone dream. On the other hand, the gets a place to call their own— business community congrat-

Ms. Asma Ismail Butt one that provides all essen- ulated Sheikh Waheed on the sector in the future.

praised Sheikh Waheed's initi- tial facilities. In my view, Bano launch of the Bano Hafeez Apartments and expressed prove to be profitable for both the public and the business

CEO Samreen Agha Guarantees Continued Support for Attock's Water Infrastructure Amid Limited Resources

👺 Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: The residents of Cantonment Board Attock, standing shoulder to shoulder with Member Cantonment Board Syed Mehdi Naqvi, have resolved the water shortage problem affecting more than 25,000 house-Kamalpur Syedan in 2024.

This project was started for

loved ones with the cooperation of Syed Hub Ali, Syed Haider Abbas, Asif Khurshid, Syed Qalb Abbas Naqvi, Syed Farhan Haider, and Cantonment Board Member Syed Mehdi Naqvi.

This year again, five new bore wells holds. With collective efforts, bore are being started with the formal wells were initiated at five locations approval of CEO Attock, Samreen to provide water to the population of Agha, in the presence of local resi-

The inauguration began with a the Isal-e-Sawab (prayers for the prayer led by Syed Nazaqat Naqvi.

donated by Syed Muhammad Raza (USA),2 bore wells by Syed Danish Raza (Germany), and 1 bore well by Syed Qalb Abbas Naqvi (England) for the Isal-e-Sawab of their departed family members.

Cantonment Board Member Syed Mehdi Naqvi shared these details while speaking to the media. A large number of local residents were present on the occasion. He added that the bore wells will be carried out in Kashmiri Mohalla, Koocha further assured that:

departed souls) of their deceased Out of these,2 bore wells were Prem Nagar, and Mohalla Kamalpur

Answering a question, he said that Cantonment Board CEO Samreen Agha, in the presence of Vice President Shakeel Bangash, Board Member, and a delegation of residents including Syed Nazaqat Naqvi, Syed Arif Naqvi, Syed Afkar Abbas, and Syed Mujtaba Naqvi, promised that despite limited resources she would play her full role in the welfare and problem-solving of the area. She

Revolutionary steps underway for cultural heritage preservation: Dr. Ehsan Bhutta



LAHORE: Secretary Tourism, Archaeology & Museums, Department Punjab Dr. Ehsan Bhutta highlighted the government's transformative initiatives for heritage preservation and tourism development, driven by the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif and Senior Minister Maryam Aurangzeb. During a comprehensive visit to Lahore's historic landmarks and ongoing projects, including Summit Minar, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Sher Singh Baradari, and the proposed Theme Park and Bus Terminal in Harbanspura, Dr. Ehsan Bhutta underscored the importance of these endeavors in promoting Punjab's rich cultural heritage and boosting the tourism industry. He was accompanied by Managing Director TDCP and other senior officials. During the visit of Summit Minar at Assembly Chowk, Secretary Tourism was given a comprehensive briefing on its restoration plan. Officials informed that, for the first time since 1974, the project is now being executed in collaboration with the NESPAK. The design prepared under the guidance of Speaker Punjab Assembly Malik Ahmad Khan and Senior Provincial Minister Maryam Auramgzeb, has been finalized and work will begin soon.

Internship always plays key role in building confidence in students: Dr Uzma

👺 Bureau Report

LAHORE: Prof Dr Uzma Qureshi Vice Chancellor Lahore College for Women University Sunday said internship in Furniture industry and interiors always plays key role in building confidence in students and help learn how to meet global future challenges on international markets.

Speaking here today at the concluding ceremony of last batch of 100 students of Summer Internship Program 2025 held under the aegis of Pakistan Furniture Council(PFC) in collaboration with Chenone, she said that the furniture industry, being one of the most creative and globally competitive fields, demands innovation, technical expertise, and aesthetic understanding, which students can only gain through practical exposure.

Addressing the participants drawn from various universities GM Interiors Chenone Ms Maria Tauqir said Pakistan's furniture and interior design industry has immense export potential, and by engaging young talent through internships, the country can position itself strongly in global markets.

Earlier in his welcome address CEO PFC and Chenone thanked the speakers and guests especially former VC University of Home Economics and Dean Lahore College for Women University Prof Dr Syeda Faleeha Zahra Kazmi for graciously gracing the event with their scintillating presence which is an honour to have galaxy of shining stars with them. He said architect Ayesha Rifaqat, architect Arooj Ajmal, Hina Zaheer (Interior Designer)

Saireen Maqsood (Graphic Designer) also contributed a lot in imparting practical knowledge to students through their series of special lectures mainly designed to build confidence among

Group Chairman/Chief Editor: Almass Ayoub Sabir Vice Chairman: **Asim Nazir Ahmad Naveed Ahmad Khan** Editor: Head Editorial Advisory Board: Amjad Mehmood

Bureau Chief Karachi: Khurram Jaffrani (jaffrani@adpluse.pk Bureau Chief Lahore: Sved Afraz Ali Nazish (afrazalishah@gmail.com)

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

Phone: +92 51 2227123, WhatsApp +92 346 5008408

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

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

Lahore Office: 7-E, Samanberg, Johar Town. spokesmanlahore@gmail.com

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The unraveling of the

he UN enters its 81st year expecting to be viewed as a beacon of global governance — but is more like a patient in intensive care. The prognosis, derived from internal assessments and financial autopsies, is dire.

A 30 percent reduction in system-wide funding, forced by the withdrawal of its largest donor, has triggered a cascade of institutional failure. The Secretariat is on the brink of insolvency, with simulations indicating an inability to meet payroll by the end of this year. What is dismissed as mere budget shortfalls is in fact systemic cardiac arrest.

In response, the UN80 reforms initiative, touted as a rejuvenation of the institution, is nothing more than capitulation — managed decline disguised as transformation. The highly anticipated mandate review revealed a body suffocating under the weight of its own history: more than 40,000 resolutions that remain technically active, 86 percent of which lack sunset clauses or termination mechanisms, creating a paralyzing inheritance of 4,000 active directives. It is no longer a system that evolves with global needs but a collapsing museum of outdated intentions.

The organization's fundamental dysfunction is rooted in a pathological refusal to confront its own structural decay, which is epitomized by the Mandate Implementation Review, an 18-month exercise that conspicuously failed to establish any tangible connection between the flood of directives and the financial means required to implement them. This omission amounts to an institutional admission of surrender, confirming a system content to operate in a state of deliberate fiction.

The scale of this delusion can be easily quantified by the 15 percent of new mandates that are adopted without any dedicated funding and explicitly demand execution "within existing resources." Such phrasing has become the mantra of UN operational culture, perfectly framing a world of magical thinking where ambition consistently outpaces capacity.

Naturally, the resulting bloat is both operational and existential: 27,000 formal meetings are convened annually, and more than 1,100 reports are produced, nearly two-thirds of which are downloaded fewer than 2,000 times. Such output does not constitute governance; it is self-referential performance art, a ritualized production of documents that substitutes for impact and obscures a total absence of accounta-

In the end, we have a system that only accumulates, layering new obligations atop a brittle and underfunded base, mistaking volume for value, and procedure for progress. Consequently, field operations that roughly speaking represent the organization's most tangible value are being systematically dismantled. Core humanitarian agencies, eviscerated by the withdrawal of US funding, are confronting existential contractions.

Self Checkout; Journey into the Heart of U.S. Society

again showing signs of vitality. With the Federal Reserve cutting interest rates, the hope of lower borrowing costs has sparked renewed optimism in trade, investment, and employment. Markets are responding with resilience, businesses are regaining confidence, and households are cautiously optimistic about relief from inflation. Yet behind the statistics, the true pulse of the nation is best felt not in the halls of power, but in the daily interactions between ordinary citizens. For a newcomer, one of the richest ways to understand America is not only through its politics and headlines but through working shoulder to shoulder with its people, in their neighborhoods and workplaces. My journey since migrating in September 2024 has been exactly that—a yearlong immersion into the everyday life of the United States.

My colleagues reflected the same diversity. Many were students in their twenties. eager to earn money while completing their education. Others were retirees, working to stay active and engaged. Supervisors were consistently encouraging, patient, and generous with their knowledge, creating a work environment built on cooperation and mutual respect. The culture of sharing—skills, stories, and even personal aspirationswas profoundly enriching. These interactions created a microcosm of America itself: multigenerational, multiethnic, and bound together by a shared pursuit of opportunity.

Among customers, patterns emerged. The majority were middle-aged or elderly

he American economy is lies. I witnessed countless examples of a pride in independence and a determi-administration. Yet, optimism endures, parents supporting their adult children in nation to manage their affairs on their building or renovating homes—contributing not just financially but with their own expertise and labor. These acts of solidarity underscored a family-centric ethos, where generations stand behind one another in pursuit of stability and growth. Elderly women, in particular, children brought life and laughter to the

> unflinchingly hauling heavy bags of soil and fertilizer, embodying a spirit of independence that refused to yield to

Alongside them immigrants from Ukraine, Poland, France, the Middle East, and Asia. Many were cautious with credit card trans-

actions, double-checking details to protect themselves from fraud. South Asians, particularly Indians and Pakistanis, were polite, efficient, and meticulous in their purchases, often focused on home painting, plumbing, or gardening. East Asians—Chinese, Koreans, Vietnamese-approached shopping with equal caution, reflecting cultural habits of vigilance. Latino customers, frequently laborers, arrived in groups, often with limited English but remarkable resourcefulness, buying tools and materials for construction and repair work.

African American customers, too, left strong impressions. Many carried themselves with confidence and self-reliance, often declining assistance from associates. While some interactions required white Americans, often shopping as fami-careful navigation, the majority revealed

own terms. Meanwhile, white Americans stood out for their openness and generosity, often splitting household expenses equitably between spouses, and approaching associates with courtesy and ease. Young white couples shopping with impressed me with their resilience, store aisles, their children's golden hair

and innocent chatter a reminder of the vitality of family life.

Religion, too, surfaced in subtle ways. Conversations revealed that many Americans are deeply Christian, with regular Bible reading shaping their worldview. When I explained

Islam's respect for Jesus and Mary, and the Quran's insistence on reverence for previous prophets, several were surprised and intrigued. For many, this was their first time hearing of the similarities between Islam and Christianity. These dialogues, though small, were powerful in bridging understanding and dispelling misconceptions.

Through these experiences, I came to appreciate the dual fabric of American life: the resilience and industriousness of ordinary people, and the larger political and economic forces shaping their choices. On one hand, Trump's "America First" agenda resonates strongly, promising to curb illegal immigration, reduce homelessness, combat gangs, and restore national pride. On the other, skepticism exists-rising costs of essentials frustrate households, even those who support the rooted in the belief that once policies mature, they will deliver tangible benefits.

What struck me most was the balance between leadership and people. Politicians and policymakers set the stage. but it is in the hands of ordinary Americans—lifting heavy bags of fertilizer, saving meticulously for home repairs. canvassing neighborhoods, or splitting bills at the checkout—that the nation's resilience resides.

One year after arriving in the United States, I feel enriched not just by professional experiences but by a deeper understanding of the American character. From politics to retail, from elderly gardeners to immigrant laborers, from religious dialogues to economic frustrations, I have seen America up close. And what I have found is a society marked by hard work, generosity, independence, and a cautious but enduring hope for a better tomorrow.

For me, this is the true greatness of America: not only in its vast economy or global influence, but in the everyday dignity of its people. Their struggles and triumphs, their resilience and openness, their ability to debate leadership yet unite in family and community-these are what sustain the nation. As America moves forward under shifting political winds and evolving economic realities, it is this spirit of ordinary people that will continue to make it great.

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



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

SMDA: A Great Honor for Pakistani Nation and Pak Army

ith over 250 million Muslims, the people of Pakistan hold a deep and abiding love for the land where the Prophet Muhammad where the Qur'an was revealed, and where the Kaaba, the gibla of all Muslims, stands. This reverence is heartfelt connection to the sacred history and legacy of Islam.

to Saudi Arabia has profoundly influenced both public sentiment and national policy. Successive Pakistani of reverence and piety.

leaders, along with ordinary citizens, have consistently expressed admiration and a sense of protective duty toward the Kingdom. Across all segments of society, the holy lands of Saudi Arabia are held in the highest esteem. For practicing Muslims in Pakistan, performing Hajj or Umrah is not merely a religious duty, but a cherished aspiration—an emotional journey to the sacred heart of their

The timing and grandeur of the SMDA's signing ceremony further underscore its historic significance. Upon his arrival in Saudi Arabia, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif was welcomed not just as a foreign dignitary, but as a trusted brother of the Kingdom. His entry was marked by full royal honors at the impressive Qasr Al-Yamamah palace in Riyadh. Saudi F-15 fighter jets escorted his aircraft as it entered Saudi airspace—a rare honor that signifies the high regard in which Pakistan is held by Saudi leadership. This aerial escort highlights the strategic importance Riyadh assigns to its bond with Islamabad. Upon landing, the Prime Minister was greeted with a guard of honor, and the Royal Saudi Armed Forces stood in ceremonial formation, a tribute reserved for the closest and most esteemed allies.

At the royal court, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman personally received Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, further reflecting the warmth and depth of their bilateral ties. The symbolism of this royal (peace be upon him) was born, reception resonated strongly in Pakistan, where it was hailed as an extraordinary expression of Islamic unity and political trust. The Pakistani flag was promnot confined to ritual obligations but flows from a inently displayed throughout Riyadh, and the streets were lined in honor of the delegation. This generous hospitality draws deeply from Islamic tradition, where Since Pakistan's inception, this spiritual connection honoring guests—especially those arriving for noble, strategic, or religious reasons—is regarded as an act

> In gratitude for the warm reception, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. speaking aboard his special flight, extended heartfelt thanks to Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and King Salman bin Abdulaziz, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques. He described the welcome as "gracious and touching" and highlighted the profound bond shared by the two brotherly nations. His

remarks went beyond diplomacy, reflecting the feelings of millions of Pakistanis who regard Saudi Arabia as the spiritual heartland of Islam and the natural leader of the Muslim world. Accompanying the Prime Minister was a high-level delegation, including Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif, Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb, Information Minister Attaullah Tarar, Climate Change Minister Musadik Malik, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister Tariq Fatemi, and notably, Chief of Army Staff Field Marshal Asim Munir. The presence of Pakistan's highest civilian and military leaders at the signing ceremony highlights the broad scope of the strategic partnership, which extends beyond defense to include diplomacy, economic collaboration, and cultural ties.

Across Pakistan, the announcement and signing of the SMDA were met with widespread national pride and celebration. In Islamabad and other major cities, government buildings were illuminated, and the national flags of Pakistan and Saudi Arabia were flown side by side to commemorate the occasion. This was more than a formality—it was a powerful expression of public sentiment and national identity. For the people of Pakistan, Saudi Arabia is not merely a strategic partner but the spiritual homeland of Islam, the land of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), and the guardian of Islam's holiest sites. Defending this sacred land is seen not only as a political responsibility but as a sacred duty rooted in centuries of Islamic tradition and brotherhood.

The defense agreement also reinforces the role of the Pakistan Army as more than just a national forceit is a key stabilizing power in the region. Over many decades, the Pakistan Army has maintained a strong presence in Saudi Arabia during times of crisis and has trained thousands of Saudi military personnel, significantly enhancing the Kingdom's defense capabilities. The SMDA formalizes this enduring cooperation, providing it with legal and strategic clarity. It guarantees that Pakistan's armed forces will continue to safeguard not only Pakistan's borders but also the spiritual and territorial sanctity of Saudi Arabia.

This historic agreement is therefore much more than a bilateral treaty—it embodies centuries of shared Islamic heritage, mutual trust, and respect. It blends religious obligation, strategic necessity, and political vision into a united front. The pact sends a clear message to the Muslim world and beyond: Pakistan and Saudi Arabia stand together, bound not just by agreements but by faith, history, and a common destiny. In a period marked by geopolitical instability, sectarian divisions, and external threats, such unity offers hope and strength. It is a vital step toward restoring solidarity, asserting sovereignty, and ensuring that Islam's most sacred lands remain protected.

Role of Bureaucracy in AJK

Fatima Jinnah Boys Higher Secondary School, Tatrinote, AJK with - Alaf: Allah; Ba: Bismillah; Pa: Pakistan;

I revisited the school along with a number classmates, on September 8, 2025, on the occasion of "Interna-

tional Literacy Day" which is being celebrated by UNESCO since 1967. The Muhammad Azam Minhas classmates found that, this Institute is still standing crushing us - note it (!). (almost) on the same status in case of

facilities, if compare with developed States. Whereas, government was/ is bound to provide (A - Z) educational facilities to every child upto his willing. This is going on in my motherland, because our leadership has no plan except 'a-few' to educate the population. Certainly, leadership knows very-

well, if people will become educated, they will snatch our chair firstly. And, secondly, because, their scions are studying in foreign states on tax payer's money. So, they have no need to invest on education. The group (also) visited class-rooms which were found worse than animal-farmyards if compare with developed countries. The Principal (a well-educated and committed personality) is begging for provision of facilities from Government as-well-as public sector respectively for upgrading of the school.

Honestly penning, main hurdle is from our leadership, because Allah for the best (!!).

started my learning they spent and spending funds on journey in 1960 from cricket; kite and personal utilization. cricket; kite and personal utilization. Whereas, our enemies like India; Israel (*) have invested/investing on education mainly. So, presently, they are trying to crush (even) Ummah Ta: Talwar. After passage of 65 years, on the basis of knowledge. No doubt

> that, we are standing till-now due to blessing of Allah in shape of (Honbl) Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan's knowledgeable-team-work. And, if we will not continue to save enemies will be successful in

The group of classmates came to know during discussion that presently, enrollment of school is around 200 students only, which is shameful being a higher secondary school. The surrounding is jammed with population whereas, educational facilities are extremely low. So, a lot of uneducated population is growing like animals rapidly. Anyhow, the group donated cash payment for some urgent work and (also) promised with head of the school for approaching with every corner for

provision of more: funds; staff; building etcetera. So that, reputation of this Institute could be improved, and parents admit their babies here instead of private sector where fees are extremely high and poor students could not enter into(!). The visit was closed with the desire for celebrating this function everyyear on September 8 along-with UNESCO's celebration of-Interna-

tional Literacy Day. Let's hope on

Gillani Family working non stop and stands with flood victims amid historic crisis

MULTAN: Syed Abdul Qadir Gilani, Member of the National Assembly, said that the recent floods are the worst in history, the most devastating since 1956 in Punjab's history. India released water into Pakistan's three rivers — Sutlej, Chenab, and Ravi — all at once, on the same day, and without any prior notice. Ten lakh (1 million) cusecs of water were released into the Chenab, four lakh (400,000) cusecs into the Sutlej, and two and a half lakh (250,000) cusecs into the Ravi. Because of this, the government had no chance to prepare, to make timely3 arrangements for the flood victims, or to evacuate them in

Punjab, I, along with my brothers — Syed Musa Gillani, political figure of Member of the National Assembly



and my father Syed Yousuf Raza As soon as the flood entered South Gillani, former Prime Minister of Pakistan and current Chairman Syed Ali Haider Gillani, Member of Senate, directly monitored the situthe Provincial Assembly of Punjab; ation. They were on board with the district administration and were Multan; and Syed Ali Qasim Gillani, giving directions. Afterward, we held meetings with the Deputy Commis-

sioner of Multan, the Commissioner of Multan, and the Additional Chief Secretary of Multan. For the people of our constituency, our district, and our division affected by the floods, we carried out successful rescue operations. Rescue 1122 and other welfare organizations also joined us, and of people."

because of these efforts, people were evacuated from the flood-hit areas in time, minimizing loss of life.

Syed Abdul Qadir Gillani further said that beyond my constituency, and beyond my father's and brothers' constituencies, we were the first to arrange food for flood victims. In our constituencies, every day 25,000 people are provided with breakfast and meals — and this is still ongoing.

He gave special thanks to Professor Dr. Mehnaz Khakwani, Principal of Nishtar Medical University, to Dr. Rana Altaf, CEO of Mukhtar Sheikh Hospital, and to the heads of other hospitals for sending their medical teams daily to the flood-hit areas.

Syed Abdul Qadir Gillani also expressed gratitude to Commissioner Multan Aamir Karim Khan, Deputy Commissioner Hamid Sandhu, the Pakistan Army, and Rescue 1122 for their efforts. "They are our pride, and in every difficult and testing time, they remain active in saving the lives

TED x Lahore at the British Council inspires bold ideas for climate action under global Countdown initiative

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: TED x Lahore returned on 21 September 2025 at the British Council Library, bringing together leading voices from Pakistan and beyond to share bold ideas under this year's global theme: Countdown.

The event featured a diverse group of speakers who shared perspectives from science, policy, art, and community action.

Reflecting on the event, James Hampson, Country Director, British Council Pakistan, said:

"We were proud to host TedX Lahore at the British Council. It is an event which embodies our commitment to connecting people to ideas, opportunities and each other.

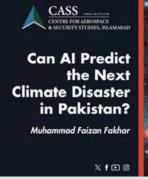


Countdown is a theme which speaks High Commissioner to Pakistan, Jane Management at UMT, shared his for itself, and we're there to give a Marriott CMG OBE, pre-recorded pioneering work on flood modelling her talk and spoke about strength- and adaptation strategies. Abuzar changes that can shape a fairer, more ening UK-Pakistan climate partner- Madhu, performing artist, writer, Environmental Coordination had a ships and the importance of inclusive and activist, used storytelling and one on one conversation with Ben The speaker line-up reflected a rich climate resilience. Dr. Ahmad Ali Gul, theatre to bring attention to the envi- Warrington the Punjab Representadiversity of perspectives. The British Director of the Centre for Disaster ronmental struggles of communities tive of the British High Commission.

living along the Ravi River. Osama Rizvi, an international economic and energy analyst, explored the political economy of climate change and the need for more sustainable energy

Mehak Masood, climate change and sustainability expert, offered insights drawn from her work in both policy and the private sector. Tanvir Ahmad, Energy Officer and Country Lead (Climate Change) UNHCR Pakistan, described how renewable energy solutions are transforming refugee and host communities, from solar-powered water systems to fuel-efficient cooking stoves. Nyal Mueenuddin- documentary filmmaker gave a talk about his work in documenting floods in Pakistan and finally Romina Khurshid Alam- Coordinator to Prime Minister on Climate Change and

Forecasting Tomorrow: What AI Really Knows About Pakistan's Climate





👺 Prof. Dr. Saud Altaf

an artificial intelligence really predict environmental change? The short answer is increasingly yes, although not for everything and never with absolute certainty. Over ecent years, AI systems have moved from laboratory pilots to frontline tools that forecast weather, flag flood risks and anticipate heatwaves faster and, in many cases, more accurately than traditional methods. For a country like Pakistan, where livelihoods hinge on the timing of the monsoon and where communities from Gwadar to Gilgit face climate amplified hazards, this shift matters

Modern AI weather models learn from vast archives of global observations and simulations to produce forecasts in minutes instead of hours. Their advantage is speed and scale. They can generate many scenarios quickly, which gives forecasters more time to interpret risks and communicate them to the public. Medium range predictions for three to ten days ahead are improving, and short term rainfall nowcasts are getting crisper at the neighborhood level. Faster updates translate into earlier, potentially lifesaving warnings when rivers are rising or heat indices

are poised to jump.

These capabilities are already filtering into public facing tools. AI assisted flood platforms use river gauge data, satellite imagery and local topography to estimate where floodwaters might go and when. In districts along the Indus and its tributaries, where flash floods can arrive overnight, earlier guidance can help authorities' pre-position relief supplies and communities plan evacuation routes. In coastal towns, machine learning models that blend ocean and weather data can offer better lead time for storm surge, while heat early warning systems can help municipalities adjust work hours, open cooling shelters and manage hospital readiness.

AI is also sharpening air quality forecasts by fusing emissions inventories, meteorological data and satellite observations. For farmers, researchers are building advisory systems that predict pest outbreaks and optimal irrigation windows by combining field sensors with climate signals. Importantly, the global meteorological community is not replacing physics based science with black boxes. The direction of travel is hybrid, where statistical learning accelerates calculations and fills gaps, while physical models and expert judgment remain the back-

There are clear limits that no algorithm can erase. Earthquakes remain beyond prediction. Science can map hazard and estimate probabilities, but no system can tell us the exact date, location and magnitude of the next major quake. Seasonal monsoon performance can be indicated weeks to months ahead, yet year to year variability and complex ocean $% \left\{ x_{i}^{2},x_{i}^{2}$ atmosphere interactions keep uncertainty high. Long term climate projections still depend on emissions pathways and large ensembles of physical models, which AI can complement but not replace.

For Pakistan, the path to trustworthy AI enabled prediction begins with data. Dense, well maintained weather stations, river gauges, coastal buoys and clean archives are the raw ingredients that make models useful. Open data sharing between national agencies and universities would let local researchers tune global AI to monsoon microclimates, from sea breeze interactions in Karachi to orographic storms in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Every deployment should pair transparency about uncertainty with routine human oversight and public education.

So can AI predict environmental change? It can, to a growing and often impressive degree, especially for weather and hydrology on timescales that matter for daily decisions. Think of AI as a force multiplier for Pakistani forecasters and planners, accelerating science, widening access to timely warnings and buying precious hours before the next storm, surge or heatwave arrives, provided we invest in data, institutions and public trust.

Uzbekistan-UN: A Partnership for a Sustainable Future

stan Shavkat Mirziyoyev will take part in the 80th Anni-Assembly in New York.

member of the United Nations on March 2, 1992. This milestone marked a key affirmation of the young independent republic's readiness not only to actively engage in all international processes but also to base its foreign policy on the principles of respect for international law and the UN Charter.

More than three decades have passed since then, during which Tashkent has become one of the most active participants in global initiatives, with its proposals receiving wide recognition on the international stage.

Uzbekistan's active participation in the United Nations has played a pivotal role in strengthening the country's independence, securing international recognition of its sovereignty, and establishing a foundation for equal and respectful dialogue with all nations. The opening of the United Nations Office in Tashkent in 1993 marked a significant milestone, underscoring the long-term nature of Uzbekistan's cooperation with the

From the outset, Uzbekistan's priorities within the framework of the United Nations have focused on ensuring international and regional security, combating contemporary challenges and threats, promoting sustainable development, and addressing environmental issues. Special attention has been devoted to the Aral Sea crisis, which has emerged as a global environmental catastrophe.

It is no coincidence that Uzbekistan has put forward a series of initiatives addressing

region, which have garnered broad support from the international community. Notably. versary session of in 2018, under the auspices of the United Nations General the United Nations, the Multi-Partner Trust Fund for Human Uzbekistan became a full Security in the Aral Sea Region was established.

> The United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres has visited Uzbekistan twice: in June 2017 and July 2024. These visits underscored Tashkent's growing role as a key platform for addressing global issues. During his visit in July 2024,

> United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres remarked, "Uzbekistan is our reliable partner across all spheres, from peace and security, human rights, to climate and sustainable development. The country stands at the forefront of advancing the UN's multilateral agenda". This high appraisal highlights the core essence of the relationship: the cooperation between Uzbekistan and the United Nations is dynamic and comprehensive. spanning from strengthening regional security to the implementation of the global Sustainable Development Goals.

> In recognition of his contribution to advancing solidarity and strengthening cooperation between Uzbekistan and the United Nations, António Guterres was awarded the highest degree of the Order of 'Dustlik" in 2024.

The President of Uzbekistan regularly delivers speeches at the sessions of the United Nations General Assembly. His addresses at the 72nd, 75th, 76th, and 78th sessions have served as significant policy statements, addressing issues such as regional security, combating climate change, protecting human rights, and promoting intercivilizational

The participation of the Uzbek

resident of Uzbeki- the challenges of the Aral Sea delegation in several interna- has achieved a number of practional forums has also been notable, including the United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries held in 2025 in Turkmenistan. These events showcase not only Uzbekistan's active engagement but also its readiness to put forward proposals that reflect the interests of not only the region but the

> entire international community. Between 2018 and 2025, Uzbekistan initiated 13 resolutions in the United Nations General Assembly. These resolutions cover a broad range of topics: from regional security to sustainable tourism and environmental challenges.

Among the most significant are the following resolutions: Strengthening Regional and International Cooperation to Ensure Peace and Sustainable Development in Central Asia" (2018), "Proclamation of the Aral Sea Region as a Zone of Ecological Innovations and Technologies" (2021), "Enhancing the Role of Parliaments in Accelerating the Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals" (2022), "United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration" (2025).

This year, Uzbekistan climbed 19 positions in the global SDG Index, entering the top five fastest-progressing countries worldwide and emerging as a regional

The Development Strategy 'New Uzbekistan" for 2022-2026 and the national Development Concept up to 2030 outline priorities aligned with the United Nations global goals: combating poverty, ensuring quality education, promoting gender equality, safeguarding health, sustainable natural resource management, and advancing digital transfor-

In collaboration with United Nations agencies, Uzbekistan tical results. Notably, between 2022 and 2024, the poverty rate decreased from 17% to 8.9%. marking one of the most dynamic improvements in the region. The implementation of the Unified Social Benefits Registry, supported by UNICEF, the International Labour Organization (ILO), and the United Nations Programme Development (UNDP), doubled the coverage of vulnerable groups, from 600,000 to 1.2 million people. UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO) programmes contributed to increasing childhood vaccination rates and modernizing the school education system. Projects by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and UNDP focused on reforestation efforts in the Aral Sea region have helped consolidate the area's status as a "zone of environmental

innovation and technology." Currently, numerous United Nations agencies operate in Uzbekistan, including the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNICEF, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), UNESCO, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and others. Together, they are implementing 166 projects with a total budget exceeding USD 293 million under the Framework Cooperation Programme on Sustainable Development for 2021-2025.

In recent years, Uzbekistan has welcomed dozens of heads of United Nations agencies: from UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay to UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell, and World Intellectual Property Organization Director General Daren Tang. These visits symbolize the growing interna-



tional interest in the country. which is emerging as an important platform for addressing global challenges.

In 2023, Samarkand hosted the 25th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) followed by the Public Service Forum in 2025.

The United Nations Forum on Public Service held in Samarkand, along with the 2024 "Asian Women's Forum" organized jointly with UN Women, stand out as vivid examples of Uzbekistan's growing role as a hub for key international initiatives.

The official opening of the UN Women office in Tashkent in May, 2025 marked a recognition of Uzbekistan's achievements in promoting gender equality and empowering women across the

In 2025, the International Transport and Logistics Hub in Termez was integrated into the global supply network of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), strengthening Uzbekistan's role in humanitarian operations.

A significant milestone in Uzbekistan's engagement with United Nations bodies was its election to the Human Rights Council for the 2021-2023 term. This achievement affirmed international recognition of the country's efforts in human rights protection and the reform of

national institutions.

Additionally, Uzbekistan has become a member of several prestigious United Nations bodies, including the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) for the 2025-2027 term, the International Labour Organization (ILO) Governing Body for 2024–2027, the Human Rights Committee for 2025-2028, the United Nations Statistical Commission for 2026-2029, and the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage for 2022-

Tashkent is already actively promoting its candidacy for a non-permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council for the 2035-2036 term, which would mark a new milestone in the development of its international diplomacy.

In October-November 2025, the 43rd session of the UNESCO General Conference will be held in Samarkand. This event will make history not only for Uzbekistan but for the entire international organization: for the first time in 40 years, the UNESCO General Conference will take place outside Paris, the organization's traditional headquarters.

The choice of Samarkand as the venue for this significant forum is deeply symbolic. This UNESCO World Heritage List,

and West. For Uzbekistan, this decision represents recognition of the country's efforts to preserve cultural heritage and promote international cooperation in science, education, and culture. It also reflects the high level of trust the Republic enjoys on the global stage.

embodies a dialogue of cultures

and civilizations, bridging East

All of this confirms that Uzbekistan has become a focal point for international engagement and cooperation.

Over three decades of cooperation with the United Nations, Uzbekistan has progressed from a young member of the international community to an active initiator of global solutions. Today, the country not only participates in implementing the organization's goals but also takes the lead in shaping the current agenda, from combating climate change to promoting dialogue among civilizations.

For Tashkent, the United Nations remains a key platform for multilateral diplomacy. And for the international community, Uzbekistan is emerging as a reliable partner whose initiatives and practical actions make a tangible contribution to strengthening international security, advancing sustainable development, and protecting human rights.

Thus, the upcoming participation of President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirzivovev in the 80th anniversary session of the United Nations General Assembly will be a significant event, one that will once again underscore the country's strategic commitment to strengthening multilateral dialogue and advancing global initiatives.

This participation will further solidify Uzbekistan's position as a state that generates international ideas and reaffirm its meaningful ancient city, inscribed on the role in shaping the global agenda of the 21st century.



'``' Index Fluctuation				
Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index				
Current	Prev. Close			
157,953.46	156,177.81			
Day's High	Day's Low			
158,082.55	156,978.85			
Index Value	Change			
31,348,989,340	+1775.65			
Percentage	Time			
+1.14%	18 Sept, 2025 4:30 pm			
Europe: FTS	SE 100 Index			
Index Value	Change			
9,216.67	-11.44			
Percentage	Time 19 Sept, 4:35 pm GMT+1			
-0.12%				
USA: Dow Jones	Industrial Average			
Index Value	Change			
46,305.17	+162.75			
Percentage	Time			
+0.35%	19 Sept, 1:57 pm GMT-4			
Asia Pacific Nikk	ei Stocks Average			

+0.33%	GMT-4			
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average				
Index Value	Change			
45,045.81	-257.62			
Percentage	Time			
-0.57%	19 Sept, 3:45 pm GMT+9			

Open Market Forex Rates			
Currency	Buying	Selling	
Australian Dollar	187.3	192.3	
Bahrain Dinar	749.5	757	
Canadian Dollar	203.2	208.2	
China Yuan	39.47	39.87	
Danish Krone	44.15	44.75	
Euro	332.60	337.60	
Hong Kong Dollar	36.12	36.47	
Indian Rupee	3.12	3.21	
Japanese Yen	1.8950	1.9950	
Kuwaiti Dinar	917.1	926.1	
Malaysian Ringgit	67	67.60	
NewZealand \$	164.7	166.70	
Norwegians Krone	28.37	28.67	
Omani Riyal	733.90	741.40	
Qatari Riyal	77.22	77.92	
Saudi Riyal	75.40	76.40	
Singapore Dollar	219.13	221.13	
Swedish Korona	29.99	30.29	
Swiss Franc	355.02	357.77	
Thai Bhat	8.73	8.88	
U.A.E Dirham	77.25	78.25	
UK Pound Sterling	384.50	389.50	
US Dollar	282.55	282.75	

Sajid Tarar Highlights Role of Diaspora at Luncheon Hosted by Cllr Qaisar Ábbas Gondal



Chaudhry Tabraiz Aurah

LONDON: Vice Chairman of the British Pakistani Mayors Association UK, Patronin-Chief of HOPE UK, and 49th Deputy Mayor of Thurrock Council, Councillor Qaisar Abbas Gondal, hosted a luncheon in Central London in honour of Chairman of Muslims of America, Mr. Sajid Tarar; Chairman of HOPE Overseas Pakistanis, Mr. Mehran Tarar; and President of Trading Wing Gulf Muslim League, Mr. Shamshad Khan Tanoli.

The gathering was also attended by prominent businessman Mr. Faisal Younis and Punjab Police Officer Mr. Muhammad

Speaking at the event, Sajid Tarar praised Cllr Qaisar Gondal's contributions, saying: "Qaisar Gondal has done remarkable work for HOPE. The mission of HOPE is to serve and support our Overseas Pakistanis."

Councillor Qaisar Abbas Gondal highlighted the role of the diaspora, stating: "Overseas Pakistanis have always brought pride to Pakistan. While living abroad, we are also actively playing our role in local

Addressing the media, Shamshad Khan Tanoli underlined his long-standing commitment to public service: "During my stay in Kuwait, I have always strived to serve people without any discrimination."

Aleem expresses displeasure over delayed beautification of Islamabad-Murree Expressway

Example 2 Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Communications, Abdul Aleem Khan on Sunday has expressed dissatisfaction over the delays in the up gradation and beautification works of the Islamabad-Murree Expressway.

He directed the officials of National Highway Authority (NHA) to expedite the completion of the ongoing development works, emphasizing that green belts should be fully developed, more trees be planted, and aesthetically pleasing landscaping must be ensured along the Murree Expressway.

Highlighting that work has been started five months before, the federal minister stressed that it must now be brought to completion as early as possible. A final deadline has been issued to NHA officials, and no further extension will be granted in this regard, during a detailed inspection visit, the Federal Minister for Communications various points along the Islamabad-Murree to complete the remaining work, including and functionality of the highway, they told.



Abdul Aleem Khan reviewed the progress at Expressway. He issued specific instructions

the green belts all pending issues be resolved

He emphasized that the quality of work should be of high standards and sustainable. Abdul Aleem Khan stated that once the project is completed, the Prime Minister will be invited to formally inaugurate the Expressway. He also inspected Rest Areas and directed the construction of additional washroom facilities on NHA land to better accommodate the influx of tourists visiting

Briefing the federal minister, the NHA officials reported that the installation of new lighting along the Murree Expressway has been completed, road reflectors put in place and a new toll plaza equipped with an E-Tag facility is now operational. Tourists and travelers on the Murree Expressway appreciated the efforts led by Abdul Aleem Khan and praised the initiative to enhance the beauty

*D*aily wagers

RAWALPINDI: Labourers are sitting in their hand carts at a road waiting for customers at Dingi Khui



Pak-Saudi Defence Pact A Milestone For Muslim Unity: Iftikhar Malik

Spokesman Report

LAHORE: SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry former President Iftikhar Ali Malik Sunday said the epoch making historic Pak-Saudia strategic mutual defence pact will now greatly pave the way for forging direly needed unity among entire Muslim Ummah to thwart nefarious designs of any external aggression on

In a statement here today octogenarian trade leader of South Asia, said it reiterates the principle that "aggression against either country shall be considered aggression against both". He said

it is without doubt a diplomatic and geopolitical victory for Pakistan and deal is not merely a bilateral understanding but a symbol of unshakeable unity between two key pillars of the Islamic world which marks a new chapter of solidarity, strength, and resilience for the Muslim Ummah. He said in prevailing grappled hostile scenario hovering around the region, its high time for other Gulf states to sign similar pacts with Pakistan as Pak-Saudia have set an exemplary precedent that will inspire the entire Muslim world to act collectively in the face of looming threatening challenges. He said pact will send a strong message to



Israel, which is arguably the biggest current security threat to the Palestinians as well as the larger Muslim and Arab world.

Iftikhar Ali Malik said this coalition will also serve as a warning to states hostile to Pakistan to think twice before launching further attacks.

He said timing is everything, and the fact that it was inked mere days after the Israeli attack on Qatar has not gone unnoticed

globally. He said the Gulf Arabs, including Saudi Arabia, have seemingly come to the realisation that despite their deep ties with the US, America is unlikely to come to their

Hence they are now exploring other options. Pakistan, which maintains excellent ties with the Gulf monarchies, and which has a battle-tested military, appears to be a natural partner, he concluded.

New Pak-Iran accords to remove trade barriers, expand connectivity: Shahid Imran

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Convener Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry regional committee on food Shahid Imran Sunday said signing of the recent series of and Iran will help achieve a \$10 billion trade target between the two Muslim countries. Talking to a delega-

tion of professionals led by renowned architect Ms Ayesha Rifaqat he said both sides have signed a regular Business-to-Busiseries of crucial protocols aimed at dismantling tariff and non-tariff barriers, expanding electricity exchanges, and strengthening communication channels to increase bilateral accords to reinforce road, trade volume significantly. rail, air, and maritime He said protocols centred links. Key initiatives include on removing trade barriers, boosting rail cargo capacity, exploring port opportunities, and systems, and exploring strengthening regulatory passenger ferry services alignment between the two — particularly for Zaireen countries. He said under — between designated the newly signed proto- seaports, he added.



cols inked during Pak-Iran joint economic commission meeting both countries reaffirmed their commitment to deepening trade and investment ties by eliminating tariff and non-tariff barriers, activating cross-border markets, and encouraging ness (B2B) engagements to strengthen commercial linkages.

Transportation connectivity emerged as strategic priorities, with export-im- upgrading air navigation

Taxpayers are always valuable assets of any country: FTO

E Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Dr Asif Mahmood Jah, Minister of State and Federal Tax Ombudsman, said taxpayers are always valuable assets of any country who greatly contribute towards strength-

ening the national economy. Speaking here Sunday to an awareness session with business community, Coordinator to FTO Saif Ur Rehman said nations which value and respect their taxpayers progress rapidly because the revenue collected through taxes becomes the backbone of development projects, social welfare programs, and infrasaid we must also create a

culture of respect, facilitation, and acknowledgment for honest taxpayers who fulfill their national responsibility with dedication. Highlighting the role of the FTO he assured that grievances of taxpayers are being addressed promptly across the country within a record time of only 36 days and reiterated that mutual cooperation and compliance with tax laws will pave the way for a stronger, self-reliant Pakistan, where taxpayers are recognized as true nation builders. He said private sector and all tax payers are valuable as FTO and their all advisors always held tax payers in high esteem and structure expansion. He redressed their genuine

Global pharma leaders to gather in Islamabad on 24th

Sommerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan will host a high-profile gathering of international pharmaceutical experts, regulators, and industry leaders at the 8th Pakistan Pharma Summit and the 4th Pharma Export Summit & Awards (PESA 2025) on September 24 at Islamabad.

The meeting takes place at a time when Pakistan's pharmaceutical exports have reached a Tsen, PhD (USP, Greater record \$457 million in FY25, marking a 34% growth the highest in two decades. Against this backdrop, the Summit will explore how the industry can build resil-

ience, expand into regulated markets, and leverage innovation to strengthen its global

Sessions will feature global voices such as Jim Harris (Canada) on artificial intelligence in drug discovery, Dr Zakieh Al-Kurdi (USP, EMEA) on regulatory policy, Prof. Khalid Ahmad Sheikh (UCL, UK) on building a culture of quality, and Geoff China) on resilience and standards. The programme will also include Laura Roche (Spain/ Dubai), an international MC known for anchoring global forums, including Expo 2020

The Summit will highlight compliance with international benchmarks, such as WHO, PIC/S, and MHRA certifications, which are now seen as essential for Pakistan's entry into advanced markets. Senior government officials, including Federal Health Minister Sved Mustafa Kamal and the CEO of DRAP, will address the forum alongside leading industry executives.

In the afternoon, the PESA 2025 Awards will recognise companies and individuals compliance and standards. driving Pakistan's pharma exports while also honouring international achievements in pharmaceutical sector," said country's medicines domesti-



This Summit comes at a decisive moment for Pakistan's

Chairman. "While we already produce more than 90% of the

Dr Kaiser Waheed, Summit cally, the true test ahead is to compete globally on innova-

Asia Cup 2025: Abhishek's imperious knock powers India past Pakistan

DUBAI: Abhishek Sharma's imperious knock propelled India to a comprehensive win over Pakistan in the second match of the ACC Men's Asia Cup 2025 Super Fours here at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium on Sunday.

India made the light work of the chase, losing just four wickets with seven balls to spare.

In pursuit of the target, Indian openers came out all guns blazing, particularly Abhishek Sharma, whose effortless shots were a sight to watch.

The left-hander pummelled Pakistan bowlers all around the park and as a result India were 69-0 in the powerplay.

Despite the field restrictions lifted, India's on slaught continued with Sharma reaching his half-century on just 24 balls.

Pakistan got its first breakthrough in the form of Shuban Gill, who was bowled by Faheem Ashraf for a wellmade 47 from 28 balls. Gill crunched eight boundaries in his fluent knock.

Soon after, Suryakumar Yadav was sent back for a duck as Pakistan sensed an opening. At this stage, India were Pandya made seven. 106-2 in 10.3 overs.

Pakistan bowlers at bay with sublime

48 balls, Abhishek eventually departed, unbeaten 7, ensured there would be no Sahibzada Farhan and Saim Ayub at



holing it out to long on. His 74 off 39 balls, five towering sixes, and half a dozen

The Men in Blue were over the line in the second last over, with Ice-cool Tilak Varma and Hardik Pandya adding 26* from 13 balls on the fifth wicket.

Varma scored 30^* off 19, whereas

For Pakistan, Haris Rauf picked up However, Abhishek Sharma two wickets while Faheem Ashraf and continued on his merry way and kept Abrar Ahmed managed to scalpe one

But Tilak Varma's cool-headed 30 With India requiring just 49 from not out off 19 balls, alongside Pandya's

Earlier, Sahibzada Farhan's gutsy half-century and Faheem Ashraf's late cameo powered Pakistan to a strong total against India

Put into bat first, Pakistan racked up 171-5 in their 20 overs.

The new opening pair of Fakhar Zaman and Sahibzada Farhan started solidly as they raced to 21 in 2.3 overs.

However, Hardik Pandya removed Zaman, who was looking dangerous after making 15 off nine balls. Yet, Pakistan charged and reached a decent score of 55 at the end of the powerplay with

Saim was removed after trying to pull a shorter length delivery. He made 21 off 17 with the aid of a six and four. Meanwhile, Farhan held firm and reached his half-century in the process.

The duo added another 38 before

At this stage, Pakistan were 93-2 in However, India fought back in the

middle overs, taking wickets at regular intervals, which halted Pakistan's the first balls of the 14th and 15th over, respectively.

Farhan was the first to go, whereas Talat followed him after with a sluggish knock off 10 from 11 balls. Farhan remained the top-scorer with 58 from 45 balls, laced with three sixes and five fours.

Eventually, Pakistan reached a good score, courtesy of Faheem Ashraf's progress. The Men in Blue struck on cameo, who made 20 off eight, striking two sixes and a four.

For India, Shivam Dube remained the pick of the bowlers, picking up crucial two wickets in the middle overs with medium pace bowling. Kuldeep Yadav and Hardik Pandya picked one wicket

Senator Dinesh Kumar hosts breakfast to Champion Pakistan Blind Sports Federation

跨 Azizi ur Rehman Mujahid

ISLAMABAD: Prominent social and public leader, Senator Dinesh Kumar, has said that visually impaired athletes are a valuable asset of Pakistan, and their hard work and dedication are a source of pride for the nation. He affirmed his commitment that at every level, including the upcoming Asia Pacific Games 2025, the Pakistan Blind Sports Federation and visually impaired athletes will receive his full support and patronage.

He expressed these views while speaking to the media after hosting a special breakfast at his residence in honor of the delegation of the Pakistan Blind Sports Federation. The delegation included PBSF officials, President Waqas Warriach, Information Secretary Aziz-ur-Rehman Mujahid, and others. On this occasion, he further announced that he will soon facilitate



meetings of the Federation's delegation officials to ensure that the issues and to concrete measures for their welfare. with the Chief Minister of Balochistan, needs of visually impaired athletes are the Chairman Senate, and other senior highlighted at the highest levels, leading that he would raise a strong voice in the to Pakistan.

Senator Dinesh Kumar also declared tional success and bring further glory

Senate of Pakistan for the rights, welfare, and promotion of sports for visually impaired athletes, so that permanent and effective policy-making can be ensured for them at the institutional

He stated that the achievements of visually impaired athletes in the field of sports not only reflect their determination and courage but also symbolize Pakistan's bright future and social inclusiveness. He emphasized that it is the need of the hour to promote such initiatives at both government and private levels so that athletes with disabilities may also be provided with equal oppor-

The delegation of the Pakistan Blind Sports Federation expressed gratitude to Senator Dinesh Kumar for his goodwill, practical support, and encouragement, and expressed hope that under his patronage, visually impaired athletes will continue to achieve greater interna-

Singing Sainz celebrates 'life lesson' with landmark Baku podium

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Spaniard Carlos Sainz said his third-place finish and first podium since joining Williams had given him a "life lesson" as he celebrated "the best result of my career" with a song at Sunday's Azerbaijan Grand Prix.

On the team radio during his slowdown lap he sang "This is my first 'smooth operation' for Williams," a reference to the 1984 classic "smooth operator" sung by Sade, and which was given to him as a nick-name by former team-

A four-time race winner with former team Ferrari, Sainz scored Williams' first podium of the year and first -- in a full race - since Lance Stroll finished third at the same event in 2017.

"I am extremely proud of everyone at Williams for pushing through a very difficult year," said Sainz.

"We have proved to everyone that we have taken a massive step compared to incidents."



last year.

"We are on the rise and going in the right direction, but unfortunately, with me, we have had a lot of bad luck and

Williams' last 'short race' podium came at the rain-hit one-lap 2021 Belgian Grand Prix, which was run behind a safety car and where George Russell was

classified as second. This tastes much better than any other thing I was expecting," said Sainz. "It's a life lesson to keep believing and

trusting yourself and your team around you, because sooner or later it always pays off."

Having started second after a perfectly-judged use of tyres in Saturday's chaotic rain-affected qualifying, Sainz measured his Sunday drive to equal perfection.

We have been fighting hard all year and we proved, when we had the speed... and everything comes together, we can do some amazing things.

"We nailed the race. Not one mistake F1 driver after four-time champion Alain Prost to finish on the podium for and we managed to beat a lot of cars McLaren, Ferrari and Williams and lifted vesterday that we wouldn't have expected him six positions to 12th in the drivers' to beat."

Hocker wins world 5,000m as Ingebrigtsen finishes empty-handed

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: American Cole the men's 5,000 metres at the world championships in Tokyo on Sunday, making up for his disqualification in the 1,500m.

The Olympic 1,500m champion timed 12min 58.30sec for gold at Japan's National Stadium. to his shock 10,000m gold.

He had been excluded from the final of the 1,500m after he competitors in the semi-final, and entire outdoor season.

a USA team appeal was rejected.

especially after how I prepared all year for this," said Hocker.

"I felt I was robbed in the Hocker sprinted to victory in 1,500m. I knew I had the opportunity today, that I had the legs to take this field."

Belgium's Kenyan-born Isaac Kimeli took silver in 12:58.78. with France's Jimmy Gressier claiming a bronze medal to add

Norway's Jakob Ingebrigtsen came into the race as defending was adjudged to have jostled his champion, but having sat out the

The effort proved too much "I wanted to end the world for the Norwegian on the night, championships on my terms, who eventually came 10th in



dictate the pace of the 12-and-ahalf lap race, taking the lead with Ingebrigtsen had tried to

four laps to run.

But he lost that with 600 metres to go and was never in contention for a medal.

It was a tight affair down the far straight of the final lap, and off the bend, Hocker sat in fourth, but the American turned on the afterburners to pass his rivals with the finish line in sight.

"I had a lot of bodies ahead of me, but I felt very strong, enough to pass them one by one," said Hocker.

"Our last 5km champion (Bernard) Lagat was someone I grew up watching. This is a huge step to win this gold like he did."

Yet to play a perfect game,' admits Salman Ali Agha after India defeat

DUBAI: Pakistan skipper Salman Ali Agha opened up after his side's six wicket defeat against arch-rivals India in the ACC Men's Asia Cup 2025 here at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium

This was Pakistan's second loss against India in a week, having previously beaten by seven wicket in the group stage fixtures of the continental tournament.

For India, it was Abhishek Sharma ruthless knock that steered them to a commanding victory despite their sloppiness in the field during Pakistan's innings. After dropping the catches in the field, Abhishek went to score a sublime 74 from 39 balls, laced with five effortless sixes and half a dozen fours.

For Pakistan, Sahibzada Farhan was the lone-bright star, scoring

Speaking in the post match press-presentation, Agha said that Pakistan is yet to play at their best while mentioning that India took the game away in the powerplay. "We are yet to play a perfect game, but we're getting there. It was a great contest, though they really took the game away in the powerplay," he said.

The skipper mentioned they were 10-15 runs short, particularly after the start they have got in the first 10 overs.

Cash Awards Announced for the Pakistani Weightlifting by Arshad Khan

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: In recognition of exceptional performance by Pakistani Weightlifters by winning Medals at Olympic Games/Asian Games & Commonwealth Games and further to recognize their sacrifices & contributions towards highlighting the soft image of Pakistan at international weightlifting sporting events with raising Pakistani Flag high at these games.

President Pakistan Masters Weightlifting Association (PMWLA) Mr. Arshad Khan Turk has announced handsome cash awards after the PMWLA Executive board meeting held at Sarena Hotel

Arshad Khan Turk and the board members showed their great concern for the welfare and wellbeing of the legend Weightlifters who gave their whole life for the Weightlifting Sport to bring laurels for Pakistan at above mentioned Games.

Further saying that these medal winners and Olympian weightlifting players are an asset for Pakistan Weightlifting Community and we are proud of these dignitaries/ medal winner weightlifters who made history in Pakistan Weightlifting.

Cash Awards will be presented for the recognition of their consistent performance and dedication throughout their life in weightlifting sport for the country.

Ex-player and administrator set to win India's top cricket job

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Nominations for the next president of the powerful Board of Control for Cricket in India closed on Sunday with only one nomination, former Delhi captain Mithun Manhas.



Manhas, a former batsman, never won an Indian cap but turned to the game's administration after his first-class playing career.

"A panel is ready, with Mithun Manhas for the post of president," BCCI vice-president Rajeev Shukla told reporters on Sunday. The 45-year-old Manhas is set to be elected unopposed when the BCCI's elections are held on September 28.

He will replace former World Cup-winner Roger Binny, who quit in August after reaching the mandatory retirement age of 70 years.

Manhas was chosen for the role at a key meeting in New Delhi on Saturday that was attended by senior members of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party and BCCI officials, Indian media reported.

Minister Amit Shah, who is the father of International Cricket Council chief Jay Shah. Manhas has most recently worked as director of the cricket asso-

They said the meeting was held at the residence of India's Home

ciation in Indian-administered Kashmir. Devajit Saikia is set to continue as BCCI secretary. Shukla, who served as interim president, will remain as vice-president.

Cricket's massive popularity in India has helped the BCCI become the wealthiest of all of the sport's national boards, raking in millions of dollars from sponsorship and TV deals.

The Spokesman



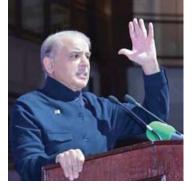
PM to lead Pakistan's delegation at 80th UNGA Session in New York

👺 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif will lead Pakistan delegation to the high-level segment of the 80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) from 22 September in New

The prime minister will be accomanied by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar, other Ministers and senior

"In his address to the General Assembly, the Prime Minister will urge the international community to resolve the situations of prolonged occupation and denial of the right to self-determination from Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu & Kashmir community towards the grave crisis in



(IIOJK) and Palestine," Foreign Office Spokesperson said in a press statement on Sunday.

The prime minister will, in particular, draw the attention of the international Gaza, and call for decisive action to end the suffering of the Palestinians.

He will also highlight Pakistan's perspective on the regional security situation, as well as other issues of international concern, including climate change, terrorism, Islamophobia, and sustainable development.

important meetings of the UN Security Council, High-Level Meeting of the Global Development Initiative (GDI), and a Special High-Level Event on Climate Action, among others.

"He will also participate in a meeting of select Islamic leaders with U.S. President Trump to exchange views on issues pertaining to regional and international peace and security," it was added.

The prime minister will have bilateral meetings on the sidelines with several world leaders and senior UN officials for exchange of views on issues of mutual interest

He will also underline Pakistan's resolve to work with all UN Member States to uphold the UN Charter, The prime minister will attend prevent conflict, foster peace and several high-level events on the side- promote global prosperity in Pakistan's lines of the UNGA Session, including—current role as a member of the Security Council.

"The Prime Minister's participation in this biggest annual gathering of global leaders will showcase Pakistan's strong commitment to multilateralism and the United Nations and to highlight Pakistan's longstanding contribution towards the shared objectives of peace and development," it was

Bilawal calls on int'l community to stop atrocities of Israel and India

👺 Bureau Report

KARACHI: Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari called on of conflicts but the presence the international communi- of justice, equality and mutual ty to immediately stop the aggression and atrocities of Israel and India. In his message in connection with International Day of Peace, PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto said the unrestrained Bhutto Zardari said. aggression of India and Israel continued to be a constant

Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said peace is not just the absence respect between nations.

Peace is the foundation of prosperity, without which democracy weakens, justice diminishes and the human spirit is wounded, Bilawal

Today, we also pay tribute



to the founding fathers of our country and the martyred leadership of the party,

Bilawal Bhutto added. He said our elders dreamed of a homeland based on dignity, justice and peace and

made sacrifices for it. The Peoples Party has always respected the people's leader Shaheed Bhutto and Shaheed Benazir Bhutto's vision has advocated for peace at the national and global levels, Bilawal Bhutto said.

He said extremism, poverty and inequality are serious threats to peace and stability.

Floods devastate Punjab: 131 dead, 4,700 villages destroyed in 27 districts

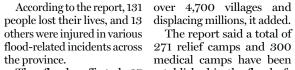
跨 Bureau Report

LAHORE: Surveys to assess damage caused by recent cial Disaster Manage-

sation for losses will be carried Sutlej, and Chenab rivers.

out through a transparent and simplified process.

Meanwhile, the Provinrains and floods in Punjab ment Authority (PDMA), will begin on September 24, Punjab, on Saturday released authorities said on Saturday. a comprehensive report The Relief Commissioner detailing the devastation the province. of Punjab said that compen- caused by flooding in the Ravi,



The floods affected 27 established in the flood-afdistricts in Punjab, impacting fected areas.

people lost their lives, and 13 displacing millions, it added. The report said a total of 271 relief camps and 300

medical camps have been

So far, 2.637 million people and 2.117 million livestock have been moved to safer locations, it said and added that the total number of affected individuals is estimated at 4.76 million.

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President Zardari departs to Pakistan

Spokesman Report

Zardari on Sunday departed to Pakistan from Kashgar, China.

At the Kashgar Laining International Airport, the president was seen off by CPC Party Secretary of Kashgar and Vice Governor of Xinjiang Nie Zhuang, President Secretariat Press Wing said in a press

On the occasion, the president thanked the Chinese leadership for ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali their hospitality and said that China's progress, particularly in Xinjiang, under President Xi Jinping's vision had been very impressive.

He expressed the desire that the two nations could travel by road for the purpose of tourism and trade.

Ambassadors from both the countries were also present on the occa-

Defence minister affirms firm, honorable commitment to safeguard Saudi Arabia like its own soil



👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Defence Minister Khawaja Asif Sunday stated that Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and other broader Muslim Ummah are firmly united in their resolve to defend their lands against any threat, affirming that Pakistan will protect Saudi Arabia with the same unwavering determination as it safeguards its own homeland.

In an exclusive interview on a private news channel from abroad, he firmly declared that under any circumstances will both countries, along with other Muslim nations, stand united in defense of one another.

He emphasized the deep bond between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, highlighting that the two nations share a unique and sacred relation-

He expressed that Pakistan holds Saudi Arabia in the highest regard, likening it to the respect it has for its

own pure and cherished homeland. He further stated that if Saudi Arabia faces any threat, Pakistan will stand firmly and protect it with the same dedication and honor as it defends its own land.

This commitment is rooted not only in strategic alliance but also in the shared faith and values that unite the Muslim Ummah, he mentioned.

He emphasized that Muslims across the globe desire to build an alliance like NATO, promoting unity and joint protection against common threats.

Responding to a query, Asif warned strongly that if India even thinks about attacking Pakistan, it should remember that Saudi Arabia will stand firmly alongside Pakistan.

China is Pakistan's largest arms supplier, says Mehdi

№ City Desk

ISLAMABAD: China now fulfils the bulk of Pakistan's defence requirements, supplying more than 80 per cent of its military hardware, according to Muhammad Mehdi, chairman of the Institute of International Relations and Media Research.

Speaking at a luncheon hosted by the Pakistani American National Institute (PANI) in Washington, Mr Mehdi said the United States had not supplied any military hardware to Pakistan for the past two decades.

The event was organised in his honour by PANI chairman Faiz Rehman, a senior journalist and prominent Pakistani-American community leader.

Mr Mehdi said Pakistan's reliance on Chinese arms had grown steadily in recent years. Independent estimates by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) also show that more than 80pc of Pakistan's arms imports in the past five years came from China.

On the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Mr Mehdi said the multibillion-dollar project had slowed down during the tenure of former prime minister Imran Khan due to "political reasons". He stressed that the project had not been terminated but was proceeding at a slower pace.

"Security concerns are also a major challenge, even though China has already invested about \$26 billion in CPEC projects," he added.

Brazil joins South Africa's ICJ case against Israel over Gaza genocide claims

News Desk

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates welcomes the request submitted by the Federative Republic of Brazil to join the case filed before the International Court of Justice by the Republic of South Africa against Israel, regarding the ongoing commission of genocide against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip.

This development underscores Brazil's steadfast commitment to the principles of international law and its support for justice and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. It represents a significant reinforcement of international efforts to end impunity and ensure accountability for violations perpetrated by Israel, the Occupying Power.

The Ministry regards this decision as a clear reflection of Brazil's principled tions.



position in upholding international humanitarian law and its moral and political responsibility to stand with oppressed peoples in defense of justice and human dignity.

The Ministry calls upon all states to follow the example of Brazil and South Africa, to assume their legal and moral responsibilities in protecting the Palestinian people and ending the crime of genocide against them, and to join this case for its vital importance in strengthening the rule of international law and consolidating global efforts to achieve justice and put an end to Israeli viola-