(صحيح بخاري: حديث نمبر 6343) **Barkat Rice Mills** (Pvt) Limited

CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif Inaugurates First-Ever Electric Bus Service in DG Khan

CM Punjab inaugurated city's first-ever electric bus service, marking a historic milestone for the region. Residents of DG Khan expressed joy over receiving this modern mode of transport.



High-value terrorists captured in Chagai operation, says CM Bugti

Speaking at a press conference in the federal capital, he said that terrorists targeting civilians will be dealt with firmly, and no concessions will be offered. Bugti stressed that ensuring peace

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Meeting

NEW YORK: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif held a bilateral meeting With Mr. Bill Gates, Chair Of Gates Foundation on



PM Shehbaz launches Energy Circular Debt Elimination Plan, terms it historic breakthrough

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD/NEW YORK: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday inaugurated Pakistan's first-ever comprehensive energy circular ing it as a "historic breakthrough" that will pave the way for sustain-

able reforms in the power sector. Minister's House in Islamabad. Speaking at the signing ceremony, the prime minister lauded the collective efforts of history that circular debt, which the government, financial insti-

successfully negotiating and finalizing the plan.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif joined the ceremony via video link from New York, while ministers, senior officials, regulators, debt elimination plan, describ- international partners, and CEOs of power sector organizations attended the event at the Prime

PM Shehbaz Sharif said, "This is the first time in Pakistan's was swallowing our national

tutions, and the task force for resources, has been addressed in a structured and effective

The prime minister highlighted the role of the Power Division, the Petroleum Ministry, and the Task Force in resolving longstanding issues. He paid special tribute to former caretaker energy minister Mohammad Ali, Secretary Power, and Lieutenant General (R) Muhammad Zafar Igbal for their "tireless negotiations with Independent Power cial sector's contribution, the prime minister praised Zafar Masood, President of the Bank of Punjab, as well as teams from Meezan Bank, Habib Bank, and other commercial banks for their pivotal support. He also commended the State Bank of Pakistan and the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) for facilitating the plan's execution.

The Prime Minister underscored that the initiative enjoyed the "behind-the-scenes support"

Acknowledging the finan- of Chief of Army Staff Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, which strengthened the government's reform drive. "This is Team Pakistan's success," he stressed, adding that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) had also acknowledged Pakistan's reform

progress. Yesterday, I met the IMF Managing Director, who praised Pakistan's commitment and speed of implementation. This is unprecedented recognition,"

IHC adjourns £190m case hearing, issues last warning to NAB prosecutor over absence

Maveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) warned the National Accountability Bureau's (NAB) special prosecutor against his absence in the hearing of appeals in the £190 million case, giving him a last chance to present before the court.

Justice Sarfraz Dogar and Justice Azam appear owing to severe illness. Khan, was hearing the petitions for suspen-

Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi.

During the proceedings, lawyers Ali Zafar and Salman Akram Raja informed the court about the difficulties they faced the volumes. At least they should have in reaching the courtroom, to which the chief justice extended his apologies.

NAB prosecutor Rafiq Maqsood told the The division bench, comprising Chief bench that the special prosecutor could not

Advocate Salman Safdar argued that hearing was adjourned until October 16.

sion of sentence filed by PTI founder Imran NAB frequently resorted to delaying tactics, saying: "The case is hardly fixed and dates are rarely given. They enjoy the whole night, while I spend it studying informed me."

The bench warned that NAB had been given a last chance and, if the special prosecutor failed to appear again, the Director General of NAB would be summoned. The

Minister reaffirms commitment to address AJK issues

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs and PML-N KP President Amir Muqam said Thursday that demands beyond is committed to addressing the genuine concerns of the people of AJK.

Talking to a private news channel, he said the dialogues with the Awami Action

because of the unconstitutional demands.

Prime Minister has already directed steps to fulfill the legitithe Constitution cannot be mate demands of AJK residents, accepted, but the government including subsidies on essential

He reaffirmed the federal government's commitment to fulfilling the legitimate needs of

the people of AJK. The minister noted that people

Committee were in dead log in AJK are currently receiving electricity at Rs 3 per unit and flour at Rs 20 per kilogram, He said that although, the much lower than the rates in other parts of the country with the subsidy being provided by the federal government.

He stressed that while the Kashmir cause is being highlighted worldwide, protests and agitation risk undermining this effort. He assured that the issues raised by the Action Committee will be addressed on priority.



PTI activist Falak Javed handed over to NCCIA on five-

Example 2 Court Reporter

day remand

ISLAMABAD: A local court in Lahore on Thursday handed over Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) social media activist Falak Javed to the National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency (NCCIA) on a five-day physical remand.

Falak Javed has been booked on charges of posting antistate content on social media and using derogatory language against Punjab Information Minister Azma Bukhari.

She was arrested Tuesday night in Islamabad's Sector F-10 after reportedly remaining in hiding for the past 16 months.

During the hearing, presided over by Judicial Magistrate Mohammed Naeem Wattoo, the prosecution sought a 30-day remand, arguing that Javed had evaded arrest despite 36 raids at her residence and that her mobile phone was needed for forensic

Her lawyer opposed the request, contending that no private witnesses were available in the case and urged the court to discharge her.

Gaza death toll reaches **65,141** since onset of Israeli aggression in October 2023-**Medical sources**

GAZA: The death toll in the Gaza Strip has reached 65,419, the majority of whom were women and children, since the beginning of the Israeli aggression in October 2023. At least 167,160 others have also been injured.

This toll remains incomplete, as many victims remain over the past 24 hours, five trapped under rubble, inaccessible to ambulance and rescue

Medical sources confirmed that since Israel broke its ceasefire agreement and resumed its aggression on the Gaza Strip on March 18, 2025, least 18,531 others wounded.

at least 12,823 civilians have been killed, and 54,944 others have been injured.

Sources stated that 37 bodies, including four bodies that were recovered from under rubble, and 175 injured individuals were brought to hospitals in Gaza during the past 24 hours.

The sources indicated that, civilians have been killed and more than 20 others have been injured while attempting to receive humanitarian aid. This brings the total number of aid seekers killed in aid-related attacks to 2,531, with at

In meeting with Yunus, PM for building constructive, forward-looking ties with Bangladesh



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday met Chief Adviser of the Government of Bangladesh Professor Muhammad Yunus wherein he emphasized Pakistan's commitment to building a constructive and forward-looking ties with Bangladesh, rooted in mutual respect, trust, and shared aspirations of regional peace and prosperity.

In the "warm and cordial" meeting held on the sidereviewed the current state of stability of South Asia.

Pakistan-Bangladesh bilateral relations and discussed ways to further strengthen cooperation in diverse areas including trade, regional connectivity and people-to-people exchanges.

The Chief Adviser of Bangladesh appreciated Pakistan's initiative to deepen engagement and highlighted the importance of enhancing bilateral trade and cultural linkages.

The meeting was held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, reflecting the mutual commitment of both counlines of the 80th session of tries to work together for the UNGA here, the two leaders well being of their people and

DPM, Belgian counterpart discuss growing Pakistan-Belgium bilateral ties

Spokesman Report

NEW YORK: Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister (DPM/FM), Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Thursday met with his Belgian counterpart, DPM/FM, Maxime Prévot here on the sidelines of the

80th UN General Assembly. The two leaders discussed growing bilateral relations with Belgium and under-



scored the need for further strengthening of cooperation in all areas of mutual interest including trade, development, climate change and education.

Friday, September 26, 2025

'Banyan AlMarsoos' Fallout: Sardar Attique warns India may target Pakistan and Azad Kashmir

Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: Former Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir and President of Muslim Conference Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan has said that elections can be held ahead of time, at this time India is licking the wounds of defeat after the "Banain Al-Marsoos Operation" and can commit the folly of attacking Pakistan and Azad Kashmir at any time.

Indian Home Minister Amit Shah's statement that "what is happening in Azad Kashmir is exactly in line with our policy" is a moment of reflection for us. Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir and Chaudhry Yasin have also made it clear that we have evidence of Indian funding and interference.

He expressed these views while talking to the media during his visit to Muzaffarabad yesterday. He said that difficulties regarding negotiations will be faced by those who take the position that they do not talk to any non-state government or forum.



The Public Action Committee also includes people with positive thinking, in this regard, the Azad Kashmir government has to play its role. Sardar

Attique Ahmed Khan said that Azad Kashmir is a cradle of tolerance and brotherhood, it is everyone's responsibility to keep it peaceful.

The Public Action Committee includes people of different ideologies, however, it is unacceptable for some elements to use abusive language against Pakistan and the Pakistani army.

He said that the sugar issue was being discussed, but abuses are being directed at Pakistan, this attitude is not right. Such a big movement cannot run without money and resources.

Many of the youth involved in this movement are ignorant of their history, this system was achieved after countless sacrifices and the Muslim Conference has been at the forefront of these sacrifices.

He reminded that when Mujahid e Awwal took oath, there were only two government offices in Muzaffarabad, the office of the President and the Chief Secretary, even a rented house for the office was not available, but despite this, the struggle continued.

Indian atrocities on statehood demand in Ladakh, curfew imposed



跨 Abdul Majeed Tahir

LADAKH/MUZAFFARABAD: Indian forces have bloodied the peaceful public movement demanding statehood and special status in the Indian-occupied Kashmir region of Ladakh.

According to media sources from Ladakh Indiscriminate firing and brutal violence on peaceful protesters resulted in the martyrdom of 4 unarmed civilians and over 70 seriously injured. According to eyewitnesses, the Indian police and forces tried unsuccessfully to disperse the protesters by using brutal force. The public anger was so intense that the protesters set fire to the BJP office while a CRPF vehicle was also set ablaze. The Indian administration, frightened, imposed an indefinite curfew in the city of Leh and banned the gathering of five or more people. Despite this, the voices of public protest are loud and every street $\,$ and alley is raising slogans against India.

Ladakh's young leader Sonam Wangchuk strongly condemned Indian brutality and said that the government is trying to suppress the public voice by force, but it is not possible to suppress the truth. He appealed to the people for patience and independence. Political and social circles say that this fresh blood flowing in Ladakh is exposing the oppressive and disgusting face of India before the world. Public resistance will continue until statehood and the right to self-determination are restored.

Women University Multan and Mukhtar-e-Šeikh Trust School Join Hands for Educational Empowerment

Quratul Ain Asim

MULTAN: Vice Chancel- J SIGNING (EREMON) lor the Women University Multan Prof Dr. Kalsoom Pracha inaugurated the Higher Secondary Girls School and College established under Mukhtar-e-Seikh Trust. Speaking as Guest of Honor at the ceremony, Prof. Dr. Kalsoom Pracha lauded the efforts of



Chairperson Begum Farukh Mukhtar and the Mukhtar-e-Seikh Trust for their commitment to providing quality education to girls and underprivileged students. She emphasized that empowering young women through access to higher education is vital for building a progressive and inclusive society.

A landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between The Women University Multan and Mukhtar-e-Seikh Trust School to promote educational opportunities for underprivileged students and initiate community development programs.

The MoU was signed by Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Kalsoom Pracha and Chairperson Begum Farukh Mukhtar. The ceremony was attended by Treasurer Dr Sara Musaddiq, Director ORIC Dr Kanwal Rehman and Dr. Samina Akhtar. As part of the partnership, both institutions will work together on student support programs, skill development, and projects aimed at empowering the next generation of leaders. Under this collaboration, Dr. Samina Akhtar has been appointed as focal person, while Dr. Kanwal Rehman and Dr. Sara Musadig will serve as members to support the joint initiatives. Both parties lauded each other's contributions in the fields of education and humanitarian service.

A meeting on road safety and road accidents held under the $chairman ship\ of\ DPO\ Attock$

ATTOCK: A meeting on road safety and road accidents held under the chairmanship of District Police Officer Attock, Sardar Mowarhan Khan. According to details, District Police Officer Attock, Sardar Mowarhan Khan, held a meeting at the DPO Office regarding road safety and the prevention of increasing road accidents. The meeting was attended by the In-charge Traffic Police Attock, In-charge PHP Attock, officials from National Highways & Motorway Police, XEN Highways, and RT Secretary Zaheer Ahmad Khan. The purpose of the meeting was to reduce the rate of accidents on the roads and ensure the safety of citizens. On this occasion, the DPO Attock stated that citizens should also play their role by following road safety principles while driving using seat belts, avoiding mobile phone use, and ensuring that motorcyclists wear helmets.

Regional Roundtable for 6th Rectors' Conference at CECOS University

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: The Association of Private Sector Universities of Pakistan (APSUP) successfully held the 6th Rectors' Conference at CECOS University, Peshawar, featuring a regional roundtable on "Shaping the Future: Governance, Leadership & Reforms in Higher Education".

The conference was co-hosted by CECOS University and Superior University, with COMSTECH serving as the strategic collaborator. The event was powered by the Chaudhry Abdul Khaliq Centre for Contemporary Islamic Sciences.

The roundtable gathered a distinguished assembly of academic leaders and dignitaries including Prof. Dr. Sumaira Rehman, Rector, Superior University; Sohaib Tanveer, Vice President, CECOS University; Dr. Mohsin Khan, Vice Chancellor, CECOS University; Murtaza Noor, Executive Director, APSUP; Almass Ayub Sabir, Chairman BOG, USP/PEP; Prof. Ejaz Hassan, Vice Chancellor, Gandhara University; Brig. (Retd) Dr. Saif Malik, Director, NUML Peshawar; Dr. Malik Taimur Ali, Vice Chancellor, Iqra National University; Dr. Nasrullah Khan, Vice Chancellor, City University Peshawar; Dr. Nauman Habib, Director, PAF-IAST; Wing (R) Khurshid Qasim Marwat, Registrar, CECOS University; Prof. Dr. Aurangzeb, Dean, Preston University Islamabad; Prof. Dr. Muhammad Nauman, Head, School of Management Sciences, IM Sciences; Dr. Umar Farooq, Vice Chancellor, Abasyn University Peshawar; Dr. Mohsin Raza, Rector/ CO, Northern University Nowshera; Dr. Salim ur Rehman, Vice Chancellor, Sarhad University; Ayub Sethi, Executive Director, City University; Prof. Dr. Mansoor Khan, Dean and Registrar, Qurtuba University; Prof. Dr. Ghazala Yasmeen, Vice Chancellor, Women University Swabi; Prof. Dr. Razia Sultana, Vice Chancellor, Women University Mardan; Prof. Dr. Safia Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University; S. M. Gul, Director, BRAINS; and Zafar Ullah Khan, Rector, BRAINS.

Long queue

LAHORE: Deserving people are stand in long queue as waiting for their turn to take Financial Aid at local hotel in Provincial



Jamaat Ahle Sunnah Azad Kashmir Oath-taking Ceremony

👺 Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: A grand oath-taking ceremony of Jamaat Ahle Sunnah Pakistan Azad Kashmir was organized at a local hotel in Muzaffarabad, in which eminent scholars, and members of representative organizations from all districts of Azad Kashmir participated in full. Participation of Central Leaders and

Personalities

The ceremony was presided over and patronized by Sajjada Nasheen Darbar Alia Ghausia Qadriyya Gilani Nadol Sharif, Pir Tariqat Hazrat Syed Arshad Hussain Shah Gilani, who is also the patron of Jamaat Ahle Sunnat Pakistan Azad Kashmir chapter.

The special guest was the renowned researcher and thinker and the first Deputy Nazim-e-Ala of Jamaat Ahle Sunnah Pakistan, Professor Dr. Hamza Mustafai, who administered the oath to Ishaq Shah Naqvi, Nazim-e-Ala Chairman Professor Qazi Muhammad media and print media.



the newly elected office bearers.

Other central leaders included Ameer-e-Jamaat Ahle Sunnat Azad Kashmir, Allama Pir Sved Muhammad

Maulana Syed Kabir Hussain Hamdani and Chief Organizer Pir Syed Abdul Jabbar Shah Sahib, along with Sunni Supreme Council Vice

Ibrahim Sahib, Pir Syed Azhar Hussain Shah Bukhari, Allama Abdul Quddus, Allama Qari Arif Abbasi, Allama Zaheer, Allama Muneeb Hussain Naruni, Allama Imtiaz Ahmed Chishti and Allama Zaman Saifi Sahib.

Oath and Reaffirmation of Commitment by Newly Elected Office Bearers In the ceremony, newly elected office bearers from all over Azad Kashmir and the responsible persons of all districts took the oath of their respective positions. All the participants jointly reiterated the commitment that "We will remain united and active at every moment and at every level to protect the honor of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) and the belief in the finality of the Prophethood."

The event concluded with excellent arrangements and a detailed report of the central body and all district officials will be released soon through social

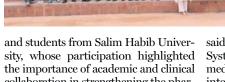
AKUH Marks World Pharmacists Day

Lost & Found

The Original allotment letter and file of my House No.141, Street No,05, Bahria Town, Phaze 03, Islamabad, Now I have found my original allotment letter and file. Hameed un Nisa W/o Naveed Iqbal Contact No 0300 8557810

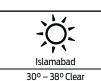
KARACHI: The Aga Khan University Hospital (AKUH) marked World Pharmacists Day with an awareness walk and a cake-cutting ceremony at the AKU Sports and Rehabilitation Centre, celebrating the indispensable role pharmacists play in advancing patient safety, optimising treatment, and improving health outcomes.

Centred on this year's global theme, Think Health, Think Pharmacist", the event brought together AKUH leadership, pharmacy professionals, faculty members, and staff to recognise the critical contributions of pharmacists to patient-centred care. The hospital also welcomed faculty tise that is essential to effective treatment,"



the importance of academic and clinical collaboration in strengthening the pharmacy profession. "Pharmacists bring specialised exper-

said Dr Farhat Abbas, CEO, AKU Health System, Pakistan. "From optimising medication plans and preventing adverse interactions to educating patients and supporting long-term disease management, they are key partners in the care



Namaz Timings Maghrib

EMERGENCY

Rescue (Police)	15
Bomb Disposal	15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/	
Islamabad1	122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance	1122 &
& Rescue Services	4451122
Motorway Police9	266044
Motorway Police9270	0601-20

Women Police **Stations**

Islamabad	92225
Rawalpindi	9270601-
*	

ENQL	JIRY
Edhi Ambulance	
PIA Flight Info	114
PIA Cargo	9280979
Railway Inquiry	117
Railway Exchange	9270831-5

.....9281092 HOCDITALC

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

DEPARTMENTS

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

COMPLAINTS

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

Punjab govt prioritizing resolution of print media challenges: Minister Azma

LAHORE: Punjab's Minister for Information and Culture, Azma Bokhari, has said that addressing the challenges of the print media industry is among th foremost priorities of Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz.

She emphasized that the Punjab government is taking positive steps at every level to support journalists.

In a meeting with a delegation of the All Pakistan Newspapers Society (APNS), the minister highlighted that the print media continues to play a vital role in journalism, adding that even in the age of electronic media and digital technology, its importance remains undiminished.

Representatives of the APNS expressed gratitude to Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, noting that, for the first time, the government has taken the issues of the print media industry seriously and is working to resolve them promptly.

The APNS delegation also thanked Minister Azma Bokhari, stating that her cooperation and support have helped restore confidence within the print media sector.

Conference on Strategic Realignments in Indian Ocean Region concludes in Lahore

LAHORE: The Maritime Centre of Excellence (MCE) organized a second conference titled "Shifting Tides Revisited: Strategic Realignments in the Indian Ocean Region - One Year On" at Pakistan Navy War College (PNWC), Lahore.

The conference focused on the evolving strategic landscape of the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) amid intensifying great-power rivalry, the growing impact of emerging technologies, and Pakistan's adaptive strategies.

While addressing the gathering, former Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee Gen Zubair Mahmood Hayat (Retd) stated: "If any violence or mischief is planned or executed against Pakistan from the sea, the onus of what happens thereafter squarely rests on Bharat's shoulders. Let there be no ambiguity: Pakistan's response will be swift, unexpected and meaningful."

Former Foreign Minister Ms Hina Rabbani Khar, in her remarks on the Admiral Syed Faisal Ali Shah (Retd); evolving maritime challenges of the and Executive Director Strategic Vision

Indian Ocean, emphasized the importance of diplomatic foresight, regional cooperation and multilateral engagement.

Earlier, President MCE and Commandant PNWC Rear Admiral Sohail Ahmad Azmie welcomed the distinguished guests in his opening remarks and highlighted the strategic significance of the IOR and the challenges arising from international disputes.

Other eminent speakers included Advisor NCA and former DG SPD Lt Gen Khalid Ahmed Kidwai (Retd); former Foreign Secretary Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry; Vice Admiral Khan Hasham Bin Saddique (Retd); President National Institute of Maritime Affairs (NIMA) Vice Admiral Ahmed Saeed (Retd); President Centre for Aerospace and Security Studies (CASS) Islamabad Air Marshal Javaid Ahmed (Retd); Director External Linkages QAU Prof Dr Salma Malik; Rear



Institute (SVI) Brig Dr Naeem Salik

The conference was attended by and a large number of university

leading diplomats, defence officials, members of the media, scholars and academic interest in the evolving

students, reflecting wide professional dynamics of the Indian Ocean Region.

Souvenir

ISLAMABAD: Convenor of Pakistan Italy Parliamentary friendship group Senator Sarmad Ali presenting shield to Italian Ambassador Mrs Marilina Armellin. Chairman Senate Syed Yousaf Raza Gillani attended the event as a cheif guest.



Crackdown on traffic violations continues in Multan on the orders of CTO

跨 Zain Khan Malghani

MULTAN: On the special directives of City Traffic Officer (CTO) Multan, Muhammad Kashif Aslam, the City Traffic Police have intensified their crackdown to curb violations of traffic rules and ensure a smooth flow of vehicles on the city's main thoroughfares.

Under the direct supervision of DSP Nazir Ahmed, who serves as the Traffic Officer for Circle City, a special enforcement squad launched a major operation on WaterWorks Road, targeting illegal encroachments and wrong parking, both of which have been major causes



of congestion and inconvenience roads clear of obstructions. He

for commuters.

emphasized that maintaining CTO Muhammad Kashif order on the roads is a shared Aslam urged the business responsibility and that traders community and shopkeepers to should avoid placing goods or fully cooperate with the admin- other materials on public pathistration in keeping public ways that hinder traffic move-

The CTO further advised motorists that in case of any traffic-related emergencies or mechanical failures, they can immediately seek assistance by calling the Traffic Police Helpline 1915 or 0335-9151915, where dedicated staff are available to provide quick support.

The City Traffic Police reiterated their commitment to ensuring safe, disciplined, and obstruction-free traffic across Multan, vowing that such operations against encroachments and unlawful parking will continue until the city's roads are fully cleared and traffic flows remain smooth.

Pakistan's freelancers could generate \$1 billion in earnings annually: Experts

Example 2 Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Stakeholders foresee that Pakistan's freelancing community could enhance its annual earnings beyond \$1 billion with the increasing training opportunities, continued institutional support, and digital ecosystem development.

At the "AI Beyond Border Summit 2025" held at the 26th ITCN Asia powered by Innovista, Karachi on Thursday, they highlighted that the freelancers' community is well-positioned to tions. unlock new opportunities, attract global clients, and cement its place as a cornerstone of Pakistan's digital economy due to coordinated efforts from industry, govern-



ment, and financial institu-

Freelancers are the important players of Pakistan's digital economy in bringing valuable foreign exchange, establishing global trust in

opportunities for them- the Innovista is working to selves, fellow youngsters, and women, said Chairman Pakistan Freelancers' Association (PAFLA) Ibrahim Amin.

Speaking as a keynote speaker, Tahir Malik, Project tax-related issues. Pakistani talent, and creating Director Innovista Indus said

enhance facilitation to entrepreneurship to freelancers nationwide through various training programs, mentorship, and assistance on

Innovista launched the

National Agentic AI Hackathon to invite 1000 participants from six cities that will Our mission is to make freelancing a competitive and sustainable way of earning foreign exchange that contributes directly to IT exports and livelihoods nationwide.

Muhammad Shahzab from 1Link emphasized the importance of a reliable digital financial ecosystem for facilitating important players of the economy, including freelancers.

The summit was addressed by various AI experts and renowned AI mentors, including Imran Ali Dina, Khadija Shahzad, Hassan Bin Liaquat, Ammara Aftab, and Fahad Shaikh.

Zindigi Launches "Paylink"

KARACHI: Zindigi, powered by JS Bank, introduces its "Paylink" feature, reaffirming its commitment to empowering freelancers with a secure and efficient cross-border payment solution. Despite Pakistan being home to over 1.5 million freelancers, contributing nearly \$400 million annually in export revenue, the challenge of receiving timely and secure international payments persists. Zindigi's "Paylink" $feature\ addresses\ this\ long standing\ gap,\ of fering\ a\ streamlined,\ secure,$ and professional solution tailored to the evolving needs of Pakistan's freelance economy.

With Paylink, freelancers can easily generate a customized payment link through the Zindigi app and share it with their clients globally. Clients can pay securely using Visa or Mastercard, while freelancers receive funds in Pakistani Rupees (PKR), ensuring both global compatibility and local convenience. The feature also enables users to create professional invoices within the app, offering a unified, streamlined platform for managing both payment requests and invoicing, all in

"At Zindagi, user experience is at the core of everything we do," said Faisal Khalid, Chief Product Officer at Zindagi. "As we strive to support Pakistan's rapidly growing freelance economy, Paylink is a testament to this commitment, offering freelancers a fast, secure, and seamless way to receive payments from clients worldwide."

'Uplifting of Academic and Infrastructure Facilities at Hazara University'

Andul Waheed Lhan

MANSEHRA: The cost escalation of Hazara University's mega development project "Uplifting of Academic and Infrastructure Facilities at Hazara University" has been provisionally approved. Vice Chancellor Hazara University, Prof. Dr. Ikramullah Khan attended the meeting held at the Planning Commission, Islamabad, which was chaired by Member Planning Commission, Dr. Najeebullah Marwat. The revised PC-I amounting to Rs. 1102 million was provisionally approved and the forum assured the Vice Chancellor of timely release of grants to ensure smooth implementation of the project. On the occasion, Project Director Engr. Umar Nadeem Qureshi and Project Engineer Muhammad Irfan Khan presented a detailed briefing on the progress achieved so far. Later, Prof. Dr. Ikramullah Khan also held meetings with senior officials of the Higher Education Commission and the Planning Commission, where he discussed timely disbursement of funds along with other key matters. The Member, Planning Commission appreciated the efforts of the Vice Chancellor and Project Management Unit team for their commitment and dedication. The Vice Chancellor expressed gratitude to the Member Planning Commission for his continued support and encouragement towards Hazara University's development initiatives.

World Muslim Congress calls on UN Human Rights Council to take action on India's systematic human rights violations in occupied Kashmir

Spokesman Report

GENEVA/MUZAFFARABAD: The World Muslim Congress has drawn the attention of the UN Human Rights Council to the grave human rights situation in occupied Jammu and Kashmir and the systematic erosion of Kashmiri identity, especially in the context of the situation after August 2019. Expressing these views, he addressed the Council in Geneva. World Muslim Congress representative Ghulam Muhammad Safi said that since August 2019, Indian occupation forces have killed at least 600 innocent civilians, including five unarmed youths during a military operation in Baramulla in March 2025 and the extrajudicial killing of Javed Ahmed of Babdipora district on September 17, 2025. The organization, citing documents of the Jammu and Kashmir Coalition of Civil Society, said that thousands of Kashmiris are still buried in unmarked graves and the number of mass graves is increasing. It is increasing. It was further reported that over 5,000 Kashmiris, some of whom are as young as 16 years old, are imprisoned under black laws like the Public Safety Act (PSA) and the Unlawful Activities Act (UAPA). Safi Sahib said, "Top Hurriyat leaders Yasin Malik, Shabbir Shah, Musarrat Alam and Naeem Ahmed Khan are being kept in the harshest conditions in Delhi's Tihar Jail, their health is deteriorating and they are not even allowed to meet

He also expressed deep concern over India's ongoing demographic engineering and said that over 4.2 million domicile certificates have been issued to non-Kashmiris since 2020. He added, "Over 40,000 acres of ancestral gardens and forest lands have been confiscated under the new land laws, which have been reclassified for so-called strategic purposes." He lamented that the three-decade-long policy of immunity from punishment has resulted in over one lakh There have been deaths, eight thousand enforced disappearances and widespread sexual violence.

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Pak-China cooperation expands from roads to space exploration

ederal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal, during his visit to various institutions and companies in China's Hunan province, said Pakistan-China friendship is advancing from road-building to space exploration, with both countries enhancing cooperation in space technology under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

During his visit to Hunan Satellite Space Technology, he highlighted that Pakistani engineers are working jointly with their Chinese counterparts to develop satellites.

He stressed that space technology will play a vital role in helping Pakistan achieve its national development goals.

"Pakistan, with China's support, is writing a new chapter in space cooperation. Our friendship is moving beyond roads and infrastructure toward conquering space," he re-

The minister said collaboration in space sciences under CPEC Phase II reflects the growing depth of bilateral partnership. "This cooperation will not only advance our technological frontiers but also enhance Pakistan's capacity for scientific innovation," he added.

Ahsan Igbal also visited CRRC Zhuzhou Locomotive Company Limited, where he invited the company to participate competitively in Pakistan's ML-1 railway modernization project.

He said Pakistan Railways is being positioned for a modern, efficient, and globally competitive future, with public-private partnerships at the center of reform efforts.

"Railway cooperation will revolutionize connectivity, reduce costs, and inject new energy into Pakistan's economic growth," the minister said, adding that Pakistan and China are working together to shape the future of modern railways.

The minister also toured Zhuzhou Times New Material Technology Company, leading a delegation of representatives from 20 countries. The delegation was briefed on the company's latest innovations in materials science and industrial research.

Calling advanced materials "indispensable for industrial progress and infrastructure development," Ahsan Iqbal said Pakistan is determined to benefit from emerging technologies under CPEC Phase II.

"Industrial innovation makes economies globally competitive. By learning from China's technological advancement, Pakistan can modernize its industry and economy," he emphasized.

He further noted that China's advancements in science and technology serve as a beacon for the world, highlighting the importance of expanding Pakistan-China cooperation in science, technology, and industrial modernization.

President Asif Ali Zardari's Successful Visit to China!

they maintain ties of trust, cooperation, and mutual respect with their closest neighbors. The friendship between Pakistan and China is globally recognized as an "iron brotherhood," and for decades this relationship has stood as a unique example, not only for the region but also in global politics. President Asif Ali Zardari's recent ten-day successful visit to China has further expanded this friendship, created new economic opportunities, and strengthened mutual trust between the two countries.

This visit came at a time when the geopolitical landscape of the world is rapidly changing, global power blocs are rising, and South Asia is facing extraordinary challenges. In such circumstances, the partnership between Pakistan and China is not just a source of support for each other but also a backbone for regional peace and development. While the world acknowledges the everlasting bond between Pakistan and China, the current global situation demands that this friendship be transformed into deeper, more practical cooperation. President Zardari's visit has proven to be a major step in that direction.

President Asif Ali Zardari has now returned to Pakistan after completing his historic ten-day visit to China. He visited Chengdu, Shanghai, and Urumqi, where he held meetings with provincial leadership and discussed bilateral relations, economic cooperation, and trade. Projects under CPEC and future connectivity initiatives were also deliberated upon. This visit has further cemented the strategic partnership between Paki-

are considered successful when effects expected to unfold in the years ahead.

In Chengdu, President Zardari was hosted at a dinner in his honor by Wang Xiaohui, Party Secretary of the CPC Sichuan Provincial Committee. First Lady Asifa Bhutto Zardari and

and China's Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong.

During his stay in Chengdu, President Zardari also met with Li Shulei, member of the Political Bureau and Minister of the Publicity Department. Addressing the second

Golden Panda International Culture Forum, the President emphasized Pakistan's full support for China's vision of "civilization exchange and mutual learning," highlighting its significance for sustainable development, regional stability, and inclusivity in global institutions. He reiterated that Pakistan-China friendship is a living example of mutual respect and cooperation.

Malik Faisal Muneer

Īn Shanghai, President Zardari met with Wu Lei, Chairman of Shanghai Electric, and later visited the company's facilities. He was accompanied by First Lady Asifa Bhutto Zardari and PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. The Chairman briefed the President on the company's projects in Pakistan, including coal, energy, and coalfired power plants in Thar. President Zardari invited Shanghai Electric to

n international relations, nations stan and China, with long-term positive invest in Pakistan's transmission and distribution systems and assured that any pending issues would be resolved amicably in the spirit of mutual cooperation. On this occasion, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed for the establishment of a coal gasification plant in Thar-the first of its kind Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari were in Pakistan—which will not only address also in attendance, along with Pakistan's energy needs but also support the agri-Ambassador to Beijing Khalil Hashmi culture sector by producing fertilizer.

President Zardari also visited the Memorial of the First National Congress of the Communist Party of China in Shanghai, located in the historic French Concession area where the CPC held its first session in July 1921. He appreciated the

preservation of this historical heritage. Furthermore, he attended the signing ceremony of three MoUs between Pakistan and China in Shanghai. These agreements focused on the development of agriculture, environmental protection, and mass transit in Pakistan. The first MoU was related to a Controlled Agriculture Science and Education Park to enhance agricultural output and food security. The second was with Shennong College for establishing a vocational institute to provide farmers with modern technology and training. The third was on tire recycling, aimed at promoting

eco-friendly waste management. President Zardari also held meetings with the heads of Chinese environmental technology companies, who expressed interest in investing in Pakistan. He met with CPC Secretary Chen Jining, where

discussions were held on technology, IT, artificial intelligence, and innovation. The President invited Chinese companies to invest in Special Economic Zones and the Gwadar Free Zone.

In Urumqi, President Zardari witnessed the signing of three more MoUs: one for innovation in the livestock industry, another for the establishment of a modern textile industrial park in Pakistan, and a third for the supply of fire trucks and emergency equipment. These agreements are expected to improve food security, industrial growth, exports, and disaster management capabilities in Pakistan.

At a time when Pakistan faces serious economic and political challenges, President Zardari's visit to China is a clear message that Pakistan still has the ability to strengthen its standing in the global community. This visit sends out a successful signal that Pakistan is pursuing a balanced foreign policy while taking practical steps to secure its economic future.

President Asif Ali Zardari's visit to China reflects Pakistan's firm commitment to regional peace, development, and stability. It will be remembered as a milestone in Pakistan's diplomatic history that has illuminated new pathways toward a brighter future. This visit not only injected fresh momentum into Pakistan-China relations but also instilled hope among the people of Pakistan that the doors to a better tomorrow are opening. At a time when the world is heading toward new power realignments, the close partnership of Pakistan and China remains a guarantor of peace, development, and stability in the region.



A Fight Against Cervical Cancer

Pakistan embarked on a

Jhpiego, makes Pakistan the 150th country globally to begin efforts aimed at controlling cervical cancer. Targeting over 13 million girls aged 9 to 14, the campaign represents a pivotal step toward reducing the heavy burden of cervical cancer-a disease that claims the lives of more than 3,000 Pakistani women each year.

HPV is a highly prevalent virus transmitted through close contact and sexual activity, and it is the leading cause of cervical cancer worldwide. In Pakistan,

late-stage diagnoses are common due to low public awareness and limited access to screening facilities, resulting in a fatal outcome for many women. By introducing the HPV vaccine, health

authorities hope to dramatically reduce these preventable deaths. The campaign's first phase covers Punjab, Sindh, Islamabad Capital Territory, and Azad Jammu & Kashmir, while the second phase will extend to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan. The vaccine used.

To combat these misconceptions, Jhpiego introduced Pakistan's first animated educational video explaining how HPV is transmitted, the benefits of the vaccine, and its safety profile. Training sessions have also been conducted for journalists and media professionals to promote accurate, empathetic, and evidence-based reporting. At fits far outweigh any risks.

 $15\,\,$ September $\,$ 2025, $\,$ the campaign's launch, Health Minister Syed Mustafa Kamal publicly vaccinated significant public health his own daughter, a symbolic gesture to initiative by launching a demonstrate confidence in the vaccine and nationwide Human Papil- encourage parents to participate. Cervical lomavirus (HPV) vaccination campaign. cancer survivor Afshan Bhurgri also spoke This ambitious program, coordinated by at an awareness event, sharing her personal the Federal Directorate of Immunization story to highlight the devastating physical, (FDI) in partnership with Gavi, the World emotional, and financial toll of late-stage Health Organization (WHO), UNICEF, and cervical cancer treatment, and strongly

urging vaccination as a preventive measure. Scientific evidence overwhelmingly

supports the safety and efficacy of HPV vaccines. Systematic reviews and largescale studies published in reputable journals such as The Lancet and

BMJ report that the most common side effects are mild and temporary, including pain, redness, or swelling at the injection site, as well as fatigue, headache, and muscle aches. A meta-analysis involving over 29,000 participants showed that while local reactions occurred more frequently among vaccinated individuals compared to those given a placebo, serious adverse effects were not significantly increased.

Taimoor Khan

Leading global health organizations, including the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO), have reinforced these findings. They note that fainting or dizziness can sometimes occur immediately after vaccination, particularly in adolescents, but serious side effects are extremely rare and have not been conclusively linked to the vaccine. The WHO's Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine a preventable disease that has for too long Safety continues to affirm the vaccine's excellent safety profile and stresses that the bene-

Locally, the introduction of the HPV vaccine has been met with both optimism and skepticism. A study published in the Pakistan Journal of Public Health highlighted a pressing need for increased awareness and education about cervical cancer and the vaccine, noting that without proper knowledge, misconceptions and fears could undermine vaccination efforts. Similarly, research in the Journal of the Pakistan Medical Association revealed that while female healthcare providers understood the importance of the HPV vaccine, many had not personally been vaccinated due to misinformation and limited access, emphasizing the need for targeted education even among medical professionals.

Experts stress that while vaccination is an essential and effective tool in reducing cervical cancer incidence, it is not a standalone solution. Expanded screening programs, improved treatment facilities. and ongoing community education must accompany vaccination efforts to ensure meaningful progress. Integrating the HPV vaccine into the routine immunization schedule for young girls is a significant milestone, but overcoming cultural barriers and misinformation remains critical to achieving high coverage and sustained success.

Pakistan's HPV vaccination campaign represents a monumental stride in public health policy and cancer prevention. With coordinated action among government agencies, international partners, healthcare providers, and communities, the country has the potential to drastically reduce the burden of cervical cancer. Through ongoing education, outreach, and healthcare strengthening, Pakistan can aspire to protect millions of girls and women from caused needless suffering and loss.

> The writer is a student of Khyber Law College, University of Peshawar.

The Adverse Impact of Overcrowded Classrooms on Teacher Efficacy, **Student Performance**

Sarwan Nasar

his case study seeks to examine the critical issue of student enrollment in government-run schools within the urban region of Zhob, located in Balochistan. Specifically, it highlights the persistent problem of overcrowded classrooms in Zhob's government schools, which has become a significant impediment to both teaching effectiveness and student engagement. As a result, the delivery of high-quality education and the achievement of favorable learning outcomes for students are severely compromised. The purpose of this study is to mobilize government officials, public representatives, and other key stakeholders to develop and implement practical strategies aimed at addressing the issue of overcrowding and ensuring the provision of quality education in Zhob district.

Overcrowded schools refer to educational institutions where the student population exceeds the intended capacity of available resources, including teaching staff, classrooms, and learning materials. This imbalance places undue strain on both educators and students, impeding the overall quality of the educational experience. In overcrowded classrooms, individualized attention is often unattainable, and the general classroom environment can become chaotic and counterproductive. Noise, limited space, and a lack of personal engagement with teachers can create an atmosphere of frustration, reducing students' ability to concentrate and hindering their academic performance.

The underlying causes of this overcrowding phenomenon are multifaceted, with one of the primary factors being the complex and restrictive government policies surrounding the construction of new educational facilities. In Balochistan,

the provincial government mandates that land for new school buildings must be voluntarily provided by local communities. However, the high cost of land in Zhob city has made it nearly impossible for community members to donate land for educational purposes, further exacerbating the overcrowding situation. This policy, combined with a lack of space for expansion in existing schools, has stymied efforts to alleviate overcrowding by adding new classrooms or upgrading existing facilities.

As a result, schools in Zhob city are increasingly forced to accommodate larger student populations within the same physical spaces, which negatively impacts both teaching and learning outcomes. The overburdened classrooms strain teachers, increase their workload, and limit their ability to provide individualized instruction. Consequently, students are deprived of the personalized attention they need to thrive academically, leading to a decline in the overall educational quality.

In light of the above findings, it is imperative that the government of Balochistan, in collaboration with local representatives, the Deputy Commissioner of Zhob, the Commissioner of Zhob Division. and all other concerned stakeholders, urgently address the issue of overcrowded classrooms in government schools. A comprehensive strategy must be devised and implemented to resolve this pressing challenge. Potential solutions may include revisiting land allocation policies, increasing investment in infrastructure, and exploring alternative approaches to school expansion that prioritize the needs of students and teachers alike.

Only through coordinated, proactive action can the government ensure that educational quality is not compromised and that students in Zhob district have access to a conducive learning environment, ultimately improving academic outcomes and fostering the development of a skilled, educated population.

Hamdard Shura Panel Demands End to Honor Killings, Inheritance Injustice and **Child Labour**

KARACHI: Prophet Muhamexceptional benefactor of women. He granted men and women equal rights. He gave women the right to live, the right to seek knowledge, the right to economic independence and ownership, and protection from violence and oppression. Dr. Rizwana Ansari expressed these views in monthly Hamdard Shura Karachi meeting held yesterday at Hamdard Corporate Head Office, presided over by Gen (r) Moinuddin Haider – Speaker Hamdard Shura. The topic of the session was "The Status of Children and Women in the Light of the Life of the Holy Haroon, said that Islam granted Prophet (peace be upon him)." Along with the guest speaker, Dr It fixed their share in property Zeenat Haroon, Associate Profes- and inheritance, gave them sor at the Department of Qur'an freedom in choosing a husband and Sunnah, University of Kara- and expressing their opinion,

Hamdard Foundation Pakistan also attended the discussion.

Dr Rizwana Ansari said that mad (peace be upon him), was an the true love for the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) is that his words and character should be commands for us. Have we really fulfilled this religious duty? Today, Pakistan ranks 147th in the global index of gender equality. Every year, more than five thousand women lose their lives due to domestic violence. The Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) declared education as a basic right of women, yet millions of daughters in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan are deprived of this right.

The guest speaker, Dr Zeenat women true dignity and honour. chi, Ms. Sadia Rashid, President and recognised their greatness as

mothers, daughters, sisters, and wives. The Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) gave great importance to the rights of children and set the finest example in his prac-

Moinuddin Haider, Cdre (r) Sadeed Anwar Malik, Engineer Ibn-ul-Hasan, Shahla Ahmed, Deputy Speaker Col (r) Mukhtar Ahmed Butt, Musarrat Akram, Muzaffar Ijaz, Sultan Chawla, Dr Amir Taseen, Brig (r) Tariq Khalil, Prof Dr Hakim Abdul Hannan, Senator Abdul Haseeb Khan, Mubashir Mir and others said that the Jirga system delivers judgments based on traditional customs rather than Islamic teachings. In such decisions, if a man commits murder, the punishment is often imposed on the women of his family, which is an un-Islamic practice that religious scholars must speak against. The Holy Prophet (peace



where the birth of a daughter was three daughters, raises them well, in our own country, there have of Islam.

be upon him) abolished the cruel considered a source of disgrace, and clothes them according to been incidents where people have custom of burying daughters he gave her a position of respect his means, these daughters will buried their daughters alive. Such alive, thus eradicating this evil of and dignity. The Prophet (peace become a shield for him against tragic acts are a direct result of the age of ignorance. In a society be upon him) said: "Whoever has the fire (of Hell)." Yet, even today, our distance from the teachings

AlHuda CIBE Signs Strategic Partnership Agreement with AIFB

Example 2 Commerce Desk

DUBAI, UAE: AlHuda Centre of Islamic Banking and Economics (CIBE), a global leader in Islamic finance advisory and capacity building, has signed a strategic partnership agreement with the Association of Islamic Finance and Business (AIFB), Kazakhstan. The collaboration aims to accelerate the development of Islamic banking and finance across Kazakhstan and other CIS countries through joint initiatives in education, advisory, consultancy, and training.

Mr. Muhammad Zubair Mughal, CEO of AlHuda CIBE, states that "Islamic finance in the CIS region is immense potential. AlHuda CIBE has been working in connections to the finan-sionals in the region." cial and academic commu-

AlHuda CIBE & AIFB Strategic Partnership Agreement Signing Ceremony

Almaty, Kazakhstan.



building, and distance will work collectively for the the CIS for the last 20 years nurture the next generation tion of Islamic finance and advancing Islamic finance with strong roots and deep of Islamic finance profes-

nities. Through this part- Chairperson of AIFB, said nership with AIFB, we aim that "It is our great pleasure will also foster innova- regional presence and to further expand our efforts to sign this strategic part-tion and growth in Islamic in promoting Shariah-com- nership agreement with financial markets across our

growing steadily and holds pliant finance, capacity AlHuda CIBE. Together, we region." opportunities to development and promo- a business in Kazakhstan and in the CIS, bridging experthe wider CIS. This collabo- tise from AlHuda CIBE's Ms. Madina Tukulova, ration will not only support two decades of global expeprofessional education but rience with AIFB's strong

This partnership marks significant milestone in commitment to financial

Iran Welcomes Saudi-Pakistan Pact: Toward **Collective Muslim Security**

跨 Chaudhry Tabraiz Aurah

Iran's voice at the United Nations Security Council on September 24 resonated far beyond the chamber. President Masoud Pezeshkian's welcome of the Saudi-Pakistan defense pact was more than a diplomatic courtesy; it was an acknowledgment that Muslim unity, long fractured, can still be reclaimed. By calling the pact the start of "a comprehensive regional security framework," the Iranian leader offered a vision of cooperation over competition. This is significant. For decades, relations between Riyadh and Tehran have been marked by mistrust and rivalry. Yet, President Pezeshkian's remarks suggest that Iran is prepared to see Pakistan's partnership with Saudi Arabia not as a threat, but as an opportunity. That shift matters. It hints at a moment where Muslim nations might finally prioritize collective security over internal divisions—divisions that external actors and foreign powers thrive on confrontation, they send their people a abad enjoys ties of trust with both Riyadh and Tehran, uniquely positioning it as a bridge between the two. The Iranian Such an arrangement could enhance turning point depends on whether the President's support effectively dispels regional peace and prosperity while



speculation that the Saudi-Pakistan pact was directed against Iran or any other Muslim country. Instead, the agreement is framed as a vehicle for unity, one designed to strengthen resilience against

fuslim world. At a time when hostile. powers have historically exploited to dest-discord, the principle of security in message of reassurance and resilience. abilize the region. For Pakistan, the devel-unity becomes vital. The possibility of The Saudi-Pakistan pact, endorsed by opment is doubly meaningful. Islam- expanding this cooperation into a trilateral framework among Saudi Arabia, Iran, and Pakistan is not far-fetched. still possible. Whether this becomes a

reducing the vulnerability of Muslim states to outside interference. Critics will question whether trust between Riyadh and Tehran can truly endure. Yet, moments of symbolic trust-building often precede substantive breakthroughs. By embracing the Saudi-Pakistan pact, Tehran has shown a willingness to move from suspicion to dialogue. That alone is a step worth acknowledging.

For Pakistan, the responsibility is clear. Its unique friendship with both capitals gives it an opportunity-and perhaps an obligation-to encourage deeper collaboration. If handled with foresight, Islamabad could play a decisive role in shaping a cooperative security framework that benefits not just its own interests, but those of the wider Muslim Ummah. Ultimately. common threats rather than deepen rifts. the Iranian President's supportive The implications reach across the words highlight a simple truth: when Muslim states choose cooperation over Tehran, is not just an agreement—it is a signal that unity, long elusive, is momentum of this moment is seized.

Pearl-Continental Hotel Malam Jabba

Where Fairy Tale Weddings Come to Life

Spokesman Report

When it comes to celebrating the most magical day of your life, choosing the right destination makes all the difference. If you're looking for a place where nature blends seamlessly with luxury and every detail is bathed in serenity, Pearl-Continental Hotel Malam Jabba in Swat Valley is your dream wedding venue.

Located just four and a half hours from Islamabad, the journey to Malam Jabba becomes part of the experience. Winding roads lead you through the heart of Swat Valley, passing peach orchards, flowing rivers, and breathtaking mountain landscapes. Each turn reveals a new view more enchanting than the last setting the tone for the special moments that await. It's a scenic passage to paradise, beginning your wedding adventure long before the vows are exchanged.

Perched on a lush ridge surrounded by forests and snowdusted peaks, Pearl-Continental Hotel Malam Jabba offers a setting that is both tranquil and majestic perfect for couples who want their wedding to be unforgettable.

The hotel features a variety of event spaces, including elegantly designed banquet halls ideal for traditional Mehndi, Barat, and Walima ceremonies. Whether you envision a grand celebration or a more intimate gathering, the your loved ones. It's a wedding experienced team ensures every detail reflects your personal style and cultural traditions.

Outdoors, the natural beauty of the location creates a breath-





beneath a beautifully adorned canopy, the valley stretching out behind you, as a fresh mountain breeze carries your vows into the sky, surrounded by scene straight out of a fairytale timeless, romantic, and unfor-

Beyond its scenic charm, Pearl-Continental Hotel taking backdrop for open-air Malam Jabba provides luxuceremonies. Imagine standing rious accommodation for you

and your guests. Each room is thoughtfully appointed with lavish bedding, elegant décor, and large windows that frame the majestic views. Guests can unwind on private balconies or enjoy quiet moments immersed in the serenity of the surroundings. Whether you're hosting a large number of guests or an intimate group, there's a perfect space for everyone to relax and

A destination wedding here means more than just a beautiful ceremony it's about creating lasting memories. The hotel offers a wide range of activities for guests of all ages. Adventure seekers can zip through the air on the thrilling zipline, glide above the forest on the chairlift, or soar on the giant swing. Those seeking leisure can enjoy forest walks, movie nights, or sports on the playground. There's some-





thing to delight every guest.

When it comes to dining, Pearl-Continental Hotel Malam Jabba satisfies every craving with four distinct outlets. Marco Polo offers a blend of Pakistani and international cuisine perfect for wedding banquets or family feasts. Tai-Pan serves refined Pan-Asian dishes in an elegant setting, ideal for rehearsal dinners. Marco's Bistro presents a cozy space for Italian meals,

while the Front Page Café is a peaceful forest air, and the favorite for coffee, desserts, and casual gatherings. The hotel's culinary team goes the extra mile with personalized menus, themed food stations, and beautifully designed wedding cakes, making every meal a part of the celebration.

Swat Valley often called the With dramatic mountain views, moment feels like magic.

calming sounds of nature, the setting is both scenic and deeply soulful.

Choosing Pearl-Continental Hotel Malam Jabba for your wedding is more than selecting a venue it's choosing a beginning to your love story that will be remembered forever. Let your Switzerland of the East adds a journey start where the skies touch of magic to every moment. meet the mountains, and every

Bull & Bears PSX 100-Share

Index Fluctuation		
Pakistan: PSX 1	00-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close	
159,280.09	158,236.67	
Day's High	Day's Low	
159,537.60	158,297.43	
Index Value	Change	
37,506,250,527	+1043.42	
Percentage	Time	
+0.66%	25 Sept, 2025 4:30 pm	
Europe: FTS	urope: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change	
9,213.98	-36.45	
Percentage	Time	
+0.39%	25 Sept, 4:35 pm GMT+1	
USA: Dow Jones I	Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change	
45,995.43	-125.85	
Percentage	Time	
-0.27%	25 Sept, 12:56 pm GMT-4	
Asia Pacific: Nikk	ei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change	
45,754.93	+124.62	

Open Mar	cet Forex Rates

Time

25 Sept, 3:45 pm

GMT+9

Percentage

+0.27%

Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	185.6	190.6
Bahrain Dinar	746.4	753.9
Canadian Dollar	202.35	207.35
China Yuan	39.47	39.87
Danish Krone	44.15	44.75
Euro	333.1	336.1
Hong Kong Dollar	36.22	36.57
Indian Rupee	3.12	3.21
Japanese Yen	1.8800	1.9800
Kuwaiti Dinar	913.45	922.45
Malaysian Ringgit	67.1	67.7
NewZealand \$	164.7	166.70
Norwegians Krone	28.37	28.67
Omani Riyal	731.05	738.55
Qatari Riyal	77.22	77.92
Saudi Riyal	75.2	75.7
Singapore Dollar	217.35	222.35
Swedish Korona	29.99	30.29
Swiss Franc	355.02	357.77
Thai Bhat	8.73	8.88
U.A.E Dirham	77.1	78.1
UK Pound Sterling	381.5	385
US Dollar	282.5	282.55

ICCD holds Halal Fashion Conference 20<u>2</u>5



Commerce Desk

KARACHI: The Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Development held its Halal Fashion Conference 2025 in Karachi, bringing together fashion experts, trade bodies, business owners, among other stakeholders for a highly charged and impactful dialogue around the evolving demands of the Halal fashion industry in Pakistan and globally.

The Conference is organized in collaboration with the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) and Al Baraka Bank Pakistan, highlighted Pakistan's rich and diverse textile heritage, including fabric, design, and cultural varieties, to emphasize how the country can play a vital role in propelling the global modest fashion market to new heights by helping to diversify fashion trends and making sourcing accessible to

H. E. Mr. Yousef Khalawi, Secretary General of ICCD said: "At the intersection of values and commerce, halal fashion extends beyond modest attire to represent a global movement that unites faith and culture, while fostering innovation and opening new avenues for investment and

sustainable economic growth." The conference focused on four key areas of the fashion debate: ethical sourcing, sustainable products, inclusive designs, and a faith-driven system across the board for all stakeholders, markets, and consumers.

Aleem Khan assures support for business-friendly environment

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Communications Abdul Aleem Khan has reaffirmed the Federal Government's commitment to upgrading the road network across the country, terming it vital for the masses and the business community. He said this while addressing an impressive ceremony titled "A Night of Celebration" held in honour of renowned business personality and newly elected President of Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ICCI), Sardar Tahir Mehmood. The event was hosted by Chaudhry Abdul Rauf, Chairman Fair Deal Group of Companies.

Highlighting major road projects, the Minister said that the Sukkur-Hyderabad and Hyderabad-Karachi Motorway, the country's most important motorway, will soon be inaugurated this year and is expected to be fully completed within two years. He said this project will connect Sukkur with Karachi Port. playing a pivotal role in boosting the national economy. He also informed that the N-25 (Karachi-Quetta) project is under construction and will be completed soon.

Speaking on the occasion, President ICCI Sardar Tahir Mehmood underlined the pivotal role of ICCI as a self-sufficient body working tirelessly for the facilitation of the business community. He drew the Minister's attention to the pressing issues created by the Capital Development Authority (CDA), stating that the fate of Islamabad's businesses and residents is often decided unilaterally by



stakeholders.

Fair Deal Group of Companies, in his welcome in selecting Sardar Tahir Mehmood.

a handful of bureaucrats without consulting remarks, extended heartfelt congratulations to the newly elected ICCI leadership and lauded Earlier, Chaudhry Abdul Rauf, Chairman the Founder Group for making the best choice

Naeem Warrich, Director Sales & Marketing Park View City, also felicitated the ICCI team and expressed confidence in their ability to deliver under visionary leadership.

Jinner

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Petroleum Ali Pervaiz Malik, hosted a dinner in honor of the Board



Kaspersky empowers SMEs through cutting edge solutions against modern cyber threats

Example 2 Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: As cyber threats grow increasingly complex and costly, mid-sized businesses find themselves facing sophisticated attacks that exploit legitimate tools and use advanced tactics to evade detection. At the same time, limited budgets and a shortage of skilled cybersecurity personnel make it difficult to deploy and manage advanced protective

themselves effectively without breaking the bank, under its its flagship product line, Kaspersky Next, Kaspersky has developed easy-to-use and highly effective solutions: Kaspersky Next XDR Optimum and Kaspersky Next MXDR Optimum



measures. To help these businesses protect easy deployment, and managed secu-awareness, System hardening for fixing rity, enabling organizations to effectively combat modern threats and minimize risks without stretching their existing resources.

Kaspersky Next XDR Optimum is suitable predominantly for small and medium-sized companies with established IT These products offer powerful protec- infrastructure and moderate cybersecution, automated response capabilities, rity budgets. This solution offers compre-

hensive, manageable protection backed by AI and world leading expertise. Kaspersky Next XDR Optimum effectively identify, analyze, and neutralize evasive threats, with flexible deployment options for both cloud and on-premise environments.

Key features of this solution include Outstanding endpoint protection. Extended detection and response capabilities, Cloudbased file processing, Training and

vulnerabilities And Controlling shadow IT.

Kaspersky Next XDR Optimum also allows companies already using Kaspersky Next EDR Optimum to seamlessly upgrade their level to a more advanced XDR-class solution: they will gain capabilities of the new solution without data loss and with the familiar interface preserved.

Nestlé CEO Jason Avanceña donate drinking water for flood relief affectees



E Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Nestlé Pakistan extended donation of water, under the employees' voluntary program Nestlé Cares, to support Pakistan Red Crescent Society's affected vulnerable commu-

Avanceña, CEO, Nestlé Pakito PRCS is a result of an floods." internal voluntary donation drive by employees under our Nestlé Care's program, that was matched 1:1 by the company. Staying true to nering for COVID-19 dona-

for good, Nestlé and its employees care deeply for the communities affected by floods, and we believe we 63,000 liters of drinking have an essential role to play during times of crisis," he said.

Abaidullah Khan, Secretary General PRCS, said, "We are deeply grateful to (PRCS) relief efforts for flood Nestlé Pakistan for their generous contribution. This lonation will go a long way Talking at the event, Jason in supporting our efforts to alleviate the suffering of those stan said, "Our contribution affected by these disastrous

Nestlé has actively collaborated with PRCS over the last many years, from organizing blood donations to partour values of being a force tions to flood efforts in 2022.

SITE Industrialists express concern over FBR's abrupt tax return amendments

Example 2 Commerce Desk

KARACHI: The industrial community has expressed deep concern over recent amendments introduced by the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) in income tax return and wealth statement forms, calling the move unjust, ill-timed, and damaging to business confidence.

In a strongly worded statement, President of the SITE Association of Industry, Ahmed Azeem Alvi, criticised the FBR for altering key tax filing documents just three days before the deadline — a move he described as

"unfair to honest taxpayers" who had already submitted their returns in good faith.

"These abrupt changes have imposed an unnecessary and unjust burden on thousands of taxpayers who have already fulfilled their obligations on time," Alvi said, adding that the FBR's actions are undermining the very principles of transparency and trust in the tax

He stated that the FBR, while encouraging timely compliance, has paradoxically created complications by introducing these amendments at the eleventh hour.

Wafi Energy launches Second Retail Station Made with Recycled Plastic in Rawalpindi

Example 2 Commerce Desk

RAWALPINDI: Wafi Energy, a Shell licensee in Pakistan, inaugurated the country's second retail station constructed using recycled plassolutions in the country's energy and

Zubair Shaikh, CEO of Wafi Energy, said: "At Wafi Energy, sustainability is not just a commitment-it is a responsibility. With the launch of Pakistan's second retail site made with recycled plastic, we are demonstrating tic, marking another milestone in how innovation and environmental its commitment to drive sustainable responsibility can go hand in hand. By reusing over 5.8 million pieces of plastic waste, this site is more than just a fuel Speaking at the inauguration, Mr. station — it is a symbol of our belief in

a cleaner, greener future for Pakistan." The inauguration ceremony was also attended by delegates from the Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) and the Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, marking their support through their presence at the event.

The launch of the Rawalpindi retail site underscores Wafi Energy's leadership in sustainable retail innovation



and its mission to develop solutions that contribute towards Pakistan's climate resilience and cleaner future.

4th Chief of the Naval Staff All Pakistan Hockey Tournament 2025 Commences in Lahore



Sports Desk

LAHORE,:4th Chief of the Naval Staff All Pakistan Hockey Tournament commenced at National Hockey Stadium Lahore, Commander Central Punjab Rear Admiral Sohail Ahmad

from 25 Sep to 04 Oct 25 in which top past. 8 departmental teams of the country including Tri-Services, Mari Ener-

Pakistan Hockey Federation (PHF) will supervise the matches.

While addressing the opening ceremony Chief Guest Rear Admiral Sohail Ahmad Azmie extended a warm Azmie graced the occasion as chief welcome to all participating teams guest and formally inaugurated the and emphasized on the importance of sports, particularly hockey which is The tournament is being played our national game and had a glorious

He underscored that the tournament will provide players with an gies, Rangers, Police, Port Qasim and excellent platform to showcase their and international level.

National Bank of Pakistan are partic-talent, raise awareness about the signifipating. Qualified technical officials of icance of hockey among youth and offer thrilling contests for spectators.

The opening match of the tournament was played between teams of Pakistan Navy and Port Qasim Authority. After thrilling competition Pakistan Navy clinched a 3–2 victory.

First edition of the tournament was introduced in 2016. Ever since, it has become a regular and major event on national hockey circuit. Pakistan Navy has always actively pursued the cause of nurturing various sports at national



Polish climber on skis makes Everest descent in first

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Poland's Andrzej Bargiel has become the first climber to ski down the world's highest mountain without supplemental oxygen, his team and expedition organiser said

Bargiel glided down Mount Everest's snowy slopes after reaching the summit of the 8,849-metre (29,032foot) mountain on Monday.

"I am on top of the highest mountain in the world and I'm going to descend it on skis," Bargiel said in a video posted on Instagram early on Thursday.

Everest has seen a handful of ski descents but never a continuous downhill without additional oxygen. In 2000, Slovenian Davorin

Karnicar made the first full ski descent from Everest's summit to base camp using bottled oxygen.

Chhang Dawa Sherpa of Seven Summit Treks, which organised the spend 16 hours above 8,000 metres, latest expedition, said Bargiel skied



down to Camp 2, spent a night and air and low oxygen levels heighten the then reached the base camp on skis the next day.

no one had done it before," Sherpa told

known as the "death zone" because thin Donald Tusk posted on X.



risk of altitude sickness.

He was greeted with a khada, a tradi-"This was extremely challenging and tional Buddhist scarf, when he arrived

at the base camp. 'Sky is the limit? Not for Poles! Heavy snowfall forced Bargiel to Andrzej Bargiel has just skied down rare because of snowier terrain, shorter Mount Everest," Polish Prime Minister and colder days and a narrow summit

Bargiel's team said in a statement that he had made history and called it a "groundbreaking milestone in the world of ski mountaineering".

Bargiel started eyeing Everest a year after he became the first person to ski down Pakistan's K2, the second-highest mountain in the world, in 2018.

But a dangerous overhanging serac forced him to abandon his 2019 attempt. He returned in 2022 but high

winds hindered his plans. The daredevil adventurer has been on a quest to make ski descents of the highest mountains in the world under his Hic Sunt Leones project, a Latin phrase for 'here are lions' and used to

refer to uncharted territories. In Pakistan he has skied down all four of Karakoram's eight thousanders and also skied off Nepal's Manaslu and Shishapangma in Tibet.

Autumn expeditions on Everest are window compared to the busy spring.

Pak MMA contingent to feature in IMMAF World C'ships

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD,: A 10-member Pakistan Mixed Martial Arts contingent will be going to Europe to compete in the IMMAF World Championships 2025, widely regarded as the 'Olympics of combat sports'.

The global tournament, featuring over 700 athletes from 60 countries, is the largest MMA event in the world, showcasing the next generation of champions, said a press release.

The Pakistani squad comprises five male and two female fighters Ayan Hussain, Abdul Manan, Sajid Kareem, Shahab Ali, Bano Butt, and Marwa Kashani, coached by Nasir Khan and led by Pakistan Mixed Martial Arts Federation (PAKMMAF) President Omar Ahmed. Four members of the team are reigning Asian champions, carrying serious medal potential on the global stage.



said, "Our athletes are not just partici- resilience, and shows them they belong pating — they are going to win. We are among the elite." confident of bringing home four to five

Ahmed added that competing with the world's best would be a major confi-

At the pre-departure, Omar Ahmed transforms fighters. It builds belief,

the country in the Brave Combat Federation (BRAVE), while Rizwan Ali will dence boost, "Exposure at this level Bahrain. Unfortunately, female fighter at the highest level."

Eman Khan, originally part of the squad, was hospitalised earlier this week and will miss the championship.

Female star Bano Butt, who trained intensively in Thailand for two months, shared her resolve, "I've prepared for this moment, and my mission is clear - to win gold for Pakistan. Women's participation in MMA is growing fast, and I hope to inspire others to embrace combat sports as a tool of strength and self-defence.

Rising talent Shahab Ali said, "Representing your country is every fighter's dream. I trained for three months in camp and I'm ready. My first fight is against a tough Azerbaijani opponent

but I'm prepared for war." Meanwhile, Abdul Manan, a silver Pakistan's Ismail will also represent medallist at the Asian Championships, said, "I was close before. Now I want gold. The Federation's support has given compete in BRAVE's upcoming event in us the confidence and focus to perform

Pakistan edge past Bangladesh to setup India showdown in Asia Cup final

DUBAI: Shaheen Afridi and Haris Rauf's impressive three-wicket hauls, backed by clinical spells from spinners, powered Pakistan past Bangladesh to set up a blockbuster final against India in the ACC Men's Asia Cup 2025 on Sunday.

This will be the first time in the tournament's history that arch-rivals Pakistan and India will play in the final.

Set 136, Bangladesh crumbled under pressure, managing only 124-9 in their

The game was in mayhem from the start as both teams lost wickets at regular intervals. Bangladesh endured a similar start to Pakistan, losing wickets inside the powerplay.

Shaheen removed Parvez Hossain Emon for a duck on the fifth ball of the first over and sent back Towhid Hridoy for five to set up the tone. The tigers were further pegged back with another wicket in the fifth over, and this time it was dangerous Saif Hassan.

The right-hander, who was in touch against India, fell after scoring 18 from 15 balls. As a result, Bangladesh were

reduced to 29-3 in 5.1 overs. After the fast bowlers, Pakistan's



spinner took control of the match and never allowed Bangladesh batters to gain momentum.

Shamim Hossain remained the sole bright star in Bangladesh's innings, scoring 30 off 25 with the help of two

However, his wicket in the 17th over dashed the Tigers' hope to reach the

final, with the Men in Green eventually securing a narrow 11-run victory.

For Pakistan, Shaheen Afridi and Haris Rauf shared six wickets between them, whereas Saim Ayub picked up two wickets to set up a thrilling win.

Earlier, Bangladesh tore through Pakistan's top order with the new ball before only a matter of time before the Tigers their bowlers tightened the screws to

restrict them to a modest total of 135 in

Put into bat first, Pakistan demonstrated a shambolic batting display under the lights at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium (DICS) on Thursday.

Taskin Ahmed, who returned to the playing XI, set the tone early with in-form Sahibzada Farhan's wicket. The right-hander was caught in the covers after scoring four.

With a charged crowd behind them, Bangladesh sensed a perfect opportunity to put Pakistan on the back foot, and it happened in the form of Saim Ayub's dismissal only in the second over.

Saim's horror run with the bat continued as he went for a duck for the fourth time in the continental tourna-

As a result, Pakistan slipped to 5-2 in 1.4 overs with Fakhar Zaman and Salman Ali Agha at the crease.

The pair tried to take control of the game, and they managed to do so with a brief 24-run partnership; however, it was took complete control of the match.

Palestinian Olympic Committee Chief Appeals to Global Sports Leaders Over Gaza Crisis

₿ Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: President of the Palestinian Olympic Committee, Lt. Gen. Jibril Rajoub, has issued a powerful open letter to the international sports community, calling for urgent action to uphold the principles of justice, equality, and human dignity amid the ongoing war in Gaza.



Addressing world sports leaders, athletes, and people of conscience, Rajoub said he was speaking "from the heart of a wounded Palestine... from amidst the rubble of our stadiums and the wreckage of our hopes." He highlighted the devastating toll of 718 days of conflict, which he described as a "relentless, merciless war of annihilation."

Citing UN Secretary-General António Guterres, who recently declared the situation in Gaza as "the worst level of death and destruction I have witnessed in my life," Rajoub stressed that the crisis is not a political opinion but a "final alarm bell for all of humanity."

He lamented the destruction of Palestinian sports infrastructure, the deaths of more than a thousand athletes, and the displacement of tens of thousands, saying: "These were our colleagues. They were our future champions. They were our children who looked to all of us as symbols of hope."

Rajoub accused the Israeli sports system of complicity. that it integrates illegal settlement clubs into its national leagues in violation of international law and the Olympic Charter. He criticized the double standards in which critics are branded anti-Semitic while "genocide itself is called self-defense."

Invoking the Olympic Charter and sacred religious texts, Rajoub urged sports leaders to demonstrate integrity and reject silence in the face of mass suffering. "Can the Olympic Movement stand idly by while the most fundamental human right the right to life—is violated against its own members?" he asked.

Concluding his appeal, Rajoub called on the global sports family to prove that Olympic values are not "empty words on paper," but a living commitment to humanity.

PCB talent hunt school cricket ceremony

Sports Desk

MULTAN: The opening ceremony of the PCB Talent Hunt Program for School Cricket will be held on Friday at 10am at the E-Library Sports Complex, Multan.

According to Programme Coordinator Manzoor Latifi, the ceremony will be presided over by DCA Multan President Muhammad Arsalan Khan. CEO Education Multan Dr. Safdar Wahga will be the chief guest, while District Sports Officer Adnan Naeem will attend as guest of honor.

During the event, school uniforms and kit bags will be distributed among players of nine schools participating in the tournament starting September 27. Students, teachers, and cricket community members will attend the ceremony.

6th Divisional Inter-School Taekwondo Championship to be held on October 25

₿ Sports Desk

FAISALABAD: Divisional Sports Department, in collabora-tion with Divisional Taekwondo Association, would organise the 6th Divisional Inter-School Taekwondo Championship



at Al-Fatah Sports Complex here on October 25, 2025.

A spokesman for sports department said here on Thursday that teams from Faisalabad, Chiniot, Jhang and Toba Tek Singh would participate in the championship which would offer an opportunity for young athletes to showcase their skills in the popular martial art.

He said that registration for participating schools has already commenced and complete details of rules and regulations for the competition were provided to the institutions.

He said that the championship would not only promote healthy sporting activities among students but also help identify promising young talent in taekwondo for future grooming at higher levels.

The event is expected to attract significant interest from schools and sports enthusiasts across the division, he added.

Inauguratation

NEW YORK: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar, inaugurated newly renovated



Mational Newspaper Readership Day

President Zardari stresses role of newspapers in strengthening democracy

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari has underlined the vital role of newspapers in fostering an informed citizenry and strengthening democracy, urging the youth to cultivate and educational institutions to promote it actively.

paper Readership Day, but in every sphere of life. extended his warmest greetings to readers, journalists, editors, publishers, and all those who newspapers have been central have dedicated themselves to to our national discourse. They the noble profession of journalism.

"I commend the All-Pa- a platform for debate, and

kistan Newspapers Society (APNS) for its initiative in commemorating this day each year to encourage the culture of newspaper reading across the country.

He believed that an informed citizenry is the founthe habit of newspaper reading dation of a vibrant democracy. When citizens have access to reliable information, they are President Zardari, on the empowered to make better occasion of National News- choices - not only in elections

From the days of the Pakistan Movement to the present, have informed the people, exposed injustices, provided



upheld the public's right to know. For this invaluable service, generations of journalists deserve our deepest respect, he added. Early on, he said he learnt

that a newspaper guarantees out that the newspapers a responsible flow of informa-

The institution of the editor ensures that responsibility by deciding what deserves to be highlighted and what must be discarded. Sadly, with the advent of social media, the role of the professional editor is in decline, giving rise to disinformation and propaganda.

sponsible iournalism carried

precious today. In today's fast-paced digital era, where news often circu-

lates before it is verified, newspapers remain symbols of trust. President Zardari pointed provide depth, context, and thoughtful analysis -- helping readers understand not just what has happened, but why it matters

"While I do recognise that the industry faces severe challenges, it is heartening to see that the best newspapers around the world have not only survived but flourished. This makes the values of I am confident that our newspapers too can do the same by newspapers all the more not by waiting for government support or big business patronage, but by relying on the trust and loyalty of the people whose right to know they have championed for generations," the president said.

CM KP, British HC agree to expand cooperation in social sector

👺 Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: British High Commissioner to Pakistan, Ms. Jane Marriott, called on Chief Minister Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Ali Amin Khan Gandapur at the Chief Minister's House, Peshawar, on Wednesday.

During the meeting, matters of mutual interest and the overall security situation in the region were discussed. Special focus was laid on ongoing public welfare projects being implemented in the province with the support of the British Government.

Both sides expressed their cooperation and partnerships cial statement here.



resolve to further strengthen in the social sector, says an offi-

The British High Commis- a new programme in the provsioner indicated the launch of ince following the successful

completion of SEED and SNG initiatives.

Chief Minister Ali Amin Gandapur expressed appreciation for the assistance provided by the British Government through SEED and SNG programmes, acknowledging their significant role in enhancing the capacity of provincial departments. He reiterated his government's desire to continue these initi-

Highlighting the province's priorities, the chief minister said the government is investing heavily to address the challenges posed by climate change and is actively working on the reconstruction of infrastructure damaged by

My only crime has been loyalty to my oath: Justice Jahangiri

👺 Bureau Report

KARACHI: Justice Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri of the Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Thursday remarked that "for the first time, a High Court" an application to become a party in judge is standing in the dock like the case. He said he was never issued an accused."

two-member bench hearing regarding Justice Jahangiri's were Justice Jahangiri himself, party in the matter. Justice Saman Raffat, the Addi-

cate General Sindh, and the lawyer case were absent. Advocate Faisal representing Karachi University.

Taking the rostrum, Justice Jahangiri stated that he had filed any notice by Karachi University. The remarks came during Justice K. K. Agha observed that the Sindh High Court's (SHC) the bench would first determine whether the petition was maintainable, to which Justice Jahangiri academic degree. Present in court responded that he was an affected

Justice K. K. Agha questioned

tional Attorney General, the Advo- why the lawyers who filed the Siddiqi argued that the maintaina bility could not be decided without including the affected person. Following this, counsels from the Islamabad High Court, Karachi Bar, and others raised objections against the bench itself.

Barrister Salahuddin pointed out that Justice Adnan-ul-Karim Memon, a member of the bench, had earlier declined to hear cases of Farooq H. Naek through a judi-

Ahsan to represent Pakistan at 14th CPEC JCC meeting today

BEIJING: Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal would represent Pakistan at the 14th meeting of the Pakistan-China Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) here on

Highlighting the significance of the forum, the minister in a statement said that the JCC is the highest decision-making body of CPEC, where progress on ongoing projects would be reviewed and new areas of cooperation will be added to the agenda. Ahsan Iqbal described the 14th JCC as a historic turning point, serving as the launch platform for China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) Phase II.

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Pakistan, Sri Lankan reaffirm commitment to boost bilateral ties



Spokesman Report

NEW YORK: Pakistan and Sri Lanka have reaffirmed the commitment to continue working closely to further strengthen their bilateral ties, during the years ahead.

The commitment was made during meeting between Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and President of Sri Lanka Mr Anura Kumara Dissanayake, on the margins of the 80th Session of UN General Assembly in New York on Wednesday.

The meeting took place in a cordial environment, reflecting the existing goodwill between Pakistan and Sri

Discussion between the two dignitaries covered a wide range of areas, including high-level exchanges, bilateral trade, educational cooperation, cultural exchanges, and defense cooperation. Various regional and global issues were also discussed.

Both leaders expressed satisfaction over the robust nature of Pakistan-Sri Lanka bilateral relations. They affirmed to continue working closely to ensure that these relations would grow from strength to strength, during the years ahead.

Both leaders agreed to enhance exchanges in sports, particularly cricket. Both sides agreed to remain engaged for the advancement of Pakistan-Sri Lanka bilateral relations.

Bilawal Bhutto calls for political solution to Balochistan problems



👺 Bureau Report

KARACHI: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has said that the issue of Balochistan must be resolved through political, not military, means.

Speaking to the media in Karachi on Thursday, the PPP chairman stated that the grievances of the people of Balochistan needed to be resolved, adding that the issue of terrorism is the biggest problem faced by the people.

Bilawal emphasised that the solution to the Balochistan issue is political and that decisions must be made Programme (BISP).

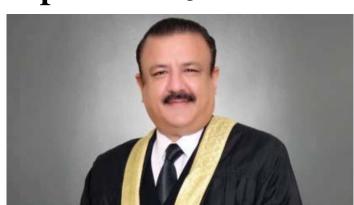
through political consensus to benefit

He also noted that Pakistan has been successful in the past in the war against terrorism.

Referring to recent floods, the PPP chairman said that many districts in Punjab suffered massive damage, with south Punjab being the hardest

He also noted significant damage in Gilgit-Baltistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa due to cloudburst and flooding, and called on the federal government to provide assistance through the Benazir Income Support

Supreme Court to hear Justice Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri's appeal on September 29



👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Supreme Court has fixed for hearing an appeal filed by Islamabad High Court (IHC) judge Justice Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri, who was barred from judicial work by the IHC in connection with a fake degree case.

A five-member constitutional bench, headed by Justice Aminuddin Khan, will hear the case on September

The bench also includes Justice Jamal Khan Mandokhail, Justice Muhammad Ali Mazhar, Justice Hassan Azhar Rizvi, and Justice Shahid Waheed.

Justice Jahangiri had challenged the IHC Division Bench's decision before the Supreme Court, which formally admitted his plea and allotted it case number 4247 on September 20.

It may be recalled that Justice Jahangiri is among six judges who earlier lodged a complaint with the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC) against the Chief Justice, alleging interference by the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) in judicial affairs.

The complaint also mentioned the discovery of surveillance cameras near judges' chambers and even in a bedroom, though the matter reportedly yielded no action when conveyed to the chief justice.