Barkat Rice Mills (Pvt) Limited

Security forces' operations strengthening resolve to eradicate terrorism from country: Bugti

He stated that we stand shoulder to shoulder with the Pakistan Army, and the people of Balochistan salute the mission of the mar-



Section 144 imposed across Punjab for 10 days

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Rabius Sani 17, Saturday, October 11, 2025



www.dailyspokesman.net 🔰 @daily_spokesman 📑



Daily Spokesman Vol: 19, Issue: 176 Price Rs. 25.00 Pages 8

Deserted Islamabad expressway

ISLAMABAD: A view of deserted Islamabad expressway during road closed due to protest of a religious party as every time in such



Photo: Online

Weak governance, Afghan safe havens fuelling terrorism in Pakistan: DG ISPR

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Director General of Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), Lieutenant General Ahmed Sharif, held a detailed press briefing in Peshawar on Friday, where he outlined Pakistan's ongoing efforts against terrorism.

During his address, the DG ISPR praised the resilience and bravery of the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), who he said have stood firmly against the menace of terrorism. "The adding that the Pakistan Army confronting terrorism with unmatched resolve," he said, terrorism in all its forms.



courageous people of KP are and law enforcement agencies remain committed to uprooting

According to official data shared during the briefing, over 14,535 operations were

conducted in KP in 2024, while

carried out so far in 2025. Daily, the security forces are conducting around 40 intelligence-based operations, DG ISPR revealed.

In 2025 alone, 917 terrorists were neutralised, the highest number recorded in a decade. However, 516 personnel and civilians embraced martyrdom during this period.

DG ISPR pointed out that political manipulation of the terrorism issue has been a major stumbling block. "Terrorism cannot be fought while politics is being played over national security," he said. He noted that Indian proxies operating from

10,115 operations have been Afghan soil have carried out multiple terror attacks inside Pakistan.

He claimed that safe havens for terrorists still exist in Afghanistan, and more than 30 suicide bombers who carried out attacks in Pakistan had links to Afghanistan. "These networks are supported by both local and foreign handlers," the DG added.

He also expressed concern over the availability of American weapons to terrorists following the US withdrawal from Afghanistan, saying these arms have been used in attacks on Pakistani soil.

Continued on Page 7

30 terrorists killed in military operation in NW Pakistan

👺 Xinhua

ISLAMABAD: Pakistani security forces killed 30 militants during a large-scale operation in the Orakzai district of the country's northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, days after an attack that left several soldiers dead, the military said on Friday.

The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the media wing of the Pakistan Army, said in a statement that the operation was launched in the Jamal Maya area of Orakzai following credible intelligence about the presence of militants involved in the Oct. 7 terrorist attack.

After an intense exchange of fire, all 30 militants were killed, the statement said, adding that the group was involved in orchestrating the "heinous incident" earlier in the week.

group of soldiers in the district unwavering resolve.



during a search operation on Tuesday in which 11 soldiers, including a lieutenant colonel and a major-ranked officer, were killed. "These successful operations

have avenged the attack and brought the main perpetrators to justice," said the ISPR. The ISPR added that clear-

ance operations are continuing in the surrounding areas to eliminate any remaining militants.

Pakistani President Asif Zardari paid tribute to the security forces for their brave action against militants, stating that Pakistan's According to military continued success in the fight sources, terrorists attacked a against terrorism reflects its

President, PM commend security forces for killing 30 terrorists in Orakzai operations

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday paid tribute to the security forces for carrying out a successful anti-terrorist operation in Orakzai.

The president and prime minister, in their separately issued statements, appreciated the professional capabilities of the security forces for eliminating 30 India-backed Khawarij in recent days.

They said that the sacrifices of Lt. Col. Junaid Tariq, Major Tayvab Rahat, and other martyrs would never be squan-

President Zardari said that the armed forces had made the nation proud by dismantling the network of Indian-sponsored Khawarij.

"Continuous successes resolve. The brave sons of the soil have made history by sacrificing their lives to protect the motherland," he added



that the officers and personnel of the security forces were tirelessly striving to safeguard the country from hostile elements, while risking their own lives. He said that every officer

and soldier of Pakistan's armed forces was making the entire nation proud by embracing martyrdom to ensure the country's security.

"We will never allow the sinister designs of terrorists to succeed. The fight against the scourge of terrorism will continue until it is eradicated in toto, Prime Minister Shehbaz said, reiterating against terrorism reflect our that the entire nation stood shoulder to shoulder with its armed forces in their unwavering resolve to protect the homeland.

Aurangzeb Reaffirms Pakistan's commitment to private sector-led growth

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb on Friday reaffirmed the governgrowth in the country.

arranged for the visiting Saudi Bank. business delegation at the Overseas Investors Chamber of his recent interaction with agencies now aligned after a gap Commerce & Industry (OICCI) Prince Mansour and members of several years.

The event was co-hosted by the OICCI and the Pakistan Business Council (PBC).

While expressing gratitude to the leadership of OICCI ment's commitment to creating and PBC for the invitation, the a conducive environment for minister said he regretted being both foreign and local investors unable to attend the event in to promote trade and business person due to his imminent departure for Washington to The minister virtually participate in the annual meetaddressed a business session ings of the IMF and the World

Senator Aurangzeb recalled

of the Saudi delegation at a luncheon hosted by the Prime Minister and reiterated that the Government of Pakistan firmly believes that the private sector must take the lead in driving the country's economic growth, with the government's role being to provide an enabling ecosystem.

Highlighting Pakistan's improving macroeconomic indicators, the Finance Minister stated that macroeconomic stability has been restored, with all three major global rating



Ahsan highlights importance of advancing space tech for sustainable national development

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minis-Ahsan Iqbal on Friday highlightin space technology to accelerate Pakistan's development pace and equip its youth to meet future challenges.

Addressing the closing ceremony of World Space Week at a Model College for Girls, the ter for Planning, Development minister said the government was and Special Initiatives Professor according special focus to space research as it played a crucial role ed the importance of advancing in national progress, economic growth and global competitive-

> "You will be happy to know Almighty, next year Pakistan's that, by the grace of Allah first astronaut will enter space



informed the participant. He further said that Pakistan's

space agency had also been tasked with pursuing a moon mission

aboard China's space station," he

"Ahsan Iqbal noted that civilizations have historically risen through their commitment to knowledge and scientific explo-

and participate in experiments ration, and declined when they neglected them."

Whenever Islamic civilization was at its peak-in Baghdad or Muslim Spain-our scholars were the world's leading astrophysicists," he remarked. But when we broke our connection with science and research, we began to decline and became dependent on others for knowledge," he added.

DPM Ishaq Dar reviews overall economic situation



跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Friday chaired a meeting to review the overall economic situation of the country.

The meeting was attended by the Finance Minister, Muhammad Aurangzeb, Minister of State for Finance, Bilal Kiani, SAPM Tariq Bajwa,

Finance Secretary, Chairman FBR and his team.

The Finance and FBR teams shared the statistics for Q1, FY 26. The participants were also briefed about the recent discussions held with the visiting IMF

The deputy PM/FM expressed his satisfaction over the performance of economy despite disruptions caused by the floods.

Ambassador Masood Khan Dismisses ICBM allegations

Calls for Strategic Honesty in Global Discourse

Majeed Tahir

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador Masood Khan, Pakistan's former Ambassador to the United States, the United Nations, and China, has strongly refuted recent Western claims that Pakistan is pursuing intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) capable of targeting the United States.

In his article for Global South World, titled "Strategic Gaslighting: The Myth of Pakistan's ICBMs," Ambassador Khan said these assertions are baseless and politically motivated. He underscored that such narratives are part of a wider effort posture and distort its longstanding policy of maintaining only a credible minimum deterrence.

Ambassador Khan clarified that wrote. Pakistan's nuclear doctrine remains India-specific and firmly anchored in the principle of credible minimum the only nuclear-armed state without deterrence. "Our longest-range missile, the Shaheen-III, with a range of 2,750 km, is designed solely Pakistan's defensive research implies ington from aiding India is pure



coverage of its strategic assets in the Pakistan and the U. S. have been Andaman and Nicobar Islands," he

He emphasized that Pakistan has no plans to develop ICBMs, making it such a weapon system.

to mischaracterize Pakistan's defense to ensure regional balance and deter hostility toward the United States, aggression from India — including Ambassador Khan reminded that

> enduring partners since 1947. From Cold War cooperation to counterterrorism partnerships, the relationship has weathered shifts but remained strategically resilient.

The recent suggestion that Paki-Rejecting the flawed logic that stan seeks an ICBM to deter Wash-

conjecture, detached from historical realities and present-day diplomacy,"

 $He \, further \, argued \, that \, attempts \, to \,$ portray Pakistan as a potential adversary ignore the consistent and stabilizing role Islamabad has played in

Citing the May 2025 hostilities between India and Pakistan, Ambassador Khan noted that President Donald Trump, Vice President J. D. Vance, and Secretary of State Marco Rubio chose diplomacy and mediation, not partisanship, helping secure a ceasefire that reaffirmed Washington's commitment to regional stability.

"The United States chose evenhanded diplomacy — not alignment with India - and Pakistan fully supported this approach," he observed.

Ambassador Khan pointed out that India's own ICBM advancements from the Agni-V with a range of up to 8,000 km to the ongoing development of the MIRV-capable Agni-VI — are conspicuously absent from Western

People in trouble

ISLAMABAD: Residence of Twin Cities are suffering on closed Faizabad interchange due to protest of a religious party as every time in such situation always the common people suffer a lot.

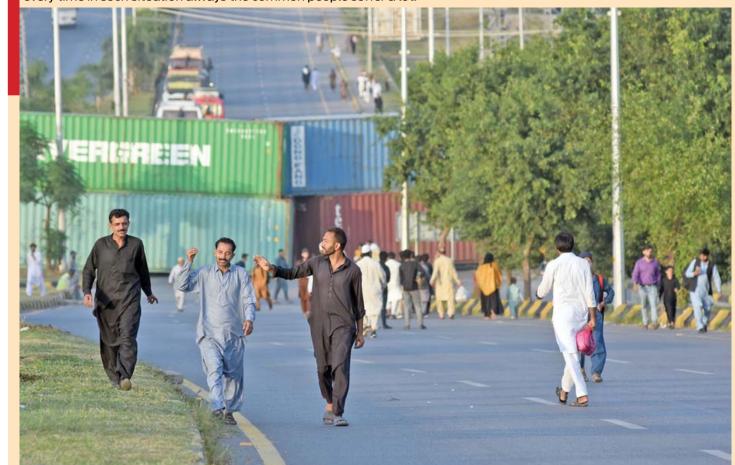


Photo: Online

Women's University Multan holds a powerful solidarity rally for Pakistan Army

👺 Quratulain Asim

MULTAN: The Women University Multan organized a Solidarity Rally at its Katchery Campus to express unwavering support for the Pakistan Army and reaffirm the nation's collective resolve for peace, stability, and sovereignty in response to India's recent threats and hostile rhetoric.

The rally was led by Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Kalsoom Pracha and coordinated by Dr. Samina Akhtar, Director Media Coverage Ms. Anam Zehra, international Journalist Mr Asim Tanveer, all department chairpersons, faculty members Dr. Azra Liaguat, Dr. Munazzah Rabbani, Dr. Abida Aziz, Dr. Kanwal Rehman, Dr. Hina Ali,



Khadija Kanwal, Dr. Malika Rani, Dr. Dr. Tahira Bano, Ms. Rafiya, Ms. Hina Ismail, Dr. Zarmina Rashid, Dr. Shaiza Perveen, Dr. Saima Nasreen, Dr. banners, and placards with patriotic

Career Development. Deputy Director Dr. Hina Munir, Ms. Sonia Nasir, Dr. Mamoona Noreen, Dr. Tahira Younis, Sumera Mehboob, Dr. Asma Akbar, Dr. Dr. Asma Akbar, Dr Javeria Ahmed, staff, media representatives, and a large Sara Musaddiq, Dr. Deeba Shahwar, number of students participated enthu-

Participants carried national flags,

slogans, voicing unity, strength, and solidarity with the armed forces. The walk was a vibrant reflection of national pride and love for the motherland

The participants paid glowing tributes to the Pakistan Army and its martyrs, acknowledging their unmatched courage and sacrifices for the defense of the nation. Special tribute was also paid to Chief of Army Staff & Field Marshal General Asim Munir for his visionary leadership, commitment to national security, and efforts to uphold peace and stability in the country.

During the event, participants strongly condemned India's state terrorism and aggressive policies, reaffirming that the Pakistani nation stands united and resolute in defending its

Pakhtunkhowa Radio Wana resumes broadcasts: public hails Govt's efforts

跨 AK Wazir

WAZIRISTAN: The broadcasts of Pakhtunkhwa Radio FM 92 Wana, located in Lower South Waziristan, have resumed after an 18-month hiatus, bringing joy to listeners across the region. The revival became possible through the personal interest and tireless efforts of Dr Bakhtiar Ahmed, Secretary of the Information and Public Relations Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Following the resolution of long-standing technical issues, the voice of Pakhtunkhwa Radio Wana is once again echoing through the valleys, dense forests, and tower-



ing mountains of Waziristan.

The broadcasts of the resumption spread swiftly and was warmly welcomed by local

listeners. They expressed gratitude to Secretary Information Dr Bakhtiar Ahmed and Director General Informaresidents, particularly regular tion Muhammad Imran for

restoring the vital communication channel. Locals described Pakhtunkhwa Radio Wana as an important bridge between the government and the people, serving as a key medium for disseminating information and keeping citizens updated on government initiatives and development activities.

Residents noted that during the station's suspension, they were largely disconnected from official announcements and district administration updates. They expressed hope that the provincial government would continue to strengthen the station's administrative and technical structure to ensure uninterrupted broadcasts in

Meanwhile, staff members at Pakhtunkhwa Radio Station Wana expressed immense joy over the restoration of transmissions. They have officially resumed programming, focusing on new themes, cultural content, and public-interest broadcasts. The team said they were determined to make Radio Wana more active, accessible, and community-oriented than ever before. With its revival, the station has once again rekindled a sense of connection, awareness, and optimism among the people of Waziristan restoring a vital communication link between citizens and the state.

World Egg Day Celebrated with Great Enthusiasm at University of Kamalia



跨 🛮 Zafar Chishti

TOBATEK SINGH: The University of Kamalia celebrated World Egg Day with great enthusiasm and participation from students, parents, poultry farmers, industry representatives, citizens and members of political and social circles. The event aimed to raise awareness about the nutritional importance of eggs and to encourage their regular consumption as part of a healthy diet. Vice Chancellor Dr. Yasir Nawab, while addressing the participants, said that celebrating World Egg Day provides an opportunity to educate people about the vital role eggs play in ensuring food security and improving public health. He said eggs are a complete source of protein, rich in vitamins, minerals and essential amino acids, making them one of the most affordable and nutritious foods available.

A large number of Students and guests from the poultry industry actively participated in the walk. The walk aimed to raise public awareness about the significance of eggs as a rich source of protein and essential nutrients, promoting the message of "An Egg a Day Keeps You Healthy and Strong."

Outbreak of dengue and malaria in Hyderabad remains uncontrolled



B Qayoom Sarohi

HYDERABAD: The dengue and malaria outbreak in district Hyderabad remains beyond control, with a large number of citizens infected and admitted to hospitals. Due to the negligence of the health department and administrative inefficiency, the situation is becoming increas-

Informed sources revealed that mosquito nets provided under the Malaria Control Program have been distributed among favored individuals, and reports have surfaced that some of these nets are being sold in local markets. When asked how many mosquito nets were distributed in Hyderabad, DHO Hyderabad Dr. Pir Ghulam Hussain and Deputy Director of the Malaria Control Program Dr. Mushtaq avoided

The concealment of data from the media clearly indicates that irregularities and alleged corruption have occurred in the distribution of

On the other hand, despite an allocation of Rs. 2.8 billion for the health sector in the current fiscal year, citizens continue to be deprived of basic healthcare facilities, and the district health administration appears to be completely paralyzed.

According to sources, DHO Hyderabad Dr. Pir Ghulam Hussain has remained absent from his office most of the time since assuming charge. Staff members reportedly turn away visitors and complainants by claiming that "the DHO is in a meeting." Sources further allege that the DHO, being a close relative of the Sindh Chief Minister, considers himself beyond accountability and runs the department according to

AAAI Invites Pakistani innovators for MIT energy ಆ climate hackathon

№ News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) Pakistan Chapter has been officially invited by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) to participate in the 2025 MIT Energy & Climate Hackathon, opening doors for Pakistani innovators to tackle global sustainability challenges

Muhammad Tahir, Chair of AAAI Pakistan and a visionary leader in AI ethics and future technologies along with Co-Chair of AAAI Pakistan-Mehwish Salman Ali, a globally recognized AI entrepreneur and Forbes Technology Council member, extend this opportunity to the chapter's network of students and researchers.

Mehwish Salman Ali, Co-Chair AAAI Pakistan, added: "This partnership with MIT EnergyHack is a defining opportunity for Pakistan's AI and energy innovators. It allows our brightest minds to learn from MIT's mentors, engage in global problem-solving, and showcase Pakistan's growing strength in research and applied innovation."

The last date to submit the registration form is Monday, October 13th.

$Imposition \, of Rs. 10.98 \, mln$ fine, 4502 FIRs registered against dengue violators

RAWALPINDI: The District Health Authority (DHA) Rawalpindi has collected fines of Rs. 10.98 million in its efforts of dengue SOPs

The authorities have taken strict punitive actions against dengue SOPs violations, including 4,502 FIRs filed, 1,859 properties sealed, and issuance of 3,518 challans to a number of domestic and commercial premises during the current year.

The authority has intensified efforts to curb the spread of dengue. In the last 24 hours, 19 new confirmed cases were detected.

The latest data released in this regard shows 908 confirmed cases across the district, whereas 47 patients are currently admitted to hospitals. The hospitals have screened a total of 13,555 patients for dengue

Vector control teams have inspected over 5.65 million houses and 1.55 million potential breeding spots, uncovering 178,871 positive houses and 24,052 positive spots, leading to the destruction of 202,923 larvae.



SERVICES		
Namaz	Timings	
	4:46 am	
Zohr	11:55 am	
Asr	4:00 pm	
Maghrib	5:40 pm	
Isha	7:03 nm	

EMERGENCY
Rescue (Police) 15
Bomb Disposal 15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/
Islamabad1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance 1122 &
& Rescue Services 4451122
Motorway Police9266044
Motorway Police9270601-20
Woman Police

Women Police Ctations

Stations			
Islamabad	922259		
Rawalpindi	. 9270601-20		

Rawalpindi	927060
	UIRY
Edhi Ambulance	

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

HOSDITALS

110361	IALJ
CMH	5611111
MH	561116
MH	561116
Cantt Hospital	9270907-11
DHQ	5556311-4
RGH	9290301-7
Holy Family	9290322-7
PIMS	9261170-79
Polyclinic	9218300-09
Shifa International.	4603666

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

COMPLAINTS

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

India is the Big Terrorist County in the World: Sajida Ahmed Langha



Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Death Sentence to Kashmiri Hurriyat leader Yasin Malik is total terrorism Sajida Ahmed Langha Said India's hideous face exposed, flouting international laws, social leader strongly reacts, demands immediate notice from international organizations

Multan: Social leader Sajida Ahmed has termed the death sentence given to Hurriyat leader Yasin Malik of Indian-occupied Kashmir as state terrorism and a clear violation of human rights, saying that India is trying to suppress the voice of the Kashmiri people under a systematic plan.

In her strong reaction, she said that occupied Kashmir has been suffering from oppression and oppression by Indian forces for the past several decades.

The rape of more than twenty-six thousand women and the martyrdom of more than two and a half lakh youth there is a black mark on the forehead of humanity.

Sajida Ahmed said that India presents itself as a champion of democracy. but in reality it is an aggressive and cruel state that is constantly violating United Nations resolutions. He urged the international community to break its criminal silence on Indian atrocities and take practical steps for the right of self-determination of the Kashmiri people.

Atta Tarar appreciates outgoing Ethiopian Envoy for his remarkable diplomatic services

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for of connecting the two nations by dili-Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar on Friday visited the Ethiopian Embassy Islamabad to bid a farewell to outgoing Ethiopian Ambassador to Pakistan Dr. Jemal Beker Abdula.

Ambassador for his remarkable role and services for strengthening the bilateral relations of Ethiopia and Pakistan to the greater heights.

Ambassador Dr. Jemal Beker said Ethiopia attached great importance to its diplomatic relations with the Islamic Republic of Pakistan which has been playing an important role at the international level.

He expressed gratitude to the Government and people of Pakistan for extending immense support to him during his tenure in strengthening bilateral and multilateral cooprity, climate resilience, aviation, trade, services to both countries.

investment, tourism and culture.

The Ambassador said he was proud gently working on three main areas including connectivity, economic diplomacy and climate resilience in Pakistan.

The Ambassador said the Ethiopian Airlines is serving as an instrument of The Federal Minister appreciated the the Look Africa and Engage Africa policies of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan under which the 5th Pakistan-Africa Trade Development Conference and Single Country Exhibition is taking place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia next

> The Minister called the Ambassador a true "Friend of Pakistan" who has built bridges between the two nations and rendered great services not only to Ethiopia but also to Pakistan by bringing the two nations closer together.

He announced that the National Television of Pakistan will document eration between the two countries in his diplomatic services and air it on diverse areas including peace and secu- PTV in recognition of his remarkable



Performance

ISLAMABAD: Artists are performing during 03 Days "Baluchistan Grand Tourism Festival" at Lok Versa in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

A small egg is a treasure trove of great nutrition: Dr. Sajjad Arshad

Majid Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: World Egg Day is celebrated every year on the second Friday of October around the world. This day reminds us how a simple egg is the guarantee of a healthy body, a balanced diet and a happy life.

This was said by Dr. Sajjad Arshad while addressing a seminar on the occasion of World Egg Day in Kuching, Malaysia. He further said that the egg is a gift of nature, a guarantee of health. The powerhouse of nutrition is an excellent source of protein-While the presence of calcium and iron makes it a suitable which are indispensable for stan to distribute free eggs to World Egg Day.



nine essential amino acids, the philanthropists of Paki-

 $food \, for \, all \, ages. \, Eating \, an \, egg \quad muscle \, and \, mental \, health. \, Dr. \quad the \, community \, and \, organize$ rich vitamins A, B, D and E. daily provides the body with Sajjad Arshad has appealed to egg-based communal cooking

TMUC celebrates Pearson UK Global Skills Qualifications

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Millennium Universal College (TMUC), Pakistan's leading transnational higher education group, hosted the TMUC-Pearson UK Graduation Ceremony 2025 in Islamabad, a grand celebration of academic excellence, skills development, and international collaboration,

says a press release. The ceremony was graced by Ms. Jane Baker, Vice President, Pearson United Kingdom, as Chief Guest, who flew in from England to honour employability skills. the graduating class. TMUC also welcomed distinguished guests from Pearson UK and the British Council, including Ms. Amanda Ingram, Exams Director British Council Paki-



stan; Mr. Waqar Shah and learning in today's knowledge Mr. Muhammad Furqan from economy. Pearson Pakistan. Their presence reflected the strength of TMUC's global partnerships and its mission to empower youth through education and firmed TMUC's commitment

address, Ambassador Masood innovation, quality, and skill-Khan, President TMUC driven education. Higher Education Group, emphasized the growing importance of skills-based Pearson partnership as a

Dr. Faisal Mushtaq TI, Founder & CEO TMUC Higher Education Group, congratulated the graduates and reafto bridging local talent with Delivering an impactful global opportunities through

> Chief Guest Ms. Jane Baker commended the TMUC-

model of excellence in vocational and higher education, lauding TMUC's student-centered approach and focus on practical skills that enhance employability worldwide. Ms. Amanda Ingram also applauded TMUC's contribution to advancing international education in Pakistan.

Dean TMUC Amna Salik commended the graduates for demonstrating the values of skill-based learning, creativity, and innovation that define TMUC's vision for modern education. The TMUC-Pearson UK Graduation Ceremony 2025 reaffirmed TMUC's commitment to global standards, innovative education, and the development of future-ready skills among Pakistan's youth.

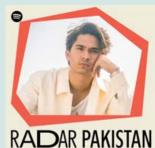


ISLAMABAD: Belarus EV Company representative, DG CDA Metro Bus Service and others posing a group photo at an under-construction charging station H8 Zero Point Islamabad. Photo: Spokesman

Spotify names Samar Jafri as RADAR Pakistan Artist for 24 2025

Example 2 Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Spotify has announced Samar Jafri as its RADAR Pakistan artist for the fourth quarter of 2025, celebrating his fast-rising success and the deep connection he has built with young audiences across the country. As part of this global artist development program, Spotify will bring Jafri's story to life through a special mini-documentary, exploring his creative evolution, the inspiration



behind his music, and the moments that have shaped him into one of Pakistan's most exciting emerging artists.

Rutaba Yaqub, Spotify's Artist & Label Partnerships Manager for Pakistan and UAE, shared, "Samar Jafri is a remarkable talent and a fitting choice to close out RADAR Pakistan Season 2025. We're excited to spotlight his journey and share his music with even more listeners

through this platform." "As an independent artist, this truly feels like the beginning of something I've been dreaming about for years," Samar Jafri stated, sharing his excitement on being recognized by RADAR Pakistan. "I've been making music for over six years now, but it took a lot of time and courage to finally start putting out originals.

Cousin mastermind behind major gold Theft in Attock looted booty worth Rs 9.2 M recovered



ATTOCK: Attock police have solved a major house burglary, arresting $three \ suspects-including \ the \ complainant's \ own \ cousin-involved$ in stealing 35 tolas of gold jewelry and Rs 400,000 in cash, worth a total of Rs 9.2 million.

According to police sources, the incident occurred on July 9, 2025, when complainant Taimoor Hassan, a resident of Dhoke Jonda, Attock, was away on a family trip to Kashmir. Upon returning home, he found the main door broken and discovered that cash, saving certificates, jewelry, and the DVR of the CCTV system were missing.

The Attock Saddar Police registered a case and launched an investigation. Using modern technology and professional expertise, investigators traced the culprits and discovered that the complainant's cousin, Farrukh Sultan, a resident of Thatta, Tehsil Jand, had master-

Police revealed that Farrukh lured his cousin into going on vacation and then, along with accomplices Muhammad Asif and Muhammad Sial, executed the robbery. The stolen gold was later sold to Muhammad Altaf, a jeweler from Mohalla Bahar Kot, Mullan Mansoor, Attock.

During interrogation, police recovered gold worth Rs 1 million and Rs 8.2 million in cash equivalent to the value of the remaining sold jewelry.

Saturday, October 11, 2025

Group Chairman/Chief Editor: Almass Ayoub Sabir

Vice Chairman:

Naveed Ahmad Khan Editor: Head Editorial Advisory Board: Amjad Mehmood Khurram Jaffrani

Bureau Chief Karachi:

Bureau Chief Lahore:

Syed Afraz Ali Nazish (afrazalishah@gmail.com)

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

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

Karachi office: A111, Block C, Gulsha-e-Jamal, PRECHS, Karachi Phone:021-33399390

Email: spokesmankarachi@gmail.com

Asim Nazir Ahmad

(jaffrani@adpluse.pk

Lahore Office: 7-E, Samanberg, Johar Town.

spokesmanlahore@gmail.com

Daily The Spokesman available only on annual subscription

Waterborne diseases in flood-affected areas

loods are among the most common and destructive natural disasters, causing widespread damage to infrastructure, property, and human life.

One of the most severe and immediate consequences of flooding is the outbreak of waterborne diseases. These diseases are caused by pathogenic microorganisms that are transmitted through contaminated water.

The disruption of clean water supplies, sanitation systems, and hygiene infrastructure during floods create a perfect environment for these diseases to spread rapidly, leading to significant public health crises. Buy vitamins and supplements

Floodwaters can spoil food stocks and contaminate crops with pathogenic bacteria and chemicals, leading to foodborne

This is the most common and dangerous category, especially for children. Buy vitamins and supplements

Cholera: Caused by the bacterium Vibrio cholerae. It leads to severe, watery diarrhea and vomiting, causing rapid dehydration and death within hours if left untreated.

Typhoid Fever: Caused by Salmonella Typhi. Symptoms include high fever, weakness, stomach pain, and diarrhea or con-

Dysentery: Can be bacterial (Shigellosis) or amoebic (Amoebiasis). It is characterized by severe diarrhea with blood and mucus. E. coli Infection & Rotavirus: Common causes of severe diar-

rhea in children. B. Hepatitis A and Hepatitis E

These are viral infections that affect the liver. They are primarily spread through the fecal-oral route due to contaminated water or food. Symptoms include jaundice (yellowing of the skin and eyes), fatigue, nausea, and abdominal pain. Hepatitis E is particularly dangerous for pregnant women.

C. Leptospirosis

This is a bacterial disease (Leptospira spp.) spread through water contaminated with the urine of infected animals (especially rodents). People wading through floodwaters are at high risk. Symptoms range from high fever and severe headache to kidney failure and liver damage (Weil's disease).

D. Vector-Borne Diseases Linked to Stagnant Water While not strictly waterborne in the same way, these diseases

explode due to the water left by floods.

Malaria and Dengue Fever: Stagnant water provides perfect breeding sites for mosquitoes (Anopheles for malaria, Aedes for dengue).

4. High-Risk Groups

Certain populations are more vulnerable to waterborne diseas-

Children under 5: Their immune systems are underdeveloped, and they are more susceptible to severe dehydration from diarrhea. Elderly Individuals: Often have weaker immune systems and co-existing health conditions. Buy vitamins and supplements

Pregnant Women: At higher risk for complications from diseases like Hepatitis E and Leptospirosis.

People with Compromised Immune Systems: Such as those with HIV/AIDS, malnutrition, or undergoing chemotherapy.

Displaced Populations: Those living in temporary shelters with

High-Stakes Games in the Middle East

the epicenter of conflict, betraval, shifting alliances, and global maneuvering. Yet the most recent chapter has revealed not just another tragic confrontation, but a sophisticated, high-intensity, high-stake game where every move was calculated to achieve both destruction and survival. The sequence began with Hamas's surprise attack on Israel—an operation described by some analysts as clumsy and poorly coordinated, yet one that, paradoxically, many claim was abetted by Israel itself to trigger a wider conflict. What followed was a brutal escalation that saw Gaza reduced to rubble, its people starved, slaughtered, and collectively punished under what international observers called nothing less than genocide.

The early days of the war set the stage for Israel's long-held expansionist ambition: to annex Gaza, the West Bank, and potentially extend its dominance into the broader Middle East. With the United States' unconditional backing, Israel unleashed a campaign that turned Gaza into what one doctor called a "slaughterhouse," where children, women, doctors, and civilians were killed daily in horrifying numbers. This genocidal spectacle shocked the world and forced international powers to take sides.

China and Russia limited their involvement largely to issuing statements, avoiding direct entanglement. The real surprise came from Europe. Under immense public pressure, European governments pivoted dramatically. Citizens poured into the streets demanding sanctions against Israel, recognition of Palestine as a state, and an end to the occupation. Governments responded by canceling military, civilian, and economic agreements with Israel, withdrawing a two-state solution. This groundswell for its practical implications. For the ence were decisive. Europe's citizens, by

he Middle Easthas long been of European public opinion became a turning point. For decades, Israel had enjoyed near-total impunity in Western capitals, but this time the moral force of public condemnation began to erode even the most entrenched political loyalties. political will into one cohesive push was One decisive moment came when a prominent European leader flew to Israel, not to offer support, but to confront its leadership, creating diplomatic shockwaves and forcing new pressure on Tel Aviv.

> Trump's stance marked a turning point. It reflected not only his desire to assert American independence from Israeli influence but also his recognition that the United States could not afford endless wars while its economy and political institutions were under strain. His 21-point

peace plan became the centerpiece of this recalibration—a plan that sought not only to stop the carnage in Gaza but also to end centuries of conflict by pushing for a viable two-state solution. When Trump unveiled the plan, many dismissed it as fragile, unrealistic, and destined to fail. Yet, against all odds, it gained momentum. The plan's strength lay not in forcing capitulation but in balancing interests. It acknowledged Hamas as a legitimate political actorsomething Israel had long resisted—and compelled Israel to sit at the same nego-

tiation table as its sworn enemy. In an unprecedented development, Hamas and Israel accepted the first phase of the plan. This meant an agreement to a ceasefire, humanitarian access to Gaza, and recognition of Palestine's right to statehood in principle. The agreement is expected to be formally signed in Egypt, with Trump himself likely attending the ceremony. This moment is remarkable investments, and promising support for not only for its symbolic power but also

to concede to negotiations that recognized Palestinians as equal stakeholders. Trump's ability to leverage European sanctions, Muslim unity, and American a rare alignment of global forces.

The immediate outcome of the plan is the cessation of the most brutal phase of the Gaza war. Yet its long-term implications are far more significant. If implemented fully, it could establish a two-state

solution with Palestine gaining international recognition and sovereignty, force Israel to halt annexation and ethnic cleansing policies, rebalance U.S. foreign policy away from blind loyalty to Israel, strengthen political European autonomy, and reinforce

Qamar Bashir Muslim nations' influence as collective economic and diplomatic actors in global

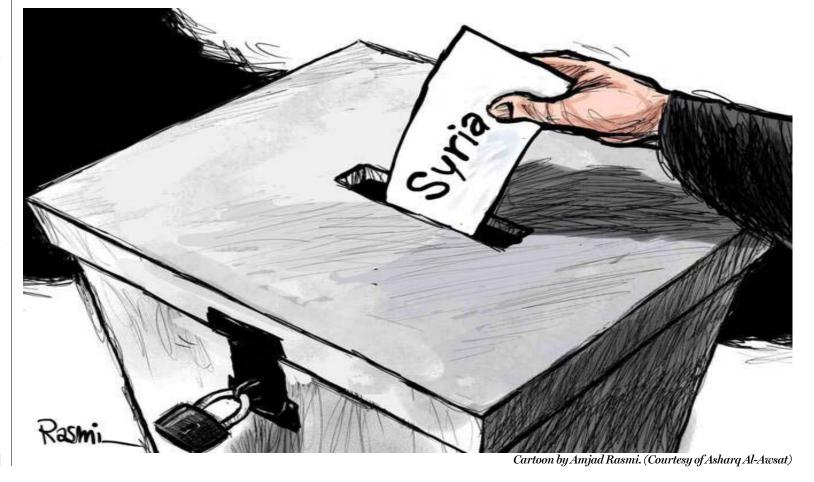
Nevertheless, challenges remain. Israel's political establishment continues to resist, with Netanyahu lobbying fiercely to derail the plan and push the United States back into alignment with Israel's hardline agenda. Doubts persist about Hamas's ability to transform from an armed resistance group into a reliable political entity. Skeptics also question Trump's capacity to maintain momentum given domestic pressures and the fragility of international alliances. Yet despite these uncertainties, the peace plan represents a monumental shift. It demonstrates that even in a region as complex and conflict-ridden as the Middle East, diplomacy, economic leverage, and public opinion can achieve what decades of war could not.

Credit for this breakthrough belongs to multiple actors. Trump's strategic deviations from Israel's traditional influ-

first time in decades, Israel was forced refusing to remain silent in the face of genocide, forced their governments into action. Muslim nations, particularly Iran, used their strength to tilt the balance. International institutions such as the UN and the International Court of Justice provided moral legitimacy by condemning Israel's actions and upholding Palestinian rights. Even Pakistan's diplomats, often overlooked, played a vital role in mobilizing the Muslim world and countering Israeli-American propaganda at the United Nations. Conversely, China and Russia, despite their global stature, remained largely on the sidelines—issuing statements but contributing little. Their absence highlights a critical lesson: in this conflict, words without action mean little.

> The Middle East has endured millennia of bloodshed, with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict at its modern heart. Yet the alignment of international outrage, Muslim unity, European pressure, and Trump's uncharacteristically disciplined diplomacy has produced a fragile but real chance for peace. The 21-point plan is not merely a blueprint for ending one war; it is a test of whether humanity can finally prioritize justice and coexistence over expansion and annihilation. If the plan succeeds, it will not only be remembered as Trump's greatest diplomatic achievement but also as the moment when the world finally forced Israel and Palestine to imagine peace. If it fails, it will join the long list of shattered hopes in the Middle East. For now, however, the world stands at a rare crossroadsone where the slaughter has paused, the diplomacy has begun, and the possibility of justice has flickered into view.

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



Governor Punjab Introduces First Health Card for the Transgender Community

ment, Punjab has become the first health card exclusively for the transgender community. This initiative is not merely a government program — it is a reflection of compassion, inclusivity, and respect for human rights. For a community that has long faced marginalization, discrimination, and social neglect, this moment marks a new dawn of dignity and equality.

At a special ceremony held at the Governor's House in Lahore, Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan unveiled the first-ever health card for the transgender community, reaffirming that the Pakistan often been mistreated in hospitals, refused Peoples Party (PPP) continues to uphold the admission, or left without proper medical

welfare vision of its founding leaders - Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and Benazir Bhutto.

When Governor Saleem Haider distributed the cards among members of the transgender community, his words carried not just sympathy but a genuine acknowledgment of their rights. He stated, "Education, healthcare, and employment opportunities are the rights of the transgender community as much as anyone else."

Though simple, this statement holds deep significance. It encapsulates the long struggle of the transgender community — a struggle for recognition, equality, and basic human dignity in a society that has often excluded

Governor Haider emphasized that the health card is more than access to medical $treatment-it \ is \ a \ symbol \ of \ equality, \ respect,$ and inclusion. Through this program, transgender citizens will now have access to healthcare services worth up to Rs. 600,000 across

n a historic and heartening develop- Punjab. This move not only opens the doors This gesture alone marks a historic shift of hospitals but also integrates this marginprovince in Pakistan to launch a alized group into the state's social protection framework.

> He further noted that Pakistan Peoples Party will continue to advocate for the transgender community at every level of government. The achievements such as NADRA registration, health desks, vocational training of their identity or status. programs, and employment quotas are clear signs of progress for this long-neglected

For decades, the transgender community has faced humiliation and denial of even the most basic healthcare services. They have

> attention. Now, for the first time, this health card represents the visible presence of the state in their lives — a reassurance that they too matter.

This initiative is, therefore, not just a healthcare reform — it is a social revolution. By treating

transgender citizens as equals, the government sets the tone for wider societal acceptance and integration. It restores their confidence, dignity, and sense of belonging.

Malik Faisal Munir

Governor Saleem Haider Khan's leadership in this regard is commendable. Under his vision, the Governor's House is transforming into a hub of welfare and inclusion - a place where promises are turned into action. Members of the transgender community themselves acknowledged this, saying that Governor Saleem Haider is the first governor who has invited them to the Governor's House and treated them with respect. remember it as such.

from rejection to recognition.

The PPP has always been the voice of the underprivileged - laborers, farmers, women, and marginalized communities. Under Bilawal Bhutto Zardari's leadership, the party once again proves that no citizen should be deprived of state facilities because

Governor Haider's statement that efforts for transgender rights must continue even at the highest levels of government reflects a broader policy vision rather than a symbolic act. With similar steps being taken — from registration and education to job quotas -Pakistan is steadily moving toward a more inclusive and humane society.

Other provinces - Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Balochistan — should also take inspiration from Punjab's initiative to ensure that transgender individuals across Pakistan receive equal access to education, employment, and healthcare.

The Transgender Health Card is, therefore, not just a card — it is a restoration of self-respect and a reaffirmation of equality. It represents a milestone toward social harmony, human rights, and a Pakistan built on fair-

As citizens, it is now our collective duty to appreciate, promote, and support such efforts, and to evolve our social attitudes to ensure that everyone - regardless of gender or identity — can live a dignified life.

In essence, Governor Saleem Haider's initiative is not merely about healthcare — it is about humanity. It sends a clear message to the transgender community: "You are not alone; the state stands with you."

This is more than a card — it is a declaration of equality and respect, and history will

From Ceasefire to Survival: A Case of Environmental Justice for Gaza-II

he policy brief prepared jointly by UNEP far beyond its shores." and the World Bank lays out a path forward that could turn Gaza's recovery from tragedy into transformation — but only if the global community treats environmental rehabilitation as central to peace, not as

an afterthought. First, water and sanitation restoration must be treated as emergency protection, not mere reconstruction. Without clean water and working sewage systems, no ceasefire will prevent the outbreak of epidemics. WHO's Gaza cluster reports have repeat-

edly warned that every fuel shortage leads to the collapse of pumping stations, forcing sewage into streets and aquifers. The first phase of peace must be a hydrological ceasefire securing, repairing, and powering water systems under international protection.

Second, a comprehensive environmental assessment led by UNEP must begin immediately after a truce.

Satellite imagery and remote sensing can only do so much; the real work requires scientists on the ground testing soil, groundwater, air, and marine samples. These findings must be public, transparent, and serve as a foundation for legal accountability and restoration.

Just as international law recognizes the destruction of human life as a war crime, it must treat the deliberate or reckless devastation of ecosystems as an indictable offense. Ecocide must enter the legal vocabulary of accountability for Gaza. The evidence - contaminated aquifers, deliberate targeting of civilian infrastructure, denial of fuel for sewage treatment — must be preserved for future tribunals and truth commissions.

The environmental recovery of Gaza is not merely a humanitarian issue; it is a global test case for environmental justice. The polluted Mediterranean does not recognize borders; climate systems do not obey ceasefires. As UNEP's experts note, "Gaza's environmental collapse risks cascading regional impacts on marine biodiversity, fisheries, and human health

The political question now is: who will rebuild Gaza. and on what terms? If reconstruction is driven solely by geopolitical convenience — controlled by the same powers complicit in destruction — it risks perpetuating injustice under a new name. International financing must come with transparency, local ownership, and environmental safeguards.

A Gaza Environmental Recovery Commission (GERC) under UN and World Bank oversight could provide the structure needed to coordinate humanitarian, environmental, and economic priorities. It

must guarantee participation of local engineers, scientists, and communities — those who know the land best.

A ceasefire, however fragile, is the world's opportunity to decide whether Gaza will remain a wasteland of despair or become a laboratory of justice and green recovery. The bombs may stop, but Gaza's

Syed Munir Ahmed poisoned wells, dead soils, and choked air will remain unless the world acts with the urgency and moral clarity this moment demands.

Gaza's future will not be written only in peace treaties or diplomatic communiqués, but in the quality of its water, the safety of its soil, and the survival of its children. To rebuild Gaza's environment is to restore its humanity - and, in doing so, reclaim a measure

of the world's own. The ceasefire must therefore be more than a pause in war; it must be the beginning of ecological justice the healing of land and life together. Anything less would mean that Gaza's true war — the one against nature and survival itself — continues, unseen but unrelenting, long after the headlines fade.

The writer is an Executive Director, Devcom Centre for Geopolitical Studies, development expert and policy analyst focused on regional cooperation and climate diplomacy. His email: devcom. Pakistan@gmail.com

The Spokesman 5

OICCI and PBC host Saudi delegation to explore investment opportunities in Pakistan

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: A high-level investors' delegation from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, led by His Highness Prince Mansour bin Mohammad Al Saud, met with senior representatives of Pakistan's major multinational and leading local corporates in an interactive session hosted by the Overseas Investors Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OICCI) and the Pakistan Business Council (PBC) here at the OICCI. The dialogue focused on strengthening strategic economic cooperation and identifying new avenues for investment and trade between the two brotherly nations.

Addressing the gathering online, Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb welcomed the delegation, noting that Pakistan's economy had achieved macroeconomic stability and was now undergoing structural reforms to ensure long-term sustainability.

Welcoming the delegation, OICCI Secretary General M. Abdul Aleem said that OICCI, representing over 200 multinational companies, continues to serve as a trusted bridge between highlighted the strong business sentiglobal investors and Pakistan's evolving ment and Pakistan's growing capacity



economic landscape.

PBC Chairperson Dr. Zeelaf Munir briefed the delegation on the improving economic climate, stable exchange rate, and stronger business sentiment.

OICCI President Yousaf Hussain

to diversify exports and develop new

PBC CEO Javed Kureshi outlined strategic investment sectors and opportunities and commended the investor-friendly approach of the Special Investment Facilitation Council (SIFC) in promoting and enabling

foreign partnerships that can accelerate economic transformation.

Speaking on the occasion, His Highness Prince Mansour bin Mohammad Al Saud reaffirmed the Kingdom's deep-rooted and strategic relationship with Pakistan, emphasizing that it must now be further strengthened

through sustained economic engagement and mutually beneficial invest-

Saudi Ambassador H. E. Nawaf bin Saeed Al-Malki appreciated Pakistan's reform drive and the active role of its private sector, expressing confidence that the visit would mark a new era in Saudi-Pakistan business collaboration.

Both the OICCI and PBC reiterated that their organizations maintain strong strategic relationships with leading corporates and are well positioned to facilitate meaningful partnerships that can strengthen long-term

Azerbaijan-Pakistan Chamber Targets Trade Surge with Retail Giant BRAVO

Example 2 Commerce Desk

BAKU: The delegation of the Azerbaijan-Pakistan Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry met with the management of Azerbaijan's largest retail business group, BRAVO, in Baku and visited the company's main store.

The delegation was led by Chamber President Waqar Bakhtawari, who held detailed discussions on the growing business opportunities between Pakistan and Azerbaijan.

He particularly briefed the BRAVO management on key Pakistani products such as rice, Himalayan salt, mangoes, citrus fruits, and textiles. BRAVO Directors Zaur Daryav, Garakhan Shirinli, and Vajisi Ben expressed deep interest in Pakistani products and agreed to enhance trade relations between the two countries.

will directly coordinate through the Azerbaijan-Pakistan Joint Chamber expand bilateral trade.



any information or assistance regarding the Azerbaijani market, it will remain in contact with BRAVO to ensure more effective bilateral collaboration. During the meeting, Waqar Bakhta-It was mutually decided that if wari said that there are vast opportu-BRAVO requires any products from nities for trade between Pakistan and Pakistan or wishes to strengthen Azerbaijan. We aim to build strong business cooperation, the company connections between major business entities of both countries to further

Pakistani products are globally in order to promote imports, exports, guished members.

is growing demand for them in Azerbaijan.

BRAVO Group representatives expressed their willingness to expand business relations with Pakistan, noting potential cooperation in sectors such as agricultural products, salt, and textiles. It was also agreed to continue mutual Raki, Mohsin Khalid Malik, Rohail cooperation to establish direct business Anwar Butt, Umar Khayyam Abbasi, relations between Pakistan's leading Shumaila Siddiqui, Malik Abdul Aziz retail group D. Watson and BRAVO, Fatima Hassan, and other distin-

Similarly, if the Chamber requires recognized for their quality, and there and trade development between the two friendly nations.

The Azerbaijan-Pakistan Joint Chamber of Commerce delegation included Chairman Zafar Bakhtawari, Abid Bakhtawari, Haris Bakhtawari, Yousaf Rajput, Asad Aziz, Malik Shabir Awan, Awais Satti, Nasir Ali

Bosnia and Herzegovina Association "Pomozi.ba's Humanitarian Response to Floods in Pakistan

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: In response to the recent devastation caused by heavy rains and flash floods in IR Pakistan, particularly in Gilgit-Baltistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and other vulnerable mountain communities, Bosnia and Herzegovina Association "Pomozi. ba" provided emergency assistance in those affected areas. 150 families have received a supply of food and non-food

In addition to distributing tents for temporary accommodation of affected



families, the Association Pomozi.ba also supported.

The representative of the Association "Pomozi.ba, Mr. Mithat Brkan paid a visit to the flood-affected areas on September 28-30, 2025.

During the visit, Mr. Brkan met local elders, affected families and community members, listened to their issues and expressed heartfelt condolences to the families of those who lost their lives in the disaster.

He was accompanied by the representatives of the partner organization Alkhidmat Europe.

ISSI hosts former CNS Admiral (R) Abbasi on Maritime Security and Blue Economy'



👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: In the latest edition of its Thought Leaders Forum (TLF), the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) hosted former Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral (R) Zafar Mahmood Abbasi NI(M). The session was titled, 'Maritime Security and Blue Economy.'

Director General ISSI Ambassador Sohail Mahmood, in his remarks, stated that this session was organized to provide a perspective on the role of naval power, complementing the previous two TLF sessions held in the backdrop of May 2025 conflict between India and Pakistan. It was also designed to have an informed discourse on the challenges in the way of effectively harnessing Pakistan's 'blue economy' potential. Ambassador Sohail Mahmood added that Pakistan's geographical position strongly underscores its significant geo-economic and geo-strategic relevance.

Admiral (R) Zafar Mahmood Abbasi, in his wide-ranging talk, outlined that Pakistan's maritime domain, though strategically significant, has long been neglected. He opined that the current global geopolitical environment is defined by a divide between the Global North and South, where the former pursues hegemonic, zero-sum policies while the latter emphasizes inclusive growth. This imbalance, coupled with an interest-based capitalist system, has deepened inequality and instability, dynamics also reflected in the mari-

Economically, Pakistan's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and Extended Continental Shelf expanded in 2015 through efforts of the PN and NIO, contain vast untapped resources, including significant oil, gas, and mineral reserves. A revitalized shipbuilding industry and greater reliance on indigenous shipping could save valuable foreign exchange. The fishing sector, despite potential, faces overfishing, pollution, and weak regulation.

Earlier, in his introductory remarks, Director China-Pakistan Study Centre, Dr. Talat Shabbir, highlighted the timeliness of the discussion and said that today's session is of immense relevance in an era where oceans play a defining role in shaping economic prosperity, environmental sustainability, and geopolitical stability.

Ambassador Khalid Mahmood presented a memento to Admiral (R) Zafar Mahmood Abbasi.

The session brought together scholars, diplomats, and policy experts for an insightful discussion on matters related to maritime security and blue economy.

'Sidhu Phenomenon: How Humility and Integrity Fueled Pakistan's Air Victory in May 2025'

👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Centre for Aerospace and Security Studies (CASS), Lahore, hosted a roundtable titled "Character Building" qualities that enable officers to as the Bedrock of Pakistan Air Force Leadership." The event was attended by Pakistan Air Force (PAF) officers, members of the academia, and the think tank community. As an independent think-tank, CASS Lahore organises such events to explore the cultivated through the Jinnah critical dimensions of security, technology and policy. The event started with opening remarks by Dr Zahid Khan, Associate Senior Researcher at CASS Lahore.

Air Commodore Khalid Banuri (Retd), Senior Advisor to PAF's Project Phoenix, explained witnessed a transformative leap that the PAF's leadership philos- in professionalism and multiophy rests on the belief that domain operational capability. true military excellence stems He described how ACM Sidhu's from character before compe-

tence. The PAF's training and humility, merit, and intellec- ship has remained anchored professional culture, he noted, have been carefully shaped by a commitment to integrity, discipline, humility, and purpose act with moral clarity in complex operational environments. He highlighted that, under the vision of the Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmad Baber Sidhu, this principle is now being systematically Centre for Character and Leadership. The Speaker also elaborated on what he termed "The Sidhu Phenomenon," referring to the visionary leadership of the incumbent Air Chief, under whose command the PAF

tual discipline—fused character with strategic foresight to shape a culture of excellence across the Force. This leadership ethos, he emphasised, was demonstrated during the May 2025 war, where the PAF's measured resolve and unmatched prowess secured a historic victory, reaffirming that integrity and moral strength remain the ultimate multipliers of combat power.

Air Marshal Asim Suleiman (Retd), President, CASS Lahore, reflected on the deeper meaning of leadership within the PAF. He noted that leadership is far more than exercising authority; it is the moral art of living the values that inspire others. He noted that vision and competence lose their substance without integrity. Contrasting the PAF with its Indian counterpart, he leadership style—anchored in observed that the PAF leader-

in humility and discipline, whereas the Indian Air Force has become politicised and falsely claims victories, unlike a chivalrous force. He explained how, during the May 2025 war, the PAF demonstrated that credibility flows from humility, restraint, and moral courage. He observed that this principle has defined the PAF since its inception and found its full expression under the leadership of the current Chief of the Air Staff of the Pakistan Air Force. During the May 2025 war, ACM Sidhu exemplified the Force's character-driven ethos. Despite transforming the skies over South Asian air theatre, he remained humble and eschewed the media spotlight — the hallmark of a true leader. He concluded that nations may rise on the shoulders of power but endure only



on the foundation of character.

The discussion concluded enduring strength in national a glaring example of this prinon a reflective note, with defence lies in the moral fibre of ciple.

participants emphasising that its leaders and the PAF serves as

Bull & Bears PSX 100-Share

index Fluctuation			
Pakistan: PSX 1	00-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close 164,530.80 Day's Low 162,411.25		
163,098.19			
Day's High			
165,262.85			
Index Value	Change		
34,842,288,562	-1432.61		
Percentage	Time		
-0.87%	10 Oct, 2025 4:30 pm		
Europe: FTSE 100 Index			
Index Value	Change		
9,427.47 -81.93			
Percentage	Time		
-0.86%	10 Oct, 4:35 pm GMT+1		
USA: Dow Jones I	ndustrial Average		
Index Value	Change		
45,725.35	-633.07		
Percentage	Time		
-1.37%	10 Oct, 1:14 pm		

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		
Index Value	Change	
48,088.80	-491.64	
Percentage	Time	
-1.01%	10 Oct, 3:45 pm GMT+9	

GMT-4

Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	185.4	190.4
Bahrain Dinar	746.9	754.4
Canadian Dollar	205.6	212.6
China Yuan	39.8	40.2
Danish Krone	44.55	45.15
Euro	331.9	335.4
Hong Kong Dollar	36.45	36.8
Indian Rupee	3.12	3.21
Japanese Yen	1.8760	1.9760
Kuwaiti Dinar	913.55	922.55
Malaysian Ringgit	67.3	67.9
NewZealand \$	164.85	166.85
Norwegians Krone	28.37	28.67
Omani Riyal	731.15	738.65
Qatari Riyal	77.32	78.02
Saudi Riyal	75.35	76
Singapore Dollar	216.8	221.55
Swedish Korona	30.05	30.35
Swiss Franc	355.12	357.87
Thai Bhat	8.73	8.88
U.A.E Dirham	76.95	77.95
UK Pound Sterling	380.7	383.7
US Dollar	282.7	282.8

SNGPL starts installing LNG meters for domestic consumers

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Sui Northern Gas Pipeline Limited (SNGPL) started installing liquefied natural gas (LNG) meters for domestic consumers. According to the details, Sui Northern Gas Pipeline Limited also forwarded a list of all those consumers to the regional offices which deposited additional demand notices.

The SNGPL also sent letters to the consumers for the LNG accord. The consumers signed an agreement with the company for LNG. After the agreement, consumers were issued demand notices to deposit additional charge vouchers.

PNSC accelerates new vessel procurement under maritime minister's directive

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan National Shipping Corporation (PNSC) moved to fast-track its vessel procurement process following directions from Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry, as part of efforts to expand the national fleet to 30 ships by 2026. During a detailed briefing in Islamabad on Friday, the PNSC management informed the minister that the corporation's fleet expansion plan was progressing steadily, with key procurement stages nearing completion.

Officials said that the PNSC Board had earlier approved the purchase of three secondhand Aframax and MR-2 class oil tankers, with evaluation and due diligence completed in accordance with public procurement regulations. In its most recent session, the Board approved the acquisition of three vessels: MT Lorex, which will be renamed MT Karachi, at a cost of USD 74.5 million; MT Nafsika, to be renamed MT Lahore, also for USD 74.5 million; and MT Stavanger Poseidon, to be renamed MT Quetta, for USD 44.15 million.

Privatisation Commission Board recommends reference price for privatisation of First Women Bank

Example 2 Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Privatisation Commission (PC) Board, in its 240th meeting held under the chairmanship of Mr. Muhammad Ali, Chairman, Privatisation Commission, has recommended a Reference Price for the privatisation of First Women Bank Limited (FWBL) to the Cabinet Committee on Inter-Governmental Commercial Transactions (CCoIGCT).

This decision marks an important step towards finalisation of the Government-to-Government (G2G) process. FWBL, incorporated in 1989, is 82.64% owned by the Government of Pakistan and is currently being negotiated with the nominated entity of the Government of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) under the Inter-Governmental Commercial Transactions



Successful completion of the process would not only attract fresh foreign direct invest- able investment.

ment (FDI) into the country but also enhance investor confidence in Pakistan's broader privatisation programme.

In another key decision, the PC Board approved the consortium led by Raiffeisen as the top-ranked interested party for appointment as Financial Advisor for the privatisation of Hyderabad Electric Supply Company (HESCO) and Sukkur Electric Power Company (SEPCO).

Furthermore, the Board constituted a Negotiation Committee to finalise the Financial Advisory Services Agreement (FASA) with the top-ranked consortium led by Raiffeisen.

The Privatisation Commission remains committed to ensuring transparency, efficiency, and strategic reforms in its privatisation programme to strengthen Pakistan's economic outlook and attract sustain-

Handcrafts

ISLAMABAD: A baloch artist is busy in making handicrafts for attracting people during 03 Days " Baluchistan Grand Tourism Festival" at Lok Versa in Federal Capital.



Collectorate of Customs Captures Three Vessels Carrying 132,564 Litres of Smuggled Iranian HSD

E Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Marine Enforcement Unit of the Collectorate of Customs (Enforcement), Karachi, achieved a major breakthrough in its ongoing anti-smuggling drive by intercepting three vessels (wooden launches) involved in the smuggling of 132,564 litres of Iranian-origin High-Speed Diesel (HSD) during the night between 9th and 10th October 2025.

The operation was initiated on the basis of credible intelligence report regarding the movement of smuggled petroleum products through the coastal route. Acting swiftly, a Marine Enforcement Team, comprising Preventive



Officers, namely, Ayaz Ali and Saleem Yusuf, immediately left for the pointed locations in deep waters to launch a well-coordinated pursuit at sea. After spotting the targeted boats accurately in the areas of Somiani, Phor/Sapat interceptions were made one by one with professional excellence and once apprehended the boats were sailed towards ASO office at Karachi port without any harm to human lives.

The seized diesel is valued at Rs. 33.14 million, while the three wooden launches are valued at Rs. 45 million, bringing the total value of the seizure to Rs. 78.14 million. This marks the *largest single-operation recovery of POL products by the Marine Unit to date.

Saudia recognized among the world's leading airlines for operational safety and quality

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: The national flag carrier of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, has successfully renewed the IATA Operational Safety Audit (IOSA) under the newly introduced Risk-Based IATA Operational Safety Audit (RBI) framework.

IOSA is a globally recognized safety evaluation program that assesses an airline's operational management and control systems. again reflects the strength RBI introduces a more predictive and customized the robustness of our operapproach, leveraging performance data and risk profiles to enhance oversight, and focusing on airline-specific safety priorities.

The audit covered eight global aviation standards".

core domains: Organization Management, Aviation Security, Flight Operations, Flight Dispatch, In-Flight Services, Maintenance Management, Ground Operations, and Cargo Operations.

Capt. Mohamed Dahduli, Vice President of Safety, Aviation Security & Quality at Saudia, stated: "Safety is at the core of everything we do at Saudia. Renewing our IOSA registration once of our safety culture and ational systems. It's a proud moment that highlights the dedication of our teams and our ongoing commitment to meeting and exceeding

FBR registers 19pc rise in tax collected from weddings

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has registered a 19 percent increase in the collection of withholding tax (WHT) on weddings during the fiscal year 2024-25. According to the latest FBR data, withholding tax collected from weddings reached Rs2.02 billion in FY25, compared to Rs1.70 billion in the previous fiscal year. This rise reflects both increased enforcement and a surge in lavish wedding expenditures across Pakistan's major cities, including Karachi, Lahore, and Islamabad.

The tax is collected under Section 236CB of the Income Tax Ordinance, 2001, which was introduced through the Finance (Supplementary) Act, 2023. The law mandates advance tax collection from individuals or entities organizing widening the tax base.

events in marriage halls, marquees, hotels, restaurants, clubs, or community centers. This also includes taxes on payments for food, decoration, and other services related to such events.

Under the current tax framework a 10% withholding tax applies to individuals listed on the Active Taxpayers List (ATL), while a 20% rate applies to those not on the list. The tax collected is adjustable against the filer's annual tax liability.

Officials that the FBR's focus on weddings comes as part of its broader drive to document informal sectors that generate substantial revenue but often remain untaxed. With weddings in Pakistan often involving extravagant spending, the sector provides a significant opportunity for

Kaspersky highlights how common computer pranks resemble Cyber Attacks

Example 2 Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: A recent survey by Kaspersky has showed that 69.5% of employees and business owners using computsituation when colleagues (39.5%), friends or relatives unlocked computer. These jokes included sending funny of the accounts' owner, plac-

as a desktop background, and leaving unexpected pictures, notes, or photos in the files. At the same time just 1.8% of the survey respondents admitted ers in the Pakistan faced a to making such jokes them-

Similar tricks are also (30%) made jokes with their used by cyber attackers. For example, a phishing website may open in a new window in messages or emails on behalf full-screen mode, so that the original browser bar with the

ing a screenshot of the desktop phishing URL becomes invisible. Instead, the attackers replace it with an image of the browser bar with the official link of some well-known organisation. This image may display various messages (both visual and audio), such as warnings that the computer has been blocked and a fine must be paid.

If the user does not know how to exit full-screen mode in the browser, they may think



their computer is really locked. can press F11 or Alt+F4 on a Mac, to exit full-screen mode To escape such a trap, users Windows, or Cmd+Ctrl+F on and regain control.

Pakistan's contingent set to depart for 3rd **Asian Youth Games** in Bahrain

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's athletes are gearing up to participate in the 3rd Asian Youth Games, scheduled to be held in Bahrain later this month. According to the Pakistan Sports

begin departing for the event on Octo-

The Pakistan under-16 volleyball team and the under-16 kabaddi team will leave Islamabad for Bahrain on October 17 to represent the country in

Board, the national contingent will their respective disciplines. Other Pakistani teams participating in different sports will depart for Bahrain on October 19.

> Ahead of the departure, players and session at the Pakistan Sports Board



headquarters in Islamabad on October 15, where they will be informed about event logistics, code of conduct, and competition protocols.

The Asian Youth Games provide a vital platform for emerging athletes across Asia to showcase their skills gain international experience, and strengthen regional sporting ties.

Pakistan's participation is seen as an important step toward developing officials will attend a detailed briefing young talent for future continental and global competitions.

Pakistan to begin their WTC campaign against South Africa

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan will kick off their World Test Championship (WTC) campaign against defending champions South Africa from Oct 12 in Gaddafi Stadium Lahore.

This is the fourth ICC World Test Championship Cycle (WTC), and Pakistan has finished fifth, seventh, and ninth in the previous three cycles, respectively. In the last WTC, Pakistan lost 9 out of 14 matches, in which they lost 4 matches in the home series, which resulted in Pakistan's worst position in WTC, being placed at the bottom of the table in the WTC 2023-2025.

After three forgettable campaigns in WTC, this time under leadership of Shan Masood looks to better their record in Test Championship but their first challenge is none other than the defending champions South Africa, even though Pakistan has home advantage but it will be a great test to see, whether Pakistan begin their campaign with a strong start or once again follow their form in previous editions.

In the last edition, Pakistan made a spin-friendly pitch, which helped them win their first Test series on home soil after three years against England, but it was too late, as the damage was already done. They already lost to Bangladesh 2-0 on home soil and also lost their first match against England. Even with spinfriendly pitches, the series against the West Indies was drawn.



also tackle the away series accordingly. They need to prepare according to the away conditions, whether it is pace, swing or spin. They also need to keep in check the over-rates, as slow over-rates cost Pakistan points in multiple matches. For instance, against Bangladesh, they lost 6 overs and got

The key issues like changing of leadership multiple time in a single cycle Pakistan has to learn from their changes the momentum, not only the mistakes, not only do they have to leadership but also the coaching staff, triumph their series on home soil but as we seen multiple chop and change

in head coach of red ball, which makes it difficult for the team to adjust with different coaches in a cycle and also for the coach to join the team in the mid of the cycle. The fielding was also one of the major issues, as fielding cost Pakistan expensively in the series against Australia; there were multiple drops at crucial times, which, if taken, could have changed the outcome of the game.

Pakistan, after this series, will play their next WTC series in 2026; three in Bangladesh, the West Indies, and et-keeper)

England, after which Pakistan will then resume the home leg in November 2026 against Sri Lanka before their campaign ends against New Zealand in March 2027. Overall, they will play five Test series of two matches each, while the England tour will see three Tests.

In the two-match series against South Africa, the first match will be played in Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore, from Oct 12 to 16, while the second test match will be played in Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium from Oct 20 to 24. The test squad of both nations have been announced already. The Pakistan squad initially consisted of 18 players, which is now reduced to 16, as they omitted Amir Jamal and Faisal Akram. In the South Africa squad, Aiden Markram will lead the side, as Temba Bavuma is out of this series due to a calf strain.

Pakistan: Shan Masood (captain), Abdullah Shafique, Abrar Ahmed, Asif Afridi, Babar Azam, Hasan Ali, Imamul-Haq, Kamran Ghulam, Khurram Shahzad, Mohammad Rizwan (wicket-keeper), Noman Ali, Rohail Nazir (wicket-keeper), Sajid Khan, Salman Ali Agha, Saud Shakeel and Shaheen Shah Afridi

South Africa: Aiden Markram (captain), David Bedingham, Corbin Bosch, Dewald Brevis, Tony de Zorzi, Zubayr Hamza, Simon Harmer, Marco Jansen, Keshav Maharaj (second Test only), Wiaan Mulder, Senuran Muthusamy, Kagiso Rabada, Ryan Rickelton, Tristan Stubbs, Prenelan consecutive away series will follow, Subrayen, Kyle Verreynne (wick-

Criticism of weak governance, judicial system, and counterterror capacity

Continued from Page 1

In a strongly worded critique, the DG ISPR questioned why courts in KP failed to deliver punishments to convicted terrorists, stating that judicial shortcomings and gaps in governance have made the fight against terrorism more difficult.

He highlighted the lack of capacity in the Counter-Terrorism Department (CTD) of KP, which currently has only 3,200 personnel—a figure he termed grossly insufficient. "Is this force enough to secure a province on the frontline of terrorism?" he asked.

He also mentioned that only 54% of religious seminaries (madaris) in KP have been registered as of August 2025, even though registration was decided upon back in 2014.

DG ISPR stressed that the National Action Plan (NAP), formulated after the APS tragedy with national consensus, has not been fully implemented. He questioned the rationale behind talks with terrorist elements, saying, "Was negotiation with terrorists part of the National Action Plan? Can we talk to those who attack schools, mosques, and seminaries?"

He warned that attempts to craft misleading narratives against security operations are being made to confuse the public and politicise security issues. Smuggling, Non-customs-paid (NCP) vehicles, and Afghan refugees

cited as major risks The DG also linked NCP vehicles and smuggling with terror activi-

National Action Plan not fully implemented use unregistered vehicles in attacks, blood." making tracking difficult. He added that most terrorists involved in recent attacks were Afghan nationals.

their repatriation has been politicised, even though it was agreed in 2014 that they would return. He cited the Doha nate terrorism Agreement, which included commitused against Pakistan—commitments that he said have not been honoured. Call for governance and legal reforms

The DG ISPR noted that 70% of terrorism incidents occurred in Khyber largely due to better governance strengthen our resolve." systems in those provinces. Quoting the Army Chief, he remarked: "We are their facilitators that "the ground will ties, stating that terrorists frequently covering the governance gap with our be made too tight for them to operate."

He also underscored the need to break the criminal-terrorist nexus and to strengthen the judicial system Regarding Afghan refugees, he said to ensure timely and decisive action against terrorists.

Salute to martyrs and resolve to elimi-

Concluding his briefing, DG ISPR ments that Afghan soil would not be saluted the martyrs of KP and reaffirmed the military's commitment to eliminating terrorism, "The brave sons of this soil have written history with their blood.

The Pakistan Army, like a solid wall, Pakhtunkhwa, whereas Sindh and will continue to stand firm against Punjab experienced fewer attacks, terrorism. The sacrifices of our martyrs

He warned terrorist elements and

National Wushu Championships scheduled in Gujrat and Risalpur this month

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: The 15th National Women's Wushu Championship is set to take place from October 17 to 19 in Gujrat, while the 25th National Men's Wushu Championship will be held from October 21 to 26 in Risalpur. The women's event will feature competitions in seven weight categories for fighting and seven categories for Taolu (the artistic form of Wushu).



Meanwhile, the men's championship will include contests in nine fighting weight categories and seven Taolu events.

To select Punjab's men's and women's teams for the national championships, trials are scheduled for October 12 at the Township Wushu Club, Lahore

The upcoming events aim to promote Wushu at the national level, providing a platform for athletes from across the country to demonstrate their skills and secure positions for future international competitions.

Matloob stars in Defence Raya Open Golf



Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Defence Raya Open Golf Championship supported by Defece Raya is being contested at the alluring Defence Raya Golf Course. With golfing competitive activity spread over five days, the first day was assigned to events like, Junior Professionals and Professionals conclusion of the first 18 holes of this five days championship, Muhammead Waqas played superbly enough to gross an impressive 3 over par score of 75 on a challenge loaded Defece Raya Golf Course and thereby managed to appear as the top performer in a field of fifty senior professional golfers. Placed two strokes behind him is Muhammed Tariq of Islamabad at a score of gross 71. Other notable contender in this category are Rehan Babar of Lahore Garrison Golf Club and Muhammad Nabeel Awan. at gross 76 are Muhammed Sial and Omer Mehmood.

In the Professional Section the champion performer was Matloob Ahmed of Lahore Garrison. Other performers are Muhammed Alam, M. Shabbir and M. Waqas. The proceed-

National cricketers undergo intense training ahead of South Africa series

LAHORE: stan squad for the two-match Test series against South Africa underwent a threehour training session here at the Gaddafi Stadium on Friday.

Pakistan cricketers sharpened their



fielding, batting, and bowling skills with a three-hour session under the supervision of coaches.

The first Test match between Pakistan and South Africa will commence on October 12, with the series marking the start of the World Test Championship (WTC) for both teams.

South Africa will defend the WTC title after defeating Australia

Follow us on our Official WhatsApp channel The match of the series will take place at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium from 20 to 24 October. This will be the Proteas' first tour of Pakistan since January 2021, when they faced a 2-0 defeat

Shan Masood will continue to captain Pakistan with an experienced batting order shaping the lineup of the home team, while the visitors will be without their regular captain, Temba Bavuma, who was ruled out due to an injury.

Pakistan's interim red-ball head coach Azhar Mahmood has backed the home side, hinting that the pitches will not be as rank turners as they were during England's visit to Pakistan last year.

Karachi Hockey Association Hosts Successful 35th National Games Trials

KARACHI: The Karachi Hock- National Games. President Asma 13. Abdul Bari al Games trials at the Olympian Hanif Khan & Dr. Junaid Ali Shah KHA Sports Complex, Main University Road, Karachi.

The trials were conducted under the supervision of Selection Committee Chairman Olympian Iftekhar Syed, with a panel comprising Olympian Waseem Feroz, International Laiq Lashari, International Tasleem 1. Abdul Rafay (Goalkeeper) Usmani, International player 2. Ali Ghouri (Goalkeeper) Salaman Sheikh, Ms. Mahya 3. Saleem (Goalkeeper) Moin, Ms. Sameera Naseem, 4. Safeer (Goalkeeper) and Ms. Batool Kazim. District Sports Officer Ismail Shah also keeper)

oversaw the trials. President Karachi Hockey Association Syed Imtiaz Ali Shah 8. Shahbaz attended the trials, wishing the 9. Amil players good luck and moti- 10. Ali Afridi vating them to perform their 11. Sami best during the trials and the 12. Siddiq

ey Association (KHA) recent- Ali Shah, KHA Women Wing, 14. Abeer ly conducted the 35th Nation- was also present to encourage the Karachi Girls players.

More than 100 boys players 17. Mohsin appeared for the trials, with 48 boys selected from Karachi Region. A total of 50 girls participated in the trials, with 24 talented players shortlisted for the Sindh Team Trials.

Selected Karachi Boys for Sindh **Team Trials:**

5. Usman Hamid Ansari (Goal-

6. Tanveer Ahmed (Goalkeeper)

16. Muitaba

19. Azain 20. Ali Abbas 21. Mubashir

23. Bilawal

24. Ghulam 25. Hammad 26. S. Ahmed 27. Talha

28. Fayyaz 29. Farazdaq 30. Hadi 31. Ali Hasnain

32. M. Rayyan Hamid Ansari 33. Fakhir 34. Rayyan Mehmood 35. Abis

36. Ahetsham Ali 37. Meraj Muhammad Ali 38. Husnain Ali

39. Meraj Kazim 40. Sadaqat Ali

41. Imtiaz Ali 42. Waqar Hassan 43. Muhammad Ashraf

44. Salam alaikum 45. Fayyaz Khan

46. Meer Musa 47. Meer Ishaq

48. M. Ayan Selected Karachi Girls for Sindh

Team Trials:

1. Shazma Naseem (Goalkeeper) 2. Yusra Mobin (Goalkeeper)

3. Nida Anjum 4. Hafsa Zaffar

5. Sundus Siddiqui 6. Rumaisa

7. Syeda Ayesha Mehmood 8. Mehak 9. Rija Moiz

14. Dua Yaseen

10. Sameena Tabbasum 11. Kanza Nadeem

12. Iqra Iqbal 13. Gulnaz

15. Misfirah Furgan 16. Maheen Alvi 17. Momal Suqaina 18. Maryam Zahid 19. Duaa Khan

20. Saima Ghulam

21. Mahnoor



22. Hamna Nadeem 23. Sehrish Sabir 24. Aisha Arif

The Karachi Hockey Association extends its congratulations to the selected players and on Sunday, 12 October 2025, at wishes them the best of luck for 3:00 pm, at the same venue.

the upcoming National Games. The final trials for Sindh Girls will be on 11th October 2025, 3:00 pm, Saturday, whereas Sindh Boys teams trials will be

The Spokesman

Farewell call on ISLAMABAD: The outgoing Ambassador of Ethiopia paid a farewell call on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on

PPP ends boycott of National Assembly session

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan People Party (PPP) on Friday ended the boycott of the Parliament and attended the National Assembly session. Meanwhile, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Tariq Fazal Chaudhary said the government is taking concrete measures to attract investment in the country.

He told the National Assembly during question hour today that the foreign direct investment increased by

remittances in recent months.

The Minister for Parliamentary Affairs said a regulatory framework has been established to oversee cryptocurrency in Pakistan. He also alluded to the establishment of Ishaque Siddiqui informed Pakistan Virtual Asset Regulatory Authority and Pakistan Crypto Council.

Minister of State for Planning Chaudhry Armaghan that projects have been started

million dollars in the last fiscal the backward districts. He said year. He mentioned that there a project worth forty billion has also been record increase in rupees is aimed at uplifting twenty poorest districts of the country.

Providing an update on the privatization of various entities, Parliamentary Secretary for Privatization Assia the House that the pre-bidding process for Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) has been completed, and the bidding is expected to take place by the Subhani informed the house end of November. She said that bids have been received

ment is scheduled for 17th of this month. She said the sale and purchase agreement for the House Building Finance Corporation is expected to be finalized before December this

the sale and purchase agree-

Meanwhile, Speaker of the National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq announced on Friday that the digitisation process has been initiated to establish an e-Parliament, aimed at modernising the legislative system.

Speaking at the start of the

the Speaker said the digitisation work had almost been completed in the Secretariat, while the system would soon be extended to the Parliament Lodges for the facilitation of members

He said that under the new system, members would receive the Order of the Day, a copy of the Constitution, the Rules of Business, and other legislative documents digitally instead of in paper form.

"A help desk has been set up at Gate where members can configure their passwords and 27.2 percent, reaching 4026.6 to alleviate poverty and uplift for First Woman Bank, and National Assembly session, collect their iPads," he added.

Internet, metro services suspended in twin cities amid security threats

B Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Internet and metro bus services in Islamabad and Rawalpindi were suspended on Friday amid heightened security concerns and protests announced by a religious political party, while heavy traffic was restricted and Section 144 was imposed across Punjab for ten

Authorities also ordered early closure of educational institutions and suspended Metro and Orange Line train operations in Lahore, citing security threats and the need to maintain public safety.

The twin cities turned into high-security zones, with major highways and entry points blocked by containers and barbed wire.

Mobile services were partially faced severe delays due to the

Two most-wanted terrorists killed in

CTD operation in



disrupted, while commuters closure of major roads.

In Islamabad, strict meas-

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Religious Affairs and Inter-

faith Harmony Sardar Muham-

mad Yousaf on Friday chaired

a review meeting with repre-

sentatives of Dependent Hajj

Companies (DHCs) and the

central and zonal leadership of

the Hajj Organizers Association

of Pakistan (HOAP) to assess

the progress of the private Hajj

scheme, against the allocated

The minister emphasized that,

in line with the federal cabinet-

scheme.

quota of 60,000.

ures were implemented at key points, including Motorway

Chowk, Peshawar Mor, Zero Point and Serena Chowk, where additional police contingents and prisoner vans were deployed. The suspension of metro bus operations and mobile connectivity further compounded citizens' diffi-

In Rawalpindi, heavy deployment of security personnel was seen around Faizabad. Murree Road, Marrir Chowk and Double Road. Road blockages caused long traffic jams and forced motorcyclists and commuters to look for alter-

Section 144 was enforced across the city, banning rallies, public gatherings and the display of arms. Police were directed to take strict action against incitement, slingshots and other unlawful activities.

Sardar Yousaf directs private Hajj operators to complete remaining 20,000 pilgrim bookings by Oct 17

№ News Desk

Bannu

ISLAMABAD: Two most-wanted terrorists were killed in an intelligence-based operation (IBO) conducted by the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) in Bannu, the Central Police Office (CPO) Peshawar said on Friday.

According to the CPO, the slain terrorists were identified as Rashedeen alias Malang Yar and Khalid Usman. Both were on the CTD's most-wanted list and involved in multiple attacks on police and incidents of target

Police said Rashedeen was the mastermind behind the attack on four CTD personnel, while both men had long been under surveillance for their role in terrorist activities across the region.

Arms and explosives were recovered from their possession after the operation.

Security forces have launched a search operation in the area to arrest fleeing accomplices, the statement added.

During the meeting, it was informed that bookings for Hajj pilgrims must be completed timely registration and ensure 40,000 pilgrims have so far been by October 17, 2025. completed under the private Hajj

Sardar Yousaf directed all DHCs to ensure the completion government's commitment to of the remaining 20,000 pilgrim bookings within the next seven through effective coordination days. He also instructed the between the Ministry of Religious approved Hajj Policy 2026, the companies to launch an aware- Affairs and Interfaith Harmony

that no quota remains unutilized.

The minister reaffirmed the facilitating all intending pilgrims

registration process for private ness campaign to encourage and private Hajj operators. Published by: Almass Ayoub Sabir from Zero Point Printers Rawalpindi

PM felicitates outgoing Ethiopian envoy on successful completion of tenure

👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Friday congratulated outgoing Ambassador Dr. Jemal Beker Abdula of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, on the successful completion of his tenure in Pakistan and thanked him for his contributions for strengthening of Pakistan-Ethiopia relations.

Ambassador Dr. Jemal Beker Abdula paid a farewell call on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif this afternoon, a Prime Minister's Office news release said.

The prime minister appreciated the Bilateral Trade Agreement, the between the two countries.

resumption of direct flights between Karachi and Addis Ababa.

Highlighting Ethiopia's important role in Africa, the prime minister reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to expand mutually beneficial cooperation with Ethiopia, particularly in trade, investment, agriculture and technical capacity building.

The Ethiopian Ambassador thanked the prime minister for receiving him for a farewell call and expressed his heartfelt gratitude for the support and friendship that was extended to him throughout his tenure by the people and the Government of Pakistan.

The prime minister also conveyed the Ambassador's efforts for achieving his warm regards for the Ethiopian significant milestones during his leadership and expressed his desire tenure, including the conclusion of to enhance high-level interaction

Pakistan condemns Israeli action to stop Global Sumud Flotilla: FO



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan condemns Israeli action to stop the Global Sumud Flotilla, Foreign Office Spokesperson Shafqat Ali Khan said at a briefing on Friday.

Khan welcomed former senator Mushtaq Ahmed's release and return home. He said Pakistan supported the Gaza peace plan, but Pakistan

of Al-Aqsa Mosque. He said that Pri

was signed on promotion of trade, investment, defence and tourism. He said that cooperation between the two countries on key issues was emphasized and both leaders reiterated their joint support on the issue of Palestine.

He said that Pakistan supports declaring Al-Quds Al-Sharaf as the Palestinian capital. He said that Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar strongly condemns the desecration reiterated Pakistan's principled position on the issue of Palestine. He said that Prime Minister Shahbaz Shehbaz Sharif visited Malaysia Sharif also met President Donald and during this visit bilateral rela- Trump. Trump's role during the tions and trade came under discus- Pakistan-India tension was appresion. He said that an agreement $\,$ ciated during this meeting, he added.

Falak Javed sent to jail on judicial remand in anti-state tweet case

跨 Bureau Report

LAHORE: A Lahore court on Friday sent Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) activist Falak Javed to jail on judicial remand in two separate cases, including one related to an alleged anti-state tweet.

Judicial Magistrate Naeem Wattoo heard the remand request after the National Cyber Crime Manzar Ali Gul allowed the investi-Investigation Agency produced the gating officer to interrogate within accused before the court on completion of her two-day physical remand. the case registered at Race Course

The court ordered that Falak Police Station.

Javed be sent to jail on judicial

Separately, an Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) in Lahore heard a case related to the Zaman Park arson incident.

During the hearing, police sought permission to interrogate the accused in jail.

Granting the request, ATC Judge the jail premises in connection with

Lahore ranked second most polluted city as smog levels reach alarmingly high

👺 Bureau Report

reached an alarming stage. According to the latest ranking, Lahore stands as the second most polluted city, with the average smog level rising to 183, increasing the risk of respiratory illnesses.

Citizens are being advised to wear day ahead.

masks and avoid unnecessary outdoor activities to protect themselves from the hazardous air. Authorities have urged residents to take precautionary measures, especially amid expected weather changes, to prevent health compli-

Meanwhile, the minimum temper-LAHORE: Air pollution levels in ature in Lahore today is 19°C, with the provincial capital, Lahore, have a maximum of 29°C expected. The current temperature is recorded at

> According to the Meteorological Department, the wind speed in the city is 3 km/h, while humidity has reached 77%, indicating a humid

