



Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



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آدی کو نیکی کی طرف بلائے اور نیکی بستی کی
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حاصل کر لیتا ہے اور پھر اپنے جھوٹ برائی کی
طرف لے جاتا ہے اور برائی جہنم کی طرف
اور ایک شخص جھوٹ بولتا رہتا ہے، یہاں تک
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Resign or face no-confidence! AJK PM likely to make final decision in next 48-hour

The political crisis worsens in Azad Jammu and Kashmir legislative assembly after the resignations of several key minister of the government as well as the formation of forward block in Prime Minister Ch Anwarul Haq-led government.



PPP set to prove majority in AJK assembly today

PPP has claimed majority in Azad Kashmir legislative assembly as the government of Prime Minister Ch Anwarul Haq is in doldrums after the resignations of key ministers and the creation of forward block in the ruling party.

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Jamadi-ul-Awwal 4, Monday, October 27, 2025

www.dailyspokesman.net

@daily_spokesman



Daily Spokesman Vol: 19, Issue: 191

Price Rs. 25.00 Pages 8

Black Day

ISLAMABAD: A view of the banners displayed in front Parliament House regarding the "Black Day", which being observed today for the solidarity and support of Kashmiri people in their struggle for right to self-determination.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Five martyred, 25 khwarij killed during infiltration bids in Kurram, N Waziristan: ISPR



Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Army has foiled movements of two large groups of khwarij, opposite general area Ghaki, Kurram District and Spinwam, North Waziristan District who were trying to infiltrate through Pakistan-Afghanistan border on Sunday. According to ISPR press release, on 24-25 October 2025, movements of two large groups of khwarij, opposite general area Ghaki, Kurram District and Spinwam, North Waziristan District who were trying to infiltrate through Pakistan-Af-

ghanistan border, were picked up by the security forces.

Pak troops effectively engaged these groups of khwarij. As a result of precise and skillful engagements, fifteen khwarij including four Suicide Bombers belonging to Indian proxy, Fitna al Khwarij were sent to hell in Spinwam, North Waziristan District. Whereas, another ten infiltrating khwarij were killed in Ghaki, Kurram District. Large number of weapons, ammunition & explosives were also recovered from the killed infiltrating Khwarij.

Continued on Page 7

No lasting peace without resolution of J&K dispute: PM

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif said that lasting peace and stability in South Asia would remain elusive without the just and peaceful resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions and wishes of the Kashmiri people.

In a message on Kashmir Black Day observed on October

27, he said, "Every year the 27th of October marks the darkest day in the history of Kashmir. It was on this day, seventy-eight years ago, that the Indian Occupation forces landed in Srinagar and annexed it—a tragic chapter in human history that continues to this day. Ever since that fateful day, India continues to deny the Kashmiri people their inalienable right to self-determination, as enshrined in numerous resolutions of the United Nations

Security Council."

"For nearly eight decades, the people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) have endured enormous hardship and oppression. We salute their indomitable spirit, courage, and resilience, in the face of fear and persecution. Their unwavering resolve to attain the just and inalienable right to self-determination, remains undiminished," he added.

The prime minister said, "Since August 5, 2019, India has further intensified its illegal and unilateral actions, aimed at altering the demography and political status of IIOJK. In addition to human rights abuses, massive curbs have been imposed on freedom of movement and expression."

The prime minister said, "Pakistan has consistently condemned these unlawful measures, that defy interna-

tional law and violate numerous relevant UN resolutions. We have steadfastly maintained our position on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, which remains clear, consistent, and principled."

"As Prime Minister of Pakistan, I have always highlighted the plight of my Kashmiri brothers and sisters before the international community and echoed their calls for freedom from Indian occupation.

Federal Minister vows Pakistan's continued support for Kashmiris' struggle for freedom

City Desk

LAHORE: Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs, Gilgit-Baltistan and SAFFRON Engr. Amir Muqam has said that October 27 will once again be observed as "Black Day" across Pakistan, Azad Jammu and Kashmir, and among Kashmiri communities worldwide to condemn India's illegal occupation of Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing a press conference along with leaders of All Parties Hurriyat Conference

(APHC) at Aiwan-e-Iqbal, here on Sunday, the minister said that the day marks India's forcible and unlawful occupation of Jammu and Kashmir on October 27, 1947, in blatant violation of the principles of partition, human rights, and United Nations resolutions. He said Pakistan and its people have always stood shoulder to shoulder with their Kashmiri brothers and sisters and will continue to do so until they are granted their inalienable right to self-determination.

Engr. Amir Muqam paid rich



tribute to the unmatched sacrifices of the Kashmiri people,

saying that more than 8,316 people have been martyred in fake

encounters and illegal detentions, over 100,000 houses destroyed, 22,000 women widowed, 1,916 children orphaned, and 11,229 women subjected to assault under Indian occupation. He said thousands of Hurriyat leaders remain imprisoned, while India is trying to execute senior leader Yasin Malik. "More than 900,000 Indian troops have turned the occupied valley into a prison," he said, urging the international community to ensure implementation of UN resolutions for the freedom of Kashmiris.

October 27th: Kashmir's Darkest Day marks India's illegal occupation, says Law Minister

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Law, Justice, and Human Rights Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar has said that October 27, 1947, remained the darkest day in the history of Jammu and Kashmir, marking the beginning of India's illegal occupation and decades of oppression and injustice in the region.

Senator Tarar stated that for more than seven decades, the people of Indian



Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK) have been struggling valiantly for their UN-recognized right to self-determination. Despite relentless atrocities, the courage and determination of the Kashmiri people remain unshaken, he added.

The minister reaffirmed Pakistan's unwavering moral, political, and diplomatic support for the Kashmiri people in their just struggle for freedom. He emphasized that the right to self-de-

termination is an internationally recognized right, as enshrined in the United Nations Security Council resolutions.

Calling upon the international community to take notice of India's grave human rights violations in IIOJK, Senator Tarar reiterated that Pakistan will continue to stand by the Kashmiri people until they achieve justice, freedom, and their inalienable right to self-determination.

Second day of talks between Pakistan and Afghan Taliban regime begin in Istanbul

Spokesman Report

ISTANBUL: The second day of talks between Pakistan and the Afghan Taliban regime has begun in Istanbul on Sunday after Pakistan's counter-proposal on the comprehensive draft agreement. The negotiations between Pakistan and the Afghan Taliban government are being held in Istanbul in the presence of mediators.

Earlier on Saturday during first day of second round of talks, Pakistan and the Afghan Taliban officials held talks for more than nine hours.



The discussions, which had started at 2:30 pm continued through a working dinner, were hosted by Turkey and centered on regional security, counterterrorism efforts, and the activities of the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) operating from Afghanistan soil.

Continued on Page 7

Kashmir Black Day: Sardar Attique condemns India's 'aggression and barbarity' since 1947

Bureau Report

DHIRKOT: President of All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference and former Prime Minister Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan has said that October 27, 1947 is the darkest day in the history of the state of Jammu and Kashmir, the day on which India launched aggression and barbarity in occupied Jammu and Kashmir, against which Kashmiris living all over the world are observing Black Day against India's illegal occupation. The Kashmiri people have been struggling for the recognized right to self-determination for the past seven decades. The Muslim Conference will continue its struggle until the independence of occupied Kashmir and its accession to Pakistan. The United Nations should play a role in resolving the Kashmir issue.



In his message Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan said that Indian atrocities

ties on the defenseless people of occupied Kashmir have reached their peak. India has committed serious violations of human rights in occupied Kashmir. Kashmiris living all over the world are protesting.

Talking to the media person's message on the occasion of October 27, Black Day. Sardar Attique said that October 27, 1947 is the darkest day when India Against the wishes and wishes of the people and violating the principles of the partition of the subcontinent, have landed their forces in Jammu and Kashmir. He said that October 27 is the darkest day in our history from which Indian aggression and barbarity began in occupied Jammu and Kashmir. The Kashmiri people have not accepted India's illegal occupation since 1947 and are struggling to achieve freedom against India.

Kashmiri, struggling for the recognized right to self-determination for the past seven decades: Mehran-ul-Nisa

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Secretary General of the Muslim Conference and former Deputy Speaker, Ms. Mehran-ul-Nisa, has declared October 27 as a black day for the Kashmiri people and said that the Kashmiri people have been struggling for the recognized right to self-determination for the past seven decades. If India had not landed troops in Kashmir today under the guise of so-called accession, the geography of South Asia would have been different and millions of Kashmiris would not have been forced to migrate. Ms. Mehran-ul-Nisa said that India cannot occupy the state for long through military force and ruthless aggression, killing and destruction. Sooner or later, it will have to make its way out of the state. Ms. Mehran-ul-Nisa said that the Muslim Conference, as the guardian of the unity, identity and identity of the state, is presenting the case of the Kashmiri people at every forum around the world. She said that the United Nations Security Council should fulfill what promise it has made to the people of Jammu and Kashmir. Steps should be taken to give them unconditional and unlimited right to self-determination. The massacre of the Kashmiri people should be stopped and the arrested Hurriyat leaders and political activists should be released immediately. Mehran-un-Nisa appealed to the workers, officials of the Muslim Conference and the people of the state to protest vigorously in the state today and send a message to the world that the Kashmiri people are continuing their struggle for freedom and the right to self-determination.



Kashmiris Worldwide to Observe Black Day on Oct 27 against illegal Indian occupation: Raja Farooq Haider

Bureau Report

HATTIAN BALA: Former Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir Raja Muhammad Farooq Haider Khan has said that on October 27, the dirty footsteps of Indian forces were on the land of Kashmir, against which the Kashmiris living in the state and around the world will observe Black Day on that day. On this occasion, I appeal to all Kashmiris without any specifics to forget all political differences and come out one day against the illegal occupation of India and to express solidarity with the oppressed Kashmiris of occupied Kashmir. In Operation Banyan al-Marsoos, the Pakistan Army under the leadership of Field Marshal Asim Munir gave a befitting reply to India. Now again, the people of Azad Kashmir and the Pakistani army are determined that in case of any expected aggression from India, it will get a befitting reply. On October 27, the Line of Control will be held at the Chakothi location. The people will renew their pledge that they stand by their brave forces for the defense of the homeland. Raja Muhammad Farooq Haider Khan said that the government of Pakistan, thanks to the leadership of Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif and the hard work of Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, defeated India on the diplomatic front at the international level as well and the world today does not believe India's narrative, while Pakistan has established its status not only in the region but also internationally.



Prem Union paid tribute to Railways Minister for taken the steps against corruption

Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: Prem Union President Sheikh Muhammad Anwar and Chief Organizer Khalid Mahmood Chaudhry have paid tribute to the steps taken by Federal Minister for Railways Muhammad Hanif Abbasi against corruption in the railways and said that these good steps will make it possible to eliminate corruption from the railways. The leaders demanded that strict action be taken against the fraud related to bogus allotment of corridors in the workshop division and strict action be taken against the officers and subordinate staff involved in this corruption and give them a lesson. They said that among the various reasons for the destruction, ruin and degradation of the railways, the biggest reason is lack of competence and corruption. If the appointment of qualified and honest officers in the railways and a zero tolerance policy against corruption is given top priority, the problems of the railways can be greatly reduced. They assured Federal Minister for Railways Muhammad Hanif Abbasi that Prem Union and its workers will stand by him on the policy of eliminating corruption because Prem Union itself has been struggling to eliminate corruption from the railways since day one. Which will continue in the future.



Commissioner Sukkur Reviews Polio Campaign

SUKKUR: In a meeting presided over by the Divisional Commissioner Sukkur Abid Saleem Qureshi on Sunday, Dr. Jamil from the World Health Organization (WHO) briefed on the recent polio vaccination campaign in Sukkur Division.

He stated that the campaign achieved 100% coverage in all clusters, including migrant populations, in Sukkur, Ghotki, and Khairpur districts, except for a few isolated cases of refusal. However, Dr. Jamil expressed concern over the continuous detection of poliovirus environmental samples from the drainage area of Makka Pumping Station in Sukkur.

Commissioner Sukkur praised the overall satisfactory results of the polio campaign but emphasized the need for improvement. He directed that those responsible for repeated mistakes in the polio campaign should be replaced with capable and dedicated youth, and action should be taken against them to serve as a lesson to others.

The Commissioner appreciated the performance of Assistant Commissioners, particularly AC New Sukkur, Wasim Mehr, who played a crucial role in making the campaign a success in a challenging area.

The Commissioner Sukkur expressed concern over the continued cutting of trees and directed the forestry department to work with the police, Rangers, and local dignitaries to address the issue. He suggested using modern technology, such as Google mapping, to monitor forests and prevent tree cutting.

The Commissioner directed the forestry department to collaborate with IT experts from Sukkur IBA and Aror University to find a permanent solution to forest surveillance.

All Assistant Commissioners briefed the Commissioner Sukkur Division on various revenue-related matters, including land revenue cases, land acquisition, and award passing.

The Commissioner directed Assistant Commissioners to dedicate one day a week to social work, conduct community sessions, and take measures to prevent dengue fever. He also emphasized the importance of cleanliness in public areas, hospitals, and bus stands.

The Commissioner appreciated the work of Assistant Commissioners and directed them to conduct regular field visits, address complaints promptly, and ensure the provision of quality healthcare services.

Solidarity and support of Kashmiri people

ISLAMABAD: A view of the banner on the sides of the bridge of Faizabad Interchange regarding the "Black Day", being observed today for the solidarity and support of Kashmiri people in their struggle for right to self-determination.



Photo: Online

Faryal Talpur Welcomes AJK Ministers to PPP, Vows to Strengthen Party

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: A group of ministers from Azad Jammu & Kashmir called on Mrs. Faryal Talpur, Incharge Political Affairs AJK, at Zardari House, Islamabad, today.

During the meeting, Ch. Yasir Sultan, (minister) Sardar Muhammad Hussain, (minister) Ch. Muhammad Ikhlq, (minister) Ch. Arshad Hussain, (minister) and Ch. Muhammad Rasheed (minister) announced their decision to join the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP).

Senior PPP leader Ch. Muhammad Riaz was also present in the meeting. Mrs. Faryal Talpur warmly welcomed the new entrants into the



PPP, expressing confidence that their inclusion will further strengthen the Party's position in Azad Jammu & Kashmir. She said that the PPP has always been the true representative of the people of AJK and will continue its struggle for their political and economic rights under the leadership of Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and President Asif Ali Zardari.

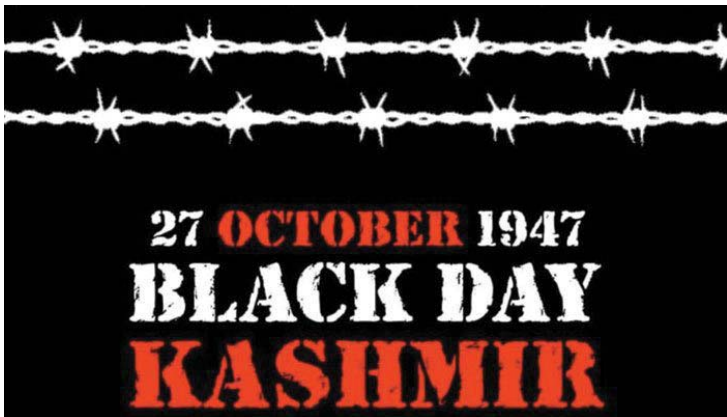
The newly joined leaders expressed their full confidence in the vision and leadership of Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and President Asif Ali Zardari pledged to play an active role in advancing the Party's mission of democracy, development, and public service across Azad Jammu & Kashmir.

AJK to Observe October 27 as Black Day to reaffirm resolve against Indian occupation

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: The All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) Chapter has announced that October 27 will be observed across AJK as Black Day, marking the illegal landing of Indian troops in Jammu and Kashmir in 1947 and reaffirming the Kashmiri people's unyielding struggle for self-determination.

APHC Information Secretary Mushtaq Ahmed Butt said in a statement that the day will be observed with solemnity and determination throughout the region in collaboration with the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Cell under the AJK government. He stated that rallies, seminars,



protests, and awareness events will be held across major cities — including Muzaffarabad, Mirpur, Rawalakot,

Bagh, and Kotli — to expose Indian atrocities in IIOJK and urge the international community to implement UN

Security Council resolutions on Kashmir.

The main rally in Muzaffarabad will bring together political leaders, scholars, students, and civil society representatives, carrying black flags and banners condemning India's occupation and reaffirming their commitment to freedom.

Special photo exhibitions, documentary screenings, and prayer gatherings will also be organized to honor the martyrs of Kashmir and highlight the decades-long resilience of its people against Indian repression.

Mr. Butt said that the AJK government has extended full support to ensure the observance of Black Day across all districts, while awareness campaigns are being launched on social and electronic media to inform younger generations about the significance of October 27.



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SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr 4:58 am
Zohr 11:52 am
Asr 3:43 pm
Maghrib 5:22 pm
Isha 6:45 pm

EMERGENCY

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

Women Police Stations

Islamabad 9222596
Rawalpindi 9270601-20

ENQUIRY

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

HOSPITALS

CMH 561111
MH 561116
MH 561116
Cantt Hospital 9270907-11
DHQ 5556311-4
RGH 9290301-7
Holy Family 9290322-7
PIMS 9261170-79

Injustice Beyond Bars

Tooba Fareed Khan

Through your esteemed paper, I would like to express my concern regarding the recent release of Palestinian prisoners from Israeli custody, many of whom have returned in devastating physical and psychological condition. The disturbing images circulating online show men whose faces bear the marks of torture, abuse, and years of dehumanization. For instance, Palestinian journalist Jehad Abu Shamala shared an image of a released prisoner whose eyes had lost their features due to tight bindings, making it difficult to recognize him due to the severe changes in physical features caused by torture and the excessive abuse he endured before his martyrdom. This serves as a reminder of how far basic human rights have been disregarded.

This is not a matter of politics; this is a matter of cruelty. Holding people captive for decades under inhumane conditions, only to release them in broken form, defies every principle of justice and international law. Yet Israel persists in its actions without fear of consequences, protected by global silence and selective outrage.

Moreover, Prime Minister Netanyahu's statement that Israel "will not reopen the Rafah crossing until further notice" clearly violates the ceasefire agreement. This act blocks humanitarian aid, isolates Gaza further, and weaponizes suffering against civilians already on the brink of collapse.

It is time the world stops treating Palestinian pain as background noise. Human rights are not optional. If global institutions continue to look away, they become complicit in every scar, every wound, and every life destroyed behind those prison walls.

toobafareed4@gmail.com

CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif introduces health screening program for special education students

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif took special measures for special children in Punjab, as she directed the authorities concerned to introduce a comprehensive health screening program for special education students for the first time in the province, under which health screening of more than 35,600 special children in Punjab including treatment, eye testing, dental examination and other diseases of more than 34,000 students studying in special education centers, and on-the-spot treatment of 20,000 students will be conducted. She was briefed by the relevant authorities that best medical treatment facilities would be provided to more than 9,000 students in health centers, tehsil headquarters and district headquarters hospitals, while more than 5,000 students would be treated in hospitals of big cities.

Chief Minister Punjab was also apprised that a door-to-door campaign for admissions of special students across Punjab was successful as more than

5,000 new special students got admissions. They said that under CM Punjab Freelancer Program, special courses including Design and YouTube, Content Creation, Social Media and E-Commerce have been launched in Special Education Centers, where 10 state-of-the-art new computer labs have been approved, besides a decision to develop 08 existing labs on modern lines. They added that 18 master trainers and 1760 students have been trained under CM Punjab Freelancer Program. 50 students who secure first 50 positions during training will be given laptops. They highlighted that 989 cameras would be installed in 142 Special Education Centers of Lahore, Gujranwala, Multan and DG Khan Divisions in Phase-I, whereas cameras will be installed in 158 Special Institutes of Bahawalpur, Faisalabad, Rawalpindi, Sargodha and Sahiwal in Phase-II. 4381 cameras would be installed in total by next May. They underscored that these cameras installed in special education centers for the protection of special students would be linked to the central surveillance room in Lahore. Camera recordings in special



education centers will also be used to analyze behavior of students for treat-

ment and improvement. They flagged that 3450 cameras would be installed in

special education centers by November to ensure the protection of special students.

Cutting the Ribbon

ISLAMABAD: Chairperson BISP Senator Rubina Khalid, Ambassador of Portugal in Pakistan Frederico Silva, and others cutting the ribbon during inauguration ceremony of Sindhu Sur at Pakistan National Council of the Arts, in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Multan Flour Millers rally for equal wheat access and license renewal

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: A meeting of flour mills of Multan district was held at a local hotel under the chairmanship of Nawab Liaquat Ali Khan, Malik Mumtaz Hussain Shajra, and Chaudhry Muhammad Jamil, in which the current issues of Multan's flour mills, such as the renewal of food grain licenses and the supply of wheat to all flour mills on an equal basis, etc. were discussed. In this, the top leadership assured the flour mills of their district that they would make every effort to resolve all their current issues. For this, they would go to the



Divisional Food Offices, if they had to go to the Food Directorate or the Secretary Food Office in Lahore, then they would go to the Flour Mills Association. The Flour Mills

Association will fully support its mills community. The meeting was attended by Chaudhry Muhammad Masood, Sheikh Kashif Chaudhry, Muhammad Buta, Mian Muhammad

Gulzar, Mian Jawad, Malik Muhammad Iqbal, Malik Muhammad Nazir, Muhammad Sultan, Zahid Mahmood, Muhammad Yousuf, Muhammad Kamran, Muhammad Abdullah, Chaudhry Muhammad Tahir, Muhammad Asif Khan and others. Multan: The meeting of the flour mills of Multan district is being presided over by Nawab Liaquat Ali Khan, Malik Mumtaz Hussain Shajra, Chaudhry Muhammad Jamil, Chaudhry Muhammad Masood, Sheikh Kashif Chaudhry, Muhammad Buta, Mian Muhammad Gulzar, Mian Jawad, and others are participating.

Darkest Day: AJK PM Denounces India's 1947 Kashmir Occupation on Black Day

Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: Prime Minister, Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq, has said that October 27 is the darkest day in the history of Jammu and Kashmir. "On this day in 1947, India, in violation of the principles of partition, rushed its troops to Kashmir and illegally occupied a major part of the state against the wishes of its people", the PM said in his special message issued on the eve of Black Day. The Prime Minister said that India's claim over Jammu and Kashmir based on the so-called Instrument of Accession was outrightly rejected by the United Nations by acknowledging Kashmiris' inalienable right, the right to self determination. "The people of Jammu and Kashmir have never accepted India's unlawful occupation and their struggle for freedom continues to this day", he remarked. He said that Kashmiris on both sides of the Line of Control and across the world observe October 27 as Black Day to mark their protest against India's illegal occupation and its relentless repression of Kashmiris' political and human rights in the occupied territory. Recalling the tragic events of November 1947, Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq said that Indian forces, along with Dogra troops and extremist elements of the RSS and Akali Dal, martyred around 250,000 Muslims in Jammu and its surrounding areas and forced millions to migrate.

Dewali festival organized by Catholic Commission



Kiran Asim

MULTAN: A special event on the occasion of Diwali, the festival of Hindu community, was organized by the Catholic Commission for Interfaith Harmony and Interchurch Dialogue at Bishop House Catholic Church, Multan. The event was presided over by the Chairman of the Commission, Bishop Yousuf Sohan. The event was attended by CCID Regional Director Father Daniel Taj, National Executive Secretary Samuel Clement, Imroz Gul, Sarfaraz Clement, Shazar Gul, Hina Salman, Ahmed Riaz, Khushwant, Athar Jahanian, Mehak and people belonging to different religions and schools of thought. On this occasion, the participants congratulated each other on the occasion of Diwali and reiterated their commitment to promote interfaith harmony and tolerance in Pakistan. Addressing the event, Chairman Catholic Commission for Interfaith Harmony and Interchurch Dialogue Bishop Yousuf Sohan said that all minorities living in Pakistan have immense love for their beloved homeland. He said that festivals of joy like Christmas, Eid and Diwali give us a message of mutual love and unity, so we should celebrate these festivals together so that national unity can be promoted.

Tehsildar Bharwana fines shopkeepers for overcharging in market inspections

Zafar Chishti

TOBA TEK SINGH: In line with the vision and directives of Chief Minister Punjab, Maryam Nawaz Sharif, the district administration has become fully active to ensure the provision of essential commodities to citizens at official government rates.

Under the instructions of Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Mela, Tehsildar Ali Abbas Bharwana conducted visits to local markets to review the prices and quality of various essential items. During the inspection, he thoroughly checked compliance with the official price lists and assessed the availability of daily use goods. Speaking on the occasion, Tehsildar Ali Abbas Bharwana said that "no unjustified increase in the prices of essential commodities will be tolerated. Providing relief to the public is the top priority of the Punjab government."



NPO Pakistan in Collaboration with APO Japan Organized Nationwide Workshops

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The National Productivity Organization (NPO) Pakistan, in collaboration with the Asian Productivity Organization (APO), Japan, successfully organized a series of two-day international workshops across Islamabad, Lahore, and Karachi on "Building Innovation Capability in Organizations with ISO 56000 Innovation Management System."

These workshops were conducted under the APO's In-Country Technical Expert Service (TES) Program, aligned with the APO Vision 2025, which emphasizes strengthening innovation, productivity, and competitiveness across its member economies.

This initiative reflects NPO Pakistan's unwavering commitment to promoting innovation-driven produc-



tivity enhancement and institutional excellence across both public and private sector organizations in Paki-

stan.

The workshops were organized in partnership with the Pakistan Engi-

neering Council (PEC) in Islamabad and the Pakistan Institute of Quality Control (PIQC) in Lahore and Karachi.

The sessions were facilitated by two distinguished international experts from Germany, Dr. Eva Diedrichs and Mr. Claus Diedrichs, who shared their extensive experience in institutionalizing innovation management systems, fostering innovation culture, and aligning organizational strategies with the ISO 56000 Innovation Management Standards.

NPO Pakistan welcomed the participants and highlighted the organization's continued collaboration with APO Japan to strengthen Pakistan's capacity for innovation management and productivity-led competitiveness in alignment with national development priorities.

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Daily The Spokesman available only on annual subscription

UN’s failure to implement its pledges

UN’s failure to implement its pledges remains a serious question mark on its credibility and its promises to the Kashmiri people, while Pakistan has always shown readiness to comply with UN Security Council resolutions. India has deployed massive troops in the territory and continues to commit grave human rights violations.

Like other parts of the country, the Black Day will be observed in provincial metropolis on Monday, October 27, to express solidarity with the Kashmiri people. Every year, the 27th of October marks the darkest day in the history of Kashmir. It was on this day, seventy-eight years ago, that the Indian Occupation Forces landed in Kashmir and occupied it forcibly.

The Government of Pakistan, along with people across the country and Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), will observe Kashmir Black Day on Monday to express solidarity with the oppressed people of Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

On the instructions of Prime Minister Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif, a notification also has been issued to observe a minute of silence on October 27, to mark Black Day against illegal India occupation and to express solidarity with the Kashmiri people. A minute of silence will be observed across the country on October 27 at 10 am.

Every year, Kashmiris on both sides of the Line of Control and across the world observe October 27 as “Kashmir Black Day” to mark the day in 1947 when Indian troops landed in Srinagar, the beginning of the illegal occupation of Jammu and Kashmir by India. d in Srinagar and annexed it – a tragic chapter in human history that continues to this day.

Mushaal Mullick, wife of jailed Kashmiri Hurriyat leader Yasin Malik, while talking to APP strongly condemned the continuing oppression and human rights violations in Indian-occupied Kashmir, calling the situation “unbearable” under India’s draconian laws.

In a passionate statement, Mullick said that Kashmiris are being systematically deprived of their rights, identity, and homes, with no access to justice. “India is using chains and guns to crush the Kashmiri struggle for self-determination,” she said.

IIOJK is a place where over 1,100,000 Indian forces, including the Army, Rashtriya Rifles (RR), Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Border Security Force (BSF), Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF), Special Operation Group, Police personnel, Indian Air Force, Navy, and intelligence agencies continually test the patience of unarmed and oppressed people of the territory.

The brutal tactics of the Indian forces persist in IIOJK, and to date, more than 96,476 Kashmiris, including 7,406 in custody and fake encounters, have been martyred. These killings have rendered over 22,990 women widowed and 108,005 children orphaned, while more than 11,268 Kashmiri women have been molested by Indian forces personnel. Over 8,000 Kashmiris have been subjected to custodial disappearances during this period.

The Lion Roars: Field Marshal’s Comprehensive Speech - I

The recent and highly significant speech delivered by Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir at the esteemed Pakistan Military Academy (PMA) Kakul represented an event that was nothing short of a defining moment in Pakistan’s contemporary military and political narrative. As is consistently his style, he presented himself throughout the address as a true and sincere well-wisher of Pakistan and its people. The comprehensive address, which was notably marked by its unmistakable boldness, profound clarity, and expansive comprehensiveness, successfully captivated not only the assembled cohort of graduating cadets and high-ranking military officers but also powerfully resonated across the entire nation. This particular speech, which was metaphorically likened to a “Lion’s Roar,” prominently showcased the Field Marshal’s unyielding commitment to Pakistan’s core sovereignty, to securing regional peace, and to fostering internal unity, effectively touching upon a remarkably wide spectrum of critical issues that currently concern the nation.

From the very beginning of his address, Field Marshal Munir deliberately set a tone of solemnity and profound seriousness by appropriately invoking the name of Allah, thereby successfully establishing a vital moral and spiritual grounding for the entirety of his essential message. This crucial

invocation was far more than a mere ceremonial act; it served as an affirmation that the nation’s most difficult struggles and its most ambitious aspirations are ultimately rooted in faith and guided by higher principles. His sincere and public congratulations to the graduating cadets underscored the indispensable importance of discipline, sacrifice, and courage—time-honored values that are profoundly embedded in the core ethos of the Pakistan Army. He consciously reminded the diverse audience that the PMA is not merely a rigorous military training ground but is, in fact, a crucible where the future leaders of the country are forged, effectively highlighting the critical, foundational role the armed forces play in actively shaping Pakistan’s long-term national destiny.

One of the most forceful and uncompromising parts of the compelling speech was the Field Marshal’s unequivocal declaration of Pakistan’s absolute commitment to defend its territorial integrity without any form of compromise. He stated with bold conviction that “not an inch of our homeland will be surrendered,” a statement that simultaneously carried the weight of both national reassurance and a stern warning to potential adversaries. This clear declaration was delivered against the backdrop of ongoing regional tensions and served as a clear reaffirmation that Pakistan remains entirely vigilant against any and all forms of external aggres-

sion or encroachment. To powerfully reinforce this strong defensive stance, Field Marshal Munir strategically referenced several recent successful military operations, including Operation Maar-ka-e-Haq and Bunyan-un-Marsoos, which powerfully showcased the armed forces’ proven operational readiness and cutting-edge strategic capabilities. These particular operations were notable for their precision and remarkable effectiveness, demonstrably showcasing Pakistan’s advanced ability to swiftly and decisively neutralize various threats, including those potentially posed by advanced weapon systems such as the S-400 missile defense system and the Rafale fighter jets. This specific segment of his address not only successfully instilled a deep sense of confidence among the military ranks but also successfully transmitted a clear, unambiguous signal to all potential adversaries that Pakistan is fully prepared to defend itself decisively and with overwhelming force.

Field Marshal issued a stern and pragmatic warning to India, specifically stressing that “there is no space for war in a nuclearized environment.” This constituted a remarkably candid and highly pragmatic assessment of the precarious and highly volatile security dynamics currently prevailing in South Asia. By openly acknowledging the potential for catastrophic consequences that any form of escalation could invite, especially within a region heavily armed with nuclear weapons, the Field Marshal powerfully emphasized the absolute necessity of deterrence and responsible behavior from all relevant parties.

To be continued

From Poverty to Prosperity - Xinjiang’s Journey Through Time

When the British flooded China with opium in the nineteenth century, they did not merely poison a people; they paralyzed a civilization. China’s national will was broken, its economy dismantled, and its sovereignty sold to foreign powers. The Communist Revolution of 1949 ended that humiliation, abolishing monarchy and feudal privilege and rebuilding the state on socialist foundations. Yet even after political liberation, the struggle against material poverty continued.

By the start of the 1980s, China’s western frontier—especially Xinjiang—remained trapped in deprivation. The province’s per-capita GDP hovered around ¥400 (× US \$60), barely one-tenth of the national coastal average. Literacy was below 65 percent, life expectancy only 57–58 years, and infant mortality exceeded 60 per thousand births. Unemployment and under-employment surpassed 20 percent, and fewer than 30 percent of households had access to electricity or clean drinking water. Roads were sparse, hospitals were few, and higher education enrollment stood below 7 percent of eligible youth.

In this bleak landscape, Deng Xiaoping’s declaration—“Development is the hard truth”—became a national turning point. His leadership and the political will of the Communist Party re-anchored policy around one principle: China could not rise if its western half remained behind.

The 2020s have anchored the shift from expansion to innovation. Xinjiang’s deserts now glitter with solar panels and wind turbines generating over 35 percent

of regional electricity. Smart farming uses artificial intelligence, drones, and sensors to manage water in the Tarim Basin. IT parks in Urumqi and Changji host software and e-commerce firms; local universities partner with national institutes on artificial-intelligence and renewable-energy research. High-speed rail now links Urumqi to Lanzhou and Beijing, cutting travel to under 11 hours. Literacy exceeds 99 percent, life expectancy tops 75 years, and infant mortality has fallen below 6 per thousand. Per-capita income approaches ¥45,000 (× US \$6,300), and unemployment has dropped below 5 percent—a forty-year reversal of fortune.

Behind this transformation stands unwavering political will. Each Five-Year Plan built upon the last, guided by a leadership that fused vision with accountability. The Cadre Performance Appraisal System required every village and county head to meet quantifiable targets—jobs created, infrastructure completed, educational gains achieved, and environmental standards maintained. Those who delivered rose; those who failed were replaced. This meritocracy of performance ensured continuity across generations.

During the author’s visits in 2012–2013 and again in 2024, the transformation was visible not only in concrete but in confidence. Modern highways sliced through once-barren landscapes. Border bazaars bustled with Central-Asian traders. IT students filled new university campuses. Families who once lived in mud-brick houses now owned cars, smartphones,

and small businesses. The people’s dignity matched their development.

Comparing Xinjiang’s condition in 1980 with its remarkable transformation by 2025 reveals a story of unprecedented human progress. Literacy has surged from around 65 percent to over 99 percent, reflecting universal education and



Analysis

Qamar Bashir

vocational training that empowered every generation. Life expectancy, once limited to about 58 years, now exceeds 75 years, thanks to modern healthcare, improved nutrition, and cleaner living conditions. Infant mortality, which stood at nearly 60 deaths per thousand births, has fallen to less than 6, marking one of the most dramatic improvements in public health anywhere in the developing world. Per-capita GDP has multiplied from a mere ¥400 to about ¥45,000, turning subsistence living into economic self-sufficiency. Unemployment has plummeted from roughly 20 percent to around 5 percent, while urbanization has nearly tripled—from 23 percent to 68 percent—bringing modern amenities and new opportunities to millions. Perhaps most symbolic of all, electricity access, which reached fewer than one-third of households in 1980, is now universal, illuminating every home and powering a new era of industrial, agricultural, and digital advancement.

Xinjiang’s story now transcends its borders. It offers a replicable model for nations still trapped in cycles of poverty and underdevelopment. The region demonstrates how to transform an unskilled population into a skilled, confi-

dent workforce through mass education and vocational training; how to turn formidable deserts into power-producing fields of solar and wind energy; how to bring greenery and agriculture to barren lands using modern irrigation and AI-driven precision farming; and how to elevate primitive bazaars into vibrant commercial centers and cross-border markets that drive regional trade. Xinjiang also illustrates the leap from subsistence agriculture to high-productivity agribusiness and from negligible industrial output to a thriving manufacturing base capable of meeting domestic demand and exporting abroad.

For developing nations in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, the Xinjiang model provides a roadmap—a synthesis of political commitment, institutional accountability, human-capital development, and environmental innovation. With local adaptation, the same principles can raise any struggling region: empower people with education, equip them with skills, connect them through infrastructure, and sustain them with green technology.

From the forgotten deserts of 1980 to the dynamic economy of 2025, Xinjiang’s journey proves that prosperity is built, not bestowed—a triumph of will, work, and wisdom. Its transformation stands as living proof that visionary leadership, disciplined planning, and social investment can lift not just a province, but an entire civilization from poverty to pride.

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

The collapse of the education sector the future of children and teachers

Education is the strongest pillar of any nation’s progress and survival. It is the foundation on which a society builds its intellectual, scientific, social, and economic structure. Unfortunately, the education sector in Pakistan has been in continuous decline. The devastation in the education sector is not only dangerous for the present generation but, if allowed to continue, this crisis could become a grave threat to the country’s development and survival in the future. Lack of investment in education, policy inconsistency, corruption, political interference, falling standards, and curricula that do not meet modern needs are major causes of this destruction.

Children’s futures are the most at risk right now. On one hand millions of children are out of school; on the other hand, those who do attend school are deprived of quality education. Public schools lack basic facilities, there is a shortage of teachers, the curriculum is outdated, and teaching methods are not creative all of which stifle children’s abilities. As a result, a large number fall behind academically and are unable to compete in practical life. The situation is worse in rural areas, where educational institutions either do not exist or are in an extremely poor condition.

Remember: when a crop fails, it can be replanted; when markets burn, new traders rise from the ashes. But if a nation’s educational system is destroyed, if the teacher is cast aside into the dustbin, if schools are sold into the hands of merchants, then generations are ruined, history is trampled, and the future drowns in darkness.

The lamps that once used to be lit by a teacher’s word in the lanes of Punjab are today gathering the dust of “outsourcing.” It is being said that this formula privatization by contract is a magic cure that will save education. SubhanAllah may I be sacrificed (an emphatic exclamation). Nearly fifty percent of primary schools have already been outsourced on contract. At the pace this is going, the remaining fifty percent will be handed over by this December. It is being heard that middle schools and then high schools will also be handed over in the same way. The tragedy is that in the very department being declared “failed,” not a single teacher has been hired for eight

years. The number of children has doubled but the number of teachers has been halved. And now the blame is placed on the teachers! What kind of justice is this?

Think about it! Those who until yesterday were called “the nation’s builders” today their dignity is being auctioned off like rusted goods from an old shop. As I have already said above, first primary will be outsourced, then they will say outsource middle schools, then high schools, and finally hand over the entire education department on contract. Make the teacher a commodity of the market. Just as utility-store employees were told when they were laid off: “You are no longer needed.”

What kind of blind thinking is this? Education is not a business; it is an act of worship yet here education is being commercialized. A teacher is not a contractor; he is a benefactor. He holds a child’s finger and shows generations the way. But today there are tears in his eyes, anguish in his heart, and silence on his lips.

History tells us that when the libraries of Andalus were burned, when the schools of Baghdad were sacked, Muslims groped in darkness for centuries. And today the same scene repeats. The decision-makers may not realize that the day a teacher becomes dependent on the market is the day the lamp of knowledge will be extinguished—and when knowledge dies, only darkness remains.

Today the question might be asked: Whose contract are the schools under? But no.

The real question is: Who holds the contract on the nation’s future? The children’s smiles, the dreams in their eyes, the power of their pens will these too be handed over to chosen contractors on lease?

Nations are defeated not by canons and swords but by ignorance. And sadly, with our own hands we are handing over our basic government primary and middle integrated educational institutions and their systems to ruthless merchants who, instead of nurturing generations, sentence morality to death and corrupt the ethical foundation of the nation-builders. This trade will be repaid by our future generations in the form of their ruin.

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MOFA Demands Justice: End to Occupation and Accountability for Genocide Against Palestinian Women

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: On Palestinian Women's National Day, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates reaffirms on the steadfastness of Palestinian women, their immense sacrifices towards achieving independence. The Ministry extends its utmost appreciation to all Palestinian women and to all women around the world in calling for justice and an end to the illegal Israeli colonial occupation, its crimes, and

apartheid policies.

During the Genocide, it is estimated that around 33,000 women and girls were unlawfully killed, and over 1.93 million Palestinians were forcibly displaced by the Israeli occupying forces, while being starved, intimidated, and without electricity, fuel, medicine, and healthcare services, alongside the widespread destruction of hospitals, schools, churches, and mosques.

The Ministry reaffirms on the need to act collectively and urgently for relief,



recovery, and reconstruction amid the continued blockade and humanitarian aid restrictions. To take action for the humanitarian crisis unfolding in Gaza Strip, where 2 million Palestinians are being starved, and the lack of clean drinking water, medicine, leading to hundreds suffering from infectious diseases. While also dealing with the psychological and social impact of genocide on women and children, and the impact of poverty, and unemployment on women and girls.

On this occasion, the Ministry stresses on the importance of maintaining the international momentum following the recognitions of the State of Palestine and the adoption of the New York Declaration, as a pathway toward implementing the two-state solution and achieving the Palestinian legitimate right to independence. The Ministry calls for the international community to strengthen their legal efforts to hold the occupying power accountable for genocide,

forced displacement, war crimes, and the systematic violations for the rights of Palestinian women and girls, while urging the international community to implement the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice and all relevant resolutions to end the Israeli colonial occupation of Palestine, protect the Palestinian women, men, and children, and to guarantee their rights to self-determination, independence, and the unconditional return of refugees.

Historic Cultural Exchange

China's \$2.2 Billion Blockbuster 'Ne Zha 2' Lands in Pakistan

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD/BEIJING: A significant milestone in cultural and cinematic exchange has been achieved as HKC Entertainment, in collaboration with Mandviwalla Entertainment, prepares to release the Chinese animated sensation 'Ne Zha 2' across Pakistan on Friday, 31 October 2025.

This release marks a historic moment, as Ne Zha 2 is the first Chinese film to be imported and distributed in Pakistan in recent years, signalling a renewed era of cross-border cinematic collaboration.

Ne Zha 2 has already shattered records, becoming the world's highest-grossing animated film of all time, the fifth highest-grossing film globally, and China's top-grossing film ever, with an astounding US\$2.2 billion in worldwide earnings. The nationwide release in Pakistan will give local audiences the opportunity to experience this visually spectacular and emotionally powerful masterpiece on

the big screen.

The official premiere occasion was graced by the presence of Counsellor H. E. Mr. Shi Yuanqiang, a profound honour underscoring the diplomatic and cultural importance of this event.

'Ne Zha 2' is set for release throughout the cinemas of Pakistan on Friday, October 31, 2025. To cater to all audiences, the film will be shown in two versions: the original Chinese version with English Subtitles, and a specially produced Dubbed Urdu version.

Announcing the release, Joyce Lee, Managing Director of Encore Films, shared:

"Ne Zha 2 is a milestone film that has broken records across Asia. We're thrilled to partner with HKC Entertainment and Mandviwalla Entertainment to bring this magical masterpiece to Pakistan. We look forward to sharing the incredible story of Ne Zha 2 with audiences here, alongside our valued cinema partners."

Statements on the Historic Premiere

Attending the premiere, Minister Counsellor Charge d'Affaires, H. E. Mr. Shi Yuanqiang, remarked on the deep ties between the nations:

"The release of a cultural landmark like 'Ne Zha 2' in Pakistan strengthens our friendship beyond trade and development. It is a vital cultural bridge, allowing the people of Pakistan to experience the best of modern Chinese cinema. We celebrate this moment as another shining example of the Pakistan-China Ironclad Friendship."

Senator Saleem Mandviwalla, on the occasion, highlighted the political significance of the event:

"The release of Ne Zha 2 is more than just a cinematic event; it is a cultural and political reflection of the deep, unbreakable bond between Pakistan and China. Our leadership, particularly President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, consistently champions this 'Iron Brother' friendship. This film exchange—bringing China's biggest



film here while simultaneously preparing for The Legend of Maula Jatt to debut there—proves that our ironclad friendship extends vibrantly into the world of arts and media."

Mr. Sardar Yasir Ilyas, Advisor and

National Coordinator to the PM on Tourism, commenting on the broader impact of this exchange, stated:

"This event is a true game-changer for regional cinema. We are witnessing an unprecedented two-way flow: the

arrival of China's record-breaking animated feature here, and the parallel preparation for Pakistan's own blockbuster, The Legend of Maula Jatt, to enter the Chinese market. This is a powerful step forward for the global recognition of Pakistani film-making."

The Two-Way Cinematic Exchange

This exciting import is further contextualized by an equally pertinent development: Pakistan's biggest blockbuster of 2022, The Legend of Maula Jatt, is also scheduled for release in China in November/December 2025. This is a landmark achievement, as it is the first time a Pakistani film has been granted permission by CHINA FILM GROUP under the quota system and will be released on a revenue-sharing basis, opening the door to one of the world's largest film markets for Pakistani cinema.

This exchange symbolizes our shared future in the arts and entertainment sector.

Long Live Pakistan China Ironclad Friendship!

Fake Lawyer in Multan Faces Jail Demand

Legal Fraternity urges exemplary punishment to protect bar's integrity

Special correspondent

MULTAN: A man posing as a lawyer was exposed in Multan after he appeared in court on October 18, 2025, to represent a civil case — despite having a forged LLB degree and a suspended advocate license. The accused, Syed Intizar Abbas Zaidi, had obtained an advocate's license from the Punjab Bar Council by submitting a fake LLB result card. Following complaint No. 119/25, the Punjab Bar suspended his license and instructed him to clear the mandatory Law GAT Test before reapplying.

However, investigations revealed that the Law GAT result card (Roll No. 123456) submitted by Zaidi was completely fabricated. Despite a clear warning from the Punjab Bar Council to refrain from

wearing the lawyer's uniform or appearing in court, Zaidi ignored all directives and presented himself before a civil court as a counsel. During the hearing, his suspension came to light, and genuine lawyers present in court apprehended him on the spot and handed him over to District Bar officials, who confiscated his uniform and license.

Further investigations have confirmed that Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan, has declared his alleged LLB degree as "Fake, Bogus, and Self-Fabricated." A respected lawyer Malik collected and submitted complete documentary evidence against Zaidi to the Punjab Bar Council's Anti-Corruption Committee, seeking cancellation of his license and criminal proceedings.

In response to a formal inquiry by the Bar Council, the Controller

of Examinations, Bahauddin Zakariya University, confirmed through Letter No. 1786/DF dated October 10, 2025, that no such record existed for Roll No. DALLB 11-24 (Session 2011–2014) under the name Syed Intizar Abbas s/o Hassan Abbas Zaidi, and that the documents presented were nonexistent in university records.

Moreover, credible sources have revealed that Zaidi is involved in several criminal activities, including extortion, filing fake civil suits to pressure citizens into settlements, and even a car robbery case (FIR No. 300/21) registered at Mumtazabad Police Station, Multan, currently under investigation by CCDI Police. Reports suggest he operates a gang comprising Abdul Manan, Ashfaq Mohsin, Asjad Ali, Sajid

(محمد سجاد), Sajjad Malik, and Zain



(car rental operator). The case is pending before Civil Judge First Class / Judicial Magistrate Mr. Hasnain Ahmad Anwar, though the accused failed to appear at the latest hearing.

It has also emerged that Zaidi leveraged his connections with senior bureaucrats, judges, and police officials, often photographing himself with them to

create an illusion of influence. Using these relationships, he managed to manipulate court proceedings and extract large sums of money from unsuspecting citizens under the guise of legal representation.

According to our sources, the official verification letter from Zakariya University was received on October 14, 2025, and the case has since been forwarded to relevant investigative authorities.

Senior lawyers in Multan have strongly condemned the actions of fake advocate Syed Intizar Abbas Zaidi, demanding that a criminal case be registered against him and that he be sent to jail for impersonating a lawyer, fabricating educational documents, and deceiving the courts.

The legal fraternity emphasized that forgery of academic

credentials, misuse of the lawyer's uniform, and appearing before courts under false pretenses constitute serious offenses that tarnish the dignity of the bar and undermine public trust in the justice system.

Prominent members of the District Bar Association stated that Zaidi's case should serve as a precedent, ensuring that no one in the future dares to defame the noble profession of law for personal gain. They urged the Punjab Bar Council and law enforcement agencies to take immediate legal action under relevant penal provisions, so that such fraudulent individuals are permanently barred from exploiting the legal system.

Lawyers unanimously resolved that preserving the honor of the judiciary and the legal profession requires zero tolerance for

impostors, and that the arrest and imprisonment of the fake lawyer would send a strong message across the province that justice cannot be deceived.

Legal experts say such impostors not only damage the sanctity of the legal profession but also undermine the integrity of the judiciary. The Punjab Bar Council has vowed to take strict action against all such fraudulent individuals to preserve the honor and transparency of the legal system. Lawyers have also demanded an in-depth investigation into how Zaidi obtained the fake result card and the network facilitating such forgeries in the name of higher education.

(File photo of the fake lawyer Intizar Abbas and a copy of his self-fabricated, fake LLB result card.)

Zohran Mamdani (Expected Mayor of New York)

Amir Mohammad Kalwar

An interview that shocked the world and drew global attention took place when Zohran Mamdani, a strong candidate for Mayor of New York City, said in an interview with The New York Times on September 12, 2025, that if he were elected mayor, he would order the arrest of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu based on the International Criminal Court (ICC) warrant, should Netanyahu ever visit New York.

The next day, on September 13, 2025, Newsweek reported that Mamdani had reaffirmed his stance, saying that New York City should respect ICC warrants, whether they are for Netanyahu or anyone else.

Zohran Mamdani was born on October 18, 1991, in Kampala, Uganda. His family roots trace back to India, East Africa, and Uganda — his father's family had migrated from India to East Africa.

The surname "Mamdani" is not derived from any specific word but is used as a family or clan name. Some traditions suggest it evolved from the word "Muhammadan" (meaning "of Muhammad"), indicating a connection to the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

After being born in Uganda, Mamdani moved with his family to various places before finally settling in New York around the age of seven.

He is a Shia Isna Ashari (Twelver Shia) Muslim by faith and holds U. S. citizenship.

Mamdani is a member of the Democratic Party and has actively participated in political campaigns addressing community issues, social equality, and international human rights.

He has been involved with various nonprofit



organizations and community groups, and he frequently engages with Pakistani and South Asian American communities, organizing social and cultural programs.

Mamdani's wife, Rama Dawaji, is a Syrian-American artist who is not Muslim. They were married in February 2025 at New York City Hall. Their relationship reflects a multicultural and international partnership.

Zohran is an avid supporter of Arsenal, one of England's oldest football clubs. He is also interested in professional wrestling, and during his school years, he was active in a cricket group.

Now comeback to New York City, the largest city in the United States, it has nearly 800,000 Muslims, and the Pakistani population slightly exceeds 100,000.

Requirements to become Mayor of New York City:

Citizenship: Must be a U. S. citizen. (Green card holders or non-citizens are not eligible.)

Age: Must be at least 18 years old.

Residency: Must have lived in New York City for at least one year before the election.

Voter Registration: Must be a registered voter in the city.

There are no religious restrictions on running for public office in New York or anywhere in the U. S. one can be Muslim, Christian, Jewish, Hindu, or of no religion at all.

This principle is guaranteed by Article VI, Clause 3 of the U. S. Constitution, which states that:

No religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States.

Zohran Mamdani's Political Strategy

Mamdani's campaign focuses on affordable housing, transportation, child care, and reducing everyday living costs.

As a Muslim candidate, he has drawn significant attention from Muslim voters and identity-based political groups.

Key points of his election campaign include: Rent Freeze: To control the rising cost of living in New York, he plans to freeze rents.

Public Transportation: He proposes free or low-cost bus services to make commuting more affordable.

Child Care: He aims to offer free or low-cost child care to reduce the burden on working families.

Mamdani has also stated that he has been targeted because of his Muslim identity.

According to another report, his rival campaigners have planned to spend around \$3 million to try to block his election.

If Mamdani wins, he will become the first Muslim mayor in New York City's history — a development that would be both symbolically and politically significant.

His victory could mark a progressive shift in American urban politics and inspire greater representation of minorities in leadership roles across the country.

Maryam Nawaz's "Magnificent Punjab" Initiative Fuels Cultural Revival: Hiran Minar Restoration Underway

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Breathing new life into Punjab's timeless heritage, the Punjab Government under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz and the dedicated stewardship of Senior Minister Punjab Maryam Aurangzeb continues to advance a dynamic cultural revival agenda across the province.

In line with this commitment, Secretary Tourism, Archaeology & Museums Punjab, Dr. Ehsan Bhutta, visited the historic Hiran Minar Complex in Sheikhupura. Speaking on the occasion, he said that under the Chief Minister Punjab's initiative "Magnificent Punjab", the government is working to restore, preserve, and celebrate the province's cultural and historical treasures. He emphasized that this remarkable Mughal-era monument, built by Emperor Jahangir in memory of his beloved antelope, stands as a rare testament to artistic expression, architectural finesse, and emotional heritage.

During the visit, Dr. Ehsan Bhutta inaugurated the newly installed floating jetty, interacted with families and tourists who arrived through TDCP's Sightseeing Bus Service, and graced a vibrant cultural and musical night featuring local



artists, attended by around 100 visitors. He highlighted that the Punjab Government, with the administrative support of Chief Secretary Punjab Zahid Zaman Khan, is committed to improving visitor facilities, curating cultural programming, and strengthening the tourism and heritage value of such historic sites.

Earlier, Dr. Ehsan Bhutta also undertook a detailed inspection of the historic Sheikhupura Fort, reviewing both short and long-term conservation plans, briefed Conservation Consultant Malik Maqsood on the ongoing restoration works.

General Manager Operations TDCP Farhat Hussain Farooq, Manager Sightseeing Bus Service Ashfaq Dogar, officers of the Archaeology Department, and senior district administration including Assistant Commissioner and Tehsilidar Sheikhupura, were also present on the occasion.

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

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
163,304.13	164,590.41
Day's High	Day's Low
165,025.85	163,041.97
Index Value	Change
22,020,462,018	-1286.28
Percentage	Time
-0.78%	24 Oct, 2025 4:30 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
9,645.62	+67.05
Percentage	Time
+0.70%	24 Oct, 4:35 pm GMT +1

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
47,249.64	+515.03
Percentage	Time
+1.10%	24 Oct, 12:54 pm GMT-4

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
49,299.65	+658.04
Percentage	Time
+1.35%	24 Oct, 3:45 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	185.3	190.3
Bahrain Dinar	746.55	754.05
Canadian Dollar	205.3	212.3
China Yuan	39.25	39.65
Danish Krone	43.5	43.9
Euro	331.65	335.15
Hong Kong Dollar	36.1	36.45
Indian Rupee	3.12	3.21
Japanese Yen	1.8762	1.9762
Kuwaiti Dinar	913.3	922.3
Malaysian Ringgit	66.21	66.81
NewZealand \$	160.3	162.30
Norwegians Krone	27.82	28.12
Omani Riyal	731.25	738.75
Qatari Riyal	76.9	77.60
Saudi Riyal	75.55	76.2
Singapore Dollar	216.85	221.6
Swedish Korona	29.69	29.99
Swiss Franc	352.54	355.29
Thai Bhat	8.45	8.60
U.A.E Dirham	76.75	77.75
UK Pound Sterling	380.85	383.85
US Dollar	282.4	282.6

Pakistani food exporters depart for Malaysia to explore trade opportunities

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: A delegation of leading food exporters from South Punjab led by Coordinator to Minister of State and Federal Tax Ombudsman Saif Ur Rehman left for Malaysia Sunday to explore avenues of collaboration and joint ventures in the rapidly growing food industry.

He said visit aims to strengthen bilateral trade ties between Pakistan and Malaysia, particularly in the areas of food processing, packaging, and value-added products especially international standards snacks. He said visit has been organized with the support of trade promotion agencies and Pakistan's commercial section in Kuala Lumpur to boost regional exports from South Punjab and attract Malaysian investment in modern food processing technologies. He said delegation, comprising representatives from major agro-based and food processing enterprises, will hold series of meetings with Malaysian investors and importers. We will focus on enhancing exports and ready-to-eat snacks, which have already received recognition for their superior quality and taste.

Shahid Imran returned after conducting successful visit to Dubai

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Pak business delegation led by Convener of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) Regional Committee on Food, Shahid Imran returned Sunday after conducting week long successful visit to Dubai.

He said the visit has opened new doors for cooperation between the private sectors of both countries and will help boost Pakistan's exports to the Gulf region. He also appreciated the facilitation extended by Pakistan's Consulate General in Dubai and FPCCI leadership for supporting the mission.

Regional Transport Summit

Pakistan urged to unlock economic potential through integrated connectivity

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry former President Iftikhar Ali Malik Sunday congratulated the Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif for hosting successful two day regional transport ministers conference in Islamabad focusing on transport cooperation frameworks and investment partnerships among participating countries.

In a statement here today, he said Pakistan must transform its strategic geographic connectivity into tangible economic opportunities by linking the region with the global economy through an integrated network of road, rail, air, maritime, energy, and digital corridors. He said Pakistan's vision must also focuses on converting this natural advantage into a driver of sustainable growth, regional cooperation, and shared prosperity. He said



Pakistan should continue enhancing its road and rail links with Iran, Afghanistan, and Central Asian republics to promote regional integration and unlock new markets.

Iftikhar Ali Malik said it's good omen that Pakistan is ready to play a leading role in developing integrated transport systems to promote trade and regional cooperation. He said the region shared a common goal of building efficient transport networks to support economic growth and sustainable development. He said it was success of the conference that brought together transport ministers from Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Iran, Belarus, Turkmenistan, Sri Lanka and the Maldives, as well as representatives from the Asian Development Bank, Economic Cooperation Organization, International Road Transport Union and UN agencies.

Hard Work

ISLAMABAD: An elderly labourer is carrying vegetable basket of a customer on his head at a Sunday weekly bazaar, in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

National Eyewear Exhibition and Educational Conference, “OptiPak 2025” held

Commerce Desk

RAWALPINDI: The Opticians Association of Pakistan (OAP) successfully organized the third National Eyewear Exhibition and Educational Conference, “OptiPak 2025,” at the Pearl Continental Hotel, Rawalpindi.

Zafar Iqbal Bakhtawari — Secretary General of the United Business Group (UBG) and former President of the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry — emphasized in his address that Pakistan earns nearly \$31 billion annually through its workforce abroad.

Advisor to the Prime Minister on Tourism, Sardar Yasir Ilyas Khan, lauded the role of Pakistan's business community and said that strengthening the services sector would not only boost the national economy but also improve the country's international standing.

OAP Chairman Khalid Sohail Gulzari, in his remarks, shed light on the concept of the “Three O's” and stated that the purpose of the association's establishment is to align Pakistan's optical professionals



with modern global standards.

Prominent figures including Ahsan Bakhtawari (former President, Islamabad Chamber of Commerce), Waqar Bakhtawari, Haris Bakhtawari, and Salman Bakhtawari also attended the event. They were warmly welcomed by Chairman Khalid Sohail Gulzari, Abdul Rehman Siddiqui (former Senior Vice President, ICCI), and Rizwan Siddiqui.

Without political stability, economic development is just a dream: Syed Aman Shah

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Syed Aman Shah, Provincial Convener of Awaam Pakistan Party (APP), has said that to overcome the economic challenges facing the country, ensuring political stability is of utmost importance. He stated that economic stability is impossible without political stability because until consistency and confidence in policies are restored, the doors of investment and development cannot open.

Syed Aman Shah further said that, given the current situation of the country, it

is essential for the government and opposition to set aside their differences and adopt a joint strategy in the national interest. He emphasized that the Awaam Pakistan Party believes



political chaos, confrontation, and blame games not only weaken democratic institutions but also worsen the problems of the people.

Government should establish state-of-the-art international standard skill development centers: Mian Kashif

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: CEO Pakistan Furniture Council (PFC) Mian Kashif Ashfaq Sunday urged the government to establish state of the art an international standard skill development centres to impart training on modern and scientific lines for producing world-class skilled manpower.

Chairing a board of directors meeting here today he said Pakistan has immense talent and potential in the furniture and allied sectors, but the lack of formal training facilities hampers productivity and innovation. He said dedicated centres equipped with state-of-the-art technology, modern tools, and expert trainers would not only enhance craftsmanship but also



boost exports by meeting global standards. He said that through proper training, the youth could gain employable skills and contribute to the economic growth. The PFC chief added that international collaboration and public-private partnerships could further strengthen such initiatives, ultimately positioning Pakistan as a leading hub for skilled artisans and furniture exports in the global market.

KCCI, NFEH join forces to tackle Karachi’s growing fire emergency threat

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: President of the Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI), Rehan Hanif, has expressed grave concern over the growing number of fire incidents occurring in the city's factories, commercial centres, and residential buildings.

Speaking during a meeting with the President of the National Forum for Environment and Health (NFEH), Muhammad Naeem Qureshi, NFEH Vice President Engineer Nadeem Ashraf, and President of the Fire Protection Industry of Pakistan (FPIP), Dr Imran Taj, the KCCI chief assured full cooperation

and participation of his chamber in the upcoming Fire Safety Conference and Awards. He also confirmed that the entire KCCI cabinet would take part in the event.

The NFEH delegation congratulated Rehan Hanif on assuming the office of KCCI President. During the meeting, NFEH President Muhammad Naeem Qureshi highlighted that nowhere is the fire safety crisis more visible than in Karachi, Pakistan's largest metropolis and industrial hub. Recent statistics, he said, present a disturbing picture: Karachi recorded 2,228 fire incidents in 2023, while over 2,900 incidents had already been reported by

November 2024. The experts anticipate that the total number of fire incidents in 2024 would have exceeded 3,000, marking one of the sharpest increases in recent years.

FPIP Chairman Dr Imran Taj noted that nearly 90 per cent of fires in industrial and commercial establishments occur due to negligence and poor planning. Meanwhile, Engineer Nadeem Ashraf informed the KCCI President that NFEH has been organising the annual Fire Safety and Security Conference for the past 15 years, helping thousands of professionals from industrial and corporate sectors enhance their knowledge and safety systems.



Muhammad Yasir Khokhar clinches the title of 18th Chief of the Naval Staff Amateur Golf Cup 2025



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Muhammad Yasir Khokhar won the title of 18th Chief of the Naval Staff Amateur Golf Cup 2025. Lt Col (R) M Ayub Khan, Ms. Jassia Tasawar and Master Musab

Asif won the titles in the Senior, Ladies and Junior categories, respectively. Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf graced the occasion as Chief Guest.

While addressing the ceremony, Chief of the Naval Staff,

congratulated the winners on their remarkable achievements and commended all participants for displaying high standards of golf with exceptional skills, precision and sportsmanship throughout the tournament. He also acknowl-

edged the unwavering support and contribution of the sponsors, media representatives and the management of Margalla Greens Golf Club (MGGC), whose collective efforts ensured the event's resounding success. The five-day long Golf Cup

was held from 22 to 26 October 2025 at the Margalla Greens Golf Club, Islamabad.

Around 300 golfers participated from across Pakistan. Competitions were held in multiple categories, including Amateurs, Seniors, Ladies and

Juniors.

Since its inception in 2007, Chief of the Naval Staff Amateur Golf Cup has remained a prestigious fixture on the National Golf Circuit. The event reflects Pakistan Navy's enduring commitment

to fostering sportsmanship, physical excellence and national sports culture.

The closing ceremony was attended by various dignitaries, including officers, organizers, sponsors, golfers and members of the media fraternity.



Quaid-e-Azam Trophy Cricket Tournament

Faisalabad defeated FATA by an innings and 213 runs

Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: On the third day of the fourth round of the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy Cricket Tournament, Faisalabad defeated FATA by an innings and 213 runs. FATA was bowled out for just 58 runs in its second innings against Faisalabad at the Marghar Cricket Ground, Islamabad. Only Wasim Khan (18) could reach double figures. Asad Raza took four wickets and Jehandad Khan took three wickets.

FATA had scored 191 runs in the first innings while Faisalabad scored 462 runs in the first innings.

Multan team was bowled out for 462 runs in the first innings against Bahawalpur at the Diamond Cricket Ground, Islamabad. Imran Butt scored 113 and Amir Yamin, batting at number nine, scored 100 runs and was not out. Waqar Hussain scored 57 runs. Muhammad Azab took 5 wickets for 130 runs.

Bahawalpur will start their second



innings tomorrow.

Lahore Whites were bowled out for 456 runs in reply to Karachi Blues' 424 runs at the Abbottabad Cricket Stadium. Tayyab Tahir scored 108 runs. Ali Zaryab

Asif 91, Omar Siddique 86 and Hussain Talat were the other notable batsmen with 57 runs. Muhammad Asghar took four wickets.

Karachi Blues scored 103 runs for 3

wickets in the second innings. Saad Baig retired hurt after scoring 59 runs.

Abbottabad were given a target of 181 runs in the first innings against Peshawar at the Imran Khan Stadium, Peshawar. Zain Ishaq was the top scorer with 60 runs. Niaz Khan and Ifikhar Ahmed took four wickets each.

Peshawar declared their second innings at 194 runs with one out.

Waqar Ahmed played an unbeaten 100. Nabi Gul scored 52 not out.

Abbottabad were given a target of 462 runs to win. At the end of the game, they scored 10 runs without any loss.

Sialkot declared their second innings against Islamabad at the Shoaib Akhtar Cricket Stadium, Rawalpindi, scoring 246 runs for the loss of 7 wickets. Ayaz Tawasur scored 84 runs. Kaleem Dil took four wickets.

Islamabad has been given a target of 468 runs to win. At the end of the game, they scored 107 runs for 3 wickets. Rizwan Ali is not out on 45 runs.

Second day of talks between Pakistan and Afghan Taliban

Continued from Page 1

According to diplomatic sources, the Afghan Taliban delegation proposed relocating TTP militants to a new area within Afghanistan as a possible step toward easing tensions with Pakistan. However, Islamabad rejected the offer, maintaining its position that the Afghan Taliban must take "decisive action" against the group rather than relocate it.

Pakistan's delegation reportedly reiterated that the Afghan authorities must honor their commitments to prevent Afghan territory from being used for terrorism and fulfill the promises made to the international community under earlier agreements.

The talks, described as "frank and focused," come amid renewed cross-border tensions and a surge in attacks inside Pakistan linked to TTP elements.

Diplomatic observers say the Istanbul talks reflect ongoing international efforts to bridge

differences and strengthen regional cooperation against militancy. Further consultations between Islamabad and Kabul are expected in the coming weeks as both sides continue to seek mechanisms to address security and border management challenges.

Talks are expected to continue for three days.

Both sides will hold further discussions on forming a robust mechanism to combat terrorism.

Besides that, the proposals given by Pakistan to stop the infiltration of militants from Afghanistan would also come under discussion.

On the other hand, hundreds of vehicles are stranded at border crossings at Torkham, Kharlachi, Angoor Adda, Ghulam Khan, Chaman, south and north Waziristan and district Kurram for the last 15 days due to the closure of these routes.

The last round of talks had been held in Doha, Qatar following which both countries had agreed on a ceasefire.

3rd CNS all Pakistan Squash Championship 2025 to begin from Oct 29

Sports Desk

KARACHI: The 3rd Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS) All Pakistan Squash Championship 2025 will formally commence from October 29, which will continue till November 2, at Pakistan Navy (PN) Roshan Khan Jahangir Khan Squash Complex.

The soft opening ceremony of the championship would be held on October 27.

Addressing a press briefing here on Sunday, Tournament Director Commodore Mudassar Khurshid SI(M) said that the purpose of the event was to provide chance to local squash players to showcase their talent.

He said that in all 26 matches would be played under the championship and 31 male and

16 female Squash players would be its part.

Khurshid said that the Pakistan Navy was hosting once again the Squash championship, which would feature national-level competitions with a total prize money of Rs.2 million. He said that Roshan Khan Jahangir Khan Squash Complex was a state-of-the-art complex, which held national and international championships.

He said that the Schoolchildren would be invited to witness the championship as that was the age of dreams and planings, which decided the future direction.

The Tournament Director emphasized that Pakistan Navy had always played a leading role in the promotion and develop-



ment of squash in the country. He also revealed that the 16th CNS International Squash Championship 2026 was being planned, which would be held in September or October next year.

This year's 3rd CNS cham-

pionship included 31 players in the Men's Category, featuring Top Seed: Nasir Iqbal (WAPDA), 2nd Seed: Tayyab Aslam (SNGPL), 3rd Seed: Abdullah Nawaz (PAF), and 4th Seed: Muhammad Ammad (PAF). In the Women's

Category, a 16-player draw will compete, led by Top Seed: Sana Bahadur (Pakistan Army), 2nd Seed: Mariam Malik (Army), 3rd Seed: Anam Aziz (Sindh), and 4th Seed: Sameera Shahid (Sindh).

The finals would be played on November 2 at the same venue. Tournament Referee Muhammad Naveed Alam also shared details about the seeding and draws during the press briefing.

Tournament Secretary Lt Commander Muhammad Umar PN, President Organizing Committee Captain Ashar Mehmood PN, Tournament Referee Muhammad Naveed Alam and Member Management Committee Lt Cdr M Shujaat Kamal PN were also present on the occasion.

Lahore Smart City Polo in Pink 2025 Concludes in Grand Style

Sports Desk

LAHORE: The Lahore Smart City Polo in Pink 2025, presented by Lahore Smart City (LSC) and Capital Smart Motors (CSM), culminated today in a spectacular Grand Finale at the Lahore Polo Club — successfully blending elite sport, community action, and the powerful mission of breast cancer awareness under the theme of "Elegance, Purpose, and Progress."

The sporting centerpiece of the Grand Finale was a thrilling polo match between Haroon Sharif Jewels and Rijas/Din. In a display of exceptional skill, Haroon Sharif Jewels claimed the coveted trophy, triumphing over Rijas/Din with a final score

of 8-5.

The Grand Finale drew a distinguished audience of corporate leaders, socialites, diplomats, media personalities, and polo enthusiasts, all united in supporting Pink Ribbon Pakistan and the vital global campaign for breast cancer detection and support. The event series, exclusively organized by Elysium and hosted this year by acclaimed TV personality Sara Baloch, showcased both elegance and empathy in a seamless fusion of sport, social responsibility, and purpose.

Present at the occasion were Mr. Imran Zahid, CEO Capital Smart Motors, COO Lahore Smart City, and Executive Director HRL; Mr. Zeeshan

Qureshi, CEO Capital Smart Innovation; Mr. Omar Aftab, CEO Pink Ribbon; Mr. Azam Noon, President Lahore Polo Club; along with members of the Polo Club Executive Committee and participating polo players from various countries.

"This event unites people for a critical cause, proving that being a smart developer means building compassionate communities," said Mr. Zahid Rafiq, Chairman HRL Group.

Mr. Jahanzaib Zahid, Vice Chairman HRL Group, added: "At Lahore Smart City, true progress means investing not only in infrastructure but also in social impact. Supporting Polo in Pink reflects our vision of a healthier, more responsible



Pakistan."

Lahore Smart City continues to highlight its dedication to building not just infrastructure but also community and social progress. LSC has previously

donated a parcel of land to build the state-of-the-art Pink Ribbon Breast Cancer Hospital and Diagnostic Centre. Capital Smart Motors showcased its mission to bring future mobility to Pakistan,

positioning itself as the premier aggregator of electric mobility excellence. The event featured a continuous vehicle showcase and test drives of brands like Zeekr, Geely Riddara, JMEV E

Light, and Forthing Friday — reflecting the vision of innovation and sustainable progress driving HRL Group's initiatives.

Polo in Pink 2025 — where elegance met empathy.

Inauguration

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif inaugurates restoration of domestic connections of Regasified Liquefied Natural Gas.



Photo: PID

In-House change approved: PPP Poised to Take Control in Azad Kashmir



Abdul Majeed Tahir

ISLAMABAD: President of Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari has approved the no-confidence motion in Azad Kashmir and the formation of the PPP government.

According to sources, a meeting of the parliamentary party of the PPP Azad

Kashmir was held under the chairmanship of President Asif Ali Zardari at the Presidential House, in which the decision of in-house change was agreed upon.

The party leaders announced that the PPP is going to form its own government in Azad Kashmir.

Sources say that Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari will formally announce the formation of the government on Tuesday. Sources also revealed that President of Pakistan called Prime Minister of Pakistan, informs him of the decision to form the PPP government in Azad Kashmir.

PM unveils restoration of gas connections to domestic consumers

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Sunday, formally unveiled the process for supply of Regasified Liquefied Natural Gas (RLNG) connections to the domestic consumers.

Addressing a ceremony here, the prime minister said that restoration of gas connections for the domestic consumers had been a long standing demand of the people.

During the year 2022,

when the PDM government was formed, it faced immense pressure over the public demand for provision of gas connections, he added.

At that time, gas supply was a big challenge. But afterwards, funds were released and the infrastructure was laid down and now the RLNG supply would be supplied throughout the country to large number of applicants.

The prime minister termed it a continuity of public welfare oriented

policies initiated by the former government of Mian Nawaz Sharif during 2013, adding that when Nawaz Sharif formed government for the third tenure, the country was facing 20-hour duration power load shedding.

He also congratulated the coalition government partners including PPP, MQM, BAP and others over the restoration of gas connections to the domestic consumers.

On the occasion, he also prayed for the progress and

prosperity of Pakistan and stressed upon hard work and dedication.

The ceremony was attended by Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar, ministers, secretaries, officials of SNGPL and parliamentarians.

Earlier, in a video message Minister for Energy Ali Pervaiz Malik apprised that the SNGPL had brought down its line losses to 4.93 percent while earning a profit of Rs29 billion in the previous year.

PM Shehbaz to embark on three-day visit to Saudi Arabia today

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will embark on a three-day official visit to Saudi Arabia from tomorrow until October 29 at the invitation of Saudi Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman. According to Foreign Office spokesperson Tahir Andrabi, the Prime Minister will be accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, along with a delegation of senior cabinet ministers and officials.

During his visit, Shehbaz



Sharif will participate in the ninth edition of the Future Investment Initiative (FII9) conference in Riyadh.

The summit, themed "The Key to Prosperity: Unveiling the Frontiers of Growth", will bring together global leaders, investors, and policymakers

to explore new avenues of economic development and innovation.

The Prime Minister is scheduled to hold meetings with the Saudi leadership, including Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, to discuss coopera-

tion in various sectors such as trade, investment, energy, and human resource development.

Discussions will also cover key regional and international issues of mutual concern.

The Foreign Office stated that Prime Minister Sharif will also meet leaders of other participating countries and heads of international organisations on the sidelines of the conference.

These meetings are expected to highlight Pakistan's investment potential and opportunities for sustainable growth.

Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi meets British HC, acting US ambassador



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Syed Mohsin Naqvi on Sunday held separate meetings with British High Commissioner (HC) Jane Marriott and Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) at the US embassy in Islamabad Natalie A. Baker, and discussed with them overall regional situation and matters of mutual interest.

Discussions were also held on increasing cooperation for combating narcotics and human smuggling and for security purposes.

Speaking to Jane, Naqvi thanked the British government for allowing the resumption of flight operation from Pakistan to the UK after a gap of five years.

The British HC, on the occasion, informed the interior minister about the UK's National Crime Agency director general's (DG) visit to Pakistan next month.

During the DG's visit, memorandums of understanding (MoUs) would be signed in the fields of immigration and anti-narcotics.

Naqvi expressed the hope that the projects like



the Center of Excellence launched in collaboration with the British high commission would play a useful role in increasing the capacity of institutions in Pakistan. "The center will help enhance cooperation between both countries in matters related to extradition and others," he added.

He also renewed the government of Pakistan's pledge to continue to work with the international

community in the war on terror.

Speaking on the occasion, Jane said that her country attached great importance to its relations with Pakistan.

During his meeting with Natalie Baker, the latter said that Pakistan's efforts for the elimination of terrorism were praiseworthy.

She expressed the resolve to increase cooperation with Pakistan in the fields of security and the war on terror.

Musarrat Cheema urges govt to reduce prices of vegetables and commodities

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader Musarrat Jamshed Cheema has demanded of the government to reduce the prices of vegetables and commodities by focusing on the supply chain.

Musarrat Cheema said there is a need to make advance arrangements now regarding wheat production in the upcoming season so that the people do not face any difficult situation.

In his statement, Musarrat Cheema said that the government has proposed a wheat



production target of 29.68 million metric tons, while last year it was 33.58 million tons.

She demanded that if the farmer gets a good price for his crop, he will cultivate

wheat with joy.

Cheema said, "if the valuable foreign exchange reserves that we spend on importing wheat and other products are given to our

farmers in the form of a better support price, then our economy will also develop".

Musarrat Cheema said that a plan should be brought for cultivating vegetables on vacant land and farms of government departments and after preparation, the government should deliver it directly to the market so that the public can get vegetables at cheap prices.

Musarrat Cheema demanded fruit trees should be planted in motoroads and other vacant spaces, and their fruits should be for those classes who do not have the means.

