اصححج بخاری: حدیث نمبر 82) **Barkat Rice Mills** 

Ghotki-Kandhkot bridge to be competed by 2026, will connect three provinces

Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah, presiding over a meeting, directed the Works and Services Department to restart construction on the Ghotki-Kandhkot Bridge over the Indus River by November 2025 and ensure its completion by 2026. Meta Al

میٹا سے کچھ بھی پوچھیں

Pakistan launches Urdu Al 'ALIF' to make technology accessible

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Jamadi-ul-Awwal 6, Wednesday, October 29, 2025

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A Leading National Daily

### Meeting

RIYADH: PM Shehbaz Sharif's meeting with Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman on Tuesday.



# PM Shehbaz, Saudi Crown Prince agree to launch economic cooperation framework to deepen bilateral ties

**Spokesman Report** 

Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Crown Prince and Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Saudi on Tuesday agreed to launch a of mutual interest. comprehensive Economic Cooprelations into a new era of strate- Islamic solidarity and mutual and food security. Both sides are

gic economic partnership.

The announcement came RIYADH: Prime Minister following a high-level meeting between the two leaders here, underscoring their shared commitment to expand bilateral Arabia, Prince Mohammed bin trade, investment, and develop-Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud ment cooperation in key sectors

The new framework builds on eration Framework aimed at nearly eight decades of historic industry, mining, information elevating Pakistan-Saudi Arabia brotherhood, anchored in technology, tourism, agriculture,

trust. It seeks to strengthen the also reviewing key agreements, role of both public and private sectors in promoting joint standing (MoUs) for an elecventures and enhancing trade exchange between the two coun-

Under the framework, several strategic and high-impact initiatives are being explored in sectors including energy,

including Memoranda of Undertricity interconnection project and cooperation in the energy sector, marking a significant step toward regional energy integra-

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman reaf- ation and ensure effective implefirmed their shared vision of mentation of joint projects under building a sustainable economic

partnership that reflects the aspirations of their leaderships and the people of both brotherly nations.

two leaders also expressed their anticipation for the upcoming session of the Saudi-Pakistani Supreme Coordination Council, which will further institutionalize cooperthe new framework.

## Pakistan, Saudi Arabia réaffirm commitment to strengthen bilateral ties

**Spokesman Report** 

RIYADH: Pakistan and Saudi Arabia on Tuesday expressed their resolve to further deepen their multifaceted partnership across all domains, emphasizing the enduring bonds of brotherhood and friendship between the two nations.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar held a meeting with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan here, a DPM's Office

During the meeting, the two leaders discussed the full spectrum of bilateral relations as well as regional and international developments, including the situation in Gaza.



multilateral fora, particularly within the framework of the United Nations Senator Dar also extended

congratulations to Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan and the Saudi leadership on the successful hosting of the Future Investment Initiative Forum and conveyed appreciation for the warm hospitality extended to the Pakistani delegation.

### PTI moves to disqualify 17 lawmakers amid no-trust motion against AJK PM

跨 Bureau Report

cal crisis in Azad Jammu and Kashmir Election Act 2020, any Kashmir (AJK) took a dramatic lawmaker who switches party turn after the Pakistan Tehreeke-Insaf(PTI) decided to seek the disqualification of 17 lawmakers who had defected to the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), amid an ongoing no-confidence move against Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwarul Haq.

PTI AJK President Sardar Abdul Qayyum Niazi and Leader of the Opposition Khawaja Farooq Ahmed have agreed to file references against the dissident members, accusing them of violating party discipline and engaging in floor-crossing. Legal teams are currently finalising the documentation before submission to the relevant

authorities.

Under Sections 30(3) and ISLAMABAD: The politi- 30(4) of the Azad Jammu and allegiance may face disqualification from the Legislative Assembly.

According to PTI officials, a reference has already been submitted to the Speaker of the Assembly against four members, Akmal Sargala, Rafiq Nayar, Ali Shan Soni, and Shahida Saghir, who reportedly joined rival political camps. The development comes after PM Anwarul Haq, who enjoys the backing of PPP and PML-N, refused to step down despite mounting pressure and the no-trust motion filed against him. His refusal has further intensified the political standoff in Muzaffarabad. throwing AJK's power landscape into uncertainty.

## Illogical instructions from Kabul hinder progress in Istanbul talks

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Negotiations between Pakistan and the Afghan Taliban entered their third day in Istanbul, as the dialogue moved toward its final stage, sources said on Tues-

During the third round, which lasted 18 hours, the Afghan Taliban delegation agreed to Pakistan's demand to take action against militants and extremist groups operating from Afghan soil.

The delegation, in the presence of mediators, acknowledged the core issue raised by Pakistan.

The sources revealed that the Taliban delegation's stance kept shifting due to repeated instructions from Kabul. They said that illogical and unreasonable

guidance from Kabul had been the main reason for the lack of progress in previous "Pakistan and the hosts remain committed

serious engagement," the sources added. An "ultimate effort" is now underway to reach a logical and negotiated settlement, according to officials familiar with

to resolving these complex matters through

The first round of talks between Pakistan and the Afghan Taliban was held in Doha, Qatar, where both sides had agreed on a ceasefire.

## Bilawal to announce new AJK PM today as PPP completes number game

👺 Bureau Report

ISLAMABAD: The stage is set for an in-house change in the Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) Assembly, as the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) has reportedly completed its preparations and is close to securing a majority in the legislative assembly.

According to sources, the PPP has achieved the required majority in the house and finalised a no-confidence motion against incumbent Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar-ul-Haq.

According to insiders, the required number of signatures for the no-confidence motion has already been obtained, and it could be presented in the assembly at any time.

The PPP has reportedly finalised its candidate for the new prime minister, whose name is expected to be announced by Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari later today.

The Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) has also decided to support the motion, though it will not join the new government.

The sources said the PML-N decided to support the no-confidence motion after a party delegation met PPP co-chairman Asif Ali

belonging to the forward bloc could Federal Minister Rana Sanaullah play a decisive role in the process.



confirmed that while the PML-N would support the motion, it would not join the government.

PPP leader Qamar Zaman Kaira said the objective of the move was to ensure political stability and strengthen the democratic process in Azad Kashmir.

He emphasised that the change was not personal but aimed at improving governance.

The AJK Legislative Assembly currently has 17 PPP members and 9 from the PML-N. With the PML-N's support, the PPP's strength would reach 26 votes.

The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) holds four seats, while the Muslim Conference and Jammu and Kashmir Peoples Party have one seat each. Additionally, 20 members



# PPP united with all democratic forces: Speaker **Chaudhry Latif**

#### Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: Speaker Legislative Assembly Senior Parliamentarian Chaudhry Latif Akbar has said that PPP is united with all democratic forces including Muslim League n PTI and Muslim Conference.

There are separate political conflicts mutual tolerance and respect has never been trampled.

education and employment as priorities and launched mega projects of construction and development with limited resources.

Ahmad Khan remained the post Bilawal Bhutto Zardari Political

of Prime Minister and in the current Assembly, Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan Niazi was ousted by his party through a no-confidence motion and appointed Sardar Tanveer Alias Alias Khan. Chaudhry Anwar-ul-Haq was elected by all parties to the Quaid-e-Aiwan.

Chaudhry Latif Akbar said that PPP's education package, health among them but the relationship of centers, and roads are being built along with the construction of roads.

He said that PPP has protected

With the gradual change in the national dignity and public interests system, PPP has always kept health, in accordance with the people's friendly philosophy of Qaid Awam Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Dakhtar East Ms. Benazir Bhutto Shaheed PPP President Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari Chairman



Affairs Chairman MohtarmaFariyal continue to fulfill the duty of his hands Tapur. Feild Marshal Asim Munir will and feet for his great achievements.

#### An interest rate of 11% is harmful to the economy: Syed Aman Shah

KARACHI/QUETTA: Syed Aman Shah, Provincial Convener of Awaam Pakistan Party (APP) Balochistan, has expressed serious concerns over the State Bank's decision to maintain the policy rate at 11%, calling it detrimental to both the public and the business

He stated that when inflation in the country is consistently declining, maintaining such a high interest rate is unjustified. According to him, given the current economic situation, the policy rate should not exceed 4-5% to stimulate business activities and encourage investment.

Syed Aman Shah further said that Pakistan's interest rate is much higher compared to other regional countries such as India, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka, which is putting pressure on local industries. He emphasized that if the government truly wants to adopt business-friendly policies, it must bring the interest rate down to a single-digit level.

The high interest rate, he added, is leading to increased production costs, reduced employment opportunities, and a decline in exports. Lowering the interest rate would not only reduce industrial costs but also create more jobs across the country.

Syed Aman Shah urged the State Bank and economic policymakers to recognize the hardships faced by the public and immediately announce a reduction in the interest rate to stabilize the national economy and provide relief to the business community.

## Pakistan Ulema Council will continue to support the legitimate and principled position of its Kashmiri

#### 👺 Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: Allama Tahir-ul-Hassan, Central Deputy General Secretary of Pakistan Ulema Council, in a message to the Kashmiris, said that the Pakistan Ulema Council will continue to support the legitimate and principled position of its Kashmiri brothers and is always struggling alongside them. He further said that today reminds us of the historical oppression and oppression when the Indian army forcibly occupied the beautiful Kashmir Valley by violating the fundamental right of self-determination of the Kashmiris. The sacrifices of the brave people of Kashmir are proof that oppression can never continue and will definitely be wiped out one day. The Pakistan Ulema Council salutes the sacrifices of the Kashmiri people, their courage and determination for freedom.

# Beautification projects underway across Toba Tek Singh under CM Maryam Nawaz's vision. CO. Kashif



#### 👺 Zafar Chishti

TOBA TEK SINGH: Chief Officer of District Council Toba Tek Singh, Kashif Mehmood said that under the vision of Chief Minister Punjab, Maryam Nawaz Sharif and in accordance with the directions of Deputy Commissioner Toba Tek Singh Umar Abbas Mela, the beautification of city markets and public places is actively underway. He said that the District Council is fully committed to ensuring a cleaner, greener and more attractive urban environment for citizens. Various development and beautification projects have been launched across the city, including the renovation of footpaths, installation of decorative lights, plantation drives, and improvement of public facilities.

Chief Officer Kashif Mehmood further stated that these efforts are aimed at providing a pleasant atmosphere for citizens and visitors while enhancing the overall image of Toba Tek Singh. He emphasized that the cooperation of the public is essential to maintain the beauty and cleanliness of the city and to achieve the goals set under the Chief Minister's vision for a "Beautiful Punjab."

#### Former MNA alleges 32 false cases against him, criticizes police for 'extrajudicial encounters'

#### 👺 Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) leader, senior politician of District Attock, former District Nazim and former Member of the National Assembly, Major (R) Tahir Sadiq, has said that the government and the establishment are busy protecting their own power and interests, while the real issues of the country and the people have been pushed into the background. The country needs national interest, not personal agendas.

He expressed these views while talking to senior journalist and columnist Hafiz Shehzad Akhtar during the wedding reception of senior journalist Ahmed Nawaz Malik of Mari's nephew, Malik Abid

Major Tahir Sadiq said that the current government has reached the peak of cruelty against the workers of the banned party Tehreeke-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) — their workers were brutally run over by vehicles, and just as PTI workers were oppressed, TLP is now being targeted in the same way.

According to the PTI leader, 32 false cases have been registered against him. Even when he was abroad, his name was included in the GHQ attack case and other fabricated cases. He said that his daughters Eman Tahir and Inbasat Tahir, along with his wife, are also facing baseless cases. Major Tahir Sadiq clarified that he is not free because of any deal, but rather through court-granted bail.

He strongly criticized the Punjab Police and CCD, saying that extrajudicial encounters are a slap in the face of the justice system. He stated that the police are responsible for false cases and the loss of innocent lives but have become fearless of accountability.

#### One World For All

LAHORE: Students are busy in making paintings during exhibition entitled "One World For All" at National College of Arts in Provincial Capital.



# Mushtaq Ahmad Butt a very important visit at the central office of PML-N Balochistan

#### **Spokesman Report**

QUETTA: Secretary Information of All Parties Hurriyat Conference Mushtaq Ahmad Butt during a very important meeting at the central office of PML-N Balochistan Had a detailed discussion.

At the beginning of the meeting, Senator Humayun Mandokhel and MPA Zarak Mandokhel warmly welcomed Mushtaq Ahmed Butt and expressed their unwavering solidarity with the struggle of the Kashmiri people

On this occasion, Mushtaq Ahmed Butt briefed Senator Humayun on the current grave situation in occupied nation of the state. Accelerated measures. Jammu and Kashmir and said that India is planning to abolish the Muslim desig-



demographic composition of Kashmir resolutions.

by settling millions of non-state residents They said that India is changing the in Kashmir, which is in line with UN

Senator Humayun Mandokhel expressed deep concern over the situation saying that the Kashmir issue is not just a territorial dispute but a human

He assured that the leadership of Pakistan has been raising the voice of the Kashmiri people at all levels— whether it is a parliamentary forum or the international diplomatic level.

PML-N Kashmir Community President Mirza Shamshad was also present on the occasion along with Mr. Mushtaq

The meeting ended in a cordial atmosphere, and the parties pledged to effectively raise the voice of the oppressed people of Kashmir on every possible platform.

# 712 Urs Of Hazrat Shah Rukn Alam Multani Started in Multan

#### 👺 Kiran Asim

MULTAN: The 712 Urss Celebration Started in Multan. The three-day Urs ceremony of Hazrat Shah Rukn Alam Multani has begun in Multan. The Urs ceremony was started by Makhdoomzada Zain Qureshi, son of Sajjada Nashin of the Darbar Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi, after the ghusl and chadar poshi ceremony. Later, while delivering the presidential address at the first session of the National Shah Rukn Alam Conference organized by the Auqaf Department and Pakistan Zakaria Academy in the premises of the Darbar, Makhthat the disciples of Hazrat Bahauddin Zakaria and Hazrat Shah Rukn Alam are present all over the world. Addressing the ceremony, Sajjada Nashin of Farid Makhdoom Khwaja Moinuddin



doomzada Zain Hussain Qureshi said Koreja and Sajjada Nashin of Darbar The ceremony was addressed by Alla- Khan Muhammad Chachar, Ghulam Chadar Wali Sarkar Pir Ali Hussain Shah said that the solidarity and love of our Darbars with Darbar Ghousia and the Quraysh family is exemplary. They Darbar Alia Hazrat Khwaja Ghulam expressed their love and solidarity with Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi.

ma Farooq Khan Saeedi, Dr. Siddique Khan Qadri, Mufti Usman Pasruri, Mufti Kashif, Khalifa Amanullah and others. Hameed Nawaz Asim, Waheed Nawaz, Hamid Nawaz, Munir Hashmi, Qari Muhammad Saeedi Naqshbandi,

Hussain Qadri presented the Hadiya Aqdat. Makhdoom Ghaus Alam Gilani, Pir Saif Qureshi, Dr. Asif Qureshi, Zain Baloch, Shah Muzaffar, Makhdoom Khalid, Sarfaraz and others were present on the stage.





#### **Namaz Timings** Maghrib .. 5:19 pm .. 6:43 pm

#### **EMERGENCY**

Rescue (Police)	15
Bomb Disposal	15
Fire Services Rawalpindi	/
Islamabad	1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance	1122 &
& Rescue Services	4451122
Motorway Police	.9266044
Motorway Police92	270601-20

#### **Women Police**

# **ENOUIRY**

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

#### **HOSPITALS**

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

#### 71st meeting of the Syndicate of Hazara *University* Mansehra held

#### B Abdul Waheed Khan

MANSEHR: The 71st meeting of the Syndicate of Hazara University Mansehra was held under the chairmanship of the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Ikramullah Khan. The Syndicate approved the proceedings of previous sessions of Syndicate and Advanced Studies and Research Board. The recommendations of the Finance and Planning Committee were also approved with several additional suggestions. The Syndicate approved an increase in the remuneration of daily wage workers and visiting faculty members. It also granted approval for the issuance of NOCs for faculty positions, paving the way for the initiation of the recruitment process after approval from other higher forums of the university. He added that the positive decisions taken regarding the faculty, staff and other stakeholders of the university would further enhance the efficiencv of academic and administrative affairs at Hazara University. The Syndicate meeting was attended by Nazeer Hussain, Director General (HRM), Higher Education Commission Islamabad, Javed Iqbal, Additional Secretary Higher Education Department Peshawar, Nadeem Akhtar, Deputy Secretary Establishment Department Peshawar, Masood Jan, Deputy Secretary Finance Department Peshawar, Justice (R) Nisar Hussain, former Judge Peshawar High Court, Mansoor Khattak, representative of the Chancellor from the University of Agriculture Peshawar and Riaz Hussain, Principal, Government Postgraduate College

# Multan Police Launch Major Crackdown **Against Fireworks**

#### 跨 Zain Khan Malghani

MULTAN: The Cantonment Division police have intensified their crackdown against the illegal trade of fireworks, recovering explosive materials worth more than Rs 3.3 million and arresting one suspect during a targeted operation.

Javed, son of Shaukat Ali, resident of Gali Paparr Wali, Cup Bazaar, Kabootar Mandi, Multan. During the search operation, police seized fireworks worth over Rs 3.3 million. The recovered items included 82 cartons of Chinese crackers, 4 cartons of firework "Anar" shells, and 4 cartons of stick rockets.

Operation by Chehlek Police Station: Under the supervision of SP Cantonof Chehlek Police Station conducted the operation and arrested the accused Javed. A case has been registered city.

against him, and further investigation is underway. Police sources confirmed that the accused has a criminal record and is wanted in several police stations.

CPO Multan Sadiq Āli Dogar said that a strict crackdown against the illegal business of fireworks is ongoing across the city. He emphasized that fireworks are not only illegal but also pose a serious threat to human lives. The police are conducting well-planned operations to ensure public safety and prevent any potential accidents.

The CPO congratulated SSP Operations Multan Haider Ali, SP Cantonment Kainat Azhar, SHO Anser Abbas, and the Chehlek Police team for the successful operation. He further ment Kainat Azhar, SHO Anser Abbas directed the officers to continue indiscriminate action against all illegal activities to maintain peace and order in the



### Pak-Turk Friendship

ISLAMABAD: A view of the National Flags of Pakistan and Turkiye on the poles of different roads of the Capital City during the celebrations of the Pak-Turk Friendship Week in Pakistan.



# Prof. Dr. Raheel Qamar assumes charge as Rector of COMSATS University Islamabad

#### 跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prof. Dr. Raheel Qamar, a veteran molecular geneticist and science policy leader, took charge as COMSATS University Islamabad (CUI) Rector on Monday, October 27, 2025, following his appointment by the Chancellor of the University, the President of Pakistan.

Dr. Raheel Qamar is a highly respected academic and distinguished administrator with extensive international experience, formally assumed charge, marking the commencement of a new strategic tenure for the esteemed multi-campus institution of the Ministry of Science and Technology.

Prior to his appointment as Rector he has been serving as Head of the Science and Envi-World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO), an inter-governmental organisation having 53



Member States based in Rabat, various prestigious academic ronment Sector at the Islamic as the first tenured Professor ments at national and interof CIIT, elevating to Director national institutions. A recip-Campus, Dean RIC and later ient of Pakistan's Tamgha-e-Rector of COMSATS Univer- Imtiaz (Medal of Excellence)

sity Islamabad in addition to and a Fellow of the Pakistan

Academy of Sciences, his Morocco. Earlier he also served and administrative appoint- research in molecular genetics, population genomics, and health sciences has contributed significantly to understanding genetic diversity and inherited

#### Seminar on World Food Day

👺 City Desk

RAWALPINDI: President Muhammad Farooq Chaudhry, Chairman Mumtaz Ahmed, and Patron-in-Chief Muhammad Naeem Chaudhry paid tribute to the people-friendly policies of the government, the services of the Chief Minister of Punjab, and the sense of duty of Field Marshal Asim Munir.

World Food Day was celebrated with the collaboration of the Rawalpindi Restaurants, Caterers, Sweets and Bakers Association, Savour Foods, and the Punjab Food Authority.

Officials from the Punjab Food Authority (Rawalpindi City) briefed guests in detail about the significance of healthy food.

The event was hosted by President Muhammad Farooq Chaudhry, Chairman Mumtaz Ahmed, and Patron-in-Chief Muhammad Naeem

Association office-bearers Rashid Noon, Zahid Mahmood, Chaudhry Imtiaz, Raja Adnan Mahmood, Saleem Raza, Sardar Ijaz Vilayat, Tariq Khan, Sheikh Imran, Sheikh Irfan, Malik Aftab, Javed Qureshi, Huzaifa Ansar, Chaudhry Shehzad Iqbal, Sharafat Ali Awan, Shahroz Ali, Naveed Abbasi, Sardar Saleem Sher Zaman, Chaudhry Amir, Zaman Qadeer, Khurram Khan, Malik Waqar, and many other members

PML-N leaders Mirza Mansoor Baig and Abdullah Gul were special

Regional Director Punjab Food Authority Adnan Raja, Deputy Director Adnan Akram, and Ms. Sania also attended as special guests.

# Sadequain's 'The Stranger' launched at PNCA



ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA), in collaboration with the Sadequain Foundation USA, unveiled the historic exhibition and book launch Albert Camus' The Stranger by Sadequain, marking the first-ever public display in Pakistan of the artist's rare lithographs inspired by the French Nobel Laureate's masterpiece.

The event, held at the National Art Gallery, Islamabad, was inaugurated by Nicolas Galey, Ambassador of France to Pakistan, who attended as the chief guest.

Ms. Iram Rehman, President of Alliance Francaise d'Islamabad, graced the occasion as guest of honor.

Organized by Gallery 21 and Imarat Group in collaboration with PNCA and the Sadequain Foundation USA, the exhibition features Sadequain's extraordinary 1964 series of lithographs interpreting Albert Camus' existential novel The Stranger (L'Etranger) — a profound encounter between French literature and Pakistani art.

Speaking at the inauguration, Ambassador Nicolas Galey praised the exhibition as "a remarkable artistic bridge between France and Pakistan that celebrates shared intellectual and creative traditions."

He added, "Camus and Sadequain both examined humanity's eternal search for meaning-this exhibition revives that dialogue through art and philosophy."

PNCA Director General Ayub Jamali welcomed the collaboration, noting, "It is an honor to host Sadequain's interpretation of Camus' work at PNCA. His art continues to inspire new generations, and this exhibition reaffirms Pakistan's commitment to preserving and promoting its cultural heritage at a global level."

Ms. Iram Rehman commended the event as a "meaningful fusion of literature and visual art, connecting the philosophical depths of Camus with Sadequain's symbolic expression."

# Spain Pledges Full Support to Boost Pakistan Bilateral Trade

#### 👺 Abdul Majid

Mansehra.

FAISALABAD: Commercial Attaché of Spain and Head of Economic and Commercial Office Ms. Cristina Liu has said that all possible steps will be taken to increase bilateral trade with Pakistan.

She was addressing the business community at the Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry today. She said that necessary facilities will be provided to the trade delegacountries.

She said that due to GSP Plus, Spain's exports to Pakistan have increased signifexports are being made from two countries. Earlier, while Pakistan.

A large amount of which is manufactured in Faisalabad. She said that for the extension of the GSP Plus facility, Pakistan will have to take steps to improve human rights, good governance and environment.

She said that the use of machinery manufactured in Spain has improved the quality of Pakistani products, which tion of the Faisalabad Chamber has also increased exports. He At present, our exports to Spain to promote direct contacts said that Pakistan will have to between the traders of the two take other measures besides are \$ 145 million. energy-efficient machinery and environment-friendly dyes to

welcoming Ms. Cristina Liu, President Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry Farooq Yousuf Sheikh introduced Faisalabad and the Faisalabad Chamber.

He said that in 1951, Pakistan had started trade with Spain, which is gradually developing. He said that Pakistan is the third largest trading partner of the European Union. are \$ 1.47 billion while imports

He said that the Faisalabad Chamber has prepared succeed in the global markets. a program to send trade dele-He added that Spanish gations to different countries special pin, shield and gifts to

icantly in recent years. At companies will be encouraged to increase exports and a delepresent, 20 percent of textile to increase trade between the gation will also visit Spain in January next year. He also requested to provide necessary facilities to the Pakistani trade delegation so that this visit can be purposeful and fruitful.

Executive members Waheed Khaliq Ramey, Mirza Zahid Iqbal, Muhammad Ali, Haji Muhammad Attaullah. Jawad Shafiq, Imtiaz Ali, former Senior Vice President Chaudhry Talat Mahmood and other members Kashif Zia, Suleman Aslam, Habib Ahmed Gujjar and Abdul Rehman participated in the question and answer session, while in the end, President Farooq Yousuf Sheikh presented a



Ms. Christina Liu on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the chamber.

thanked the guests while Ms. of the Faisalabad Chamber.

In the end, Senior Vice Pres- Christina Liu also recorded her ident Naveed Akram Sheikh impressions in the guest book

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

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### The UN at 80 and the future of the 'Palestine question'

he UN turned 80 years old this year. This is an incredible milestone for the only body that brings together all states in an attempt, as per its charter, to preserve world peace and resolve conflicts.

But with 193 members, it is also an organization that is suffering from an identity and financial crisis. US President Donald Trump, whose country is the most significant economic contributor to the UN, is withholding most of the key financing it provides and demanding that the international body limits its mandate to the preservation of world peace and security, while staying away from what he views as controversial issues such as climate change, human rights and humanitarian efforts.

The plan, which Israel is trying to derail, calls for an "International Stabilization Force" to be deployed in Gaza to help preserve the peace and ensure the terms of the ceasefire agreement are observed. Arab and Western allies of the US are pressuring Washington to approach the UN and seek a legal mandate for the deployment of such a force.

In September, a Saudi-French initiative introduced at the UN General Assembly resulted in historic global support for the two-state solution, and unprecedented official recognition of Palestinian statehood by 157 member nations, as of today. Israel and the US stood alone, abandoned even by their closest Western allies.

Trump's Gaza peace plan is a small step on a long path that should restore responsibility for the Palestine question to the UN, where a just and lasting solution can be attained.

This is a political nightmare for Israel because it would be a significant step toward the "internationalization" of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and the reinstatement of UN resolutions pertaining to it.

It is ironic, as well, that it is Trump, the best American president for Israel in decades, who can now steer this conflict toward a more balanced path. He has already warned that he will not allow Israel to annex the West Bank under any circumstances. That position is in alignment with UN resolutions and the will of the international community.

While the world is divided over much-needed reforms to the UN, there is now a consensus on the Palestine question. The US cannot resolve this conflict on its own; its track record over the past 30 years speaks for itself.

It is high time the Palestinians were able to exercise their right to self-determination, have their own state and be free of occupation. The only venue where this can be achieved is the UN.

# **Kashmir** — The Promise that Became a Prison

**Qudrat Ullah** 

stan.'(MAJinnah)

very October, Pakistan observes a date carved into its national memory -October 27, 1947. It was on this day that Indian forces entered Jammu and Kashmir, transforming what was meant to be a polit- a declaration that history ical dialogue into a military occupation that still casts its long shadow over South Asia. Kashmir Black Day is not a mere annual ritual. It is an act of remembrance — an insistence that history, though often buried under propaganda and silence, continues to breathe.

This year, under the direction of Chief but to the world. We will Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, the provincial government has framed the observance of Kashmir Black Day as an exercise in civic awareness and moral reflection. Across Punjab, rallies will be held at all levels. Arts councils will stage exhibitions, puppet shows, skits, and tableaus; documentaries will be aired to sensitize the world about this core issue. The flags of Pakistan and Azad Kashmir will be displayed together at public places, while black banners and panaflexes will mark the province's solidarity with the oppressed Kashmiris.

Even the symbolic city branding of Rawalpindi, with billboards and streamers at Kachehry Chowk and Peshawar Road, will carry a unified message: that the people of Punjab stand with Kashmiris in their just struggle for self-determination.

lies not in spectacle but in substance. The intention is to turn remembrance into

a matter of unfulfilled pledges and unaddressed principles.

When India took the Kashmir question to the United Nations in 1948, it did so on the foundation of its own moral commitment. Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru,

still remembers: "We have declared that the fate of Kashmir is ultimately to be decided by the people. That pledge we have given not only to the people of Kashmir not and cannot back out

India's acceptance of UN Security Council Resolution 47 the following year formalised that pledge, calling for a free and impartial plebiscite under international supervision. What began as an article of faith soon became a casualty of expedience. Over the decades, that unkept word has hardened into the silence of barbed wire and curfews.

Today, the revocation of Articles 370 and 35A in Aug 2019 has stripped Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir of the limited autonomy it once possessed. The region, once celebrated as paradise on earth, now resembles a vast open-air prison, where communication blackouts, demographic manipulation, and the suppression of dissent have become daily realities. The question for the world Yet, the significance of these gestures is simple: can peace be built on the denial of consent?

Punjab's commemoration of Kashmir

the conversation from emotion to ethics. from slogans to scholarship. By engaging citizens through culture, media, and civic participation, the provincial government aims to foster a rational understanding of why Kashmir matters — not only to in his radio address of Nov 2, 1947, made Pakistan, but to the moral architecture of

international law itself. There is an underlying philosophy at work here, one that recalls the wisdom of Kautilya, the ancient hindu strategist who argued that power divorced from justice ultimately devours itself. The lesson applies with tragic clarity to Kashmir.

When a state rules without legitimacy, it may command obedience, but never loyalty. Suppression may silence dissent for a time, but it cannot erase the truth that gave rise to it.

The United Nations, for its part, has failed a fundamental test of credibility. More than seventy-five years after adopting resolutions that guaranteed the right of self-determination to the people of Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir, it has yet to fulfil its own mandate. The world that found its conscience in East Timor and South Sudan appears content to lose it in Srinagar. The selective application of justice corrodes not only institutions but the very idea of global order.

Peace in South Asia remains hostage to this unresolved injustice. The resources that could lift millions from poverty are instead consumed by an arms race sustained by distrust. A conflict frozen reasoning - to remind the world that this Black Day 2025, therefore, assumes a in time continues to hold two nuclear

Kashmir is the jugular vein of Paki- conflict is not a quarrel over territory but deeper meaning. It is an attempt to shift powers at perpetual risk, while generations of Kashmiris live as prisoners of geography and politics.

That is why Kashmir Black Day must not be reduced to mourning. It should be a day of moral clarity — a reaffirmation that Pakistan's case rests not on conquest but on the principle of self-determination. It is also a day for the world to revisit its conscience, to recognise that silence in the face of oppression is complicity in it.

Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif's government deserves recognition for anchoring this year's commemoration in awareness rather than anger. By invoking art, education, and civic participation, Punjab's campaign demonstrates that solidarity can be expressed through reason as much as rhetoric. The message it conveys is not of hatred, but of hope that peace built upon justice remains possible, if the world chooses to honour its own word.

Kashmir today stands as a testament to both resilience and betraval — a valley where the beauty of nature mocks the ugliness of politics. The black flags that rise across Punjab this October will speak for those who have been silenced, reminding the world that a promise once made before humanity cannot be buried under the rubble of expediency.

Kashmir Black Day is not about darkness; it is about the refusal to let darkness prevail. The day endures as an indictment of hypocrisy — and a quiet appeal to conscience. For as long as the promise remains unkept, the prison remains unbroken.

The writer is a Lahore-based public policy analyst and can be reached at qudratu@gmail.com)



# Commemoration of Kashmir's Day of Occupation Held in Moscow

n international Kashmir conference was jointly organized by Tehreek-e-Kashmir Russia and the Jammu Kashmir Community International (JKCI). The event brought together experts from the United States, United Kingdom, Norway, Sweden, Spain, Denmark, South Africa, Russia, Middle East, Pakistan and Azad Kashmir to commemorate October 27, a day observed globally as the Day of Occupation.

In his welcome address, Ishtiyaq Hamdani, a prominent Kashmiri advocate, senior journalist, and Chief Organizer of the Tehreek-e-Kashmir, Russia, highlighted the long-standing suffering of the Kashmiri people over the past 78 years. He stressed that it is the moral and political responsibility of

the international community to raise awareness of their plight and to encourage India and Pakistan to return to the negotiating table for a peaceful and just resolution of the Kashmir

Ghulam Nabi Bhat, Chairman, JKCI welcomed the participants for their willingness to join the conference and to express their point of view to help their brothers and sisters in Indian occupied Kashmir. He emphasized that the sacrifices given by our brothers and sisters in Kashmir should have shaken the conscience of the civilized world but unfortunately, they are giving preference to the trade over moral values and universal principles.

Sheikh Abdul Matten, leader of All Parties Hurriyat Conference said that the people of Kashmir demand what India and Pakistan have promised to them at the United Nations. The promise was that the future status of Jammu & Kashmir shall be decided by the people through

a referendum which will be conducted by the United Nations. That promise was never fulfilled.

Dr. Aabida Rafique, a young and dynamic scholar and academic said that October 27th is observed all over the world as the day of occupation. It is also observed as a day of grief and day of sorrow, because it was on October 27 in 1947 that India sent its army to occupy our land. Dr. Rafique added that the Indian occupied Kashmir has been converted into a concentration camp.

Any voice of dissent is met by long-term imprisonment or even death.

Salman Khan, Founder and Chairman, South African Kashmiri Action Group and member of Board of Directors of Kashmir Diaspora Coalition (KDC) said that it is important after 78 years of Kashmir struggle for us to reflect and

ponder over the lesson learned and what is the way forward.

Dr. Ghulam-Nabi Fai

Advocate Rehana Ali, Information Secretary, Tehreek-e-Kashmir UK said, today we observe Kashmir Black Day, a tragedy that has persisted since October 27, 1947, when the Indian army landed at Srinagar airport. Since then, atrocities have been continuously committed by the Indian occupation forces against the civilian population of Kashmir.

Advocate Rehani Ali added that we must raise awareness among Kashmiris about how to report incidents, obtain police reports and share them with UN observers, media outlets. and UN complaint mechanisms like the UN website on a regular basis. Consistent, documented reporting and international engagement are essential steps toward justice and the much awaited "Plebiscite".

Ms. Sajida Gilani of Azad Kashmir appealed to the international community to intervene in

Kashmir on humanitarian grounds to ease the suffering of the innocent and unarmed Kashmiri population.

Zubair Hussain, a prominent journalist and social worker from Sweden delivered the passionate message by saying that we want the people of Indian occupied Kashmir to know that the people of Azad Kashmir are with them.

Raja Khan of Great Britian said that the presence of nine hundred thousand Indian occupation forces has made Kashmir the largest army concentration in the world.

Ms. Rabia Ghori, USA who is originally from Baluchistan emphasized that the rational approach to set a stage for a settlement of the Kashmir dispute is to include the accredited leadership of the people of Jammu & Kashmir in all

future negotiations with India and Pakistan. Raja Parvaiz Khan, Secretary General JKCI said that the issue of Kashmir became international the day an alien Indian soldier set foot on

the soil of Kashmir on October 27, 1947. Zaheer Hussain Kiyani reiterated that the people of Kashmir demand what has been agreed upon at the United Nations Security Council with the consent of both India and Pakistan that they will be allowed to exercise their right to self-determination to decide the future of their land.

Sardar Tamur Aziz, President Kashmir Council Sweden said that, by no stretch of the imagination, can the situation in Kashmir be treated as India's internal matter, as India argues.

Naeem Choudhary of Jammu Kashmir Forum France said that it is symptomatic of the approach of the world powers that the greater emphasis is placed on the "reduction of tensions" than on the settlement of the core issue, i.e., Kashmir. Dr. Fai is also the Secretary General, World

Kashmir Awareness Forum. He can be reached at: WhatsApp: 1-202-607-6435 or. gnfai2003@yahoo.com www.kashmirwreness.org

## The Struggle for Freedom, Justice, and Human Dignity — 27 October

**Muhammad Asif** 

of the darkest days in the history allow Kashmiris to decide their own destiny. of Kashmir a day that symbolfailure of the world's conscience. It was on this black day in 1947 that India, through military aggression, illegally occupied the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir, This day not only reopens the wounds of the their lips resounds a single, defiant cry "What Kashmiri people but also raises a haunting do we want? Freedom!" This cry is not merely

question for the global community: if the world truly believes in justice, democracy, and human rights, why has it remained silent for more than seven decades in the face of such oppression?

When the British Empire withdrew from the subcontinent in 1947, the Muslim-majority state of Jammu and

Kashmir was naturally inclined toward Pakistan. However, on 27 October 1947, Indian freedom of a people but also the freedom of forces landed at Srinagar airport under the false pretext of an "Instrument of Accession" signed by Maharaja Hari Singh. This so-called accession was both illegal and illegitimate. The United Nations, in 1948, recognized Kashmir as a disputed territory and affirmed the right of its people to self-determination. Yet, India has consistently defied these resolutions. Seventy-seven years later, those promises remain unfulfilled, and the night of oppression still overshadows the valley.

The international community bears a heavy moral responsibility. The same powers that raise their voices for Ukraine or Palestine must also acknowledge the plight of Kashmir. The continued denial of UN resolutions on Kashmir is a stain on the global conscience. If the world truly stands for human rights and freedom, it must pressure India to end its military occu-

he 27th of October stands as one pation, lift the communication blockade, and

Today's Kashmiri youth has not lost hope. izes tyranny, oppression, and the Despite living under siege, they carry an unshakable faith that their cause is just and their victory inevitable. They know that the silence of powerful nations may last temporarily, but history always sides with the oppressed. In igniting a tragic saga that continues to this day. their hearts burns the flame of faith, and on

> a slogan; it is a declaration of purpose, a symbol of courage, and a testament to the human spirit's refusal to bow before tvranny.

> The 27th of October teaches us that freedom is not a luxury. it is the very essence of justice, dignity, and life itself. It reminds us that silence in the

face of oppression is itself a crime. The freedom of Kashmir is not only the human conscience. Without justice in Kashmir. peace in South Asia will remain an illusion. The world must remember that guns can suppress voices temporarily, but they can never extin-

guish the truth. The winds that blow through the valleys of Kashmir carry one eternal message: the future of humanity lies in freedom and justice. The observance of Kashmir Black Day is not an act of mourning but a renewal of faith a promise that no matter how long the struggle, victory will belong to the truth. The people of Kashmir are closer to their destiny than ever before, and the day is not far when the skies of Srinagar will echo with the cry. This valley has been liberated through the bloodshed of generations of

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# Pak-Türk Friendship Week celebrates bilateral ties

ISLAMABAD: The Prime Minister's Youth Programme, in collaboration with the Yunus Emre Institute and the Pakistan National Council of the Arts(PNCA), successfully organized the "Pak-Türk Friendship Week" to celebrate the enduring friendship and cultural partnership between Pakistan and Turkiye.

The event featured captivating cultural performances, including traditional music and folk art, showcasing the rich heritage and shared cultural values of both nations. A beautifully designed stage backdrop displayed the logos of the collaborating organizations — the Prime with portraits of the leaders of Pakithe two brotherly countries.



Minister's Youth Programme, Yunus Irfan Neziroğlu, said it was a great gracious support and participation Emre Institute, and PNCA — along honor and privilege to commemorate the 102nd anniversary of the the strong bonds of friendship, trust, stan and Turkiye, symbolizing the founding of the Republic of Turkiye and mutual respect between Pakistan deep and historic friendship between alongside the people of Pakistan. He extended heartfelt thanks to the Speaking on the occasion, Turkish honorable Prime Minister of Paki-

in the celebrations. He added that and Turkiye have always remained

Recalling the solidarity shown by Ambassador to Pakistan, H. E. Dr. stan, Mr. Shehbaz Sharif, for his the people of the Subcontinent during



War, Dr. Neziroğlu acknowledged the moral and financial support extended to the Ottoman Empire by figures such as Allama Muhammad Iqbal – a gesture remembered with deep gratitude by the Turkish people.

Mr. Huzaifa Rehman, Minister of State / Special Assistant to the Prime Minister of Pakistan, expressed his great pleasure in joining the celebration of Turkey's 102nd Republic Day. He highlighted that the occasion marks not only Turkiye's remarkable

but also the deep-rooted and everlasting friendship between Pakistan in every era of challenge and triumph. and Turkiye — two nations united by faith, brotherhood, and shared history

On behalf of the Government and the people of Pakistan, Mr. Rehman extended heartfelt congratulations to the leadership and people of Turkiye on this historic milestone. He emphasized that the Pakistan-Turkiye relationship transcends diplomacy — it is a bond of hearts, strengthened ship!

affinity, and unwavering solidarity

The event concluded with a renewed commitment from both sides to further enhance cooperation in culture, education, and youth development. Participants reaffirmed that the Pak-Türk friendship will continue to flourish and serve as a model of unity, respect, and shared progress for generations to come.

Long live Pakistan-Turkiye friend-

# Palestinian Govt Commends European Support; Refutes Israeli Disinformation Campaigns

RAMALLAH: The Pales- tinian prisoners through anism, which targets only tinian Government express- the institutions of the State the health and education es its deep appreciation for of Palestine, the Palesthe unwavering support and tinian Government affirms solidarity of the nations and that European financial peoples of friendly Europe- assistance to Palestine is an countries toward the Palestinian people on all levels – humanitarian, political, and financial.

response to the Israeli allegations aired by Channel and good governance. 14 and attributed to the so-called "Palestinian Media

governed by longstanding, jointly agreed administrative and financial procedures and mechanisms that In this context, and in fully adhere to the principles of transparency, integrity,

budget support to the Watch", which falsely claim Palestinian Government vulnerable families based on that the European Union is provided exclusively clear and transparent eligifunds the salaries of Pales- through the PEGASE mech-

The Government further clarifies that the social assistance system, enacted by a new law in February 2025, is fully subject to financial and administrative oversight by Palestinian state institutions and international partners, including the European Union. Assis-Accordingly, EU direct tance under this system is directed solely to poor and bility criteria, entirely free

of political considerations. All Palestinian families benefiting from this system receive modest stipends, below the national poverty line, and strictly on social

and humanitarian grounds. The Palestinian Government calls on media outlets not to be misled by Israeli disinformation and propaganda campaigns, and to verify facts through official Palestinian and European sources while upholding accuracy and professionalism when addressing sensitive financial matters.

#### Thal Desert Rally to Ignite Layyah, Kot Addu ぢ Muzaffargarh, Dr. Ehsan Bhutta



Museums Punjab Dr. Ehsan Bhutta has proudly announced that the Thal Desert Rally 2025 will take place from 6 to 9 November, turning the desert belt of Layyah, Kot Addu and Muzaffargarh into a spectacular hub of motorsports, cultural celebration and heritage tourism. He was addressing the media briefing here vesterday at Lahore Museum. He stated that the event is being organized under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz as part of the "Magnificent Punjab" Tourism Revival Vision, with the kind supervision of Senior Minister Maryam Aurangzeb, who has ensured strong cultural pre ervation and public outreach elements. Dr. Ehsan Bhutta emphasized that this rally is not merely a sports competition, but a cultural and economic catalyst designed to highlight the living desert heritage, folk traditions, craftsmanship and Sufi rooted identity of South Punjab. He further informed that the Deputy Commissioners of Layyah, Kot Addu and Muzaffargarh have ensured to extend their full administrative. logistical and hospitality support for the smooth organization of rally activities and traditional cultural melas to empower local artists, folk performers and desert communities. He added that Punjab Police, Rangers, Rescue 1122 and the Health Department will also present to provide full-scale security and emergency services to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for spectators and participants. Managing Director TDCP Asim Raza shared that around 100 drivers, including female racers and renowned champions like Mir Nadir Magsi, Sahibzada Sultan Muhammad Ali, Zain Mehmood and the Khakwani Brothers, will take part in the rally, while the event will also feature folk music nights, camel & horse shows, tent-pegging, artisan bazaars and desert heritage performances, promising a grand celebration of South Punjab's vibrant identity and adventure spirit.

## UK Parliamentarians Convene for Kashmir Black Day to Denounce Rights Violations



跨 Chaudhry Tabraiz Aurah

 $LONDON: The \ All-Party \ Parliamentary \ Group \ (APPG) \ on \ Kashmir$ held a special event in the British Parliament to mark Kashmir Black Day, highlighting India's continued denial of the fundamental rights and freedoms of the Kashmiri people. The event was led by Imran Hussain MP, Chair of the APPG on Kashmir. It was attended by several Members of Parliament, including Richard Burgon MP, Ian Byrne MP, Sarah Smith MP, Rachael Hopkins MP, Lord Shafiq Khan, Lord Qurban Hussain and Senior Vice Chair Tahir Ali MP.

Speakers expressed deep concern over the ongoing human rights violations in Indian-administered Kashmir and called for the international community to play a more active role in ensuring justice and accountability.

They reaffirmed their solidarity with the people of Kashmir and their inalienable right to self-determination, pledging that the British Parliament would continue to raise its voice for peace, justice, and human rights in the region.

#### Palestine Joins Riyadh Summit Pushing Two-State Solution



**News Desk** 

State of Palestine Participates in the High-Level Meeting of International Coalition for the Implementation of the Two-State Solution in Riyadh The State of Palestine took part in the High-Level Meeting of the International Coalition for the Implementation of the Two-State Solution, held in Riyadh under the chairmanship of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, with the participation of the European Union, Norway, and representatives from over 40 countries and organizations.

Representing Palestine, Dr. Omar Awadallah, Deputy Minister for Political Affairs, emphasized the need to end the Israeli occupation and implement the two-state solution based on international law and UN resolutions.

# LONGi Recognized for Technological Innovation and Leadership in the Solar Industry

LAHORE: LONGi, a global leader in solar technology, has been recognized for its groundbreaking contributions to the solar industry. The company has been applauded for breaking free from the trend of "excessive competition" and positioning itself as an industry leader through science-driven innovation.

LONGi's pioneering work in advanced photovoltaic (PV) technologies continues to set benchmarks across the solar industry. The company's Back Contact (BC) tech- 4 GW, reaching more than competition, LONGi has nology recently achieved a world-record 26% conversion efficiency, marking a significant milestone in crystalline silicon module devel- reliable, high-performance performance. The compa-

By mid-2025, shipments markets. of LONGi's second-generation BC modules surpassed



70 countries and regions. products for diverse global

industry's price-driven

shifted its approach toward This achievement reflects value-based growth, emphathe company's focus on sizing long-term technologcombining innovation with ical progress and sustainable ny's strategy highlights a broader industry lesson: Moving away from the genuine advancement in solar energy depends on

continuous scientific development rather than shortterm pricing dynamics. LONGi's ongoing

commitment to technological advancement continues to redefine benchmarks in high-efficiency solar module manufacturing. Its innovations are helping shape a more resilient and efficient global solar supply chain, supporting the broader shift toward renewable energy.

As one of the world's leading solar manufacturers, LONGi's influence extends bevond technology to include sustainability and industry collaboration. Through its focus on research, efficiency, and practical innovation, the company remains dedicated to advancing solar solutions that lower carbon emissions and make clean energy more accessible worldwide.

# 73pc of foreign investors recommend Pakistan for future FDI: **OICCI** Perception Survey

ISLAMABAD: The Overseas alongside upgraded international Investors Chamber of Commerce credit ratings. and Industry (OICCI), the largest body of more than 200 leading foreign investors in Pakistan, has released its biennial Perception and Investment Survey 2025, revealing a cautiously optimistic outlook from foreign investors on Pakistan's business and investment climate.

percent of OICCI members recommend Pakistan as a viable destination for foreign direct investment (FDI), a notable rise from 61 percent in 2023. This shift reflects improved macroeconomic stability, reduced inflation, declining from 37 percent in mid-2023 to 4 percent by July 2025, and a relatively stable rupee,

Other key findings from the survey highlight Pakistan's improved regional standing on investment viability compared to 2023 versus several peers, including Bangladesh, Vietnam, and the Philippines. Parent company interest has increased, as 35 percent of respondents The survey shows that 73 reported that their headquarters are now considering Pakistan a priority destination for new FDI,

compared to 24 percent in 2023. Commenting on the OICCI Perception Survey 2025, OICCI President Yousaf Hussain stated: "The notable upward shift in investor sentiment demonstrates that economic stability and policy coordination are beginning to

deliver results. Initiatives like the 57 percent of respondents. SIFC have provided a structured mechanism for investment facilitation and inter-governmental alignment. Going forward, deeper private-sector inclusion and continued reforms in taxation and regulatory efficiency will be key to sustaining this momentum."

Investor perception of business risk has shifted favourably, moving from a predominantly highrisk to a medium-risk outlook, reflecting improved macroeconomic management and relative stability. However, the findings also indicate that structural bottlenecks continue to constrain Pakistan's investment potential. Among the most critical concerns, federal-provincial coordination received negative feedback from

According to the survey, 96 percent of respondents reported higher energy costs, 95 percent faced increased wage expenses, and 91 percent cited higher domestic raw material costs. Over 80 percent expressed concern over delayed tax refunds, which in most cases take more than two years to process. Furthermore, over half of respondents indicated that commercial disputes take over five years to resolve, highlighting the need for judicial reform and more efficient dispute resolution.

Members' perceptions of Pakistan's economic outlook have improved noticeably since 2023. When asked about their sector-specific expectations for the next two to three years, 58 percent

economic growth, a significant rise from 40 percent in the previous survey. This improvement mirrors gains in key macroeconomic indicators, including greater inflation stability, exchange rate management, and stronger capital market performance.

OICCI Members also recommended enhancing Pakistan's digital and regulatory landscape, supported by stronger human capital and a comprehensive, sector-focused investment policy. They emphasized developing non-IT industrial capacity

to diversify growth. Strengthening Pakistan's global image was also seen as vital to

attracting long-term FDI. On global perception, 82

of respondents now foresee global percent of respondents noted that facturing as the most promising negative international coverage continues to influence investment decisions, highlighting the need for a proactive communications strategy to project Pakistan's economic recovery and reform progress at global forums.

The survey's recommendations call for broadening the tax base, ensuring policy consistency, strengthening coordination between federal and provincial governments, and enhancing intellectual property rights enforcement to sustain investor confidence and attract long-term

Foreign investors identified IT and digital services, renewable energy, agriculture, pharmaceuticals, and export-oriented manu-

sectors for future FDI. However, operational constraints persist, including a rising tax burden, policy inconsistency, high energy costs, and issues with contract enforcement, all of which continue to impact competitiveness. In conclusion, CEO and Secre-

tary General OICCI M. Abdul Aleem added: "While investor confidence has improved, the survey also highlights critical areas needing immediate attention, particularly high business costs, complex taxation, and delays in contract enforcement. OICCI members recommend harmonizing tax policies, simplifying regulations, and enhancing institutional capacity to translate optimism into concrete FDI inflows."

### **Bull & Bears** PSX 100-Share

Index Fluctuation			
Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index			
Current	Prev. Close		
160,101.02	162,163.81		
Day's High	Day's Low		
163,380.67	159,805.34		
Index Value	Change		
23,691,992,297	-2062.79		
Percentage	Time		
-1.27%	28 Oct, 2025 4:30 pm		
Europe: FTSE 100 Index			
Index Value	Change		
9,696.74	+42.92		
Percentage	Time		

+0.44%	28 Oct, 4:35 pm GMT+1	
<b>USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average</b>		
Index Value	Change	
47,926.43	+381.84	
Percentage	Time	

28 Oct, 1:05 pm

	GIVIT-4		
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average			
Index Value	Change		
50,219.18	-293.14		
Percentage	Time		
-0.58%	28 Oct, 3:45 pm GMT+9		

+0.80%

Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	185.15	190.15
Bahrain Dinar	746.6	754.1
Canadian Dollar	205.4	212.4
China Yuan	39.2	39.6
Danish Krone	43.7	44.1
Euro	331.75	335.25
Hong Kong Dollar	36.3	36.65
Indian Rupee	3.12	3.21
Japanese Yen	1.8762	1.9762
Kuwaiti Dinar	913.5	922.5
Malaysian Ringgit	66.3	66.9
NewZealand \$	160.4	162.40
Norwegians Krone	27.85	28.15
Omani Riyal	731.35	738.85
Qatari Riyal	76.95	77.65
Saudi Riyal	75.6	76.25
Singapore Dollar	216.9	221.65
Swedish Korona	29.6	29.9
Swiss Franc	352.54	355.29
Thai Bhat	8.45	8.60
U.A.E Dirham	76.8	77.8
UK Pound Sterling	380.75	383.75

#### Karachi Industrialists Blast Telecom Operators Over 'Substandard' Network Performance

KARACHI: The SITE Association of Industries (SAI) has strongly criticized Pakistan's telecom operators and internet service providers over persistent network issues, labeling their performance

US Dollar

as substandard and damaging to business

Industrialists from Karachi's largest industrial zone, SITE, have voiced serious concerns regarding frequent internet disruptions and weak mobile signals, which they say are hampering communication and threatening industrial productivity.

SAI President Ahmed Azeem Alvi said that for several consecutive days, slow internet speed and poor mobile connectivity have severely impacted both domestic and international business communications. He warned that these ongoing technical failures could cause substantial financial losses for Pakistan's business community.

# PAKISTAN: Sustained reforms needed for inclusive growth, economic stability and flood recovery

#### **Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's economy expanded by 3.0 percent in the fiscal year ending June 2025, up from 2.6 percent in the previous year, reflecting a rebound in industrial activity and an expansion in the services sector. According to the World Bank's latest Pakistan Development Update: Staying the Course for Growth and Jobs, released today, growth is projected to remain at 3 percent for the fiscal year ending in June 2026, due to the impacts of recent floods on the agriculture sector, before picking up in the medium term as ongoing stability and continued reforms enhance growth prospects.

Fiscal tightening and appropriate monetary policy helped anchor inflation and support current account and primary fiscal surpluses amidst a challenging global and domestic environment. Improved confidence supported industry and service sector growth, even as agriculture growth underperformed, in part due to adverse weather and pest infestations.



While favorable, the economic outlook has been tempered by recent floods, which have resulted in significant impact on people and damage to ture and rationalizing the public sector."

urban areas and agricultural land.

"Pakistan's recent floods have imposed significant human costs and economic losses, dampening growth prospects, and adding pressure on macroeconomic stability," said Bolormaa Amgaabazar, World Bank Country Director for Pakistan. "Staying the course on reforms and accelerating job creation is critical to maintaining growth along with strengthening social safety nets and infrastructure that protects the most vulnerable citizens, and that will help ensure sustainable development and economic resilience for all."

"Sustaining progress will require a balanced mix of revenue and expenditure measures to manage flood impacts while maintaining progress towards fiscal consolidation," said Mukhtar Ul Hasan, lead author of the report. "Urgent implementation of priority fiscal reforms is essential, including broadening the tax base, strengthening tax administration, and reducing the presence of the state in the economy through state-owned enterprise dives-

## Farmers facing problems

LAHORE: Farmers are busy in their working at field in the outskirts area of the city as after flood and other problems farmers are facing extreme conditions in Country.



## Jubilee General Insurance Partners with the Aga Khan University Hospital to Launch Exclusive **Discount Card**

#### **Example 2** Commerce Desk

KARACHI:-Jubilee General Insurance has announced a landmark partnership with the Aga Khan University Hospital (AKUH), one of Pakistan's most trusted healthcare institutions, to introduce the Jubilee General Discount Card — an initiative designed to deliver value beyond insurance and bring quality healthcare within easier reach of its customers.

The signing ceremony, held in Karachi, marked the formal beginning of this collaboration. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed by Mr. Azfar Arshad, Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, Jubilee General Insurance, and Dr. Farhat Abbas,



Chief Executive Officer, The Aga Khan University Hospital, Pakistan. The ceremony was also attended by Ms. Shagufta Hassan, Global Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer, Aga Khan University, and Mr. Nadeem Irshad, Chief Sales Officer, Jubilee General Insurance.

Speaking at the occasion, Mr. Azfar Arshad, MD & CEO of Jubilee General Insurance, stated: "At Jubilee General, we believe partnerships should create value that extends far beyond insurance

Dr. Farhat Abbas, CEO of The Aga Khan University Hospital, Pakistan, added: "We are pleased to collaborate with Jubilee General Insurance in this meaningful initi-

# Bangladesh State Minister and **High Commission Delegation Visit SECP**

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: A high-level delegation from the Bangladesh High Commission visited the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) headquarters today to discuss mutual cooperation, knowledge sharing, and future regular contact between the two nations' financial regulators. The delegation was led by Dr. Anisuzzaman ciated the SECP's efforts Chowdhury, Special Assistant (State Minister) to the Ministry of Finance of Bangladesh, and included Mr. The meeting concluded with Md. Iqbal Hussain Khan, the High Commissioner of Bangladesh to Pakistan. The SECP Chairperson, Mr. Akif ladesh.

Saeed, Commissioner Mr. Abdul Rahman Warraich, and other senior management members received the delegates.

The SECP team provided an overview of its recent regulatory reforms, highlighting initiatives to improve the ease of doing business, enhance market transparency, and promote investor protection in Pakistan. Mr. Chowdhury appreand reiterated Bangladesh's commitment to advancing financial sector cooperation. a mutual pledge to deepen economic and financial ties between Pakistan and Bang-

## **PSO Posted Rs 9.4B** PAT for Q1 FY26



**E** Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Pakistan State Oil (PSO) delivered a robust performance in the first quarter of FY26, posting a profit after tax of PKR 9.4 billion and earnings per share of PKR 20. The company's Board of Management reviewed the group's performance for the quarter ended September 30, 2025, during its meeting held on October 28, 2025. The group's consolidated profit after tax reached earnings per share of PKR

PSO sustained its market leadership amid evolving industry dynamics, achieving a 3.5% year-on-year increase in white oil sales to 1.6 million metric tons, while main- across the sector.

taining a dominant 42% market share. MoGas and diesel sales stood at 785,000 and 672,000 metric tons, highlighting the company's dependable supply chain. Strengthening its retail footprint, PSO now operates 3,649 outlets nationwide, while logistics enhancements, including high-security tank lorry seals, have further reinforced operational security and transparency.

While navigating challenges from the ongoing PKR 10.5 billion, resulting in circular debt crisis, with receivables at PKR 426 billion (including PKR 294 billion owed by SNGPL), PSO is confident that the Government of Pakistan's Circular Debt Reduction Plan will strengthen liquidity

## PTCL Group Advances Global API Innovation with CAMARA Standard

#### Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: PTCL Group (PTCL & Ufone 4G) and GSMA have signed a long-term Memorandum of Understand-2025, expanding collaboration not only within telecom but also across diverse industries. The GSMA Open Gateservices to mobile networks easily and securely using Application Programmable Interfacadoption of new digital services and drives faster innovation by enabling businesses to easily adopting this global standard,

PTCL Group has announced the successful development and certification of two new APIs 'Send OTP' and 'Validate OTP' on the CAMARA standard ing (MoU) at GITEX Global 1.0.0, the latest release based on Client Initiated Backend Authentication (CIBA). By becoming part of the GSMA Open Gateway initiative, these way initiative is designed to APIs ensure enterprises and help enterprises connect their telecom operators can access standardized, secure, and interoperable services.

With this milestone, PTCL es (API). This simplifies the Group joins global leaders in advancing digital ecosystems

newly certified APIs enhance user authentication, minimize fraud risks, and improve customer journeys by leveraging globally recognized frameworks for security and reliability

Group Chief Technology and Information Officer, PTCL said, "This milestone marks another step forward in PTCL Group's journey to modernize and standardize our integration ecosystem through the CAMARA framework. By

embed mobile network capabil- we are simplifying our techities into their platforms. The nology operations, enhancing agility, and accelerating timeto-market, all while ensuring improved service quality. Over time, this foundation will empower PTCL Group to foster deeper collaboration with developers, hyperscalers, startups, and enterprises, unlocking new business & Ufone 4G, Jafar Khalid, models, monetizing network capabilities, and driving sustainable growth across the digital ecosystem."

Jawad Abbassi, Head of MENA, GSMA, said, "We are delighted to welcome PTCL Gateway Group to the GSMA Open participation marks a signif- erating the digital ecosystem region.



initiative. Their icant step forward in accel- across Pakistan and the broader

# WWF-Pakistan and Beaconhouse Ride for Greener Cities with Cyclathon 2025

**Sports Desk** 

LAHORE: As part of its 50-Year Strategic Intent of Sustainability & Environmental Leadership, Beaconhouse, in collaboration with WWF-Pakistan, successfully hosted Cyclathon 2025, a large-scale community cycling event held simultaneously in Lahore, Karachi, and Islamabad. The initiative welcomed students, parents, and employees of the two organisations to promote sustainable transport, raise awareness on air quality, and champion greener cities.

With over 800+ participants joining across the three cities, the event was a vibrant demonstration of collective action towards combating climate change. Covering a combined distance of 28 km, Cyclathon 2025 showcased how community-driven initiatives can promote healthier lifestyles and greener transport. Given that Pakistan is ranked among the most climate-vulnerable countries globally, and urban centres are poised yet again to grapple with issues of poor air quality, the event carried particular significance in raising awareness on sustainable practices and the urgent need for environmental responsibility.

Speaking about the event, Ali Ahmad Khan, Chief Operating Officer, Beacon-Beaconhouse marks 50 years, Cycla-



thon 2025 reflects our belief that the that extends beyond classrooms and into action. With the success of Cyclathon future of education is inseparable from house highlighted the organisation's the future of our planet. By engaging commitment to sustainability: "As students, parents, and employees alike, we are building a culture of responsibility

in building community-driven climate future for Pakistan.

2025, both organisations reaffirm their Beaconhouse and WWF-Pakistan's commitment to creating a sustainable, joint efforts mark a significant milestone healthy, and environmentally conscious

# Mehran Bottlers joins hands with KHA Women's Wing to Power Karachi's Hockey Dreams

**➣** Sports Desk

KARACHI: In a landmark move for women's sports in Pakistan, the Karachi Hockey Association (KHA) Women's Wing has secured a permanent sponsorship from Mehran Bottlers, marking a major step forward in the promotion and development of women's hockey in the city.

Zeeshan Habib Teli, CEO of Mehran Bottlers, pledged long-term support for the organization, a commitment warmly welcomed by Syeda Shehla Raza, MNA and Chairperson of KHA, and Syed Imtiaz Ali Shah, President of the Karachi Hockey Association. Roth leaders praised Teli's initiative as a game-changer for aspiring female

The announcement was made during a vibrant ceremony at the KHA Sports Arena, where Olympian Hanif Khan presented the official KHA Women's Wing logo to Mr. Teli, while Dr. Imran Ali Shah received a commemorative



Sports Officer Hajra Nawab and KHA will help us build a strong foundation for toured the KHA Sports Arena and Women's Wing President Mrs. Asma Ali Shah honored the guests with bouquets and shields, celebrating their contribu-

tions to the sport. Mrs. Asma Ali Shah expressed her

excitement: "We are thrilled to welcome Mr. Teli

women's hockey in Karachi and inspire commended the facilities. young girls to chase their dreams."

hosting a match series between upcoming National Games. Head Coach hockey talent.

Naeem Ahmed is leading the training camp, focusing on skill-building and competitive readiness.

Dr. Imran Ali Shah, CEO of A. O Clinic, also visited the camp and pledged to bring more sponsors on board. Prominent businessman Faisal Nadeem from the USA and Olympian Waseem Feroz were among the distinguished guests who applauded the initiative and emphasized the importance of consistent training and infrastructure for player development.

Honorary Secretary Batool Kazim extended heartfelt thanks to all attendees, including Irfan Tahir, Kashmala Batool, Syed Imtiaz Ul Hassan, and Faizan Sagheer Hussain, who

This strategic partnership between The KHA Women's Wing is currently Mehran Bottlers and KHA Women's Wing sets a new precedent for corporate Under-15 KHA Boys and Ghulaman- support in women's sports, reinforcing e-Abbas Club to prepare players for the Karachi's position as a rising hub for

# PMYP-Qalandars Provincial Cricket League kicks off in Quetta

**Sports Desk** 

ISLAMABAD: The Prime Minister Youth Programme-Qalandofficially commenced in Quetta, marking the beginning of a landing young talent from across Paki-

The opening phase of the

27 to 31 at the Bugti Stadium, Programme (PMYP), which Quetta, features five teams repre-Loralai, and Dera Murad Jamali. selected through open meritbased trials conducted across equal opportunity to participate, said a press release.

seeks to build a structured senting Quetta, Turbat, Khuzdar, and sustainable pathway for emerging cricketers. The initiaars Provincial Cricket League has Players for these teams were tive emphasises grassroots development, providing young players with professional exposure and mark national cricket initiative Balochistan, ensuring that every competitive experience through aimed at discovering and nurtur- talented cricketer received an organised provincial tourna-

Following the successful start The league forms part of the in Balochistan, the league will league, being held from October broader Prime Minister's Youth expand to Sindh, Punjab, Khyber

Capital, continuing the nationwide talent hunt and offering aspiring cricketers from all regions a platform to showcase their skills.

The long-term vision of the programme is to create a continuous pipeline of talent for Pakistan's domestic and national cricket structure. Through ongoing coaching, mentorship, and structured competition, the

Pakhtunkhwa, and the Federal league aims to not only identify potential stars but also help them evolve into professional athletes capable of representing Pakistan on the international stage.

> By combining sports development with youth engagement, the PM Youth Programme envisions the Provincial Cricket League as a unifying force, strengthening the bond between regions and inspiring the next generation to pursue excellence through sport.

#### Secretary Sports Punjab chairs an important meeting

LAHORE: tary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Muzaffar Khan Sial has chaired an important meeting at the Punjab Stadium to review progress on U-16 Talent Hunt Programme, Sports Endowment Fund and major sports events of 2024-25. Besides this, the ongoing and new sports



development schemes of ADP 2025-26 were also reviewed in

Additional Secretary Sports Mian Usman Ali, Director Sports Rana Nadeem Anjum, Director Admin Abid Shaukat, Project Director PMU Qaiser Raza, Sports Consultant Hafeez Bhatti and other officials participated in the meeting.

Addressing the meeting, Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Muzaffar Khan Sial said that Punjab Sports department is taking essential measures for the promotion of sports culture across the province. He said that Punjab Sports Endowment Fund is definitely a revolutionary measure of Punjab Sports Department and dozens of male and female athletes are benefiting from this

Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Muzaffar Khan Sial said that U-16 Talent Hunt Programme is a major initiative of Punjab Sports Department through which several talented athletes will be identified. "This programme will be conducted at tehsil, district and divisional level and top performing athletes will be included Punjab Sports Endowment Fund".

#### S.M.Adil Zone-IV Inter Club Cricket Tournament

Sports Desk

KARACHI: Three more matches decided in the S. M. Adil Zone-IV Inter Club Cricket Tournament on Monday at various Grounds

The highlights of the days play was brilliant Century by Osama Aftab 100 and some good bowling by Ghulam 4/36, M. Abid 4/52.

Airport Star c.c beat Pak Gymkhana by 5 Wickets. Pak Gymkhana 178 allout in 29. I overs. Obaid 67 8x4 2x6, Jamshed Khan 28, Rashid Khan 19, Irshad 18. S Asadullah (sla) 3/36, Muhammad Miskeen (ob) 3/36, Abid Shaikh 2/20.

In reply Airport Star c.c 180/5 in 33.5 overs. Asadullah 48 3x4, Mureed Abdul Haq 35, Abid Shaikh 25, Asad Ali Shah 21, Yasir Ibrahim 21. Rashid Khan 2/30, Habibullah 2/44.

In the 2nd Match Malir Muslim Sports beat Punjab c.c by 18 runs. Malir Muslim Sports 212/7 in 35 overs. Osama Aftab 100 15x4 2x6, Hafeez ul Haq 28, Ali Raza 23, Tabassum Hussain 21.

Muhammad Abid (sla) 4/52, Aliyan 2/18. In reply Punjab c.c 194 allout in 27 overs. Ubaid Ali 48 9x4, Saleem 31, Aliyan 23 not out, Zohaib Mughal 22. Ali Raza 2/16. In the 3rd Match Azeempura Gymkhana beat Young Pak Flag

c.c by 9 Wickets. Young Pak Flag c.c 128 allout in 28.3 overs. Ali Karwan 54 5x4 3x6, Shahryar 19. Ghulam 4/36, Mudassir 2/25. In reply Azeempura Gymkhana 133/1 in 16.3 overs. Mudassir 66 7x4 3x6, Ghulam 50 6x4 1x6 both not out.

#### Pak players moves in 3rd round of ITF Pakistan World Fr Tennis C'ship

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistani players moved into the 3rd round of the ITF Pakistan Ali Embroidery World Junior Tennis Championship J-30 (Leg-2)-



2025 here at the PTF-SDA Tennis Complex.

A large number of junior tennis players from around the world, including China, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Lithuania, Russia, Thailand, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the host nation, Pakistan, are participating in the tournament.

On the 2nd day, 5 Pakistani boys and 1 girl moved into the 3rd round of the Championships.

In Boys Singles Main draw 2nd Round: Timur Gordeev (RUS) beat Chanapat (THA) 7-5,6-3; Amir Mazari (PAK) beat Shehryar Anees (PAK) 6-0,6-3; Ahtesham Humayun (PAK) beat Zohaib Afzal Malik (PAK) 6-2,6-3; Mikaeel Ali Baig (PAK) beat Jun Woo Ye(KOR) 6-1,6-2; Abubakar Talha (PAK) beat Abdul Basit (PAK) 6-4,6-0; Muhammad Hassan Usmai (PAK) Ganuka Fernando (SRI) 7-5,6-3; Marsel Alexeyev (KAZ) beat Ippei Matsushima (JPN) 5-7,6-2(retd); Kristijonas Milasausjs (LTU) beat Inam Qadir (PAK)

In Girls Singles Main draw 2nd Round: Karolina Ligai (KAZ) beat Varvara Rubeatsova (RUS) 6-4,6-1; Yewon Lee (KOR) beat Polina (KAZ) 6-3,6-2; Amna Ali Qayum (PAK) beat Eyu Yoshida (JPN) 6-2,6-2; Zihan Feng(CHN) beat Soha Ali (PAK) 6-3,6-0; Serife Pelin Sari(TUR) beat Rania Busz(USA) 6-0,6-0; Ecrin Lal Yavuz (TUR) beat Praewa (THA) 6-0,6-1; Daria Bogacheva (RUS) beat Naimah Grant (GBR) 6-3,6-0; Deniz Cakil (TUR) beat Mingxi Qu(CHN) 6-4,6-3. The matches will start at 10am on Wednesday.

# Hendricks, Linde and Bosch guide South Africa to easy win over Pakistan

made a triumphant start to the he was caught for a duck. T20I series against the hosts Pakistan with a comprehensive after and could only manage two. 55-run victory here at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium on Tues-

Set a daunting 195-run target, Pakistan's batting line faltered and were bowled out for 139 in 18.1 overs.

Sahizbada Farhan and Saim Ayub provided a good start with a 31-run stand in 4.5 overs. Farhan was bowled after making 24 from being dropped for nought earlier in the innings.

Once Farhan departed, the home side's middle order. Babar Azam could do much on his

Salman Ali Agha followed him Consequently, the Green Shirts

were reduced to 3-43 in 7.2 overs. Following the early hiccups, Saim then partnered with Usman Khan for a 39-run partnership. The duo's brief stand somehow

managed to arrest the slide. Pakistan were gaining momentum; however, Saim's wicket sparked a collapse that Pakistan could not recover from. 19, whereas Saim got going after The southpaw went back after scoring 37 from 28 balls, studded with a boundary and four sixes.

As a result, the home side Proteas bowler tore through the slumped to 89-7 in 12.5 overs and were bowled out for a mere score. For South Africa, Corbin Bosch

RAWALPINDI: South Africa return to the shorter format, as starred with the ball, scalping the aid of five cracking fours. four wickets in his quota of four overs. George Linde was equally good with three wickets.

Earlier, Reeza Hendricks' 60 from 40 balls powered South Africa to a strong total.

Put in to bat, South Africa put on a strong batting display, racking up 194-9 in their 20

Openers Quinton de Kock and Reeza Hendricks were off to a flyer, posting 44 in just 3.5 overs. The former rolled back the clock with his elegant stroke play, while the latter rose to the occasion with fine shots.

The dangerous stand eventually culminated in the introduction of Saim Ayub, removing De Kock after scoring 23 off 12 with

Despite the wicket, the Proteas continued on their merry way with Tony de Zorzi taking Pakistani bowlers to the cleaners. The left-hander belted Naseem Shah and Abrar Ahmed for five fours and ended the powerplay with his side 74-1.

However, once Mohammad Nawaz was introduced into the attack, the scoring rate went down, and De Zorzi was stumped due to a clever piece of bowling. He made 33 from 16, striking five fours and a maximum. As a result, South Africa were 2-93 in 7.4 overs.

mounting pressure with an excellent bowling spell. He cut through the Proteas' middle

and allowed Pakistan to squeeze their scoring rate.

Mohammad Nawaz kept order, which pegged them back the innings together and struck

a half-century, with wickets tumbling around him. He hit However, Hendricks held five fours and a six in his knock.

For Pakistan, Mohammad Nawaz remained the standout bowler, picking up three wickets in his quota of four overs.

### PM Shehbaz met with Prisident WEF

RIYADH: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif met with World Economic Forum (WEF) President and CEO Børge



# Pakistan may join proposed Gaza force, says Israeli media

Reuters

Israeli media reports have claimed that Pakistan's military could be part of an international force proposed to stabi-lise Gaza following two years

According to Israeli outlets Ynet News and The Times of Israel, troops from Indonesia, Azerbaijan, and possibly Pakistan may be included in the multinational force.

Indonesia has already offered to contribute troops, while Azerbaijan has also expressed willingness to participate.

The reports said Israel's cabinet committee was briefed the proposed force would aim to coordinate humani-



renewed violence in the future. erences. However, Israeli prime in a closed-door session that minister Benjamin Netanyahu has made it clear that Israel will determine which tarian aid distribution, train countries' forces can join the

For instance, the participation of Turkish troops has eportedly been rejected.

Meanwhile, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister local police units, and prevent mission, citing specific pref-Rana Sanaullah has said that

if Pakistan were given a role in establishing peace and assisting Palestinians in Gaza, "nothing could be better than

Speaking to a private TV talk, he clarified that it was

his personal opinion and that he was unaware of any formal offer made to the government of Pakistan.

Rana Sanaullah added that Pakistan was among eight nations that had supported the idea of stabilising Gaza and ending "inappropriate military presence" in the region.

The reports further mentioned that the US administration — under President Donald Trump's 20-point plan — is working with Arab and other partners to quickly deploy a temporary International Stabilisation Force to help train local police and facilitate humanitarian relief

So far, there has been no official confirmation or announcement from Pakistan regarding any participation in the proposed mission.

# PM reaffirms Pakistan's readiness to strengthen ties with WEF network

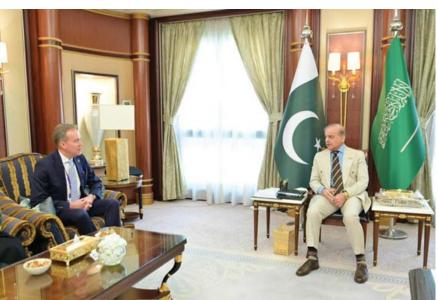
**№** News Desk

RIYADH: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, on Tuesday, appreciated the ongoing robust engagement between Pakistan and the World Economic Forum (WEF) and reaffirmed Pakistan's readiness to deepen its ties with the Forum's global business and innovation network.

The prime minister met with WEF President and CEO Borge Brende in Rivadh on the sidelines of the 9th Future Investment Initiative (FII)

The meeting was held at the WEF leadership's request, in order to formally invite the prime minister to the annual meeting of the WEF at Davos in January next year, PM Office Media Wing said in a press

In response to the invitation for the 2026 WEF annual



While exchanging views structural economic reforms

meeting, the prime minister on Pakistan's economy, the directed towards stabilization, said that Pakistan would be well prime minister highlighted represented at Davos next year. the government's deep rooted and digital transformation.

fiscal discipline, investment,

He expressed satisfaction

at the improved macro-economic indicators over the past 18 months, adding the focus would remain on export-led growth, public-private partnerships, and leveraging Pakistan's large youth workforce and growing IT sector.

The prime minister welcomed WEF partnership on resilient food systems, vital for Pakistan's agrarian economy, and emphasized the significance of peace as the path to prosperity.

He said Pakistan served as a vital bridge connecting South Asia, Central Asia, and the Middle East.

WEF President Borge Brende thanked the prime minister for Pakistan's active engagement with WEF and said that he looked forward to continued support from Pakistan in advancing a mutually beneficial partnership.

# Pakistan rubbishes **Indian claims of CIA-**Mossad meetings on Gaza troops deal

👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on Tuesday categorically denied reports by Indian media alleging that Pakistani officials held secret meetings with the United States' Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and Israel's Mossad to discuss sending troops to Gaza as part of a peacekeeping mission.

Indian outlets Firstpost and CNN-News 18 claimed that Paki-20,000 soldiers to Gaza following alleged meetings between Chief of Army Staff General Asim Munir and senior CIA and Mossad officials. supervision.



MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & **BROADCASTING** 

The reports further claimed that the stan was preparing to deploy up to mission would involve neutralising remaining Hamas elements, stabilising the enclave, and providing a "security umbrella" under Western

# CJCSC General Sahir calls on Bangladeshi Army Chief, discusses bilateral cooperation



**Spokesman Report** 

DHAKA: General Sahir Shamshad Mirza, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC), while on an official visit to the People's Republic of Bangladesh, called on General Waker-Uz-Zaman, Chief of Army Headquarters, Dhaka.

According to ISPR, during the neeting, both sides appreciated the positive trajectory of expanding divisive disinformation efforts across defence cooperation between the multiple platforms, recognizing them two countries and agreed to main- as a common concern. They reaftain regular exchange visits at various firmed the need to enhance coopertiers of military leadership.

The two dignitaries discussed the counter these threats.

evolving global and regional security environment and underscored the importance of further strengthening bilateral cooperation between the Armed Forces of Pakistan and Bangladesh.

The discussions covered areas including training, joint exercises, Staff of Bangladesh Army at Army and sharing of experiences in counter-terrorism.

Both sides also noted the emerging challenges posed by disruptive ar ation and joint efforts to effectively

# Pakistan expresses solidarity with Turkiye after 6.1 magnitude earthquake



B City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Tuesday expressed solidarity with the people swiftly and with resilience," he of Turkiye as a 6.1 magnitude earth- remarked.

quake struck Sindirgi district in western Turkiye's Balikesir province late

"Pakistan stands in full solidarity with the people of Turkiye following the 6.1 magnitude earthquake," Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Ishaq Dar wrote on his X timeline.

He said that Pakistan stood ready to extend humanitarian assistance and aid in search and rescue efforts.

"Our prayers are with all those affected. May the region recover

# CM Maryam orders FIRs against those renting property to illegal Afghans

👺 Bureau Report

LAHORE: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, chairing the sixth consecutive meeting on law and order, has ordered registration of criminal cases against individuals renting out property to illegal Afghan nationals and other undocumented foreigners in the province.

The meeting decided that patwaris, numberdars, and Station House Officers (SHOs) will be held responsible for reporting any property rented to such individuals.

Daily reports on rented properties, including houses, shops, factories, hotels, and petrol pumps, have been

sought from all districts. It was further directed that



be conducted to locate and document foreigners residing in Punjab without valid visas or residence permits.

The chief minister ordered strict announcements be made in mosques legal action against foreigners working

centres have been established across as against employers hiring them. Officials briefed the meeting that five

Khanewal for renting out properties to illegal Afghan residents. According to the briefing, 45 holding Afghans.

Punjab to accommodate Afghan nationals, with arrangements for food FIRs have already been registered in and transport to the Torkham border. Facial recognition technology is also being used to identify undocumented

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## **Karachi Customs Seizes** Rs. 114 Million in Narcotics Smuggled via **International Mail**

**Example 2** Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Pakistan Customs at the Jinnah International Airport, Karachi successfully foiled two attempts of smuggling drugs into Pakistan worth Rs. 114 million through International Mail Office, Karachi.

In the first case, 1.69 Kg Marijuana worth Rs. 52 million was detected. The parcel contained declared description as 'Amulets' and it arrived from Thailand.

Whereas, in the second case, 1,945 MDMA (Ecstasy) pills worth Rs. 62 million were detected from a parcel of 'Vacuum Cleaner' which arrived from Belgium.

The surge in global e-commerce has significantly increased the volume of goods crossing borders. With that growth comes heightened risk, as criminal networks and individuals increasingly attempt to exploit mail system for drug trafficking.

Effective performance of Pakistan Customs officers and officials continues to result in the interception of significant quantities of illicit drugs, preventing harm before it reaches communities.

Pakistan Customs remains committed to strict vigilance against narcotics smuggling through any means including international mail.