Barkat Rice Mills (Pvt) Limited



PM Shehbaz returns after key visit to Saudi Arabia

During the visit, the prime minister met with Saudi Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman, and the two leaders agreed to launch a comprehensive Economic Cooperation Framework aimed at taking Pakistan-Saudi Arabia relations to a new level of strategic economic



Petrol prices likely to rise by up to Rs2.50 per litre from November 1

According to sources, the Oil and Gas Regulatory Aut (OGRA) has prepared a summary proposing adjustme petroleum product prices due to fluctuations and uncertai

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Jamadi-ul-Awwal 7, Thursday, October 30, 2025









Daily Spokesman Vol: 19, Issue: 194 Price Rs. 25.00 Pages 8

fegotiation meeting DOHA, Qatar: Afghan Defence Minister, Mullah Mohammad Yaqoob Mujahid and Pakistan's Defence Minister, Khawaja Muhammad Asif during a negotiation meeting mediated by Qatar and Turkey on Wednesday.

Minister Tarar confirmed

Pakistan-Afghanistan peace talks collapse due to Taliban's stubbornness

Agencies

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan on Wednesday confirmed that the latest round of negotiations for a lasting truce with Afghanistan had "failed to bring about would take steps to protect its

Pakistan and Afghanistan have been holding talks in Tarar said: "Regrettably, the Istanbul aimed at securing peace Afghan side gave no assurafter the South Asian neigh- ances, kept deviating from the bours' deadliest border clashes core issue and resorted to blame

The violence, which killed more than 70 people and wounded hundreds, erupted following series of terrorist attacks inside Pakistan.

In a post on X platform a workable solution", warning it after four-day marathon talks brokered by Qatar and Turkey, Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah

game, deflection and ruses."

"The dialogue thus failed to bring about any workable solution," the minister added.

The minister said that Pakistan had repeatedly engaged with the Afghan Taliban regarding cross-border "persistent terrorism" by Indian-abetted Fitna al-Khwarij and Indian proxy Fitna al-Hindustan.

Tarar said Pakistan engaged of peace, but accused Kabul of

kistan terrorists".

"We will continue to take all possible measures necessary to protect our people from the menace of terrorism," he added, vowing to "decimate the terrorists, their sanctuaries, their abetters and supporters".

"The Afghan Taliban regime have been asked time and again to fulfil their written commit-"unabated support to anti-Pa- Pakistan's fervent efforts proved people of Afghanistan.

futile due to the Afghan Taliban regime's unabated support to anti-Pakistan terrorists," he said.

"Since the Taliban regime bears no responsibility towards the people of Afghanistan and thrives on a war economy, it desires to drag and mire the Afghan people into a needless war," he said.

The minister asserted that ments to Pakistan and to the Pakistan had always desired, with Afghanistan in the spirit international community in advocated, and sacrificed for the Doha Agreement. However, the peace and prosperity of the



跨 Abdul Majeed Tahir

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) has finalised Chaudhry Muham-

Chaudhry Yasin approved as new AJK Prime Minister by PPP leadership

and Kashmir (AJK), signalling a major in-house political shift in the region.

According to party sources, the central leadership has given formal approval for Yasin's appointment, with the decision announced during a meeting chaired by PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari.

tion of Prime Minister of Azad Jammu leaders of the PPP's AJK chapter.

Reports indicate that four names were under discussion for the prime ministerial post, including Chaudhry Yasin, Chaudhry Latif Akbar, Faisal Mumtaz Rathore, and Sardar Yaqub Khan. After consultations with party members and regional representatives, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari finalmad Yasin as its nominee for the posi- The meeting was attended by senior ised Chaudhry Yasin's name, reflecting government.

internal consensus within the PPP's ranks. The official announcement from the party is expected later tonight, sources added. Meanwhile, it is also being reported that a motion of no confidence is likely to be tabled in the AJK Legislative Assembly within the next 24 hours, marking the beginning of an anticipated change in

Pakistan condemns Israeli violations of Gaza peace deal

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has strongly condemned Israel's violations of the Gaza peace clear violation of international agreement, calling the latest attacks a blatant breach of concluded peace agreement, international law and recent the spokesperson emphasised, peace commitments.

Tahir Andrabi said in a statement that Pakistan "strongly denounces the renewed attacks by Israeli occupying forces in

Gaza," which have reportedly tional community to ensure an resulted in the deaths of several civilians.

These actions constitute a law as well as the recently warning that such aggression Foreign Office Spokesperson by Israeli forces risks undermining global efforts to achieve lasting peace and stability in the region.

Pakistan urged the interna-

immediate halt to Israeli violations of the ceasefire and called for accountability for those responsible for breaching the peace accord. Reaffirming its long-

standing stance, Pakistan reiterated its support for the establishment of an independent, viable, and contiguous State of Palestine based on the pre-June 1967 borders, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.



Iran offers to mediate between Pakistan and Afghanistan after Istanbul talks collapse



Spokesman Report

TEHRAN: Iran has offered to mediate between Pakistan and Afghanistan following the failure of recent peace talks in Istanbul, urging unity and dialogue among Muslim nations to address regional tensions.

The proposal was made during a meeting in Tehran between Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian and Mohsin Nagyi, where both shared security challenges.

According to Iranian media, Pezeshkian emphasized the importance of fostering "unity and brotherhood" among Muslim countries in the face of common threats. "We attach great importance to relations with Pakistan," he said, reiterating Iran's commitment to peace and cooperation in South Asia.

Nagvi welcomed Iran's readiness to facilitate dialogue Pakistan's Interior Minister between Islamabad and Kabul, saying Pakistan "values anv sides discussed strengthening constructive role that can help bilateral ties and tackling reduce regional tensions."

Khawaja Asif warns Taliban not to test Pakistan's resolve

ISLAMABAD: After talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan collapsed following days of border clashes, Defence Minister Khawaja Asif issued a sharp warning to the Taliban rulers in Kabul, telling them that if they wished to test Islamabad's resolve, they should do so "at

your own peril and doom". "We have borne your treachery and mockery for

reflect the devious and splintered mindset of Taliban regime".

Read more: Istanbul talks end in stalemate Pakistan announces operations to eliminate terrorists

"Let me assure them that Pakistan does not require to employ even a fraction of its full arsenal to completely obliterate the Taliban regime and push them back to the caves too long, but no more. Any for hiding. If they wish so,

the repeat of the scenes of their rout at Tora Bora with their tails between the legs would surely be a spectacle to watch for the people of the region."

Asif further accused

terrorist attack or any suicide Afghanistan into yet another bombing inside Pakistan shall give you the bitter taste of such misadventures. Be rest assured the war economy that sustains and test our resolve and capathem". bilities, if you wish so, at your own peril and doom," he posted

on X. The minister said Pakistan had engaged in talks to give peace a chance at the request of friendly countries, who had been repeatedly appealed

Taliban rulers of "blindly pushing conflict, just to retain its usurped rule and maintain

"Despite fully knowing their inherent limitations and hollowness of their war cries, they are beating the war drums to maintain their crumbling facade. If the Afghan Taliban regime is madly hellbent upon ruining Afghanistan and its to by the Kabul rulers, but innocent people once again "venomous statements by then so be it," he said.

Pakistan issues over 2,100 visas to Sikh pilgrims for Guru Nanak's birth anniversary

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan High Commission in New Delhi has issued visas to more than 2,100 Sikh pilgrims to participate in the upcoming celebrations marking the birth anniversary of Baba Guru Nanak

According to a statement from the High Commission, the visas have been granted stan and India.

under the framework of the Pakistan-India Protocol on Visits to Religious Shrines.

The celebrations will be held in Pakistan from November 4 to 13. Chargé d'Affaires Saad Warraich extended his best wishes to the Sikh pilgrims, expressing hope that their visit would strengthen the bonds of peace and religious harmony between the peoples of Paki-

President AJK condoles Sardar Muhammad Yaqub over his brother's demise



跨 Bureau Report

ISLAMABAD: President Azad death of Sardar Muhammad Hanif

Mahmood Chaudhry, has expressed President and Prime Minister of Azad president, while extending his hearthis profound grief and sorrow over the Jammu and Kashmir, Barrister Sultan Khan, the elder brother of former

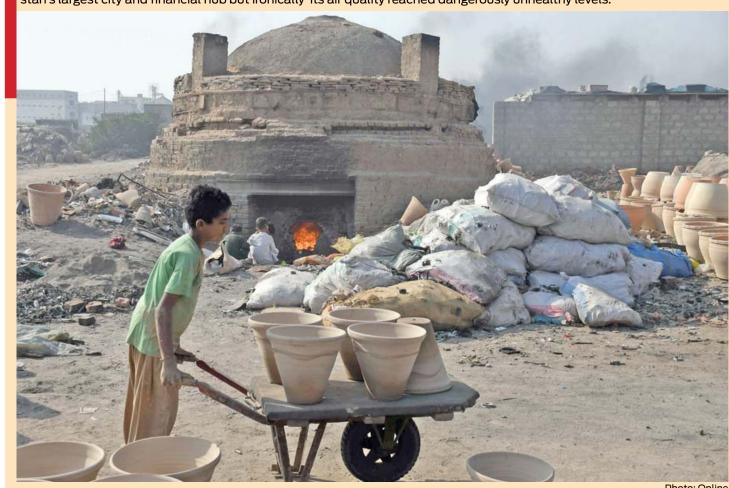
Kashmir Sardar Muhammad Yaqub

In his condolence message, the departed soul in eternal peace.

felt condolences to the bereaved family, prayed to Allah the almighty to rest the

Smoke

KARACHI: Smoke billows from factories while labor works at a pottery workshop as like a bricks kiln factories in the Pakistan's largest city and financial hub but ironically its air quality reached dangerously unhealthy levels.



Sardar Masood Khan reaffirms Kashmir's historic struggle

👺 Bureau Report

darkest day in the annals of the tragic history of Jammu and Kashmir. It is a stark reminder of India's ille- the world. gal invasion and occupation of the state in 1947 and its colonization and brutalization up to this day.

goes on 78 years down the record.

the United States, China, and the United Nations, while addressing a ISLAMABAD: October 27 is the multiple audience on the occasion of Black Day marked in Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan, and all around

His impassioned addresses underscored the historic injustices suffered by the people of Jammu and Kashmir Kashmiris have been denied the and urged renewed national commitright to self-determination, but their ment to Kashmiris' right to self-destruggle for freedom and liberty termination. Speaking to a large gathering of students, faculty and commu-These remarks were made by Sardar nity leaders, Ambassador Khan set Masood Khan, former President out a clear narrative of Kashmir's of Azad Jammu and Kashmir and modern history, warned against



Pakistan's former Ambassador to contemporary attempts to erase that record, and called on Pakistan's

youth and institutions to sustain an informed, disciplined and long-term movement in support of Kashmiri

Concluding on a note of resolve, Sardar Masood Khan affirmed Pakistan's continuing moral and political support for the Kashmiri people. "Azad Kashmir was founded in 1947 and its cause endures," he said. "Our duty is to keep the candle of justice burning — through scholarship, through steadfast diplomacy, and through the disciplined voice of our youth. The destiny of Kashmir is bound up with our own national purpose, and we will not relinquish it."

Maintaining 11% Interest Rate Will Hinder Industrial Growth: Zubair Tufail

跨 Bureau Report

KARACHI: President of the United Business Group (UBG), Zubair Tufail, has criticized the State Bank of Pakistan's decision to maintain the policy interest rate at 11 percent, terming it a major obstacle to the growth of domestic industry.

He said the business community has been consistently urging the central bank to bring the interest rate down to a single digit, but the demand has been ignored. "The rate has been maintained contrary to



deep concern among business circles," Tufail added.

He noted that inflation has largely been brought under control, and in this context, a reduction of 2 to 3 percent in the interest rate was expected. "Ignoring these facts and maintaining the rate is an unbeeconomic conditions," he remarked.

Tufail further stated that if the Monetary Policy Committee found or three percent, it should have at trial progress in Pakistan.

ground realities, which has created least announced a one percent cut to support industrial growth and generate employment opportuni-

"The country's industries are already under severe pressure due to unbearable electricity and gas tariffs, which have pushed up the cost of doing business. They can no lievable decision given the current longer sustain the burden of expensive borrowing," he warned.

Tufail concluded that the State Bank's move would discourage new it difficult to reduce the rate by two investment and slow down indus-

DC & DPO chaired consultative meeting to promote religious harmony

TOBATEK SINGH: Under the Peaceful Punjab Vision of Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif, a consultative meeting was held at the Committee from across the district Police Lines Toba Tek Singh to promote actively participated in the session. religious harmony and strengthen peace and security in the district.

The meeting was jointly chaired by law and order situation in the district.

Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas or hate speech. Strict legal action will Mela and District Police Officer (DPO) Ibadat Nisar.

Religious scholars (Ulema) and members of the District Peace During the meeting, a comprehensive discussion was held on the overall

and it is our collective responsibility to maintain it. Participants emphasized the promotion of religious tolerance, brotherhood and unity among all communities. It was unanimously decided that no individual or group will be allowed to engage in provocative in the district.

Mela said that the atmosphere of be taken against elements involved in peace in Toba Tek Singh is exemplary, spreading discord or unrest, said DC Umar Abbas Mela.

DPO Ibadat Nisar stated that provocative or violent behavior is against the national interest and that the police will continue all possible measures to ensure peace and harmony

A high-level meeting held, under the chairmanship PM



MUZAFFARABAD: A high-level meeting was held here today under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister, Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq. During the meeting, the Prime Minister received a detailed briefing on $tax\,collection, future\,targets, planning, and\,the\,challenges\,being\,faced.$ He was also apprised of matters related to food quality, flour distribution, allocation, basic reserves, and inland revenue affairs. Speaking on the occasion, Prime Minister Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq reaffirmed his commitment to remain true to his oath. "As long as I hold authority, I will continue the mission of public service," he said, adding that practical measures have been taken to ensure the provision of health, education, and other basic necessities of life. "Improvements have been made in the food supply, quality, and distribution system," he noted. The meeting was attended by Most Senior Minister Col. (R) Wagar Ahmed Noor, Ministers Nisar Ansar Abdali and Chaudhry Azhar Sadiq, Senior Member Board of Revenue Sardar Zafar, Principal Secretary Sardar Zafar Mahmood, Secretary Food Sardar Sohail Azam, Chairman Inland Revenue Chaudhry Raqeeb, and other relevant officials.

Breast Cancer Awareness Seminar held at THQ Hospital Kamalia



Zafar Chishti

TOBA TEK SINGH: In connection with Breast Cancer Awareness Week, a special awareness seminar was organized under the auspices of the Tehsil Headquarters (THQ) Hospital Kamalia. The event was presided over by Assistant Commissioner Kamalia, Iqra Nasir, while Medical Superintendent (MS) THQ Hospital Dr. Adeel Arif addressed the participants on the importance of early diagnosis and awareness regarding this life-threatening disease. Dr. Adeel Arif stated that Pakistan ranks among the Asian countries with the highest rate of breast cancer. He revealed alarming statistics, noting that 109 women are diagnosed with breast cancer every 94 hours and approximately 40,000 women fall victim to this disease every year.

Addressing the seminar, Assistant Commissioner Iqra Nasir highlighted that spreading awareness about timely diagnosis of breast cancer is the need of the hour. She said the rising trend of cancer cases in Pakistan calls for a united and comprehensive campaign against the disease, ensuring active public participation. She urged the participants to disseminate the valuable information they gained from the seminar within their communities to help protect more lives through education and awareness.

Identity Pakistan successfully completed the "Initiate Identity" workshop

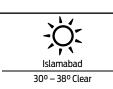


KARACHI: The initiative to create self-awareness among students studying in government schools in Lyari, to highlight their learning abilities that ease the difficult journey of the future, and to help them find effective career paths is commendable. These views were expressed by Solmaz Regi, founder of Identity Pakistan, while speaking at the "Initiate Identity" career counseling workshop held with Kiran Foundation at a government school in Lyari. She said that one of Identity Pakistan's efforts is to highlight educational activities among youth, aiming to empower students to move beyond their strengths, environment, and traditional paths to find better opportunities in the future. This workshop will boost the confidence of youth, enabling them to make better decisions to build a bright future according to

The special guest, Sindh High Court lawyer and social rights activist Fahad Baloch, said, "I work and struggle tirelessly for social rights and raise my voice in support of youth and vulnerable groups. I provide guidance regarding education and career to youth so they can turn their dreams into reality." His deep understanding and experience of social issues make him an influential and trustworthy leader. Fahad Baloch's services are a shining example of empowering youth and expanding their career opportunities.

Solmaz Regi's workshop has inspired new hope and courage among the students of Lyari. Those who shared their views included Abida Waheed, Vice Principal of Kiran Foundation. At the conclusion of the workshop, Identity Pakistan founder Solmaz Regi distributed certificates among the students and expressed gratitude to the participants.





SERV	ICES
Namaz [•]	Timings
Fajr	
Zohr	11:52 am
Asr	3:40 pm
Maghrib	5:18 pm
Isha	6:42 pm

EMERGENCY
Rescue (Police) 15
Bomb Disposal 15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/
Islamabad1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance 1122 8
& Rescue Services 4451122
Motorway Police9266044
Motorway Police 9270601-20

FNOUIRY

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

HOSPITALS

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

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

COMPLAINTS

G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8,9203883 G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 ..9266316 Wapda Islamabad......9217579-80 Sui Gas Complaint..... 119, 9272249

E-Challan Fines Fuel Financial *FearAmong* Karachi's Poorest, Says Ghareeb Awam Party Chairman



👺 Bureau Report

KARACHI: Chairman of Pakistan Ghareeb Awam Party, Syed Arshad Hussain, has stated that the E-Challan System with its excessively high fines has become a symbol of financial fear and distress for Karachi's unemployed, poor, and middle-class citizens.

He said that, on the other hand, heavy traffic vehicles such as trucks, dumpers, and water tankers are freely plying on city roads without any fear, posing serious threats to the lives and property of citizens. Instead of controlling these vehicles, the authorities are inflicting mental and financial pain

upon the poor people. Syed Arshad Hussain urged the Government of Sindh to immediately review the anti-public actions of the traffic police and to abolish these unjustified and illogical fines, bringing them down to a reasonable and affordable level for the common citi-

Pak-EPA, ICT jointly demolishes polluting brick kilns in Islamabad in anti-smog operation

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: In a decisive move to combat air pollution and smog in Islamabad, the Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency Islamabad (Pak-EPA Islamabad) on Wednesday launched an extensive operation to demolish non-compliant and polluting traditional brick kilns operating without Zigzag Technology in the federal capital.

Climate Change and Environmental Muhammad Saleem Shaikh recalled that for the past few years, Pak-EPA and ICT authorities have repeatedly warned, summoned and issued closure orders to kiln owners if they did not convert to Zigzag Technologyan eco-friendly method that lowers heat-trapping carbon emissions from fuel burned in old-style brick kilns.

Despite multiple compliance opportunities, several kiln operators continued season has already set in."

illegal operations, prompting strict enforcement action, Mr. Shaikh said.

He also recalled that following a final public notice published in leading national newspapers earlier this month, kiln owners of traditional brick kilns in the capital city were given until October 20, 2025, to adopt Zigzag Technology or face demolition action. Any kilns found operating in violation beyond the deadline are now being demolished without further notice.

"The government has zero toler-Coordination Ministry Spokesperson ance for activities that endanger public health and the environment, said Muhammad Saleem Shaikh, Media Spokesperson for the Ministry of Climate Change & Environmental Coordination. "The demolition of non-compliant brick kilns reflects our unwavering commitment to implement environmental laws without discrimination and to ensure cleaner air for citizens, particularly as winter smog



erated that such operations are part quality, reduce particulate pollution, ronmental protection.

Meanwhile, Pak-EPA Islamabad's of a broader national anti-smog and support Pakistan's commitment Mr. Khalid Mehmood Chadhar reit- strategy designed to safeguard air to sustainable development and envi-

Flag hoisting ceremony

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Prime Minister's Youth Programme, Rana Mashhood Ahmad Khan along with Turkish Ambassador Dr. Irfan Nazir Oglu during the flag Hoisting ceremony at the Pakistan



Riphah Healthcare Services Leads Healthcare Support at Hajj & Umrah Exhibition

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Riphah Healthcare Services (RHS) reaffirmed its commitment to accessible and quality healthcare by serving as the Official Healthcare Partner at 3rd Pakistan Hajj & Umrah Exhibition 2025

As part of its ongoing mission to promote community health and preventive care, RHS established a fully equipped medical support setup, featuring a standby ambulance, first aid unit, and a qualified medical team to assist participants and visitors throughout the three-day



Additionally, the RHS dental team provided free dental checkups and consultations, benefiting over 220 visitors. The initiative reflects Riphah's dedication to serving the community beyond clinical settings, by bringing healthcare directly to people where it's needed most.

A spokesperson for Riphah Healthcare Services shared that "our participation underscores our belief in compassionate, accessible healthcare and our responsibility to extend medical support wherever it can make a difference."

Women's University Multan and KIPS Colleges Collaboration Seminar on "CŠS Competitive Exams Preparation 2025"



Quratul Ain Asim

MULTAN: The Department of Political Science and International Relations, The Women University Multan (WUM), in collaboration with KIPS Multan, organized an enlightening and highly productive Awareness Seminar on Preparation for Competitive Exams (CSS, PMS, FPSC, and PPSC), at Jinnah Hall, Kachehry Campus. The event served as an important academic and professional development initiative aimed at guiding aspiring students toward achieving success in Pakistan's most prestigious competitive examinations.

The seminar was graced by Prof. Dr. Kalsoom Pracha, Vice Chancellor of The Women University Multan, as Guest of Honour and Patron-in-Chief. The Chief Guests included Mr. Abdul Moeed Kanju, DC Customs, DSP Jaffar Bukhari, Police Headquarters Multan, Mr. Nasir Gill, Representative of Forman Christian College and University, Lahore.

Dr. Asma Akbar, the Focal Person of the event, expressed her gratitude to the Vice Chancellor for her continued encouragement and visionary leadership. She highlighted the significance of such academic collabo rations in bridging the gap between university learning and practical

Mr. Abdul Moeed Kanju, DSP Jaffar Bukhari and Mr. Nasir Gill also $discussed \, the \, academic \, and \, psychological \, preparation \, necessary \, to \, excel$ in national-level exams and appreciated WUM's commitment to women's higher education and empowerment.

Governor Punjab Appreciates Media Workers' role during meeting with Media Workers Organization Punjab delegation

Special Correspondent

MULTAN: A delegation of Media Workers Organization Punjab met with Governor Punjab Sardar Saleem Haider Khan. The delegation was led by Provincial President Naseeb Ali Tabsum. The delegation included Senior Vice President Shoaib Dhillon, Vice President Eiaz-ul-Hasan. General Secretary Adil Javed



Chaudhry, Information Secretary Muhammad Adnan Lodhi and

On this occasion, President Naseeb Ali Tabsum said that unlike journalists, media workers are not being provided any official privileges or facilities by the Punjab government, even though they are the backbone of newspapers and television channels. He emphasized that media workers should receive all the same facilities as journalists.

TVO Strengthens Community Resilience in Flood-Affected Districts

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: In the weeks following the devastating floods that struck parts of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the Trust for Voluntary Organizations (TVO) has emerged as one of the leading national actors providing rapid and targeted relief to families left stranded by the deluge.

The unprecedented monsoon season of 2025 brought flash floods, river overflows, and widespread destruction across the country, affecting homes, livelihoods, and community infrastructure. While many remote areas struggled to access formal aid, TVO swiftly mobilized its network of partner community-based organizations (CBOs) and NGOs to deliver life-saving assistance to the most underserved communities

relief operations reached 600 flood-affected families in five of the worst-hit districts: Swat (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa) and Muzaffargarh, Bahawalnagar, Multan, and Vehari (Punjab).

"These floods have tested the resilience of our people, but they have also shown the strength of community-led response," said Mr. Ghulam Mohyuddin, Chief Executive Officer, TVO.

"At TVO, we believe that recovery begins with dignity. Our mission was not only to provide food and hygiene supplies, but to stand beside families in their darkest hour, to reassure them that they are not forgotten. Through our partnerships with local organizations, we have reached places where no other assistance had arrived, reaffirming our commitment

In just couple of days, TVO's to inclusive, people-centered humanitarian action."

In Punjab, TVO's intervention spanned the worst-hit union councils of Muzaffargarh (Rungpur and Chak Farazi), Bahawalnagar (Mangher Sharif, Mehta Jhedu, and Jhedwan), Multan (Noraja Bhutta and Bait Kaij, Jalalpur Pirwala), and Vehari & Burewala (Farooque Abad and Sahuka)—regions where the surging Sutlej and Chenab rivers inundated villages, damaged agricultural land, and disrupted access to

basic services. In Swat's Babozai Union Council, local communities struggling with flash floods and landslides received the same lifesaving assistance, marking TVO's continued presence in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's most disaster-prone areas.



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Turkiye-KSA ties can help shape regional security, prosperity

he Turkish War of Independence, fought under the leadership of Mustafa Kemal Ataturk in the aftermath of the First World War, ended in an unprecedented victory, leading to the birth of the modern-day Republic

of Turkiye. On Wednesday, we celebrate the 102nd anniversary of the proclamation of the Republic of Turkiye. The young republic, deriving strength from its rich history and culture, as well as following its motto "Peace at home, peace abroad," took decisive steps toward a democratic, stable and prosperous Turkiye domestically and contributed to stability and peace in the region, as well as at the international level.

We are now in a period in which our nation seeks to rise among the major regional and international powers through development, innovation and strategic diplomacy, which we refer to as the "The Century of Turkiye."

However, we are also acutely aware of the challenges facing our region. Peace and security have been undermined and core principles of international law, including the protection of civilians in armed conflicts and the prohibition of the use of force, are increasingly disregarded by certain actors. These developments underscore the urgent need for enhanced cooperation between Turkiye and Saudi Arabia, two key regional actors sharing a commitment to peace, stability and interna-

Our countries share similar perspectives on numerous regional issues, such as the implementation of the two-state solution, reconstruction of Syria, maritime security in the Red Sea, and mediation between the conflicting sides in Sudan. We have a strong common ground on upholding principles of respect for sovereignty and good neighborliness, along with promoting dialogue and diplomacy, to achieve peace and security in the Middle East.

Both our nations recognize that a two-state solution remains the only viable path to lasting peace in Palestine and, together, they engage with the Islamic world to counter aggression against Muslim nations, particularly in the Middle East.

Recent diplomatic engagements highlight this alignment. The Arab League-Organization of Islamic Cooperation joint summit in Doha last month provided an important platform for dialogue. During the summit, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan met with Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to discuss bilateral relations and regional issues

Turkiye has actively participated in the High-Level International Conference on the Implementation of the Two-State Solution, co-organized by Saudi Arabia and France on the sidelines of the 80th UN General Assembly session, as well as the Global Alliance for the Implementation of the Two-State Solution. Bilateral meetings, including discussions between Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan and his Saudi counterpart Prince Faisal bin Farhan, have further reinforced coordination at international forums such as the Munich Security Conference.

Real Story Behind Pakistan-Afghanistan **Tensions Over TTP**

Syed Munir Ahmed

regarding the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) remains deeply uncertain, and increasingly urgent, as cross-border militancy continues to shape the strategic environment between the two neighbours. For Pakistan, the issue is straightforward: Afghan soil must not serve as a sanctuary for a group that has waged a relentless insurgency against Pakistan. For Kabul, the matter is far less simple, layered with ideological affinities, tribal linkages, internal political pressures and historical grievances that constrain its ability, and in some cases willingness to take decisive action.

Pakistan's position has hardened over the past two years, particularly in response to a notable rise in TTP attacks. Islamabad views the Afghan Taliban's takeover in 2021 as a turning point that inadvertently empowered the TTP, providing them with space, resources and psychological momentum. The pattern is visible: a spike in ambushes, targeted killings, attacks on security forces and crossborder infiltrations. Islamabad argues that these operations are orchestrated from inside Afghanistan, often with the knowledge of local commanders who either sympathise with the TTP or lack the capacity to restrain them. Pakistan's national security establishment sees this as an intolerable situation — one that violates the basic principle of good-faith neighbourly conduct.

This internal complexity makes it difficult for the Afghan leadership to is the unresolved issue of the Durand simply accept Pakistan's demands, Line. Afghanistan's refusal to formally

he question of whether from the standpoint of international has practical consequences for border goods. Islamabad could tie progress on Afghanistan will eventu- law and bilateral security norms. Still, ally accept Pakistan's stance Pakistan believes that Kabul must rise and counter-infiltration operations. above internal considerations and act as a responsible state actor. Islamabad accept cross-border attacks as a "tribal problem" or an unavoidable by-product

> of regional geography. For Pakistan, whose security forces have paid an extraordinarily high price in lives and resources, the expectation is clear: Afghanistan must prevent its territory from being used against Pakistan, with verifiable steps rather than symbolic statements.

The Istanbul talks earlier this year crystallised this problem. Pakistan entered the discussions with concrete proposals, including dismantling known TTP camps, handing over key TTP figures, and instituting joint border-monitoring mechanisms. But Afghan negotiators reportedly refrained from making firm commitments, repeatedly referring decisions back to Kabul. Pakistani participants privately described the Afghan stance as evasive — a sign that Kabul was unwilling or unable to confront the TTP issue at the level Pakistan expects. The talks ended without a breakthrough, prompting Islamabad to warn that its "patience has run its course" — a signal that Pakistan may consider unilateral

action if diplomacy stalls indefinitely. Another layer complicating acceptance no matter how justified they may be recognise the border is not symbolic; it

management, intelligence cooperation From Pakistan's view, the border is internationally recognised and non-neinsists that no sovereign country can gotiable, and its fencing, monitoring, and enforcement are indispensable for national security. Kabul's rhetor-

ical ambiguity on the Durand Line undermines cooperation and fuels mistrust, making Pakistan less confident that Afghanistan will adopt the strict border controls necessary to curb TTP movement.

Pakistan must therefore operate on dual

tracks. A firm diplomacy paired with credible leverage. While Pakistan does not seek escalation, it cannot allow the status quo to persist. The state must retain the capacity to apply calibrated pressure, including political, economic and military tools, to convey that the TTP issue is not a matter that can be indefinitely postponed. However, Pakistan also understands the risks of an unrestrained kinetic approach. Airstrikes alone cannot resolve an insurgency rooted inside another sovereign state. Any military pressure must be carefully synchronised with diplomatic engagement and third-party mediation, possibly led by Qatar, Turkey or China, to prevent escalation into open conflict.

Even so, Pakistan is not without incentives it can offer. Afghanistan today faces a dire economic environment with frozen assets, limited recognition and humanitarian strain. Pakistan remains a critical trade and transit route for Afghan

TTP dismantling to phased economic facilitation, streamlined border procedures, and broader diplomatic normalisation. A mutually beneficial framework could help recalibrate Kabul's calculations. But such incentives make sense only if Afghanistan demonstrates verifiable steps such as reducing TTP crossborder operations, restricting leadership movement, and initiating a transparent monitoring mechanism.

Ultimately, the question of acceptance hinges on whether Kabul sees compliance with Pakistan's security demands as a strategic necessity rather than a political burden. Pakistan's argument is simple: peaceful coexistence is impossible while TTP militants attack Pakistan from Afghan soil. Afghanistan must make a clear choice between ambiguous tolerance and responsible state conduct. Pakistan cannot afford indefinite ambiguity.

For now, Afghanistan is unlikely to fully accept Pakistan's stance on the TTP. But partial convergence is possible if Pakistan pursues a patient yet firm strategy, combining pressure, incentives, and verifiable mechanisms. Pakistan's security concerns are legitimate, urgent and rooted in empirical reality. Unless Kabul acts decisively, Pakistan may be compelled to employ stronger measures. The window for a diplomatic solution remains open, but narrower than ever, and closing rapidly if words do not translate into action.

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Why the World Should Support Pakistan's Current Civil- Military Collaborative Model?

collaboration has redefined its security, and effective governance between elected civilian leadership and the military. This framework replaces historical like Zarb-e-Azb and Radd-ul-Fasaad, acceler-

ated post-conflict development, and ensured the smooth execution of key projects such as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). The unified approach has improved foreign policy consistency—particularly on the Kashmir issue and deepened Pakistan's relations with China, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, and Western powers.

Domestically, it has advanced governance, economic resilience, public trust, and technological progress through joint institutions and policy planning. By balancing democratic legitimacy with military efficiency, the model allows Pakistan to act with coherence at home and abroad, while its continued success depends on transparency, constitutional adherence, and mutual commitment to national interests.

Therefore, rather than resorting to unproductive external pressure or maintaining a counterproductive narrative of inherent distrust, the international community should prioritize constructive, strategic engagement with Pakistan. This essential engagement must necessarily include actively supporting all debt restructuring

akistan's modern civil-military efforts, providing crucial technology transfers for advanced green development initiatives, national course by creating stability, actively facilitating access to all relevant international markets, and ensuring unequivocally through a structured partnership fair treatment in all global financial institutions. A peaceful, economically stable Pakistan that is fully trusted and appropriately empowinstitutional conflicts with coordinated policy- ered to play a meaningful role in international making that has strengthened political stability, diplomacy is undeniably far more valuable to national security, and international credibility. It the world than a state that is constantly beset has enabled major counterterrorism operations by crippling internal crisis and suspicion. The very existence of the civil-military collaboration

has already successfully laid the necessary foundation for such a vital transformation. What is now fundamentally required is a coordinated external encouragement and cooperation—not a self-defeating isolation or the imposition of punitive meas-

Furthermore, the global

Abdul Basit Alvi community must openly and strategically acknowledge the stabilizing role Pakistan successfully plays in its immediate and volatile region. Its unique and crucial ability to act as a crucial mediator in complex Afghan peace processes, to carefully maintain balanced ties with both China and the West, and to effectively function as a consistent voice of moderation within the broader Islamic world, are all critical functions that can only be successfully carried out under a truly unified and stable governance model. The robust civil-military coordination ensures that Pakistan consistently speaks with one voice on all critical regional matters, thereby preventing debilitating mixed signals or embarrassing diplomatic backtracking. It also allows for a greater degree of force for global good.

which in turn fosters the development of more long-term partnerships and a deeper mutual trust with other states. The world must, therefore, unequivocally support Pakistan's current civil-military collaborative model as an absolutely vital pillar of global peace and stability. This specific and effective model has successfully ensured that the country's sensitive nuclear assets remain consistently in secure and responsible hands, has powerfully underpinned the nation's decisive and successful fight against the persistent threat of terrorism, and has meaningfully contributed to crucial regional and international cooperation in a variety of constructive ways. It has brought a necessary measure of internal stability, allowed for demonstrably coherent governance, and successfully created the necessary policy environment for Pakistan to effectively and constructively re-engage with the world on its own terms. At a time when complex global security challenges are increasingly and irrevocably transnational-ranging from the pervasive threats of terrorism and cybercrime to destructive economic disruption and profound environmental degradation-a stable, predictable, and peaceful Pakistan is not merely in the parochial interest of its own people, but is unequivocally in the interest of humanity at large. The international community must, therefore, fully recognize this fundamental strategic reality and respond accordingly: by actively building trust, offering tangible support, and strategically choosing engagement over exclusion. A strong, secure, and economically prosperous Pakistan, which is governed by a well-managed and collaborative civil-military framework, is, indeed, an effective and essential

internal consensus on all foreign policy decisions,

Parliamentary Diplomacy, Global Relations and New Frontiers of National Dignity...

becoming a place of national, regional and international diplovillage and become a part of it, friendships, tion, CPA, in which parliamentarians, speakers enmities, trade and wars have taken different and parliamentary secretariat staff from all over

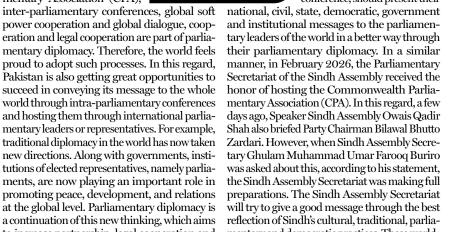
towards its goals in the context of diplomacy, the world was limited. Ever since diplomacy changed direction from monarchies to become a part of parliamentary government. Since then, parliamentary diplomacy has been born and has progressed rapidly. Processes like the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA),

inter-parliamentary conferences, global soft power cooperation and global dialogue, cooperation and legal cooperation are part of parliamentary diplomacy. Therefore, the world feels proud to adopt such processes. In this regard, Pakistan is also getting great opportunities to succeed in conveying its message to the whole world through intra-parliamentary conferences and hosting them through international parliamentary leaders or representatives. For example, traditional diplomacy in the world has now taken new directions. Along with governments, institutions of elected representatives, namely parliaments, are now playing an important role in promoting peace, development, and relations at the global level. Parliamentary diplomacy is to increase partnership, legal cooperation and mentary and democratic practices. These worldmutual trust between nations.

The November 2025 conference in Islamabad contribute to enhancing national, democratic, is a historic opportunity for Pakistan. With which and parliamentary prestige at the global level.

he world is currently rapidly it can represent its parliamentary thinking, democratic commitment and international responsibility to the world. Recently, a conference was macy. Ever since the world has held in Barbados, Pakistan under the auspices embraced the concept of a global of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Associa-

directions. When the whole world was working the world also participated. Representatives from the parliaments of all the provinces of Pakistan and representatives from the National Assembly also participated. It is reported that since the aforementioned conference will be hosted by the Senate of Pakistan in November 2025, Pakistani representatives, while handling the hosting duties through this Rehmatullah Buriro conference, should present their



class Conferences, hosting, and diplomacy can

President felicitates government, people of Turkiye on 102nd Republic Day

E City Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari has conveyed his heartfelt felicitations to the government and people of Turkiye on the occasion of the 102nd Republic Day of Türkiye, reaffirming Pakistan's steadfast solidarity with the coun-

He also expressed the confidence that the friendship between the two countries will continue to grow stronger in the years ahead.

"This day marks a defining moment in world history when the resilient Turkish nation, guided by the visionary leadership of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, embarked on a path of reform, progress, and renewal," the president said in his

tion with which the people of Türkiye inspire generations around the world. praised the heroic leadership of the progress, and prosperity," he added.



He said the courage and determina- shaped their destiny continue to Allama Iqbal and Quaid-e-Azam Republic of Türkiye with lasting peace,

people of Türkiye in the establishment of the Republic and the revolutionary reforms that made Türkiye an enviable nation in the comity of nations.

"For the people of Pakistan, Türkiye holds a special place in our hearts," President Zardari said adding that "the deep-rooted bonds between our two nations are anchored in shared history, faith, and mutual respect. In every difficult hour for both nations, we have stood together, unshaken and rock

"The institutional relationship with Türkiye in all spheres of life remains strong and vibrant, and I am sure it will develop exponentially as we march forward,"

"May Allah Almighty bless the

tapmad Strengthens Regional Presence Through Partnership with Robi Axiata in Bangladesh

Example 2 Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: tapmad, Pakistan's leading OTT streaming platform, continues its regional growth momentum by expanding into South Asia through a strategic partnership with Robi Axiata Limited, one of Bangladesh's top telecommunications operators. Having achieved remarkable success in Pakistan, tapmad now brings its premium live sports and entertainment experience to Bangladeshi audiences, marking a significant step in its South Asian expansion journey.

The partnership enables Robi customers to enjoy uninterrupted access to tapmad's vast library of live and on-demand content, offering HD-quality streamin across devices. Subscrip- Robi's robust network with anytime, anywhere.



tapmad x robi

tions can be activated seam- tapmad's advanced streaming

Yassir Pasha, CEO of regional expansion. Banglessly through mobile balance technology to ensure smooth, tapmad, said: "Our part- ladesh has a vibrant and reflects both global innovaor direct billing, combining high-definition playback nership with Robi marks passionate audience, and tion and local relevance."

we are excited to bring them closer to high-quality sports and entertainment through a platform that is built around convenience, affordability, and superior experience."

Shawkat Quader Chowdhury, Head of Marketing at Robi Axiata PLC, shared:"We are delighted to collaborate with tapmad in making premium sports and entertainment experiences more accessible for our users.

Aly Rana, COO of tapmad, said: "Bangladesh represents an exciting opportunity for us to connect with a dynamic and growing digital audience.

Arif Adito, Business Development Manager, Bangladesh at tapmad, added: "This partnership enables us to reach and engage new audiences in Bangladesh by offering another milestone in tapmad's a high-quality, user-centric streaming experience that

On Turkish Republic Day, PM says bilateral ties entered new era of strategic partnership

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Wednesday said that the relations between Pakistan and Turkiye had entered a new era of strategic partnership under the "sagacious" guidance of Turkish President Recep Tayyip



The prime minister, who is currently on a three-day visit to Saudi Arabia, said in his message on the 102nd Republic Day of Turkiye being celebrated today, that the two countries were striving together to unlock the vast potential of the time-tested and enduring ties in all areas of

"On the auspicious occasion of the 102nd Republic Day of Turkiye, I join the people of Pakistan in extending our warmest felicitations to my dear brother President Erdogan and to the brotherly people of Turkiye," he wrote on his X timeline.

He said that over the decades, Turkiye's remarkable transformation $\,$ and economic resurgence under the bold and dynamic leadership of President Erdogan had earned global admiration.

"We take great pride in the accomplishments of our Turkish brothers and remain their steadfast partners in this journey of progress. Pakistan and Turkiye are united by bonds of faith, history, and fraternity that transcend geography and time," Prime Minister Shehbaz remarked.

Muslim Scholars, PCSW, WDD, and PODA Lead Discourse on *MarriageAge*



Bureau Report

LAHORE: The Punjab Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW), the Women Development Department (WDD), Government of Punjab, and Potohar Organization for Development Advocacy (PODA) jointly organized a consultative session on Marriage Age Legislations and

The event brought together international Muslim scholars and researchers from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Morocco, Nigeria, Oman, and Yemen, along with representatives from key provincial departments, including Law and Parliamentary Affairs, Women Protection Authority, Augaf Department, Baitul Maal, Social Welfare, Local Government and Community Development, Police, Punjab Safe City Authority, Health and Population Welfare, and Education. Lawyers, religious scholars, civil society representatives, persons with disabilities, and academicians also participated in the discussion.

The panellists shared effective practices from Muslim countries that have set 18 years and above as the minimum legal age of marriage for both girls and boys. They emphasized that emotional and physical maturity are equally essential for building a strong and healthy Ummah.

Amal Basha from Yemen, Andi Nur Faizah from Indonesia, Prof. Aziz Mechout from Morocco, Badar bin Salim bin Hamadan from Oman, Balarabe A. Haruna from Nigeria, and Saimum Reza Talukder from Bangladesh participated.

Eight Members of the Punjab Provincial Assembly — Uzma Kardar, Rushda Lodhi, Safia Saeed, Ms. Fatima, Ms. Nasreen, Ms. Mumtaz Sumbal Maalik Hussain, and former MPA Shameela Aslam — joined voices in advocating to raise the minimum age of marriage for girls to 18 years across Pakistan. They stressed that protecting vulnerable girls from early marriages is in line with Islamic principles of justice, gender equality and wellbeing. Secretary PCSW Ijaz Ahmed Joyia, Imam of Badshahi Mosque, Qari Muhammad Anis, also attended the consultation and extended his support to the cause, reaffirming that safeguarding girls' rights is a moral and religious responsibility.

S Groundwater Emergency

PIDE Unveils Roadmap to Avert Pakistan's Looming Water Collapse

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), in collaboration with the Planning Commission's RASTA initiative, organized a seminar titled "Pakistan's Groundwater Crisis: Policy Lessons and a Framework for Sustainable Resource Use" at PIDE. The session featured Mr. Nazam Magbool, Social Scientist and Project Manager at RASTA, as the keynote speaker, and was moderated by Dr. Muhammad Faisal Ali, Research Fellow at

Opening the seminar, Dr. Faisal emphasized Pakistan's alarming shift from a waterstressed to a water-scarce



nation, noting that per-capita water availability has dropped from over 5,000 cubic meters in 1947 to less than 1,000 today. He observed that while surface water scarcity and climate change dominate public debate, the depletion of groundwater-Pakistan's silent lifeline—

remains dangerously neglected. Water, he stressed, forms the foundation of civilization and food security, and its mismanagement threatens both human and economic survival.

Maqbool explained that Pakistan is among the most arid

only 494 millimeters of average annual rainfall. The Indus River system accounts for nearly 96 percent of the country's total water supply, with 78 percent originating outside Pakistan's borders. He highlighted that Pakistan possesses the world's fourth-largest aquifer and is the fourth-largest user of groundwater globally. The Indus Plain alone contains around 88,000 square kilometers of freshwater storage, equivalent to nearly 400 million acre-feet-about eighty times the capacity of all large dams combined. However, the country's extraction of 65 In his presentation, Mr. cubic kilometers of groundwater annually far exceeds its recharge rate of 55 cubic kilom-

deficit.

Mr. Magbool traced the historical evolution of groundwater use in Pakistan, explaining how colonial-era canal construction between 1870 and 1930 led to widespread waterlogging and salinity, prompting the 1960s Salinity Control and Reclamation Project, under which thousands of tubewells were installed. subsequent decades saw electricity subsidies and drought-driven policies fueling a massive expansion in tubewell installation—reaching over 1.5 million unregulated wells today, with no effective legal controls on extraction.

Highlighting the scale of the problem, he revealed that

countries in the world, receiving eters, creating a growing water 70 percent of Pakistan's urban systemic reform encompassing rural populations rely on unsafe Punjab and Sindh, while industrial and agricultural pollution continue to degrade groundwater quality. He further pointed out that Pakistan ranks second globally in groundwater stress within the Indus Basin, with Lahore alone losing three feet of groundwater annually.

solved in isolation but demands

and more than 80 percent of its governance, science, technology, and behavior. He urged drinking water sources, with the government to immediately nearly 60 million people exposed establish a National Groundto arsenic contamination. Over water Council, implement moni-4.5 million hectares of land have toring and recharge programs, been affected by salinity and and improve irrigation efficiency waterlogging, particularly in and pricing mechanisms. In the long run, he said, Pakistan must pursue inclusive, climate-resilient, and evidence-based water governance to ensure a secure future. Summarizing the discussion, Dr. Faisal Ali reiterated that the country must prioritize pricing, efficiency, recharge, and transport reforms in water Concluding his address, Mr. management, viewing ground-Maqbool asserted that Pakistan's water governance not merely as groundwater crisis cannot be a resource issue but as a pillar of national stability and security.

Coordinator General OIC-COMSTECH Highlights Science and Technology's Role in Sustainable Food Systems

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The International Conference and Training Workshop on "Food Systems Transformation for Climate Actions" (ICTW-FSTCA 2025) was inaugurated today at Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda, under the COMSTECH Forum on Environment and Ecosystem Restoration (CFEER). The event is jointly organized by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation's ic and Technological Cooperation (OIC-COMSTECH), the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO), and Makerere University, with in-kind support from the Islamic University in Uganda.

attending the inaugural session included H. E. Mr. Muhammad Hassan Wazir, High Commissioner of Pakistan to Uganda; H. E. Professor Barnabas Nawangwe, Vice Chancellor of Makerere University; Dr. Rosie Agoi, Secretary General of the Uganda National Commission for UNESCO/ICESCO; and Dr. M. Sharif, Advisor for Science and Technology at ICESCO.

Distinguished

In his inaugural address, Prof. Standing Committee on Scientif- Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary, Coordinator General OIC-COM-STECH, warmly welcomed participants from across the OIC region and beyond, commending Makerere University for hosting this important event. He noted that the workshop has partic-

guests ipation from more than twenty-seven OIC member and observer states, including Afghanistan, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, and several others. The event aims to strengthen knowledge exchange and collaboration on sustainable food systems. climate action, and agricultural

Prof. Choudhary highlighted that the training program focuses on key thematic areas such as biomimicry and eco-literacy, climate-smart agriculture, sustainable food systems, energy in agriculture, and nutrition and health. He emphasized the crucial role of science, technology, and

innovation in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

particularly those related to food security, environmental sustainability, and economic resilience. He further elaborated on the

establishment of the COMS-TECH Forum on Environment and Ecosystem Restoration

(CFEER) in 2022, which aims to for Sustainable Development, foster South-South and triangular and the UN Decade on Ecosystem cooperation among OIC member Restoration (2021–2030). states on climate change, biodiversity, the food-water-energy nexus, and ecosystem restoration. strengthening regional cooper-The forum operates within the framework of the Paris Climate

Prof. Choudhary reaffirmed ation and networking among Agreement, the UN 2030 Agenda technology, and innovation for

enhancing training and capacity-building programs, and developing adaptable solutions to meet challenges in climate change adaptation and ecosystem restoration. He also underlined COMSTECH's dedication to establishing partnerships and collaborative initiatives that can contribute to environmental protection and sustainable agricultural practices across the OIC region.

environmental sustainability.

The three-day conference and training workshop will continue until October 30, 2025, featuring COMSTECH's commitment to expert lectures, interactive discussions, and capacity-building sessions led by international stakeholders, promoting science, specialists in sustainable food systems and climate action.

Bull & Bears PSX 100-Share

'``' Index Fluctuation		
Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close	
158,465.05	160,101.02	
Day's High	Day's Low	
160,690.12	158,306.84	
Index Value	Change	
23,691,992,297	-1635.97	
Percentage	Time	
-1.02%	29 Oct, 2025 4:30 pm	
Europe: FT	SE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change	
9,756.14	+59.40	
	Time	
Percentage	Time	
Percentage +0.61%	Time 29 Oct, 4:35 pm GMT+1	
+0.61%	29 Oct, 4:35 pm	
+0.61%	29 Oct, 4:35 pm GMT+1	
+0.61% USA: Dow Jones	29 Oct, 4:35 pm GMT+1 Industrial Average	
+0.61% USA: Dow Jones Index Value	29 Oct, 4:35 pm GMT+1 Industrial Average Change	

	GIVIT-4	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		
Index Value	Change	
51,307.65	+1,088.47	
Percentage	Time	
+2.17%	29 Oct, 3:45 pm GMT+9	

Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	185.25	190.25
Bahrain Dinar	746.7	754.2
Canadian Dollar	205.5	212.5

Ourrency	Duying	Jeiling
Australian Dollar	185.25	190.25
Bahrain Dinar	746.7	754.2
Canadian Dollar	205.5	212.5
China Yuan	39.25	39.65
Danish Krone	43.75	44.15
Euro	331.85	335.35
Hong Kong Dollar	36.35	36.7
Indian Rupee	3.14	3.23
Japanese Yen	1.8762	1.9762
Kuwaiti Dinar	913.6	922.6
Malaysian Ringgit	66.35	66.95
NewZealand \$	160.5	162.5
Norwegians Krone	27.8	28.1
Omani Riyal	731.25	738.75
Qatari Riyal	76.85	77.55
Saudi Riyal	75.65	76.3
Singapore Dollar	216.95	221.7
Swedish Korona	29.65	29.95
Swiss Franc	352.6	355.35
Thai Bhat	8.45	8.60
U.A.E Dirham	76.85	77.85
UK Pound Sterling	380.9	383.9
US Dollar	282.65	282.75

CCPApproves PEL's Acquisition of Stakes in PKP **Group Companies**

Example 2 Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has approved three separate merger applications submitted by Petroleum Exploration (Private) Limited (PEL) for the acquisition of certain shareholdings in PKP Kirthar B. V., PKP Exploration II Limited, and PKP Kadanwari Limited from KUFPEC Pakistan Holdings B. V.

The approvals were granted after a comprehensive Phase-I review under Section 11 of the Competition Act, 2010, read with the Competition (Merger Control) Regulations, 2016. The CCP determined that the proposed transactions are not likely to result in the creation or strengthening of a dominant position in the upstream oil and gas exploration and production market of Pakistan.

The CCP's assessment found that the combined market share of PEL and the acquired entities remains minimal in oil and condensate production.

Rana Tanveer Chairs 49th Meeting of the Board of Governors of PARC

ISLAMABAD: Rana Tanveer Hussain, Federal Minister for National Food Security & Research (MNFS&R) and President, Board of Governors of Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC), chaired the 49th Meeting of the Board at PARC HQ's, Islamabad.

Federal Secretary for National Food Security and Research, Mr. Amir Mohyuddin, Chairman PARC Dr. Syed Murtaza Hassan Andrabi and all the members of the Board participated in the meeting.

At the occasion, Honorable Rana Tanveer Hussain welcomed all members of the PARC Board and commended Pakistan Agricultural Research Council for its leadership in advancing agricultural research across the country. The Federal Minister urged the PARC team to sustain their commitment to excellence and further deepen their engagement with farmers, researchers, and the broader scientific commu-

Chairman PARC, Dr. Syed Murtaza Hassan Andrabi, presented a detailed overview of the ongoing research endeavors in agricultural research and the achievements made in addressing administrative and financial



on newly initiated programs aimed at aligning technologies in agricultural machinery design, research with modern scientific paradigms; these programs include genomics-based improvement of livestock breeds, smart agri-

He also provided the Board with updates cultural practices, the application of advanced and the certification of organic agriculture for FY 2025-26

The meeting concluded with the Federal Minister expressing gratitude to all members

for their active participation and valuable practices. BoG also approved PARC budget input toward strengthening agricultural research and development in Pakistan.

Film Premiere

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister For Board of Investment Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh attended Film Premiere organised by China Media Group (CMG), in collaboration with Embassy of the People's Republic of China, on Wednesday, in NUST University,



Kaspersky identifies cyberespionage campaign targeting government

ISLAMABAD: Kaspersky's Global Research and Analysis Team (GReAT) have uncovered an ongoing cyberespionage PassiveNeuron campaign, that targets Windows Server systems in government, financial and industrial organizations across Asia, Africa and Latin America. The activity has been observed since December 2024 and continued through August 2025.

After six months of inactivity, Passive-Neuron has resumed operations, using three main tools-two of which were previously unknown-to gain and maintain access to targeted networks. These tools are: Neursite, a modular backdoor; NeuralExecutor, a. NET-based implant; Cobalt Strike, a penetration testing framework often used by threat actors.

"PassiveNeuron stands out for its focus on compromising servers, which are often the backbone of organizational networks," said Georgy Kucherin, Security Researcher at GReAT, Kaspersky. "Servers exposed to the Internet are particularly attractive targets for advanced persistent threat



host can provide access to critical systems. It is therefore essential to minimize the attack surface related to them and continuously monitor server applications to detect and stop potential infections."

The Neursite backdoor can collect system information, manage running multiple communication methods and can processes and route network traffic through compromised hosts, enabling from its command-and-control server.

(APT) groups, as a single compromised lateral movement within a network. Samples were found communicating with both external command-and-control servers and compromised internal

NeuralExecutor is designed to deliver additional payloads. The implant supports load and execute. NET assemblies received

Customs foils major attempt to smuggle 'methadone'

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: The Customs Appraisement Collectorate, Taftan, under the Office of the Chief Collector of Customs (Appraisement), Balochistan, has successfully foiled an attempt to clandestinely remove from Taftan Border Terminal a massive quantity of Methadone Hydrochloride tablets, classified as a highrisk drug of abuse.

During a surprise inspection, Customs officers at activity around a container. On inspection, officers recovapproximately 11.16 million Methadone Hydrochloride tablets (40 mg each) of 446 million.

into a private vehicle. He any other individual (s).

confessed that the controlled substance belonged to one Haji Amanullah, a Taftanbased importer already facing charges of mis-declaration and customs fraud. Another accomplice, identified as Asim, managed to escape.

Methadone is listed under Schedule II of the Control of Narcotic Substances (Regulation of Drugs of Abuse, Controlled Chemicals, Equipment and Materials) Rules, 2001, and its import is strictly regulated through Taftan observed suspicious a No Objection Certificate (NOC) issued by the Ministry of Narcotics Control on the ered 620 cartons containing recommendation of the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP).

An FIR has been lodged Iranian origin, with an esti- under relevant provisions mated market value of PKR of the Control of Narcotic Substances Act, 1997. Inves-One individual, Sikandar tigations are underway to Hayat, was arrested from apprehend the remaining the spot while attempting accused and to determine to transfer the consignment the possible involvement of

Multan Chamber President slams Roshan Electricity Package as Inadequate for Industry

👺 Kiran Asim

MULTAN: The President Bakhtawar Tanveer

Sheikh, has said that

the Government's recently announced Roshan Maeeshat Electricity Package fails to address the core prob- Cents per Unit of electricity, lems of the industrial sector, while other countries in the as it provides no real relief for existing or operational indus-

Mian Bakhtawar Tanveer Sheikh further said that high electricity prices have become the biggest burden on the and overall business activity.

He emphasized that the economy needs not shortterm announcements but of the Multan Chamber of long-term reforms, affordable Commerce & Industry, Mian energy, and consistent poli-

> He questioned how Pakistan's industries can remain competitive when they are paying more than 12 region are getting energy at

Mian Bakhtawar Tanveer Sheikh urged the government to immediately fulfill its commitment of reducing the tariff to 9 Cents per Unit and economy, adversely affecting to present a clear roadmap for production, employment, a substantial and permanent reduction in electricity rates.

half the price.

Bank Alfalah Pledges PKR 14.6 Million to Support Breast Cancer Patients

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Bank Alfalah has pledged PKR 14.6 million to fund treatment for 37 breast cancer patients, strengthening its partnership with Indus Hospital and Health Network and Cancer Foundation Hospital. The contribution will support diagnostics, surgery, and medical care at two leading non-profit institutions that cater to thousands of vulnerable patients each year.

"By empowering our colleagues with knowledge for early detection and standing with those already fighting this disease, we aim to build a culture of support and empathy," said Madiha Javed Qureshi, Head of



at Bank Alfalah. "Our efforts extend ents through its insurance partner from our workforce to the broader community.

Bank Alfalah is also offering subsi-Corporate Communications and CSR female employees and their dependings.

Chughtai Lab. Throughout October, the Bank's Head Office will be illuminated in pink to highlight the impordized mammography services for its tance of awareness and timely screen-

Google Hosts Think Apps 2025 to Empower Pakistan's Developers Through AI Innovation

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Google hosted Think Apps 2025 in Lahore gence (AI) to drive innova- ating millions of global nesses. By providing access on 23 October, bringing together more than 400 of Pakistan's top developers, alongside global and regional industry leaders and

on empowering developers to harness Artificial Intellibility in Pakistan's expanding app industry.

experts. As the biggest app est-growing



who are collectively generand gaming event of the year communities. This is evident commitment to helping tion coming from Pakistan."

for the industry, it focused in the remarkable success of these developers harness the many leading local studios power of AI to build globally tion, growth, and sustaina- downloads and contrib- to our tools, insights, and uting to the nation's digital training, we aim to unlock export," said Farhan S. new economic opportu-"Pakistan is home to Qureshi, Country Director, nities, strengthen digital one of the world's fast- Google Pakistan. "Think exports, and support the developer Apps 2025 reaffirms our next generation of innova-

Secretary Sports Muzaffar Khan Sial orders effective measures to improve the performance of coaches

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Muzaffar Khan Sial has directed the officials concerned to take effective measures to improve the performance of all coaches belonging to various games. He issued these directions while chairing an important meeting at the Punjab Stadium on Wednesday.

The important meeting was convened to review the performance of all provincial and divisional coaches working under Punjab Sports Department. Besides this, the utilization and rates of various sports facilities and academies of Sports Board Punjab were also reviewed in the meeting.

Director Admin Abid Shaukat, Director Sports Rana Nadeem Anjum, Assistant Director Bilal Akram, Chief Sports Consultant Hafeez Bhatti and

other officials participated in the meeting. Director Admin Abid Shaukat and in SBP Cricket Academy.



Director Sports Rana Nadeem Anjum briefed the meeting about the given agenda. They informed the meeting that there are 849 registered members in state-of-the-art Punjab Swimming Complex, 300 in NPSC Gymnasium Hall, 65 in Elite Training Centre and 50

Addressing the meeting, Secre- players in the ground". tary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Muzaffar Khan Sial said that coaches should fully focus on the improvement of they need to spend more time with the on regular basis," he added.

Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Muzaffar Khan Sial said that the always play an important role in the performance report of all provincial and best performance of athletes. "All coaches divisional coaches should be submitted regularly. "The performance and training their performance and for this purpose techniques of coaches will be monitored

Habib Bank Limited Shatters Records - Retains Title Sponsorship of Pakistan Super League

Asim Tanveer

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Super League (PSL) and Habib Bank Limited (HBL) today announced a major partnership renewal, confirming that the two forthcoming editions of Pakistan's biggest cricket brand shall be known as HBL PSL 11 and 12.

In a landmark deal, HBL exercised its right to match the Fair Market Value determined by an independent expert valuer for the Title Sponsorship of the forthcoming two editions of PSL.

This renewal further solidifies a decade-long association, as HBL has been the PSL's exclusive and proud title sponsor since the League's inception in 2016 and signifies HBL's enduring trust and investment in the PSL brand which continues to experience commer-

Since PSL 1, the value of Title Spon- 12. HBL's decision to continue their



sorship Rights has increased by 505%.

PSL CEO, Mr. Salman Naseer, said. We are absolutely delighted and extremely grateful to HBL for extending their historic association with the Paki-

its strategic importance to the nation and recognises the league's position as the communities that the Bank serves." one of the world's leading T20 cricket

"HBL has been more than a sponsor; the journey to develop and showcase the best of Pakistan cricket to the world. We look forward to working closely with them to make the next two seasons our most successful yet."

Commenting on the partnership, & Transformation Officer - HBL said endeavors. "HBL is pleased to renew its commitment as a Title Sponsor to Pakistan Cricket Board's (PCB) flagship plat-2027. The Bank remains committed HBL PSL on the global stage.

phenomenal journey with the PSL is to amplifying the success of this toura powerful statement of confidence in nament, ensuring the HBLPSL remains the league's immense commercial value, a platform that inspires the youth of our cricket loving nation and support

HBL Chief Marketing & Communications Officer, Mr. Ali Habib, added "The HBL PSL has evolved into a they have been a dedicated partner in powerhouse brand and a national institution. Our decision to extend the title sponsorship reflects HBL's core philosophy of 'enabling dreams'-a promise delivered through the PSL platform by launching numerous national and international stars. HBL has and always Abrar Ahmed Mir, Chief Information will support and nourish national

As the proud title sponsor, we are dedicated to supporting the PCB in delivering the most exciting and worldform, the HBL Pakistan Super League class cricketing experience in 2026 and stan Super League for HBL PSL 11 and (HBL PSL) for two more years till 2027, further elevating the stature of

Medicam Trophy Under-19 Inter Zonal Cricket Tournament

Brilliant Century by Rehmatullah 105 and deadly bowling by Huzaifa Bin Sajid 5/27

Sports Desk

KARACHI: Due to Brilliant Century 105 by Rehmatullah Zone-VI Blues Qualify for Semi Final after beating Zone-III Blues by 22 runs in the Medicam Trophy Under-19 Inter Zonal Cricket Tourna-

ment at KCCA Stadium. The Tournament is being organized by Regional Cricket Association Karachi with the collaboration of Medicam Group of Companies.

Scores in Brief:

Zone-VI Blues 205/9 in 40 overs. Rehmat ullah 105 12x4 2x6, Abdullah Masood 32, M. Torab 17. Amaan Ahmed (ob) 3/24, Abdul Hadi 2/27, Tahir Shah

In reply Zone-III Blues 183/7 in 40 overs. Amaan Ahmed 47 6x4 1x6, Muhammad Saqlain 44 4x4 not out,



Nawaid Al Ameen Member Tournament Committee give the Medicam Man of the beat Zone-V Whites by 9 Whites at Shahryar Asif 32, Prashnat Ravi 21. Later Match to Rehmat ullah of Zone-VI Blues. Landhi Gymkhana Ground. Zone-V

In the 2nd Match Zone-IV Whites

Whites 102 allout in 26.2 overs. Yousuf 22. Huzaifa Bin Sajid (sla) 5/27.

In reply Zone-IV Whites 103/1 in 8 overs. Ahmed Chotani 36, Aun Abbas 32 not out, Musa Azad 17 not out. After the end of the Match Huzaifa Bin Sajid received the Medicam Man of the Match Award from S. M. Asim, Vice president

In the 3rd Match Zone-II Blues vs Zone-IV Blues match ended in a Tie at Annu Bhai Park Ground. Zone-IV Blues 198 all-out in 37.4 overs. Efaz Khan 43, Ashar ullah 39, Jasir uddin 33, Rana Areeb Aftab 31, Abdullah 2/19.

In reply Zone-II Blues 198 allout in 37.4 overs. Umer Amir 69 7x4 5x6, Abdullah Waheed 65 7x4 2x6, Rehman Zaib 32. Arshman Riaz (sla) 4/51, Saifullah Afridi (mf) 3/42. Later Abdullah Waheed received the Medicam Man of the Match Award.

Miakeel, Amir, Ahtesham moves in ITF World Jr Tennis C'ship semis

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Miakeel Ali Baig, Amir Mazari and Ahtesham Humayun have qualified for the boys' singles semifinals 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 this prestigious tournament.

In the boys' singles, Miakeel, Amir and Ahtesham of Pakistan won their matches and qualified for the semifinals. For the first time in history, four Pakistani teams moved into the semifinals of the Boys



Mazari(PAK) beat Timur Gordeev (RUS) 2-6,6-2,6-2; Ahtesham Humayun (PAK) beat Marsel Alexevev (KAZ) 6-0,6-3; Mikaeel Ali Baig(PAK) beat Muhammad Hassan Usamni (PAK) 6-3,6-2; Kristi-In boys singles quarterfinals: Amir jonas Milasausis (LTU) beat Abubakat

Talha (PAK) 5-7,2-0 (retd). In girls singles quarterfinals: Ecrin Lal

Yavuz (TUR) beat Zihan Feng (CHN) 6-1,2-0 (retd); Karolina Ligai (KAZ) beat Amna Ali Qayum (PAK) 6-0,6-0; Serife beat Eyu Yoshida (JPN) Parawera Pelin Sari(TUR) beat Daria Bogacheva

(RUS) 3-6,6-4,6-1; Deniz Cakil (TUR) beat Yewon Lee (KOR) 6-2,7-5.

In boys doubles quarterfinals: Mikaeel Ali Baig (PAK), Timur Gordeev (RUS) beat Muhammad Yahya (PAK) Theerapat (THA) 6-1,6-2; M. Hazia Asim, M. Hassan Usmani (PAK) w/o Ippei Matsushima (JPN), Kristijonas Milasausjs (LTU); Ahtesham Humayun, Hamza Roman (PAK) beat Nabeel Ali Qayum (PAK), Jun Woo Yee (KOR) 5-7,6-3(10-0); Abubakar Talha, Zohaib Afzal Malik (PAK) beat Shehryar Anees, Asad Zaman (PAK) 6-2,6-2.

In girls doubles quarterfinals: Zihan Feng (CHN), Serife Pelin Sari (TUR) beat Rania Busz (USA), Naimah Grant (GBR) 6-0,6-0; Polina (KAZ), Karolina Ligai (KAZ) beat Yewon Lee (KOR), Mingxi Qu (CHN) 6-3,6-2; Deniz Cakil (TUR), Ecrin Lal (TUR) (THA) 6-3,7-5.

NUST wins 46th HECAll Pakistan Inter-University Table Tennis Championship at HU Mansehra

➣ Sports Desk

MANSEHRA: The 46th All Pakistan Inter-University Table Tennis Championship, organized under the auspices of the Higher Education Commission (HEC), concluded successfully at Hazara

University Mansehra. Teams from universities across all four provinces of Pakistan participated in the event, showcasing



remarkable sportsmanship and competitive spirit.

In the singles category, NUST Islamabad clinched the first position, while Iqra University Karachi secured both second and third places.

In the doubles category, Iqra University Karachi took the first position, followed by IBA Karachi in second place.

A grand closing ceremony was held at Hazara University, where Vice Chancellor Professor Dr. Ikramullah Khan distributed trophies and cash prizes among the winning teams.

He lauded the efforts of the Director Sports, Syed Khalid Jalal Shah, and his organizing team for the excellent management and smooth conduct of the championship.

Speaking on the occasion, Vice Chancellor Dr. Ikramullah Khan emphasized the importance of sports in student life, stating that such activities not only foster healthy competition but also contribute significantly to mental and physical development. He expressed pride that Hazara University had the honor of hosting a national-level event under the HEC banner and reaffirmed the university's commitment to promoting sports and other healthy extracurricular activities in the future.

The successful conclusion of the championship was hailed as a milestone for Hazara University, reflecting its dedication to encouraging talent, teamwork, and the spirit of national unity through sports.

PCB Talent Hunt Programme for School Cricket (Karachi Region)

Sports Desk

KARACHI: Four more matches decided in the PCB Talent Hunt Programme for School Cricket (Karachi Region) on Tuesday at various Grounds of the City.

The highlights of the days play was brilliant Century 156 by Yousuf Masood and deadly bowling by Medium Pacer Shoaib Ali capturing 6 wickets for 17.

Beacon House School beat Bahria College and School by $6\,$ Wickets at NED University Ground. Bahria College and School 135 all-out in 34.5 overs. Moeez ur Rehman 27, Hanan Khan 19, Rehman Riaz 18. Mohib Nasir (rlb) 3/18, Arshman Khan

In reply Beacon House School 139/4 in 31 overs. Muhammad Shahzain 62 7x4 2x6, Nasir Khan 31. Syed Muslim Hassan 2/19, Hammad Siyyam 2/23.

In the 2nd Match

Ahmed Dawood School beat The Academy School by 111 runs at Jinnah College Ground. Ahmed Dawood School 176 allout in 32.5 overs. Zohaib Ali 55 6x4, Asghar Ali 32, Zameer Ahmed 25. Mohib Kashif 2/5, Nuwair Usmani 2/30.

In reply The Academy School 65 allout in 15.1 Adnan 21. Shoaib Ali (mf) 6/17, Imam Hasan (mf) 3/16.

In the 3rd Match Aga Khan School beat Alpha School by 4 Wickets. Alpha School 137 allout in 23.1 overs. Muhammad Azeem 51 10x4 1x6, Abdullah Chotani 27, Hassan Khan 22. Faizan Rauf (sla) 3/26, Afnan Nizam 2/18, Zayan Imran 2/54. In reply Aga Khan School 138/6 in 22.3 overs. Muzammil

Hasan 23, Afnan Nazim 19 not out. Abayan Shahid 2/54. In the 4th Match Nasara School beat GBSS Hajirabad by 176 runs at IBA University Ground. Nasara School 299 all-out in 35.2 overs. Yousuf Masood 156 17x4 5x6, Abdullah Dawood 21, Muhammad Yousuf 20. Shoaib Raheem 2/30, Ehtisham Sajjad 2/45, Shahid Abbasi 2/66.

In reply GBSS Hajirabad 103 all-out in 16.1 overs. Muhammad Rehan 25, Syed Abubakar 21. Owais Sohail (rlb) 4/31, Mirwais 2/10, Rehmat ullah 2/18.

Women's World Cup: Wolvaardt shatters multiple records with 169 against **England**

GUWAHATI: South Africa captain Laura Wolvaardt broke multiple records with her epic 169 from 143 balls against England in the first semi-final of the ICC Women's World

Put into bat first, the Proteas recorded a massive 319-run total in their 50 overs, courtesy of Wolvaardt's sublime knock.



Highest total for SA-W in ODI World Cups 319/7 against England in Guwahati, 2025 semi-final 312/9 against Pakistan in Colombo, 2025 305/9 against England in Bristol, 2017 275/7 against India in Christchurch, 2022

With the help of the skippers knock, South Africa outplayed England by a hefty margin of 125 runs to book a place in the final for the first time.

The 319 run total was South Africa's highest ever in World Cup matches. Moreover, it was also the second-highest total in a knockout match.

The skipper struck 20 fours and four maximums in her monumental knock, which made her the first women's player to score an ODI hundred in the knockout of the World Cup.

She has now scored the most half-centuries (12) in the marquee event, surpassing India's Mithali Raj's record of 11. Her 169 is also the second-best score by a captain in the women's ODI WC.

Highest individual scores in World Cup knockouts Harmanpreet Kaur – 171* against Australia, 2017 semi-final Alyssa Healy - 170 against England, 2022 final Laura Wolvaardt - 169 against England, 2025 semi-final

Nat Sciver-Brunt - 148* against Australia, 2022 final During her knock, she also crossed the 5000 runs mark and entered the list of batters with the most centuries in WODIs. Best Individual Innings in Women's World Cup

- 15 Meg Lanning (Australia)
- 14 Smriti Mandhana (India)
- 13 Suzie Bates (New Zealand) 12 - Tammy Beaumont (England)
- 10 Nat Sciver-Brunt (England) 10 - Laura Wolvaardt (South Africa)

Command & Staff Conference

ISLAMABAD: Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf presiding over the Command and Staff Conference held at



"Great guys"

Trump again praises PM Shehbaz, Field Marshal **Asim Munir**

Spokesman Report

GYEONGJU: US President Donald Trump has reiterated his claim of playing a crucial role in ending a four-day military conflict between Pakistan and India in May, praising Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Chief of the Army Staff Field Marshal Asim Munir for their efforts.

Speaking at a luncheon during the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit in Gyeongju, South Korea, Trump described the tense situation in detail. "I'm doing a trade deal with India, and I have great respect and love for Prime Minister Modi. We have a great relationship," he said.

Trump also highlighted Pakistan's leadership, calling PM Shehbaz "a great guy" and Field Marshal Munir "a great fighter". "They have a Field



said, emphasising the military capabilities and determination of both nations.

prevent escalation. "I said I Marshal. You know why he's was going to put 250% tariffs continued. a Field Marshal? He's a great on each country, which means

fighter. He really is," Trump that you'll never do business ... within 48 hours, we had no war, no people killed," he claimed. He described calling The US president revealed Modi and Pakistan's leaderhe threatened to impose 250% ship directly, warning that recounted how both sides tariffs on both countries to trade agreements would initially insisted they would not proceed if the fighting

According to Trump, the both contacted him to agree tion.

conflict saw seven aircraft shot down, including Indian Rafale iets. He referred to the two nations as "nuclear powers really going at it", and continue fighting. However, within two days, Trump said

to halt hostilities.

The May conflict was triggered by a terrorist attack on tourists in India-occupied Kashmir's Pahalgam area, which New Delhi claimed was backed by Pakistan. Islamabad denied involvement, calling India's account "replete with fabrications". Both countries used fighter jets, missiles, artillery and drones, resulting in dozens of casualties before a ceasefire was brokered on May 10.

Trump, while describing Modi as "nice looking" but "tough as hell", contrasted his own decisive approach with that of President Biden, suggesting the latter would not have prevented the war. The US leader repeatedly praised PM Shehbaz and Field Marshal Munir for their cooperation and strong leadership during the standoff, calling them "great people" and reaffirming his role in de-escala-

Army captain among six martyred as security forces foil terror plot in Kurram

👺 City Desk

RAWALIPNDI: Security forces on Wednesday carried out an intelligence-based operation (IBO) in the Dogar area of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's Kurram district following confirmed reports about the presence of militants linked to Fitna al Khwarij, an Indian-backed proxy group.

The operation led to the elimination of seven militants after a fierce exchange of fire between the troops and the hostile elements, according to Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR).

During the intense encounter, six soldiers, including a young officer, embraced martyrdom while 24 and a resident of Mianwali, breath.



served as a Medical Officer and was providing medical assistance while also engaging Captain Noman Saleem, aged fought valiantly until their last



laid down their lives include Havildar Amjad Ali (39, displaying exceptional courage. in combat. He and his team Swabi), Naik Waqas Ahmad Khairpur). Their sacrifices (36, Rawalpindi), Sepoy add to the long list of Paki-Aijaz Ali (23, Shikarpur), stan's security personnel who

The other five soldiers who Sepoy Muhammad Waleed (23, Jhelum), and Sepoy Muhammad Shahbaz (32, have given their lives in the line of duty.

Following the exchange, security forces launched a sanitisation operation in the area to clear any remaining threats. Authorities confirmed that the operation was part of the ongoing national counterterrorism drive under Azm-e-Istehkam, a strategy approved by the Federal Apex Committee on the National Action Plan.

The campaign, led jointly by Pakistan's security forces and law enforcement agencies, aims to eradicate terrorism and its foreign-backed networks. Officials stated that operations would continue with full intensity until all elements involved in such activities are neutralised, reaffirming the country's commitment to maintaining peace and stability.

will not renew," he told reporters at the regular noon briefing at UN Head-

quarters in New York on Tuesday. The

talks followed an earlier round in Doha

that produced a ceasefire on Oct. 19

after deadly border clashes between

the two sides. However, the ceasefire

was still holding, and no new clashes

were reported between Pakistan and

Afghanistan hours after the talks

The primary point of contention

was Pakistan's demand for the Afghan

Taliban to take decisive action against

the Tehrik-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP),

a terrorist group that Islamabad says

uses Afghan soil to launch attacks

inside Pakistani territory.

Pakistan Navy Command & Staff Conference Concludes

City Desk

Staff Conference of Pakistan Navy concluded at Naval Headquarters, Islamabad. The conference was chaired by Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Naveed Ashraf.

During the conference, Chief of the Naval Staff emphasized on the case Pakistan's maritime potential significance of sustaining perpetual combat readiness to effectively address both conventional and unconventional challenges in the sion-making forum of Pakistan Navy, maritime domain. He further highlighted Pakistan Navy's pivotal role in peace and stability and regional maritime security. Admiral asserted that Pakistan Navy remains fully prepared to uphold national sovereignty and naval capabilities with national secuensure the defence of every inch of rity objectives.

maritime frontiers.

The forum also undertook a ISLAMABAD: The Command & comprehensive review of operational preparedness, ongoing initiatives and upcoming events, including the conduct and preparations of the Pakistan International Maritime Expo and Conference (PIMEC), which serves as a premier platform to showand promote regional cooperation.

The Command and Staff Conference serves as the apex deciwherein the Chief of the Naval Staff, Principal Staff Officers and Field Commanders deliberate on strategic priorities, review operational preparedness and formulate policies to align

Emergency drill to be held at Islamabad International Airport today



Commerce Desk

will be conducted at Islamabad International Airport tomorrow (October 30) in line with international stand-visible at the airport on the day of the ards set by the International Civil exercise will be part of the drill, and Aviation Organisation (ICAO).

According to the Pakistan Airports Authority (PAA), the purpose of the exercise is to assess the operational readiness and response plans of various agencies.

The drill will simulate an aircraft crash scenario, with participation from rescue and medical teams.

Fire and rescue units, ambulance services, and law enforcement agencies will also take part in the exercis

A PAA spokesperson said that any smoke or movement of ambulances passengers should not be alarmed.

Rescue vehicles and firefighting activities seen during the exercise will form part of the training process.

The PAA officials said that all flight operations will continue as per schedule and that no disruption to airport activities is expected due to the safety measures in place.

Pakistan receives first-ever US crude oil shipment under new trade accord



Reuters

ISLAMABAD: In a landmark development, Pakistan has received its first-ever shipment of US crude oil under a new trade agreement between Islamabad and Washing-

The vessel MT Pegasus — the largest US oil tanker to ever dock at a Pakistani port — reached a port in Balochistan, carrying one million barrels of West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude.

MT Pegasus departed from and arrived at Cnergyico's Single Point Mooring (SPM) facility in Hub, Balochistan, on Wednesday after

completing its transoceanic journey. broaden its crude sourcing options facilitated the import, marking Paki- dynamics.

stan's first-ever purchase of WTI crude from the United States.

Company officials said a second cargo of American crude oil is expected to arrive by mid-November, while a third shipment is scheduled

The latest arrival marks a major milestone in Pakistan-US trade relations and is expected to diversify the country's energy supply chain.

A Cnergyico spokesperson said the milestone reflects the company's commitment to strengthening Pakistan's energy resilience while Houston, Texas, on September 14 advancing Pakistan-US trade rela-

The arrival of MT Pegasus highlights Pakistan's strategic move to Energy company Cnergyico has amid evolving global energy

UN voices concern over failure of Pak-Afghanistan talks

City Desk

UNITED NATION: The United Nations has expressed concern over the failure of the talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan in Istanbul to reach an agreement.

During a regular briefing at UN Headquarters in New York, UN Spokesperson Stephane Dujarric hoped that the fighting between the two neighbouring countries would not resume even if the talks were on pause.

The United Nations has expressed concern over the failure of the talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan in Istanbul to reach an agreement, hoping that the fighting between the two neighbouring countries will not

"Yes, it is, of course," UN Spokesperson Stephane Dujarric said in the deadlock after four days of nego- the U. N.



response to a question about whether tiations was a matter of concern for

"We very much hope that even if the talks are on pause, the fighting Turkey.

Pakistan's Information Minister Attaullah Tarar wrote on social media platform X that the dialogue "failed to bring about any workable solution," despite mediation by Qatar and

collapsed.

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