

#### US embassy Charge D' Affairs calls on Defence Minister

Matters of mutual interest and avenues to further strengthen the bilateral defence cooperation were discussed in detail. The Defence Minister underscored that Pakistan and the United States enjoy a longstanding relationship grounded in mutual respect and shared objectives for stability and prosperity.

Pakistani Senator Calls for Stronger Legal Frameworks at Kashgar Forum, Hails **CPEC** as BRI Flagship

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### Meeting

ISLAMABAD: Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, Chief of Army Staff meets with tribal elders during his visit Peshawar.



# PM orders forensic audit of PRAL system after revelation of past sales tax fraud

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday ordered a forensic audit of the Pakistan Revenue Automation Limited (PRAL) system through an international consultancy firm after being briefed on a past sales tax fraud incident that occurred due to outdated digital infrastructure and lack of moni-

Chairing a review meeting on Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) reforms, the Prime Minister expressed strong displeasure over the revelation of the sales tax fraud that began in 2018-19, a Prime Minister's Office news release said.

He directed that the companies, institutions, and individ-



that a comprehensive investigation report be submitted within three weeks. The prime minister uals involved be identified and also instructed strict legal action briefed the prime minister on

against those found guilty in the

During the meeting, officials

upcoming inquiry report.

and particularly within PRAL. They informed him that the modernized digital systems now include robust features such as an Audit Vault, Database Protection Wall, Security Operations Centre, and continuous database monitoring mechanisms designed to ensure data integrity and security.

According to the briefing, the upgraded system has built-in capabilities to record the user's IP address whenever any data alteration occurs, effectively preventing tax fraud.

The meeting was informed that the fact-finding committee formed by the prime minister earlier had investigated the 2018-19 sales tax fraud and concluded that the fraud took

ongoing reform initiatives at FBR digital system, absence of realtime monitoring, and inadequate database protection.

The officials stated that several corrective reforms have since been implemented to address these vulnerabilities as part of a broader digital modernization drive.

PM Shehbaz appreciated the FBR team for its performance and the international recognition received at the World Bank's Annual Conference in Washington, where FBR's reform case study was well-received.

The meeting was attended by Federal Ministers Azam Nazeer Tarar, Muhammad Aurangzeb, Dr. Musadik Masood Malik, Attaullah Tarar, Ali Pervaiz Malik, Bilal Azhar Kayani, the FBR Chairman, and senior offiplace due to PRAL's obsolete cials from relevant departments.

## **Terror threats** from Afghan soil won't be tolerated: Field Marshal

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, Chief of Army Staff, reiterated that Pakistan will not tolerate terrorism originating from Afghanistan, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said on Thursday.

During his visit to Peshawar, he addressed a jirga of tribal elders where discussions focused on peace, stability, and counterterrorism efforts in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the merged tribal districts.

Field Marshal Munir said Pakistan desired peaceful relations with all its neighbours but cautioned that the use of Afghan territory by Indiabacked terrorist groups to launch attacks inside Pakistan was unacceptable.

multiple efforts to build better Commander of Peshawar relations with Afghanistan, Corps.

but "terrorism from across the border will not be tolerated."

Earlier, the army chief was briefed at the headquarters of the XI Corps on the prevailing security situation and ongoing operations against terrorist networks in the region.

Field Marshal Munir vowed that Khyber Pakhtunkhwa would be purged of terrorists and their facilitators, lauding the sacrifices and resilience of the tribal people in restoring

Tribal elders at the jirga reaffirmed their full support for the security forces in the fight against terrorism, saying that the "Fitna al-Khawarij and the deception of pro-India elements" found no acceptance among the tribal population.

On arrival, the Field He said Pakistan had made Marshal was received by the

## President, PM pay tribute to security forces for killing 4 terrorists in Bajaur

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday paid tribute to the security forces for foiling an attempt by terrorists to infiltrate from across the border in Bajaur district.

In their separate messages, they termed the killing of four terrorists of the Indian-backed Fitna-al-Khawarij, including one most wanted terrorist, as an evidence of the nation's determination and resolve.

President Asif Ali Zardari said the brave security forces have once again accomplished a significant achievement for the safety and security of the country.

president The also commended the spirit of sacrifice displayed by the law rity forces who are striving to added.

establish peace and safeguard the nation. "The continued and deter-

mined operation against terrorism is the guarantee of sustainable peace and stability," the president said.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said the security forces, through their professional skills,



had killed the most wanted Khawarij commander, Amjad. He reaffirmed the govern-

ment's resolve to continue defeating those who harm the lives and properties of innocent and unarmed citizens.

"The government is determined to completely eliminate the menace of terrorism from enforcement agencies and secu- Pakistan," the prime minister

### PTI's Khurram **Zeeshan wins Senate by-election** in KP Assembly

#### 👺 Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf(PTI) candidate Khurram Zeeshan was elected senator on the vacant seat from Khyber Pakhtunkhvotes in the by-election held on Thursday. rival, opposi-His

tion-backed candidate Taj Muhammad Afridi, received 45 votes. All 92 members of the hervote.

PTI-led treasury benches



The Awami National Party (ANP) had boycotted the Senate by-election, and its four members did not cast their votes. Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-

Fazl (JUI-F) leader Akram wa Assembly, securing 91 Durrani also abstained from voting, while Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) MPA Farzana Sherin was absent from the

From the treasury side, PTI MPA Nadia Sher did not cast



### Mohsin Naqvi, Omani Royal Minister vow to deepen ties, address visa issues

**E** City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi held a meeting with Oman's Royal Minister, General Sultan bin Mohammed Al Nu'amani, in Muscat on Thursday to discuss ways to further strengthen bilateral cooperation between Pakistan and Oman.

The two leaders reviewed the state of Pakistan-Oman relations, with a particular focus on addressing visa-related challenges faced by Pakistani nationals living and working in the Sultanate. They also exchanged views on the regional situation and emphasized the need to enhance mutual engagement and collaboration.

Minister Naqvi highlighted the deep-rooted religious, cultural, and historical ties between the two countries, noting that millions of Pakistani workers are contributing to Oman's development. He expressing optimism about future the two nations.



dures would open more opportunities for skilled Pakistani professionals seeking employment in

"Pakistan is committed to expanding its partnership with Oman at all levels," Naqvi affirmed, mutual understanding between

General Sultan bin Mohammed Al Nu'amani reaffirmed Oman's longstanding and brotherly relationship with Pakistan, underscoring the importance of continued collaboration and

# Supreme Court Registrar Saleem Khan resigns

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Supreme Court Registrar Muhammad Saleem Khan has resigned from his position, citing personal reasons, official sources confirmed on Thursday.

According to the sources, Saleem Khan submitted his resignation to Supreme Court Chief Justice Yahya Afridi.

Saleem Khan, who was on a 45-day leave, had temporarily handed over his responsibilities to District and Sessions Judge Fakhar Zaman, who is currently serving as acting

He was appointed as Registrar of the Supreme Court of Pakistan in November 2024



Before his appointment, Saleem Khan served as a senior officer in the Pakistan Administrative Service and also held the position of Chief Secretary of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

On the occasion of his departure, Chief Justice Yahya Afridi and other judges presented a commemorafor a three-year term, replacing tive shield to Saleem Khan in former registrar Jazila Aslam. recognition of his services.

# Inauguration of new Civil Court/Additional Tehsil Criminal Court at Bhimber

BHIMBAR: Inauguration of new Civil Court/Additional Tehsil Criminal Court at District Headquarters

Chief Justice of Supreme Court of Azad and Kashmir Justice Raja Saeed Akram Khan, inaugurated. Senior Supreme Court Justice Razaali Khan, Chief Justice High Court Justice Sardarliaq Shaheen, Justice Khalid Rashid Choudhry accompanied by Civil Court/ Additional Tehsil Military Administration at District Headquarters Bhimber observed the hearing of the first case.

On the occasion of the establishment of the court that has always played a role in providing justice and the rule of law, I urge all judicial staff to work hard and support the judiciary.



other judicial officers welcomed the delegates along with the lawyers. They should come as easily as possible during the inauguration.

Custodian Chaudhry Khalid Yousuf, District & Sessions Judge Mohammad Idris Bhati, Additional Sessions Judge/Family Judge Zafar Mehmood Mughhal, Senior Judge Raja Sanwar Kamali, Additional District Judge karamat Hussain Nizarmi, Zaheer Abbas, Civil Judge Samahni Usman Tahir Langdial, Civil Judge Barnala Sardar Atif Khalil, Tehsil Qazi Barnala Iftikhar Bagri, Mohammadban Yameen Tehsil Qazi Samahni Chaudhry Tariq Bashir Rashid Rasheed Advocate Secretary General Supreme Court Bar Association Azad Jammu and Kashmir. Raja Wasim Yunus, Advocate President Hahi Court Bar Association Azad Jammu and Kashmir were also

#### District and Sessions Judge SP Khawaja Abdul Qayyum, Presi-raqbal Chaudhry Arif Sarfraz Advocate Muhammad Drew Bhati, Deputy dent Bar Chaudhry Manzoor Advo- Najarla, President Barbar President Commissioner Chaudhry Haq Nawaz, cate Senior Lawyer Raja Mazah- Chaudhry Munirlah Advocate and present.

### Called on ISLAMABAD: AJK Minister Seyad Bazil Ali Nagvi called on Federal Minister Interior Seyad Mohsin Nagvi and discussed



Photo: Spokesman

### Multan Mass Wedding Unites 78 More Couples Under Dhi Rani Initiative



👺 Kiran Asim

MULTAN: 78 More Couples Tied the knot in a Mass Wedding ceremony in MultanUnder the Chief Minister Punjab Dhi Rani Program. Provincial Minister for Social Welfare and Baitul-Mal Sohail Shaukat Butt presided over the mass wedding ceremony. In the ceremony, Secretary Social Welfare Javed Akhtar Mahmood, Deputy Commissioner Waseem Hamid Sindhu, members and former members of the assembly also presented a salute of Rs. 200,000 to the newlywed couples on behalf of the

Chief Minister Punjab. The couples were welcomed at the ceremony with traditional jhumar and flower showering. The heirs of the bride and groom also attended the wedding ceremony, while a lavish banquet was also arranged for the wedding participants. Former Federal Minister Syed Javed Ali Shah's address to the participants of the Chief Minister Punjab Dhi Rani Program. Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz did something that our society desperately needed, Syed Javed Ali Shah

Hundreds of marriages could not take place due to poverty. With this program,

deserving families can get married with dignity. Provincial Minister Sohail Shaukat Butt addressed the participants of the Punjab Dhi Rani program. While at the mass wedding ceremony, Provincial Minister for Social Welfare Sohail Shaukat Butt said,

A mass marriage of 79 deserving couples, including Christian couples, was conducted. The Chief Minister of Punjab brought relief to the hearts of parents under this program.

Parents have to take loans or sell their houses to fulfill the responsibility of their daughters. Sending daughters away from

their homes is a big problem. Parents are happy today because of the vision of Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz. Today, parents are raising swings and praying to Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz. We have seen many periods in the past, but a project like Dhi Rani has never been seen before. This society is trying to eliminate all class inequalities. Five thousand mass marriages have been conducted in Punjab till date. Maryam Nawaz became a mother for the daughters of Punjab. Provincial Minister Sohail Shaukat Butt also presented greetings and ATM cards to the couples.

### Punjab social & economic survey continues in TT Singh district through the survey will help ensure that

跨 Zafar Chishti

TOBATEK SINGH: Under the public welfare vision of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, the Punjab Social and Economic Registry (PSER) survey is progressing rapidly across District Toba Tek Singh.

According to official details, the pace of the PSER survey has been further into the survey teams — including accelerated, with an increase in the number of team members to ensure timely and accurate data collection.

Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Mela attended a special ceremony held at the District Council Hall, where survey teams were provided with

tablets to assist in efficient data entry and monitoring.

The ceremony was also attended by District Manager PSER Muhammad Danish, Chief Officer District Council, and Finance Officer District Council.

Following the directives of the Government of Punjab, an additional 400 individuals have been inducted 350 schoolteachers and 50 other staff members. Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Mela stated that the PSER survey represents a vital step toward identifying deserving and underprivileged families in the district. He added that the data collected

government welfare programs reach only the truly deserving beneficiaries in a transparent manner. "The Government of Punjab is fully

committed to ensuring the timely and transparent completion of welfare initiatives," the Deputy Commissioner emphasized.

According to District Manager PSER Muhammad Danish, data from over 90,000 families has already been collected, marking the completion of around 30 percent of the total target. Through the PSER survey, low-income families will gain direct access to welfare programs such as ration

support, educational stipends, and financial assistance.

Officials further noted that the survey results will help the government accurately measure poverty levels across the province, enabling the design of more effective social protection programs.

By accurately identifying beneficiaries, the initiative will also help eliminate duplicate or unnecessary aid distributions, ensuring that public resources are used efficiently.

The PSER Registry will serve as a transparent and data-driven foundation for the Government of Punjab's future public welfare policies.

### PPP Azad Kashmir tackles load shedding and launches public welfare initiatives post-report



**Bureau Report** 

MUZAFFARABAD: Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Azad Kashmir has deployed ration, medicines, doctors and paramedical staff in medical centers and educational institutions to reduce load shedding. Machinery crews, officers and bankers on Rokne roads, construction of defense  $tour ist\ roads, hospitals, tehsil\ offices, local\ government\ and\ other\ public$ projects. Javed Mir said that Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other military leadership threatened surgical strike and launched Operation Sindhur. Kashmir Khushhal Khan has been the first to solve public problems and save the people of the suburbs of the Line of Control from the difficulties faced by them. PM Chaudhry Anwar-ul-Haq Education Minister Diwan Ali Khan Chaghtai has asked the people of seven constituencies to perform justice. And the language created sister God has your artificial performance should remind the claimants that you were your friend who was the enemy in heaven for him that Dewan Ali Khan Chaghtai who was not included in the cabinet of the Prime Minister Some political sinister group is being deprived of honor and respect while in power.

### Smog is hazardous specially for elderly people, says Pyara Pakistan Welfare society chief Sajid Kamboh

**Zafar Chishti** 

KAMALIA: Founder and Organizer of Pyara Pakistan Welfare Soci-

ety (Registered), Sajid Kamboh, has said that smog is causing serious difficulties, particularly for the elderly, children, and patients suffering from respiratory diseases. He emphasized that the increasing level of air pollution during the smog season poses a significant threat to public health, especially for those with asthma and other breathing problems. Sajid Kamboh urged citizens to take precautionary measures to protect themselves from harmful effects of smog. He appealed to the public to wear face masks



 $while \ traveling, especially \ on \ motor cycles, to \ minimize \ exposure \ to \ pollut$ ed air. He also stressed the importance of planting more trees and avoiding unnecessary burning of garbage and crop residue to help reduce smog levels. Sajid Kamboh further said that collective efforts are needed from  $\,$ both the government and the people to control environmental pollution and ensure a clean and healthy atmosphere for everyone.

### "Climate-Proof" public services a must to protect women and girls, says Minister

**E** City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan must urgently improve its public services climateproof to safeguard women and girls from worsening impacts of floods, droughts, and other extreme weather events, said Minister of State for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination Dr Shazra Mansab Khan Kharal at the launch of a joint report by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) here on Thursday.

In her video message, Dr Shazra Mansab emphasized that Pakistan's adaptation challenge is both humanitarian and developmental. "Every disaster shock impacts women and girls first and hardest. The climate agenda cannot succeed without securing community rights and safety,"

In her opening remarks, Dr Gulnara Kadyrkulova, UNFPA Deputy Representative in Pakistan, said that climate change has become "an inter-generational crisis" impacting the wellbeing of entire communities.

Dr. Sajid Amin Javed, SDPI Deputy Executive Director, Presenting the study, Dr Rafi Amir Ud Din from COMSATS University, Dr. Rasheed Ahmed, In a panel discussion, Humaira Zia Mufti, Secretary of the National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW), Dr. Shahzad Ali Khan, Vice-Chancellor of the Health Services Academy (HSA) and Dr. Arif Goheer, Executive Director of GCISC also speak

Delivering the vote of thanks, Dr Tahir Ghaznavi, Humanitarian Resilience Coordinator, UNFP emphasized that floods and droughts have transformed childbirth into a "fatal gamble" for women in vulner-

#### CM Sindh to inaugurate "World Culture Festival 2025" on Friday



KARACHI: Sindh Chief Minister Syed Murad Ali Shah will inaugurate the "World Culture Festival 2025" at Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi on October 31, followed by a red-carpet event at 6 p.m. featuring national and international

artists, adding charm to the grand opening. The World Culture Festival 2025 will continue until December 7, bringing together the world's cultures under one roof in Karachi, cele-

brating peace, art, and global unity. The World Culture Festival 2025 will feature participation from 141 countries across six continents, with over 1,000 artists performing throughout the event. On the opening day, renowned artist Amin Gulgee will showcase his artistic brilliance, while the inaugural ceremony will include performances by Shah Ja Faqeer (Pakistan), Lucy Tasker (Belgium), Shireen Jawad (Bangladesh), Zakaria Haffar (France), Ballet Beyond Borders (Multinational), Street Dancers (Congo), and

Madan Gopal (Nepal). Addressing a joint press conference with Commissioner Karachi Syed Hassan Naqvi on Thursday, President Arts Council Mohammad Ahmed Shah, welcoming artists from Bangladesh, Argentina, Sweden, Kosovo, Nepal, Syria, and many others, said that performers from the USA, Ukraine, and Russia will also be part of the festival. Artists from all provinces of Pakistan are participating to showcase the country's cultural harmony.



30º - 38º Clear

#### **Namaz Timings** Maghrib ..5:17 pm .. 6:42 pm

#### **EMERGENCY**

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Rescue (Police)	15
Bomb Disposal	15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/	
Islamabad112	2 & 16
Emergency Ambulance	1122 &
& Rescue Services 44	51122
Motorway Police926	6044
Motorway Police92706	01-20

#### **Women Police** Stations

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Islamabad	922259	
Rawalpindi 92	70601-2	

Rawalpindi	
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ENQUI	<b>T</b> I
Edhi Ambulance	115
PIA Flight Info	114
PIA Cargo	9280979
Railway Inquiry	117
Railway Exchange	9270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi	5555489
CAA	9281092

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

#### **DEPARTMENTS**

CDA	9221334-43
CDA	. 9208301-04
Met Office	9250360-6
RDA	5555864
TMA	5770886
Cantonment Board .	9270151-3
Islamabad Metropol	itan
Corporation	020022/

#### Build Pakistan 2025 Begins in Lahore

#### **Bureau Report**

LAHORE: Organised by

Fakt Exhibitions (Pvt.) Ltd. in collaboration with the Ministry of Housing & Works, Build Pakistan - Let's Build Together has opened its doors at the Expo Centre, Lahore. The threeday national exhibition and conference brings together over 100 leading local and international companies, showcasing modern technologies, sustainable solutions, and innovative practices across the housing, infrastructure, and urba development sectors. The event serves as a key platform to promote investment, foster collaboration, and accelerate growth in Pakistan's construction

industry. Federal Minister for Housing & Works, Mian Riaz Hussain Pirzada, inaugurated the exhibition and. along with Saleem Khan Tanoli, CEO of Fakt Exhibitions (Pvt.) Ltd., visited various stalls. He met company representatives, appreciated their innovative work, and praised Fakt Exhibitions for providing a valuable platform to boost public-private collaboration and economic growth. "Initiatives like Build Pakistan play a key role in advancing technology transfer, job creation, and sustainable development", the minister remarked.

Mr. Saleem Khan Tanoli, CEO of Fakt Exhibitions (Pvt.) Ltd., highlighted the event as a testament to Pakistan's expanding potential within the regional construction landscape.

# Youth Lead the Call for a Trans Fat-Free Pakistan on World Stroke Day

#### Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: In commemoration of World Stroke Day on 29th October, 2025, Pakistan Youth Change Advocates (PYCA), under its TRANSFORM Pakistan campaign, organized the first two Youth-Led Policy Roundtables in Faisalabad and Lahore in a series of youthled roundtables in Punjab and Sindh. Held in collaboration with the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad (UAF) and the University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (UVAS), Lahore, the sessions aimed to amplify youth voices in advocating for a legislative ban on the production, import and distribution of partially hydrogenated oils (PHOs)—the main source of industrially produced trans fats (iTFAs) in Pakistan.

The first roundtable, held at the Pakistan-Korea Nutrition Centre (PKNC), UAF, brought together participants from academia, civil society, and government institutions. Dr Allah Rakha, Associate Professor at UAF, moderated the session, while Prof Dr Zulfikar Ali, Vice Chancellor of UAF, delivered the opening remarks. Appreciating the organizers' efforts, he stressed, "It is imperative and our country."

that we link food security and nutrition with health. These should not operate

The keynote address was delivered by Munawar Hussain, a senior health and nutrition policy expert, who reiterated the critical need for a complete ban on PHOs to mitigate the growing burden of NCDs in Pakistan. Mr. Sana Ullah Ghumman, Secretary General of Pakistan National Heart Association (PANAH) and representatives from Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives (CPDI) also contributed valuable perspectives to the discussion. Concluding the session, Ms Huria Tariq, Programme Implementation Lead at PYCA, emphasized, "The industry uses PHOs to enhance the taste of their products and to increase shelf life. However, millions of people are losing their lives due to non-communicable diseases every year in Pakistan.

The economic loss due to productivity losses and premature deaths is huge and a serious threat to our economy. Therefore, it is imperative that we immediately ban PHOs, the source of iTFAs, for the betterment of our public health



#### Called on

ISLAMABAD: Chargé d'Affaires of USA Embassy, Ms. Natalie Baker called on Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif on Thursday.



### AAPP Organizes Seminar on "Aesthetic Medicine" at Health Asia 2025

#### 👺 City Desk

KARACHI/ISLAMABAD: The Association of Aesthetic Physicians of Pakistan (AAPP) proudly marked its significant participation in Health Asia International Exhibition and Conference 2025, Pakistan's largest international event focused on medical innovations. The three-day exhibition was held from October 23 to 25, 2025, at the Karachi Expo Centre, attracting medical experts, researchers, and industry professionals from across the world, including Russia, China, Turkey, and the Middle East. International participants praised the event as Pakistan's leading and most influential global platform in the healthcare sector and expressed keen interest in investment opportunities within the country's health industry.

During the exhibition, AAPP



organized a special seminar Guest, Advocate Mahjabeen on "Aesthetic Medicine." The session was coordinated by Dr. Secretary for Law and Justice Shumaila Khan and Dr. Samina and Member of the Standing Mohsin, and featured research Committee on Overseas Pakiin aesthetic medicine. The Chief vast investment opportunities

Abbasi, MNA, Parliamentary

available in Pakistan's healthcare and industrial sectors. She emphasized that such exhibitions play a vital role in attracting both local and interpresentations and expert stanis and Human Resource national investors, contribdiscussions on emerging trends Development, highlighted the uting significantly to Pakistan's economic growth.

### Dr. Hussain announces campaign: Spreading Teachings of Holy Prophet in Educational Institutions

#### 跨 City Desk

RAWALPINDI: A delegation of the All Pakistan Private Schools and Colleges Association, led by Central President Dr. Malik Abrar Hussain, met with Khurshid Ahmad Nadeem, Chairman of the National Rehmat-ul-Alameen wa Khatam-un-Nabiyyin Authority. The meeting, held yesterday, was attended by the Authority's Chairman Khurshid Ahmad Nadeem, Director General Zafar Mahmood Malik, and Director Muhammad Sohail bin Aziz. Representing the Association were Central President Dr. Malik Abrar Hussain, Patron-in-Chief for Rawalpindi Division Irfan Muzaffar Kayani, and District



President Chakwal Safdar Malik.

During the discussion, Khurshid Ahmad Nadeem briefed the delegation about the Authority's objectives. He stated that the Authority aims to promote awareness in educational institutions across Pakistan about the teachings of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and to familiarize children and the entire nation with the exemplary life of the Prophet.

Dr. Malik Abrar Hussain said that the life of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) is a perfect model for all of us. The establishment of this Authority is a blessing and a guiding light for the people of Pakistan in particular and for the Muslim Ummah in general.

### Launching Ceremony of the Pakistan-China Welders Training Program



Abdul Maiid

Launching Ceremony of the Pakistan-China Welders Training Program Held at NAVTTC Headquarters.

The ceremony concluded with Executive Director NAVTTC Mr. Islamabad: Muhammad Aamir Jan, Chairperson NAVTTC Ms. Gulmina Bilal Ahmad, CIIC officials Mr. Shi Yuanqianq, Mr. Bu Yulong, Mr. Wang Kang, representative of CIIC Col. Hassan Ali, and CEO Skill Tech Hub jointly unveiling the curtain, officially marking the launch of the Pakistan-China Welders.

#### CECOS University Hosts Imagıne Pakıstan 2030

PESHAWAR: CECOS University of IT and Emerging Sciences proudly hosted a landmark event under the banner of the Association of Private Sector Universities of Pakistan (APSUP) titled "Imagine Pakistan 2030", bringing together distinguished education leaders and visionaries to discuss a collective roadmap for Pakistan's future.

The session commenced with Prof. Dr. Muhammad Mohsin Khan, Vice Chancellor of CECOS University, delivering insightful opening remarks. He welcomed the guests and highlighted the university's continued commitment to fostering dialogue and collaboration that inspire a progressive and knowledge-driven Pakistan.

Following the opening, Prof. Dr. Chaudhry Abdul Rehman, Chairman Superior Group, addressed the audience, emphasizing the purpose of the "Imagine Pakistan 2030" initiative — to unite the academic community and youth under one vision: empowering the next generation to lead with integrity, innovation, and impact. He underlined the need for universities to go beyond education and act as incubators of leadership, creativity, and civic responsibility.

In a deeply engaging session, Mr. Mian Amer Mahmood, Chairman Punjab Group, shared a comprehensive roadmap and action plan aimed at improving governance, fostering accountability, and creating avenues for young leaders to play an active role in Pakistan's political and economic

spheres. In the closing segment, Engr. Sohaib Tanveer, Vice President CECOS  $\,$ University and President APSUP KP Chapter, delivered a note of thanks

and shared his reflections on the theme. Engr. Sohaib Tanveer also presented souvenirs to the distinguished guest speakers in appreciation of their valuable contributions and partic-

#### KU organizes seminar, photo exhibition to mark Republic Day of Türkiye

KARACHI: The University of Karachi hosted a one-day seminar and photo exhibition in celebration of the Republic Day of Türkiye.

The event, titled "Pakistan and the Republic of Türkiye: Relations from Past to Present", was organized by the Yunus Emre Institute for Turkish Language at the University of Karachi on Thursday and held at the KU's Audiovisual Center.

Speaking at the occasion, Türkiye's Consul General in Karachi, Ergül Kadak, paid tribute to the founder of the Republic, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, and respectfully remembered all those who contributed to the establishment and stability of modern Türkiye.

He began his address by commending President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's leadership, which has positioned Türkiye as an effective international mediator and strengthened global partnerships, especially the special bond with Pakistan.

"Pakistan is one of our key and strategic partners. This is reflected not only in our current cooperation but also in the projects we aim to advance in the future. Under the leadership of the President of Türkiye and the Prime Minister of Pakistan, bilateral relations have grown stronger across education, culture, and other sectors-extending well beyond defense."

He emphasized that the day was a celebration of the enduring friendship between Pakistan and Türkiye, rooted in shared history, mutual respect, and deep cultural ties. He noted the symbolic gestures of admi $ration: the \ Turk is h \ people's \ reverence \ for \ Allama \ Muhammad \ Iqbal \ and$ the Pakistani people's deep respect for Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. "These are bright symbols of the brotherly relations between our nations."

Friday, October 31, 2025

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### China makes strengthening the real economy top priority for 15th Five-Year Plan

he fourth plenary session of the 20th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) outlined 12 strategic tasks for the 15th Five-Year Plan (2026-2030) for national economic and social development. Building a modernized industrial system and reinforcing the foundations of the real economy tops the agenda.

In China's overall development landscape, the real economy holds top priority. It is the ballast stone of China's economy. Industries such as manufacturing, construction, agriculture, and services provide vast employment opportunities. Statistics show that these sectors employ over 400 million people, accounting for 53 percent of the country's workforce.

Manufacturing, as a cornerstone of the national economy, is vital to China's strategic security. Since the start of the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-2025), China's manufacturing sector has become even more comprehensive and resilient. The industry has maintained the top position in the world in terms of overall scale for 15 consecutive years, providing strong confidence in the face of external uncertainties.

As the global landscape grows increasingly complicated, the significance of the real economy has become all the more pronounced. China vowed to build a modern industrial system for the next five years, according to a Reuters article. "China's forceful industrial policies have built sophisticated domestic supply chains and brought it to global dominance in many sectors. They have given the country confidence in its trade war with the U. S.," said the article.

At a press conference held last week, Zheng Shanjie, head of the National Development and Reform Commission, said efforts will be made in four areas to reinforce the foundations underpinning the real economy. The first is to upgrade traditional industries. Traditional industries account for over 80 percent of the manufacturing sector. During the 15th Five-Year Plan period, China aims to upgrade and enhance key traditional industries, unlocking an estimated 10 trillion yuan (about \$1.4 trillion) in new market opportunities.

The second is fostering emerging and future industries. Zheng said the country will work to develop new strategic pillar industries and accelerate the formation of industrial clusters in areas such as new energy and new materials, while making forward-looking plans for frontier sectors of the future.

The third is promoting high-quality development of the service sector. Greater integration will be encouraged between modern services, advanced manufacturing, and modern agriculture. This will not only meet people's growing aspirations for a better life but also open up new drivers of economic growth. The fourth is building a modern infrastructure system. Zheng said China will improve the coordination of infrastructure planning and advance the construction of new types of infrastructure with appropriate foresight.

# Pakistan's Judiciary on the **Brink of Collapse**

he weaponization of Pakistan's justice system has turned the courts into instruments of political control. Pakistan's judiciary, once viewed as a fragile but vital pillar of democracy, now stands at the edge of systemic collapse. Judicial independence has eroded under executive dominance, constitutional boundaries have been blurred, and political manipulation has penetrated every level of the bench. The slow, deliberate dismantling of judicial integrity is no longer speculation; it is now a lived reality for the nation.

In a stunning display of defiance earlier this year, six judges of the Islamabad High Court wrote a joint letter to the Supreme Court of Pakistan. They alleged covert surveillance, harassment, and even abductions of family members; acts designed to intimidate judges and engineer verdicts in politically sensitive cases.

This unprecedented revelation confirmed what many had whispered for years: that Pakistan's courts were being systematically coerced. Soon after, Justice Babar Sattar and Justice Sardar Ejaz Khan voiced their own alarm, warning that the judiciary had become hostage to political and institutional pressure.

The institutional rot has now reached the apex of the judiciary. In October 2024, Supreme Court Justices Mansoor Ali Shah and Munib Akhtar wrote a formal letter to the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC), questioning its constitutional legitimacy and the legality of recent amendments to the Judges' Code of Conduct.

The letter accused the National Judicial Policy Making Committee (NJPMC) of unconstitutional interference in matters

reserved solely for the SJC. The justices further noted that a case involving Islamabad High Court Chief Justice Sardar Muhammad Sarfraz Dogar, a sitting member of the Council; was still pending before the Supreme Court, raising ethical concerns about his role.

Their warning was stark: unless the constitutional status of the SJC is clarified, the legitimacy of its future rulings will remain in doubt.

Pakistan's judiciary has long been vulnerable to political manipulation. Former Prime

Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, executed in 1979, received symbolic "justice" only 44 years later, when the Supreme Court finally admitted

that his trial had failed to meet the standards of a fair hearing. The ruling came in March 2024, following a presidential reference filed over a decade earlier by the PPP government.

The legacy of former Chief Justice Umar Ata Bandial further exemplifies this moral decay. His tenure was marked by selective activism, politically driven judgments, and deep institutional mistrust; a legacy that still haunts Pakistan's legal system.

Since May 9, 2023, the rule of law has been replaced by the rule of vengeance.

The state's relentless persecution of Imran Khan and his party, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), has turned the judiciary into a weapon of political suppression. Thousands of fabricated cases, coerced witnesses, and arbitrary sentences have exposed how far the courts have drifted from their constitu-

tional mandate.

Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi are being held in solitary confinement, facing psychological torture, denial of medical treatment, contaminated food, and constant surveillance. Reports of acidlaced meals and unhygienic prison conditions amount to torture by international

human rights standards. The United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention (UNWGAD) has

declared Khan's arrest illegal and politically motivated, urging his immediate release. Amnestv International and the U.S. Department have expressed similar

concern, citing violations of basic human rights and due process. Recently, Khan's sons Sulaiman and Qasim, along with Maryam Wattoo on behalf of Bushra Bibi, filed formal appeals before Dr. Alice J. Edwards, the UN's Special Rapporteur on Torture, exposing

their inhumane treatment and unlawful

detention. The 26th Constitutional Amendment has effectively subordinated the judiciary to the executive branch. Senior judges have been sidelined from key benches, politically convenient judges elevated, and case rosters manipulated to secure favorable outcomes.

The Chief Justice of Pakistan now requires judges to obtain NOCs for international travel, effectively placing them on a judicial exit-control list. New judicial rules were enacted without full-court approval, in violation of constitutional

conventions. Over 50 judges have been appointed under questionable procedures, and whispers of a 27th Amendment suggest an even deeper consolidation of executive power.

Transparency, merit, and seniority; once the bedrock of judicial credibility ; have been replaced by patronage and obedience.

#### The Silenced Reports and the Global Response

Efforts to conceal the truth have not stopped at home. International election observer reports; including the Commonwealth Observer Group's findings on Pakistan's February 2024 elections; were delayed for months, allegedly at the government's request. The report, led by former Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan, was eventually leaked by Drop-Site News, exposing electoral irregularities that the authorities sought to suppress.

Similar reports by the United Kingdom and European Union missions also remain unpublished; a troubling indicator of how Pakistan's crisis is being managed both domestically and diplomatically.

When judges begin to fear power rather than check it, justice ceases to exist.

Pakistan's judiciary has not merely faltered; it has been captured. The courts that were meant to protect citizens' rights now facilitate their erosion.

If the legal community, civil society, and the international community remain silent, the collapse of Pakistan's judiciary will not just be a national tragedy; it will be the death of accountability in a nuclear-armed democracy of 240 million people. The time to act is now, before the very concept of justice in Pakistan becomes a relic of its past.



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

### October 27: Kashmir Black Day — Dawn of Victory Soon

ctober 27, 1947, marks of Article 370 in August 2019. Today the day Indian troops landed in of fear and grief. Srinagar under the pretext of a forged Instrument of Accession. That the entire structure of the former State of act violated the partition plan and the aspi- Jammu and Kashmir, splitting it into two

a long, painful chapter of occupation and resistance. Since then, Kashmiris have observed October 27 as Black Day — a symbol of defiance against subjugation and a reminder that justice in the valley remains unfinished.

The tragedy began when British rulers failed to ensure a fair implemen-

tation of the 3rd June 1947 Partition Plan, rejected the reorganization, demanding which required princely states to decide their future according to their people's wishes. The Muslim-majority State of Jammu and Kashmir naturally inclined toward Pakistan, yet Maharaja Hari Singh defied both logic and legality by seeking Indian military help against his own rebelling subjects. India fabricated a document of accession that was never ratified by any legitimate authority. Hence, India's presence in Kashmir since October 27, 1947, stands as

a continuing violation of international law. Recognizing the gravity of the issue, the United Nations passed several resolutions upholding Kashmiris' right to self-determination. Resolution 47 of 1948 remains central, calling for a UN-supervised plebhas defied these obligations, tightening its grip through repression and constitutional subversion, especially after the abrogation bond with Kashmir is not political but civi-

one of the darkest days in valley is one of the most militarized zones South Asian history — the on earth, where silence carries the sound

After August 5, 2019, India dismantled rations of the Kashmiri people, opening Union Territories — Jammu and Kashmir

and Ladakh. This unilateral act ignited unrest in Ladakh, Leh, and Kargil. The Buddhist-majority Leh initially welcomed the move, expecting development, but soon realized that direct rule from New Delhi brought loss of land rights and local authority. In contrast, the Shia-ma-

jority Kargil openly restoration of statehood and constitutional safeguards. Recent protests in both Leh and Kargil show that the August 2019 decision has alienated every community, turning the region into a laboratory of control rather than a model of progress.

Pakistan, since its inception, has stood as the moral and political advocate of the Kashmiri cause. Its stance has transcended governments and ideologies. From Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's declaration at the United Nations that "we will wage a thousand-year war for Kashmir," to the diplomatic efforts of Mian Muhammad Nawaz Sharif and the principled position of Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif, Pakistan's leadership has consistently supported the right iscite. Yet for over seven decades, India of self-determination. The present military command, under Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, has reaffirmed that Pakistan's

lizational - rooted in faith, history, and humanity. His firm statements against Indian aggression echo the collective resolve of the Pakistani nation: that the sacrifices of Kashmiris will never be forgotten.

India's recent actions — expanding military operations, manipulating demography, silencing journalists, and imprisoning leaders such as Yasin Malik and Shabbir Shah — expose its disregard for human rights and international law. Yet the will of the Kashmiri people remains unbroken. A new generation, born under occupation, continues to raise its voice for freedom with unmatched courage and conviction.

The responsibility now rests with the international community, especially the United Nations and major powers, to fulfill their moral and legal commitments. The selective silence of the global system which reacts swiftly elsewhere but ignores Kashmir — undermines the credibility of universal justice. Human rights cannot be confined by geography; to ignore Kashmir is to deny humanity itself.

As the world marks another October 27, the message from the valleys and mountains remains unchanged: Kashmiris have not surrendered, their struggle has not faded, and their faith in justice endures. Black flags will rise once more, streets will fall silent in mourning, and hearts will echo a single

demand — Azadi. Kashmir is not a territorial dispute but a moral question defining the conscience of humankind. The day justice prevails in the valley will also mark the dawn of peace between South Asia's two nuclear neighbors. Until then, every October 27 will remind the world of an unhealed wound — and of a people who refuse to be forgotten.

### My Intellectual Journey from **Populism to Reason**

Muhammad

Rabnawaz Awan

society, I find myself troubled by the ical factors. rise of populism. There's no denying its allure—it stirs emotions, simplifies complex issues, and presents the world in black-and-white terms. Yet, as I look back on my reduce intellectualism to something that entertains personal journey from extremism to tolerance, I am rather than enlightens. reminded of the dangers of surrendering reason to emotionally charged narratives. It's a path that may seem my students away from these oversimplified ideas,

appealing at first, but it ultimately leads to intellectual stagnation and deeper social divisions.

Like extremism, populism thrives on the passions of the masses. It paints a world where heroes and villains are clearly defined, offering simple solutions to our most complex problems. In times of uncertainty, it's tempting to embrace these clear-cut answers. However, I've learned that such simplicity comes at a cost. Just

the surface of our political and social challenges lie layers of complexity that populism glosses over.

I remember one student in particular who believed that all of our country's problems could be solved by removing corrupt leaders. This kind of thinking, fueled by populist rhetoric, ignores the deeper, systemic issues at play. Through our conversations, I helped him see that corruption, while a serious issue, is only one aspect of a much larger, more complicated web of challenges.

This same process unfolded with a group of students who had internalized the populist idea that certain communities were solely responsible for the nation's had bought into the idea that scapegoating particular groups could solve society's problems. But as we engaged in dialogue, and they were exposed to the realities faced by these communities, they began to see beyond the simplistic labels. They started to recognize that societal issues are rarely caused by any one group, but by

s I reflect on the current state of our a complex interplay of historical, economic, and polit-

Populist leaders, with their stirring speeches and catchy slogans, appeal to the emotions, but they rarely encourage deep thinking or meaningful dialogue. They

As a teacher, I see it as my responsibility to guide

encouraging them to think critically and engage with the world's complexities. It is through this process that we cultivate minds capable of meaningful change. At this point, I must stress that I don't mean to sound dismissive, but populist ideas, while attractive, offer a dangerous shortcut. They bypass the intellectual rigor necessary for true progress. Real change is not about quick fixes or emotional appeals. It's

about grappling with difficult truths,

as extremism once drew me in with its sense of moral exercising patience, and nurturing a willingness to certainty, populism seduces us with its promise of easy explore the nuances of the world around us. We must fixes. But the truth is rarely so straightforward. Beneath resist the temptation to be swept away by populist rhetoric, and instead commit ourselves to reasoned debate and thoughtful consideration.

My own journey—from extremism to tolerance—was a difficult one. I suspect that for many, the path away from populism will be similarly challenging. It requires us to confront uncomfortable truths and abandon the simplicity that populism offers. But just as I found peace in embracing tolerance over extremism, I believe that true progress can be achieved by rejecting populism in

favor of reason, dialogue, and critical thought. In the end, I may be wrong, but I believe that turning away from populist ideas is the first step toward building woes. Populism thrives on division, and these students a more thoughtful and resilient society. Let us not be carried away by the thrill of emotional rhetoric, but instead commit to the hard, necessary work of intellectual growth. Only through this effort can we create meaningful, lasting change.

The writer is a reformist and educationist who operates on Twitter under the handle "Tolerance Advocate."

# The New Central Asia and Uzbekistan's Role in **Regional Transformation**

marks its 80th anniversary, a symbolic milestone for the entire international system undergoing profound transformation. Amid escalating conflicts, global inequality, and widening technological divides, the UN platform is once again emerging as a space where states seek compromise and shape new rules of global engagement.

For Uzbekistan, the anniversary session of the General Assembly was not merely a diplomatic event, but an opportunity to reaffirm its new international standing that of an active participant and initiator of regional and global processes.

Since joining the United Nations in 1992, Uzbekistan has evolved from a young independent state into a recognized partner advancing initiatives that serve the interests of the entire region. Today, 25 UN offices and agencies operate in the country, implementing more than 160 projects worth over \$175 million. These programs cover key areas: education, healthcare, gender equality, poverty reduction, sustainable development, and digital transformation. All of this reflects the gradual strengthening ment to aligning national reforms with international obligations.

The year 2016 marked a turning point in Uzbekistan's foreign policy, the beginning of a new course based on the principles of openness, dialogue, and good-neighborliness. It was from that able tourism, environmental innovamoment that Tashkent began shaping tions in the Aral Sea region, connectivity its own regional agenda. In his addresses to the UN General Assembly, President tering drug trafficking, and sustainable Shavkat Mirziyoyev outlined a strategic development. This systemic approach objective, to transform Central Asia reflects a new vision — a transition from into a zone of sustainable development,

mutual trust, and partnership. The first step in this direction was the



2017 Samarkand Conference held under the auspices of the United Nations, which laid the foundation for the concept of the "Samarkand Spirit". This format, based on the principles of equality, mutual benefit, and open discussion of regional issues, became a prototype for a new model of regional cooperation. The Conference Communiqué served as the basis for the UN General Assembly resolution "Strengthening Regional and International Cooperation for Peace, Stability and Sustainable Development in Central Asia". For the first time, the region was presented on the global stage of Uzbekistan's institutional presence as a single geopolitical space united by within the UN system and its commit-common interests and shared responsibility for its future.

Since then, Uzbekistan has put forward a number of key international initiatives, enshrined in 13 resolutions of the UN General Assembly, most of which directly concern Central Asia: sustainbetween Central and South Asia, counparticipation to creation, from national policy to a regional strategy.

A new stage of diplomatic activity was

also reflected in the 80th anniversary session of the UN General Assembly. The address of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan received wide international resonance, as it presented a

The Head of Uzbekistan emphasized that "a process has begun in the region to shape a new Central Asia a zone of resilience, cooperation, and responsibility". Among the initiatives he proposed are: holding, under the auspices of ECOSOC and UNCTAD, an international forum on the development of Central Asian economies; establishing, together with UNIDO, a regional hub for green technologies; adopting a program for the rational use of water resources; and hosting the World Forum on Water Conservation in Uzbekistan. These initiatives are aimed at forming a new infrastructure for regional cooperation — technological, environmental, and humanitarian.

comprehensive strategic agenda focused

on Central Asia.

Special attention in the President's address was given to strengthening transport connectivity. He proposed the adoption of a UN General Assembly resolution on the development of international transport and energy corridors passing through Afghanistan. This

approach allows transport to be viewed not merely as an economic factor, but as an instrument of integration and regional stabilization. In parallel, Uzbekistan advanced initiatives to establish a regional office of the UN Counter-Terrorism Office, to launch a World Youth Movement for Peace, and to hold a World Summit on Vocational Education. All these proposals are united by a single idea — the creation of a sustainable architecture of peace founded on education, humanism, and social engagement.

In parallel with his address to the General Assembly, President Shavkat Mirziyoyev held a meeting with United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres. The parties noted the unprecedentedly high level of partnership. Particular attention was given to the preparation of a new five-year Cooperation Programme. Uzbekistan has been elected to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the Human Rights Committee, and the Statistical Commission, and is also actively cooperating with UNESCO, UNIDO, UNDP, UNFPA, and UNICEF. Secretary-General Guterres highly commended the President's address, emphasizing the significance of his initiatives aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, advancing digital technologies and artificial intelligence, promoting youth policy, and fostering enlightened

Tashkent's growing regional engagement has coincided with a shifting geopolitical balance around Central Asia. Under these evolving conditions, Uzbekistan has been consistently pursuing a multi-vector foreign policy grounded in the principles of mutual respect and pragmatism. This approach enables the country to leverage international cooperation to strengthen regional resilience rather than deepen dependence

**United Nations General Assembly** 

on external centers of power.

Against this backdrop, Uzbek diplomacy has evolved into a model of "smart regionalism" — a policy in which domestic modernization and international engagement form a single, coherent strategy. Uzbekistan demonstrates that Central Asia can serve not as an arena of geopolitical rivalry, but as a space of synergy and joint development. In essence, this marks the region's transition from being an object of external interests to becoming an independent participant in the global dialogue.

President Shavkat Mirziyoyev has clearly stated that global stability is impossible without a sustainable Central Asia. Therefore, Uzbekistan places its focus not on declarations but on concrete mechanisms — climate, water, transport, and humanitarian initiatives backed by tangible action. The establishment of the UN Multi-Partner Human Security Trust Fund for the Aral Sea Region, the development of "green" zones, programs to combat childhood oncology, and digital initiatives — all reflect the country's transition from national reforms to international responsibility.

At the same time, Tashkent has been consistently promoting the principles of equality and inclusivity in international relations, advocating for an expanded composition of the UN Security Council so that developing countries can gain fairer representation in global deci-

strates that Uzbekistan does not confine itself to regional issues, but seeks to take part in the broader global reform of the international system.

The 80th session of the UN General Assembly confirmed that Central Asia is no longer perceived as a peripheral zone. It is emerging as a new center of regional resilience, where Uzbekistan plays the role of a key coordinator linking local initiatives with global objectives. Uzbekistan is not merely adapting to global dynamics - it is making its own contribution to shaping the future of the international system founded on cooperation, trust, and responsibility.

President Shavkat Mirziyoyev's address in New York became a symbol of the transition from a policy of observation to a policy of creation. Tashkent offered the world not abstract slogans, but a concrete roadmap for action – encompassing green technologies, water diplomacy, and a global youth movement for peace. At a time when the global system is searching for new foundations, Central Asia is emerging as an example of how a region long considered peripheral can offer its own concept of resilience and mutual trust to the world. In this process, it is Uzbekistan that sets the tone — shaping a new culture of international cooperation and defining the parameters of regional transformation

The writer is Head of Department, sion-making processes. This demon- International Institute for Central Asia



#### **E** City Desk

Red Crescent Society (PRCS) Mrs Farzhana Naek, Deputy in collaboration with UNICEF Representaive Programme of organized an event titled "Boys for UNICEF Mrs Sharmeela Rassool Gender Equality & HPV Aware- and other distinguished guests. al Headquarters in Islamabad Mr. Muhammad Abaidullah majority being young men and to inspire boys and young men in Pakistan Mr. Farid Abdulqadir, ience to every corner of Pakistan. itarian programs. to become advocates of gender Head of Office of the German Sustainable change begins with equality and play an active role Red Cross Mr. Asif Aman, Head awareness but endures through in promoting awareness about of Delegation of the Turkish Red action," she said. She reaffirmed

lomavirus (HPV).

The ceremony was graced by ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Honourable Chairperson PRCS

sentatives from partner national societies, UNICEF experts, PRCS staff, volunteers, and students.

In her address, Mrs. Farzhana Naek highlighted the crucial role of youth in driving social change. "PRCS takes pride in its 0.7

### PRCS and UNICEF Pakistan Join Hands for Gender Equality and HPV Awareness

girls, and marginalized groups, has equal access to safety, opportunity, and dignity.

Speaking at the event, IFRC Head of Delegation Mr. Farid Abdulgadir underscored the and the vital role boys can play in achieving it. He emphasized that the Protection, Gender, remains a core element across all

that no one is left behind and that equality and inclusivity, ensuring tion. every person, especially women, that girls are not left behind in education and opportunity.

During an interactive session, and Development Specialist at discussion focused on the inter-UNICEF Pakistan, presented alarming statistics showing that importance of gender equality 13.4 million girls are currently out accessing education, healthcare, emphasizing the importance of of school and that Pakistan ranks and protection services. Panelists online safety and responsible She also noted that Pakistan was ness Raising" at PRCS Nation- included Secretary General PRCS million dedicated volunteers, the and Inclusion (PGI) framework ranked at the bottom among 148 hand in hand to build safer, more countries in the World Economic informed communities and highon Thursday. The event aimed Khan, IFRC Head of Delegation women who bring hope and resil- Red Cross Red Crescent human- Forum's Global Gender Gap lighted the role of youth in chal-Report 2025, underscoring the lenging harmful social norms. UNICEF's Deputy Country urgency for concrete action. Representative, Ms. Sharmeela She called for urgent action and PRCS Secretary General Mr. positive change toward a more Rasool, encouraged the audience encouraged boys to become advo- Muhammad Abaidullah Khan equal, inclusive, and healthy health, particularly Human Papil- Crescent Ms. Beyza Taner, repre- PRCS's commitment to ensuring to take collective action for gender cates for girls' rights and educa- appreciated UNICEF's continued

A panel discussion followed, featuring UNICEF experts from Health, Nutrition, WASH, Educaand health awareness must go

In his welcome remarks,

partnership and contribution toward promoting child rights and gender equality.

Mr. Hamza Ahmed, Assistant Ms. Fahmida Khan, Gender tion, and Child Protection. The Director at Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA), also connected challenges faced by conducted an interactive session adolescents, particularly girls, in on digital protection and rights, sixth globally in early marriages. emphasized that gender equality digital behavior among young The event concluded with a

> shared commitment from PRCS, UNICEF, and Red Cross Red Crescent partners to continue empowering youth as agents of

### Bradford MP Barrister Imran Hussain re-elected Chair of All-Party Parliamentary Group on Kashmir

#### **Example 2** Chaudhry Tabraiz Aurah

LONDON: Bradford's Labour MP Barrister Imran Hussain has been

minster and strengthening cross-party the election, Members of Parliament He reaffirmed his commitment to members and chairs, emphasizing the support for the Kashmir issue within from multiple political parties the United Kingdom.

re-elected as Chair of the All-Par- one of the most active parliamentary ty Parliamentary Group (APPG) on groups focusing on human rights, Kashmir in the British Parliament peace, and justice in South Asia. It marking the start of his second term ongoing situation in Indian-administion is being hailed as a significant dialogue, and support a peaceful resostep towards further amplifying the lution in accordance with the aspira-

Pincluding Labour, Conservative, The APPG on Kashmir remains and Liberal Democrats extended their support to Barrister Imran Hussain, acknowledging his consistent advocacy for justice, human rights, and with an overwhelming majority, works to raise awareness about the the right to self-determination for the Kashmiri people. In his acceptin this influential role. His re-electered Jammu and Kashmir, promote ance remarks, Barrister Imran The international community cannot Hussain expressed deep gratitude

continue standing firmly with the people of Kashmir, stating:"The people of Kashmir have endured decades of injustice, violence, and human rights abuses. As Chair of the APPG on Kashmir, I will ensure that their voices are heard loud and clear in the British Parliament and beyond. turn a blind eye to their suffering any

importance of continued collaboration between British parliamentarians and the UK's Kashmiri diaspora, who have played a vital role in keeping the Kashmir issue alive in public and political discourse. Community leaders across the UK particularly from London, Manchester, Bradford, Birmingham, and Luton have congratulated Barrister Imran Hussain on his to his parliamentary colleagues for longer. Barrister Hussain also praised re-election, describing it as a proud a more proactive stance on human voice of the Kashmiri people at West-tions of the Kashmiri people. During their confidence in his leadership. the contributions of previous APPG moment for British Kashmiris and rights violations in the region.



a reflection of his tireless efforts for human rights, equality, and social justice. Observers believe that under Barrister Hussain's continued leadership, the APPG on Kashmir will remain instrumental in highlighting the plight of the Kashmiri people and urging the UK government to adopt

### Embassy of Pakistan in Brussels Commemorates Kashmir Black Day

#### Spokesman Report

BRUSSELS: The Embassy of Pakistan in Brussels solemnly observed Kashmir Black Day to mark 27 October 1947, the day when Indian forces illegally entered Jammu and Kashmir, to the Kashmiri people until they beginning a prolonged chapter of occupation and suppression.

The event highlighted the decades-long struggle, resilience, and sacrifices of the Kashmiri people in their pursuit of the right to self-determination, as enshrined in the United Nations Security Council resolutions.

The commemoration was attended by members of the Pakistani and Kashmiri diaspora, human rights activists, and representatives of the local and international media.

The programme began with the recitation of the Holy Quran, messages from the leadership

Republic of Pakistan. A video message from the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Pakistan, Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar, was also screened, reaffirming Pakistan's steadfast diplomatic, moral, and political support achieve their inalienable right to self-determination.

A documentary film was screened, tracing the historical and political context of Kashmir Black Day and underscoring the ongoing human rights violations in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK). The video shed light on the plight of innocent civilians and Pakistan's continued advocacy for a peaceful resolution in accordance with international law and the UN Charter.

Addressing the gathering, community notable Dr. Ali Sherazi, President Kashmir Forum followed by the reading of the Belgium Chaudhry Naseer, and Chairman Kashmir Council-EU, including the President and the Ali Raza Syed, urged the inter-Prime Minister of the Islamic national community to play its



due role in ending human rights abuses in IIOJK and ensuring implementation of UN resolutions. They stressed that peace and stability in South Asia remain unattainable without a just settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir

În his keynote address, Ambassador of Pakistan to the European Union, Belgium, and Luxembourg, H. E. Rahim Hayat

Qureshi, reiterated Pakistan's unwavering commitment to the Kashmiri cause.

In the lead-up to the commemoration, the Embassy organized a week-long photo exhibition depicting the daily realities of life under occupation, the perseverance of the Kashmiri people, and their unyielding quest for justice. The exhibition served as a powerful visual narrative of both



suffering and hope.

The event concluded with a collective prayer for peace, justice, and a lasting resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in

the Kashmiri people and the relevant UN Security Council resolu-

The Embassy reaffirmed that and Kashmir.

accordance with the aspirations of Pakistan will continue to raise the voice of Kashmiris at all international for a and stand by them until the dawn of freedom in Jammu

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

Index Fluctuation			
Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index			
Prev. Close			
158,465.05			
Day's Low			
156,327.60			
Change			
-1732.18			
Time			
30 Oct, 2025 4:30 pm			
E 100 Index			
Change			
+3.92			
Time			
30 Oct, 4:35 pm GMT+1			
ndustrial Average			
Change			
+100.17			
Time			
30 Oct, 1:12 pm GMT-4			
ei Stocks Average			
Change			

#### Open Market Forex Rates

+17.96

Time 30 Oct. 3:45 pm

GMT+9

51,325.61

**Percentage** 

+0.035%

Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	185.35	190.35
Bahrain Dinar	746.8	754.3
Canadian Dollar	205.6	212.6
China Yuan	39.3	39.7
Danish Krone	43.85	44.25
Euro	331.95	335.45
Hong Kong Dollar	36.45	36.8
Indian Rupee	3.14	3.23
Japanese Yen	1.8762	1.9762
Kuwaiti Dinar	913.7	922.7
Malaysian Ringgit	66.45	67.05
NewZealand \$	160.6	162.6
Norwegians Krone	27.85	28.15
Omani Riyal	731.35	738.85
Qatari Riyal	76.9	77.6
Saudi Riyal	75.7	76.35
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	76.8	77.8
UK Pound Sterling	381	384
US Dollar	282.60	282.9

#### Security Papers Limited (SPL) **Announces** Financial Results for Q1 FY2025-26

#### Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Security Papers Limited (SPL) has announced its un-audited financial results for the first quarter ended September 30, 2025. SPL has posted a Profit after Tax of Rs. 288.48 million whereas, the Earnings per Share (EPS) was Rs. 4.87/- per share.

During the first quarter of the Financial Year 2025-26, the net sales were Rs. 1,843 million and the cost of sales was Rs. 1,369 million. Meanwhile, SPL's Profit before

Tax was Rs. 478.42 million. Mr. Mohammad Aftab Manzoor, the Chairman of the Board stated: "We are pleased to report a stable beginning to the fiscal year, reflecting SPL's resilience and consistent operational discipline.

SPL remains committed to sustaining its growth by aligning closely with the market needs and enhancing operational performance in order to deliver long-term value for its shareholders.

#### Gold declines by Rs1,000 to Řs418,862 per tola

ISLAMABAD: The price of 24-karat gold on Thursday decreased by Rs1,000 to Rs418,862 per tola compared to Rs419,862 on the previous day.

According to the All-Pakistan Sarafa Gems and Jewellers Association, the price of 10 grams of 24-karat gold also dropped by Rs857 to Rs359,106 from Rs359,963, while 10 grams of 22-karat gold went down by Rs678 to Rs329,300 from

In the international market, gold prices declined by \$10 to \$3,965 per ounce from

However, the rate of silver remained unchanged, with 24-karat silver holding steady at Rs5,034 per tola and Rs4,315 per 10 grams, while international silver stayed firm at \$47.72 per ounce.

# Pakistan Dairy Association hosts a National Seminar on World **Food Day 2025**

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

ISLAMABAD: Empowering the Next Generation through Safe Food and Dairy Nutrition. The Pakistan Dairy Association (PDA) hosted the National Seminar on World Food Day 2025 at Faletti's Hotel, Lahore. The event, held under the theme "Hand in Hand: Safe Food for Better Future," brought together government ministers, food authorities, policymakers, academia, development partners, media and industry leaders to strengthen national dialogue on food safety, school nutrition, and dairy-based nourishment-vital pillars for a healthier and stronger Pakistan.

The event was graced by Ms. Salma Butt, Special Assistant to the Chief Minister Punjab, Mr. Usman Zaheer Ahmad, CEO, Fauji Foods & Chairman PDA; Dr. Shehzad Amin, CEO, Pakistan Dairy Association; Mr. Muhammad Asim Javaid, Director General, Punjab Food Authority.

Mr. Noor Aftab, Director Corporate Affairs for Pakistan and MENA (Middle East & North Africa) at Tetra Pak, highlighted the company's long-standing global legacy in school feeding initiatives — a journey that began in 1962 in Mexico and has since benefited over 66 million



children across 49 countries. He expressed his gratitude to Chief Minister Punjab, Maryam Punjab the whole of Pakistan? Every child— Nawaz, and Minister for School Education, Rana Sikandar Hayat, for their visionary leadership in launching the CM Punjab's School Nutrition Program.

Dr. Shehzad Amin, CEO, Pakistan Dairy Association, praised the Punjab Government's School Nutrition Program, which provides milk to over 1.2 million children daily, but raised

whether from Punjab, Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, or Balochistan—deserves the same nourishment and care.

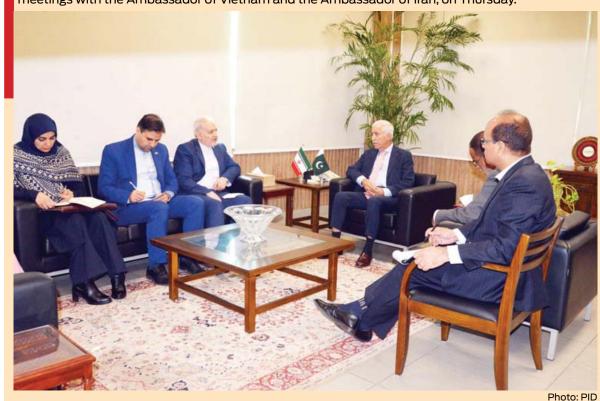
Mr. Usman Zaheer Ahmad, CEO Fauji Foods & Chairman PDA, lauded the Punjab Governbe adopted nationwide.

Representatives from Sindh, Khyber Pakh-

an mportant question: "Why only Punjab? Is tunkhwa, and Balochistan also appreciated the Punjab Government's efforts and expressed full support for extending such initiatives across Pakistan. The event concluded with the collective signing and reading of the World Food Day 2025 Pledge, led by Ms. Salma Butt, Special Assistant to the Chief Minister Punjab, reafment for this visionary initiative, urging that it firming commitment to food safety, nutrition, and unity under the slogan "Safe Milk, Safe

### Meetings

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Board of Investment, Mr. Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh, held separate meetings with the Ambassador of Vietnam and the Ambassador of Iran, on Thursday.



### FFC holds Fourth Corporate Briefing for the Year 2025



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

ISLAMABAD: Fauji Fertilizer Company Limited (FFC), as part of its ongoing commitment to transparency and best corporate governance practices, held its Fourth Corporate Briefing for the year 2025 to discuss the Company's performance for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2025.

FFC continues to set benchmarks for excellence and governance in Pakistan's corporate sector. The Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) has recognized FFC as the

Companies for an outstanding 13 consecuensure continuous improvement, operative years; a distinction that reflects FFC's unwavering commitment to compliance with the Code of Corporate Governance, strong operational performance, and effective management practices.

The corporate briefing was conducted virtually from the Head Office, Rawalpindi, moderated by FFC's Investor Relations. It was attended by prominent capital market analysts, investors, and stake-

Brig (Retd) Khurram Shahzada, SI(M), Company Secretary, opened the session top-ranked company among the Top 25 and emphasized FFC's ongoing efforts to

tional efficiency, and value creation for all stakeholders

Syed Atif Ali, Chief Financial Officer, presented an overview of FFC's financial and operational performance for the ninemonth period and reaffirmed the Company's commitment to achieving sustained growth, profitability, and excellence in performance.

FFC remains dedicated to upholding its legacy of leadership and trust, striving toward its vision of contributing to national development, agricultural prosperity, and sustainable business growth.

### **Customs Collectorate Airports Karachi Foils** Attempt to Smuggle Narcotics Worth Millions of Rupees

#### Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Air Cargo Control Unit (ACCU) of the Customs Collectorate Airports smuggle narcotics via international mail, detecting 2.19 Kg of marijuana worth Rs 67.5 million concealed in tin cans from Thailand that had been deceptively labeled as "Thai Red Tea".

The surge in global e-commerce has greatly increased cross-border trade. Through constant vigilance and effective interception, Pakistan Karachi foiled an attempt to Customs continues to safeguard our communities from harm.

> FBR remains committed to strict vigilance against narcotics smuggling through all means including international mail.

#### **CCP Conducts Awareness Session on Competition** Law at Quaid-i-Āzam University

#### Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) held an awareness session on Competition Law at Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU), to educate students on the principles of fair market competition and consumer protection.

The session began with a recitation from the Holy Quran, followed by welcome remarks from Dr. Aziz-ur-Rehman, Director, School of Law, QAU, who highlighted the importance of Competition Law in promoting fair practices, protecting consumers, and encouraging innovation. He also commended the CCP's efforts in creating a competitive and transparent business environment in Pakistan.

Ms. Marryum Pervaiz, Secretary to the Commission and Head of Advocacy, presented an overview of the CCP's legal and regulatory framework, mandate, and functions. She explained how competition encourages efficiency, innovation, and fair pricing, ultimately benefiting both businesses and consumers.

Mr. Salman Zafar, Senior Director, Finance, Cartel & Trade Abuse Department, gave a detailed presentation on Sections 3 and 4 of the Competition Act, 2010, explaining prohibited agreements and abuse of dominant position. He shared case studies on cartelization and bid rigging, outlining CCP's enforcement procedures and their impact on market transparency.

Later, Ms. Marryum Pervaiz also elaborated on Sections 10 and 11 of the Act, covering deceptive marketing practices and mergers & acquisitions, with examples of misleading advertisements and corporate consolidations reviewed by the Commission.

In his closing remarks, Dr. Javed Iqbal, Director, School of Economics, QAU, appreciated CCP's role in safeguarding fair competition and urged the Commission to expand its focus on deceptive marketing in digital and e-commerce spaces. He emphasized the need for continued collaboration between academia and regulatory bodies to strengthen the culture of competition in

### President FCCI meet with CEO of Future Synergy

#### 👺 Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: President FCCI industrial landscape Mr. Farooq Yousaf Sheikh"held a productive meeting with Ms. Fatima Saba, CEO of Future Syner- forward-thinking business models gy", at the Faisalabad Chamber of and expressed FCCI's commit-

Commerce & Industry (FCCI). During the meeting, both leaders discussed opportunities for mutual collaboration, innovation, and sustainable business growth. They shared vision to enhance industry emphasized the importance of capacity, strengthen public-private fostering partnerships between the linkages, and contribute to Pakicorporate sector and trade institu- stan's economic progress through

skill development, and technological advancement in Faisalabad's

President FCCI appreciated Ms. Fatima Saba's initiatives in driving ment to supporting women entrepreneurs and emerging business

The discussion concluded with a tions to promote entrepreneurship, collaboration and innovation.



# Azan, Iftikhar, Sarmad score centuries, Abbas, Azab bag five-fors on opening day of fifth round

ISLAMABAD: The opening day of the fifth round of the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy 2025-26 saw centuries from Sialkot's Azan Awais, Peshawar's Iftikhar Ahmed, Islamabad's Sarmad Bhatti and five-fors from Lahore Whites' Mohammad Abbas as action began in four cities across five venues on Thursday.

(62, 103b) took Sialkot to 322-4 in Jahandad Khan. 83.2 overs against Abbottabad at the

194 balls inclusive of 13 fours, while class century. No.8 batter Niaz Khan Abdullah's 12th half-century came (34, 53b, 4x4s, 1×6) and no.7 Najab with the help of nine fours and one Khan (21, 76b, 3x4s) made sure their six. Mohsin Riaz (48 not out, 74b, team crossed 300-run mark after sive first-class five-for to help his

not out, 56b, 5x4s) finished the day with unbeaten 66-run stand.

Peshawar's Iftikhar Ahmed struck his 16th first-class century to help his team post 320 all out in 84.1 overs against Faisalabad at the Shoaib Akhtar Cricket Stadium, Rawalpindi.

Iftikhar, who scored 131 off 204 and Bahawalpur's Mohammad Azab balls hitting 19 fours and one six, was joined by Mohammad Haris (88, 111b, 12x4s, 3x6s) with Peshawar reeling Azan Awais' eighth first-class at 29-4 following Test fast bowler century and his 116-run second- Khurram Shahzad's two early strikes wicket stand with Abdullah Shafique and a scalp each for Afaq Afridi and

The duo put on 199 runs for the Diamond Cricket Ground, Islamabad. fifth wicket to lift Peshawar out of dire Left-handed Azan scored 123 off straits. Haris registered his sixth first-



slipping from 228-4 to 292-8.

For Faisalabad, Khurram returned figures of 20-2-90-3, while Jahandad, Ahmed Safi Abdullah and Hasan Raza picked up two wickets each.

Lahore Whites' Mohammad Abbas picked up his 51st and second succes-

team bundle out Multan for 164 in 43.4 overs at the Marghzar Cricket Ground, Islamabad. Abbas' figures read 15.4-5-32-5 as he backed up his previous outing's 6-78 against Karachi Blues. Aamir Jamal picked up three wickets.

Multan were reduced to 70-6 in trouble against Karachi Blues at figures.

put on 56 runs for the seventh wicket to help their team cross the 150-run mark.

In turn, Lahore were 121-4 in 32 overs at stumps with Ali Zaryab (51 not out, 102b, 8x4s) and Qasim Akram (25 not out, 32b, 5x4s) unbeaten at the crease.

An unbeaten 215-run fifth-wicket stand between Sarmad Bhatti (107 not out, 186b, 20x4s) and skipper Rohail Nazir (96 not out, 147b, 15x4s) led Islamabad to a strong total of 326-4 in 78 overs against FATA at the Abbottabad Cricket Stadium.

Sarmad struck his 12th first-class century and third in the tournament, while Rohail will look to complete his sixth first-class century on day two.

Bahawalpur found themselves

efore Arafat Minhas (45, 51b, 9x4s) the Imran Khan Cricket Stadium, and Bismillah Khan (32, 41b, 5x4s) Peshawar as they closed the day with 55-5 in 18 overs, trailing by 162 runs. Karachi Blues' Mohammad Hamza picked up two wickets, while Muhammad Umar and Saqib Khan picked up one wicket each.

Earlier, Bahawalpur's Mohammad Azab returned figures of 15-0-70-5 registering his fifth first-class fivewicket haul and second in the tournament as Karachi Blues slipped from 130-1 to 217 all out in 56.3 overs losing nine wickets for 87 runs.

Saad Baig (73, 127b, 11x4s) and Omair Bin Yousuf (70, 120b, 8x4s, 1×6) stitched a 125-run second-wicket stand following Abdullah Fazal's early departure. No.8 batter Saqib Khan struck a 33-ball 40 hitting five fours and one six, while no other batter except the three got into double

### BISE Faisalabad wins National Inter-Board Football Championship

**Sports Desk** 

FAISALABAD: The Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education (BISE) Faisalabad has clinched the All Pakistan Inter-Board Football Championship title held under the aegis of Inter Board Committee of Chairmen (IBCC) at Multan.

A BISE spokesman said educational boards participated in the tournament while Faisalabad Board emerged as victorious after Multan Board Khurram defeating Lahore Board with Qureshi distributed prizes 1-0 goals in a thrilling final encounter.

He said that both teams mances of all participants. played an intense and competitive match in the manship.

decisive goal sealed the win, the country. securing first position while

stood third in the national tournament, he added.

He said that Secretary and appreciated the perfor-

BISE spokesman said that such tournaments not only final show and presented promote sports among youth exceptional skill and sports- but also cultivate harmony and friendship among However, Faisalabad's educational boards across

Meanwhile. Lahore Board claimed the Sports BISE Faisalabad enthusiasm and standard pride to the country.

here on Thursday that 16 second and Bannu Board Madam Nighat Noreen

expressed gratitude to Multan Board for the successful organization of the event and said that such competitions strengthen among the winning teams inter-board relations and provide young athletes with valuable opportunities to showcase their talent.

> Faisalabad Board's victory reflected the dedication and discipline of its players and management team; she said and expressed hope that similar events would Director continue with the same the national level and bring

Following the team's return, Director Sports Madam Nighat Noreen accompanied by Chaudhary Naseem Ahmad Gujjar and Muhammad Usman called on Secretary BISE Faisalabad Dr. Habib-ur-Rehman and presented him with the winning trophy and shield.

PA to Secretary BISE Rana Jamshed Ali was also present on the occasion.

Secretary BISE Faisalabad Dr. Habib-ur-Rehman congratulated the Faisalabad team and lauded efforts of Director Sports, BISE officials and players. Meritbased team selection leads to success that is "as clear as daylight", he added.

He expressed confidence that the young players, with their continued commitment and performance, would soon represent Pakistan at

#### Women's World Cup: *Ice-cool Rodrigues* ton helps India down Australia in semi-final

NAVI MUMBAI: Jemimah Rodrigues rose to the occasion with an imperious knock under pressure to guide India past defending champions Australia and into the final of the ICC Women's World Cup here on Thursday.

Set a daunting 339-run target, India hit the winning runs on the loss of five wickets with nine balls to spare. This also marked the highest-ever chase for a team in the Women's ODIs.

The final of the marquee event will be played on Sunday between India and South

The hosts started the chase on a shaky note as they lost the opener Shafali Verma in the second over, who made 10 from five balls. Following the early wicket, Smriti Mandhana and Jemimah Rodrigues added a 46-run stand.

However, Mandhana was removed after scoring 24 from 24 deliveries. As a result, India were 59-2 in 9.2 overs.

The moment was there and came, skipper Harmanpreet Kaur, who paired up with Rodrigues for a mammoth 167-run partnership. The duo's stance was enough to prompt Australia to seek answers.

Their partnership took the total to 226 in 35.2 overs, with the hosts still requiring runs to score. Australia sensed a comeback with Kaur's wicket, who departed after making 89 from 88 balls with the aid of 10 fours and two sixes.

#### Ali Khan Tareen Congratulates To Habib Bank on Renewing Pakistan Super League Cricket Title Sponsorship

**Asim Tanveer** 

MULTAN: Multan Sultans Cricket Team Owner Ali Khan Tareen Congratulates To Habib Bank on Renewing Pakistan Super League Cricket Title Sponsorship. Partners like Habib Bank

are crucial to the strength and growth of the league. Ali Khan Tareen

We acknowledge and respect the PSL administration's view that matters are resolved in the boardrooms.

Any criticism directed at the PSL administration is not directed at the league. The PSL is a national asset and our commitment to it is crystal clear.

Ali Tareen has presented a practical proposal to the PCB to move matters forward.

It focuses on clear processes, transparent decision-making, and strong franchise management coordination so that the league can thrive on and off the field. Our goal is simple: build a strong PSL. We have put forward

solutions to create a better professional structure that is transparent, collaborative and collaborative. If we get it right, we will ensure that the league not only survives

but thrives for the coming decade.

#### Mikaeel Ali moves in ITF World Fr Tennis C'ship final

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Mikaeel Ali Baig has qualified for the final of the ITF Pakistan Ali Embroidery World Junior Tennis Championship J-30 (Leg-2)-2025 here at the PTF-SDA Tennis Complex on Thursday.

Mikaeel will face Kristijonas Milasausks of Lithuania in the final of the Championship. 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

In Boys Singles semifinals, Mikaeel beat Ahtesham Humayun (PAK) and 6-3,6-4; Kristijonas Milasausks (LTU) beat Amir Mazari(PAK) 6-2,6-1.

In Girls Singles semifinals, Ecrin Lal Yavuz (TUR) beat Karolina Ligai (KAZ) 6-0,6-4; Serife Pelin Sari (TUR) beat Deniz Cakil (TUR) 6-3,7-5.

In Boys Doubles semifinals, Ahtesham Humayun, Hamza Roman (PAK) bt Mikaeel Ali Baig (PAK), Timur Gordeev (RUS) 6-3,6-3; Abubakar Talha, Zohaib Afzal Malik (PAK) bt M. Hazia Asim, M. Hassan Usmani(PAK) 6-2,7-5.

In Girls Doubles semifinals, Polina (KAZ), Karolina Ligai (KAZ) beat Zihan Feng(CHN), Serife Pelin Sari (TUR) 6-3,6-4; Deniz Cakil (TUR), Ecrin Lal (TUR) beat Daria Bogacheva (RUS), Varvara Rubtsova (RUS) 6-3,6-3. The Boys and Girls Doubles finals will be played on Friday.

# Nationwide Boxing Talent Hunt Program Launched in Pakistan

Sports Desk

KARACHI: The Pakistan Army, in collaboration with the Pakistan Boxing Federation (PBF), has officially launched a nationwide Boxing Talent Hunt Program aimed at identifying and nurturing new boxing talent across the

According to Major Irfan Younis, Secretary General of the Pakistan Boxing Federation, the competitions will be organized in multiple stages beginning at the district level, followed by divisional and provincial rounds, and culminating in the National Boxing Championship, which will be held in Karachi or Hyderabad.

Outstanding performers from these events will be selected for international training and competitions and will have the opportunity to represent Pakistan as



part of the national boxing team Winning teams, along with their coaches, will also receive attractive prizes and rewards for their achievements.

Major Younis emphasized that the initiative represents a collective national effort to secure the future of boxing in Pakistan and raise the overall standard of the sport.

This is a national mission," he said. "Everyone associated with boxing must play their part with dedication, passion, and sincerity to enhance the sport at the grassroots level and produce talented boxers for the future.

He further added that at the conclusion of the competitions, outstanding coaches and managers from districts, divisions, and provinces will be honored with awards and certificates in recognition of their exceptional contributions to the development of boxing in Pakistan.

### PCB announces men's domestic contracts for 2025-26 Season

**Sports Desk** 

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has announced the men's domestic HBL Pakistan Super League. cricket contracts for the season

A total of 157 players have been awarded the retainer which is set to run from August 2025 to July The categories for the domestic

contracts have been expanded from three to four and the number of players increased from 131 to 157 for this season. The breakdown of four categories is 30 (DC1), 55 (DC2), 51 (DC3) and 21 (DC4) players, said a press release.

The monthly retainers have been awarded to the best performers across all the domestic cricket tournaments which took place in 2024-25 season. Players were shortlisted after a meticulous evaluation process of their performances.

The 2025-26 season began with 12-team Hanif Mohammad Trophy on 29 August and will see Usman Khan (Karachi), Usman

and two-phase National T20 Cup apart from the 11th edition of the

Domestic Category 1 (30): Abid Ali (Lahore), Aamir Jamal (Lahore), Akif Javed (Fata), Azan Awais (Sialkot), Faisal Akram (Multan), Haseebullah (Quetta), Iftikhar Ahmed (Peshawar), Imam-ul-Haq (Lahore), Jahandad Khan (Rawalpindi), Kamran Ghulam (Abbottabad), Kashif Bhatti (Hyderabad), Khalid Usman (Abbottabad), Mir Hamza (Karachi), Mohammad Ali (Sialkot), Mohammad Hasnain (Hyderabad), Mohammad Huraira (Sialkot), Mohammad Ismail (Multan), Muhammad Irfan Khan (Faisalabad), Muhammad Shahzad (Multan), Mushtaq Ahmed (Larkana), Niaz Khan (Peshawar), Nisar Ahmed (Lahore), Omair Bin

Yousuf (Karachi), Tayyab Tahir

(Lahore), Umar Amin (Rawal-

pindi), Umar Siddiq (Lahore),

two first-class, three non-first-class red-ball tournaments, List A event (Multan) and Zahid Mehmood Domestic Category

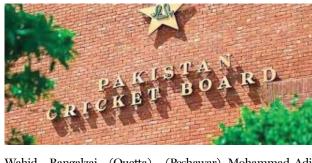
(55): Abdul Faseeh (Rawalpindi), Abdul Samad (Faisalabad), Ahmed Bashir (Lahore), Ahmed Safi Abdullah (Faisalabad), Ali Raza (Sialkot), Ali Zaryab (Lahore), Arafat Minhas (Multan), Arif Yaqoob (Karachi), Arshadullah (Fata), Asif Afridi (Fata), Ayaz Tasawwar (Sialkot), Danish Aziz (Karachi), Haider Ali (Rawalpindi), Hassan Raza (Azad Jammu and Kashmir), Imran Butt (Lahore), Jalat Khan (Quetta), Kashif Ali (Rawalpindi), Khawaja Mohammad Nafay (Karachi), Maaz Sadagat (Peshawar). Mehran Mumtaz (Rawalpindi), Mehran Sanwal (Bahawalpur), Mirza Tahir Baig (Sialkot), Mohsin Riaz (Sialkot), Mohammad Khan (Peshawar), Mohammad Arif (Abbottabad), Mohammad Faizan (Faisalabad), Mohammad Imran Jnr

(Peshawar), Mohammad Naeem

(Fata), Mohammad Rameez Jnr

(Lahore), Mohammad Salman (Lahore), Mohammad Suleman (Hyderabad), Mubasir Khan (Rawalpindi), Muhammad Awais Zafar (Faisalabad), Muhammad Ghazi Ghori (Karachi), Muhammad Imran (Faisalabad), Musa Khan (Islamabad), Qasim Akram (Lahore), Rameez Aziz (Karachi), Rohail Nazir (Islamabad), Saad Baig (Karachi), Saad Khan (Hyderabad), Saad Masood (Rawalpindi), Saifullah Bangash (Karachi), Sameen Gul (Fata), Shahid Aziz (Fata), Shahnawaz Dahani (Larkana), Shamyl Hussain (Islamabad), Sharoon Siraj (Multan), Sirajuddin (Fata), Ubaid Shah (Lahore), Usama Mir (Sialkot), Waqar Ahmed (Peshawar), Waseem Akram Jnr (Multan), Yasir Khan (Rawalpindi) and Zaman Khan (Azad Jammu & Kashmir). Domestic Category 3 (51):

Aamer Yamin (Multan), Abbas Ali (Peshawar), Abdullah Fazal (Karachi), Abdur Rehman (Sialkot), Abdul Rehman Muzammil (Multan), Abdul



Wahid Bangalzai (Quetta), Afaq Afridi (Fata), Afaq Ahmed (Abbottabad), Adil Amin (Peshawar), Aftab Khan (Karachi), Ali Hamza Wasim (Bahawalpur), Ali Husnain (Rawalpindi), Ali Usman (Multan), Amad Butt (Sialkot), Arsal Sheikh (Islamabad), Asad Raza (Faisalabad), Asif Ali (Faisalabad), Bilawal Bhatti (Sialkot), Fawad Alam (Karachi), Hasnain Nadeem (Azad Jammu & Kashmir), Imran Dogar (Lahore), Israr Hussain (Abbottabad), Jahanzaib Sultan (Karachi), Jawad Ali (Hyderabad), Kamran Afzal (Lahore), Mohsin Khan

(Peshawar), Mohammad Adil (Abbottabad), Mohammad Barki (Peshawar), Amir Mohammad Asghar (Karachi), Mohammad Azab (Bahawalpur), Mohammad Hamza (Karachi), Mohammad Huzaifa (Bahawalpur), Mohammad Sarwar Afridi (Fata), Mohammad Taha Mohammad Ammar (Baha-(Karachi), Mohammad Umar (Karachi), Mohammad Zeeshan (Faisalabad), Muhammad Akhlaq (Lahore), Naqeebullah (Quetta), Nabi Gul (Peshawar), Naseerullah Khan (Islamabad), Obaid Shahid (Lahore), Raja Hamza Waheed (Islamabad), Rizwan Mehmood (Hyderabad), Saad Nasim Abbas (Multan).

(Lahore), Salman Irshad (Azad Jammu & Kashmir), Saqib Khan (Karachi), Shahab Khan (Abbottabad), Shahzaib Khan (Abbottabad), Shehzad Gul (Faisalabad), Taimur Khan (Rawalpindi) and Tahir Hussain (Multan). Domestic Category 4 (21):

Aashar Mehmood (Sialkot), Abu Huraira (Dera Murad Jamali), Aqib Khan (Abbottabad), Aqib Liaqat (Azad Jammu & Kashmir), Aqib Shah (Rawalpindi), Ali Shan (Faisalabad), Bismillah Khan (Quetta), Faizan Saleem (Azad Jammu & Kashmir), Gulfam Aziz (Bahawalpur), Imran Rafiq (Multan), Mansoor Ali (Abbottabad), Mohammad Ali Taj (Islamabad), walpur), Mohammad Faizan Jnr (Peshawar), Mohammad Irfan (Lahore), Muhammad Hammad Khan (Islamabad), Sajjad Ali Hashmi (Abbottabad), Sharjeel Khan (Hyderabad), Shoaib Akhtar Jnr (Sialkot), Taj Wali (Azad Jammu and Kashmir), Zain



# Pakistani forces foil infiltration attempt, kill high-profile Khawarij commander: ISPR

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's security forces thwarted an engaged and thwarted the infiltration attempt from Khawarij's attempt to infilacross the Pakistan-Afghanistan border in Bajaur District on the night of October 29 khwarij, including their leader and 30, killing four terrorists, and high-value target, Amjad in Afghanistan. including a commander, the military's media wing said on hell," the ISPR said.

Khawarij attempting to cross proxy Fitna al Khawarij."

into Pakistan was detected by security forces.

"Own troops effectively trate. As a result of precise and skilful engagement, four alias Mazahim, were sent to

According to a statement the slain commander Amjad Afghanistan, is orchestrating issued by the Inter-Services was deputy to Khawarij leader infiltration attempts into Paki-Public Relations (ISPR), Noor Wali and head of the stan-primarily to project an haven by Khawarij belonging at full pace to eradicate the movement of a group of Rebbari Shura of the "Indian"

of law enforcement agencies, with the government having placed a bounty of Rs5 million on his head. The ISPR noted that Amjad had been involved in multiple terrorist activities inside Pakistan while residing

"It is pertinent to highlight that the leadership of Fitna The statement added that al Khwarij, while residing in impression of domestic prest to Fitna al Khawarii against

He was on the wanted list ishing morale of their khwarij in Bajaur and Mohmand because of effective operations of security forces," the ISPR added.

> Reiterating its stance, the statement urged the Interim Afghan Government to ensure that Afghan soil is not used by terrorist proxies to carry out attacks against Pakistan.

"It also validates our stance ence and to raise the dimin- Pakistan," the ISPR stated.

The military said sanitisation operations were underway in the area to eliminate any remaining militants. It reaffirmed that Pakistan's security forces "remain resolute and unwavering in their commitment to defend the nation's frontiers" and that the ongoing counterterrorism campaign under "Azm-e-Istehkam," approved by the Federal Apex that Afghan soil is contin- Committee on the National uously being used as a safe Action Plan, would continue foreign-sponsored terrorism

from the country.

### Karachi's e-challans net Rs100m in fines within three days

👺 Bureau Report

KARACHI: The newly introduced e-challan system has issued over 15,500 fines worth more than Rs100 million since October 27, according to Karachi Traffic Police data released on Thursday.

Traffic police officials said that 15,539 e-challans were generated across Karachi using 1,076 cameras installed at key locations, including Sharae Faisal, Drigh Road, and Lyari.

The highest number of violations - 7,083 challans — were issued for not wearing seatbelts, followed by 1,919 each for speeding and riding without a helmet.



Another 829 fines were issued for signal violations.

seatbelt-related fines alone total more than Rs70.8 million, while helmet and speeding violations amount to roughly Rs12.2 million and Rs9.6 million, respectively.

According to DSP (Admin) Traffic Police Kashif Nadeem, 2,662 e-challans were issued on October 27, 4,301 on October 28, and 5,978 on October 29 — a rapid increase in just three days.

He said that a 50% discount will be offered if the fine is paid within 14 days, but if the payment is delayed beyond 21 days, the fine amount will double, while persistent defaulters may face a blockade of their identity cards.

### **CM Murad orders** waiver of first e-challan under new traffic system

👺 Bureau Report

Minister Murad Ali Shah on to wear seatbelts, red-light Thursday directed Inspector General of Sindh Police Ghulam Nabi Memon to waive the first e-challan eting system.

According to a report Police chief to the chief minister, a total of 35 governbeen fined for traffic violations through the automated Rs10,000.

The report stated that the KARACHI: Sindh Chief violations included failure violations, use of tinted glasses, and mobile phone usage while driving.

Sources said that one of issued for traffic violations the police vehicles was fined under the city's new e-tick- for a seatbelt violation on October 28 at 1.36pm on the Lyari Expressway – submitted by the Sindh marking the first e-challan

issued under the new system. The automated system ment vehicles have so far detected the violation at two points and imposed a fine of

👺 City Desk

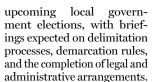
ISLAMABAD: The Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) will hold a meeting on October 31 regarding local government elections in Punjab, sources said on Thursday.

on October 31

The sources said the meeting, initially scheduled for Thursday, was postponed by a day.

The Punjab chief secretary and the secretary of local government have been summoned to attend the meeting.

The meeting will review preparations



The officials estimate that

ECP to review Punjab local

govt election preparations

Meanwhile, the ECP has issued notices to three political parties for failing to hold



intra-party elections, officials said on Thursday.

According to the ECP, notices have been served to the National Front Pakistan, Aam Log Ittehad, and Pakistan Human Party.

The commission stated that hearings against all three parties will be held on November 4, adding that the cases were prepared by the ECP's Confidential Wing.

The ECP will also hear a separate petition on the same day regarding Qasim Naveed's holding of dual party positions, the statement said.

# **Interior Minister hails** security forces for eliminating 18 Indian-sponsored terrorists in Balochistan



ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Interior Mohsin Naqvi has paid tribute to Pakistan's security forces for their successful operations against Indian-sponsored terrorists in Balochistan, resulting in the elimination of 18 militants.

Commending the forces' professionalism and dedication, Minister in the fight against terrorism and Naqvi said the timely and deci- remain resolute in their commitsive action thwarted the nefarious ment to ensuring enduring peace designs of the Indian-backed proxy and stability in Balochistan.

"I salute the security forces for sending 18 terrorists to hell," Naqvi remarked.

"We are proud of the bravery and professionalism of our officers and soldiers."

The Interior Minister emphasized that Pakistan's security institutions have achieved significant successes

### Fourth round of Pakistan-Taliban talks begins in Istanbul



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and Afghanistan Return to Negotiation Table After Talks Hit Deadlock-The fourth round of talks between Pakistan and the Afghan Taliban has begun in Istanbul, sources said

on Thursday. The previous three rounds of dialogue in Istanbul had ended without any breakthrough.

Earlier, Pakistan agreed to rejoin the negotiations at the request of the host countries to give peace "another

According to diplomatic sources, game.

the dialogue is being revived at the request of Qatar and Turkiye as part of efforts to give peace "another

The Pakistani delegation, which was scheduled to return home after the talks failed to produce results, will now stay in Istanbul.

During talks, Pakistan has reiterated its demand that Afghanistan prevent its soil from being used by terrorists targeting Pakistan.

However, the Afghan delegation not only failed to provide any assurances on this demand but also turned the talks into a blame

### **KP** compiles list of most-wanted terrorists; 59 carry bounties up to Rs30m



👺 Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: A list of most-wanted terrorists belonging to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) has been compiled, including several individuals with bounties placed on their heads, sources said on Thursday.

According to the sources, the list has been submitted to the federal interior ministry. It was jointly prepared by the provincial admin-

istration and intelligence agencies. The list includes profiles of 1,349 highly wanted terrorists belonging million placed on him.

to various districts, including Peshawar, Dera Ismail Khan, and

Bounties ranging from Rs10 million to Rs30 million have been announced for 59 of them

A reward of Rs30 million has been set for Kurram's Kazim Khan, while the head money for terrorist commander Amjadullah has been fixed at Rs20 million.

The list also features the name of Bajaur-based militant Maulvi Faqir Muhammad, with a bounty of Rs15

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