



Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



فرمان رسول
عبداللہ بن عمر رضی اللہ عنہما نے سفیان سے کہا کہ اعرش نے یہ حدیث نبی کریم صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم تکمیل فرمائی ہے یہاں کی کیا حسن اور فطرت نے نبی کریم صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم سے فرمایا کیا فرمایا کہ کسی کام کا پورا دنیا صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم ہے بلکہ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم ہی کرنے والا ہے کہ جب اس کے ساتھ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم نہ کیا جاوے تو وہ صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم ہی کرے۔
(بخاری: حدیث نمبر 5991)
Barkat Rice Mills (Pvt) Limited



Khawaja Asif urges Afghan Taliban to turn verbal pledges into written accord

Defence Minister Khawaja Asif on Friday said Pakistan does not need mediation or interaction from the United Nations or any other party to engage with Afghanistan, emphasising that peace is essential for both countries and the entire region.



Pakistan's Arusha Saeed wins Bronze Medal in Kurash

Arusha Saeed clinched a Bronze Medal in the Women's 57kg Kurash category at the 6th Islamic Solidarity Games 2025, held in Riyadh (Saudi Arabia). This marks Pakistan's first medal at the Games and a significant moment in the nation's growing journey in martial and traditional sports.

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Group photo

BAKU: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif in a group photo with President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev as Chief of the Army Staff Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir is also present on the occasion.



Photo: Online

PM Shehbaz, President Aliyev vow to deepen bilateral cooperation

Spokesman Report

BAKU: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has reiterated that Azerbaijan's victory over Armenia serves as a beacon of hope for oppressed peoples striving for self-determination, including those in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir and Palestine.

He stated this during a

meeting with Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev at the Presidential Palace in Baku on Friday.

Chief of the Army Staff, Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, was also present on the occasion.

The prime minister congratulated the government and people of Azerbaijan on Victory Day, which marks the country's historic triumph in the 44-day Karabakh Liberation War against

Armenia.

He also commended President Aliyev for signing a landmark peace agreement with Armenia earlier this year.

Both leaders reviewed the entire spectrum of bilateral relations and agreed to further strengthen their multifaceted cooperation in politics, trade and investment, energy, connectivity, and defence.

Prime Minister Shehbaz extended an invitation to President Aliyev to visit Pakistan at his earliest convenience, which the Azerbaijani leader graciously accepted.

President Aliyev, on his part, thanked Pakistan for its unwavering support for Azerbaijan's just struggle against the illegal occupation of Karabakh and appreciated Pakistan's role in

promoting regional stability in South Asia.

Earlier, upon arrival at the Heydar Aliyev International Airport, PM Shehbaz was received by Azerbaijan's First Deputy Prime Minister Yagub Eyyubov, First Deputy Foreign Minister Fariz Razayev, Pakistan's Ambassador to Azerbaijan Qasim Mohiuddin, and members of the diplomatic staff.

JUI-F to oppose any amendment undermining democracy, says Fazl

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman on Friday said his party would not accept any amendment to Article 243 that "might undermine democracy," warning that any attempt to dilute provincial autonomy or alter the country's constitutional structure would face strong resistance.

Speaking to the media after chairing a parliamentary party meeting in Islamabad, Fazlur Rehman said the 27th Consti-

tutional Amendment draft had yet to be shared with lawmakers, and no decision could be made until the government presented it formally.

"Without reading the text, we cannot accept it. Any clause that reduces provincial powers or affects the democratic framework will be rejected," he said.

He added that the JUI-F meeting, attended by party parliamentarians and senators, discussed the proposed amendment in detail but noted that "no official draft has surfaced so far."

The JUI-F chief also criticised the government for failing to implement the 26th Amendment, calling it "an insult to parliament."

He reminded that the government had previously withdrawn 35 clauses under pressure and warned that reintroducing any of them in the 27th Amendment would again violate the spirit of the constitution.

Fazlur Rehman further lamented the government's inaction on key religious and constitutional commitments.



"The recommendations of the Council of Islamic Ideology have not been presented or debated, there has been no progress on

eliminating the interest-based system, and the registration process for religious seminaries remains unresolved," he said.

Petition filed in Supreme Court against 27th Constitutional Amendment

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: A petition challenging the proposed 27th Constitutional Amendment was filed in the Supreme Court's Karachi Registry on Friday, naming the federal government, Senate chairman, and National Assembly speaker among the respondents.

The petition, filed by Barrister

Ali Tahir, contends that the amendment seeks to restrict the jurisdiction of the high courts, a move the petitioner argues is in clear violation of constitutional provisions.

It urges the court to halt any part of the amendment that undermines judicial independence or limits the judiciary's constitutional powers.

According to the petition, "Such an attempt, if permitted to proceed, would fundamentally alter the constitutional framework, destroy the independence of the judiciary, violate the doctrine of separation of powers, and extinguish the citizens' right of access to justice and judicial review guaranteed by the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Paki-

stan, 1973."

Barrister Tahir cited the 2007 Supreme Court ruling that barred judges from taking oath under the Provisional Constitutional Order (PCO), noting that the judiciary at that time prioritised the protection of its independence, a principle that remains equally valid today.

The plea also references international judicial precedents that

reinforce the fundamental role and autonomy of constitutional courts, emphasising that judicial independence is a cornerstone of democratic governance.

The petition calls on the Supreme Court to intervene and prevent any legislative step that may dilute the judiciary's authority or impede its constitutional functions.

Pakistan, Afghan Taliban talks hit deadlock in Istanbul

News Desk

ISTANBUL: The third round of talks between Pakistan and Afghan Taliban in Istanbul hit a deadlock on Friday, with Islamabad stressing that Kabul must take responsibility for curbing terrorism emanating from its soil.

The two-day discussions, mediated by Türkiye and Qatar, aimed to ease tensions following last month's deadly cross-border clashes.

However, no breakthrough was reported as both sides maintained their positions on key security concerns.

Information Minister Attaullah Tarar said Pakistan appreciated the mediation efforts of "brotherly countries" Türkiye and Qatar, but reiterated that Afghanistan had failed to honour its commitments under the Doha Peace Agreement.

"Onus lies on Afghanistan to fulfil its long-standing interna-



tional, regional, and bilateral pledges regarding control of terrorism, in which so far they have failed," Tarar said in a post on X.

He emphasised Pakistan's goodwill towards the Afghan people but clarified that Islamabad would not support any actions by the Taliban regime that undermine regional stability.

"Pakistan does not harbour any ill-will against Afghan people. However, shall never support Afghan Taliban regime's any measures that are detrimental to the interests of Afghan people or neighbouring countries," the minister said.

PPP backs Article 243 amendment, creation of constitutional court: Bilawal

Bureau Report

KARACHI: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Friday announced that his party supports the proposed amendment to Article 243, which relates to the armed forces, and the formation of a constitutional court.

Addressing a press conference after the second day of the PPP's Central Executive Committee (CEC) meeting at Bilawal House in Karachi, Bilawal said, "We agreed on three points: amending Article 243, establishing a constitutional court, and managing judges' transfers through proper consultation."

He added that the proposal to give the judicial commission a role in transfers was a "sensible approach" to ensure transparency and balance between institutions.

The PPP chairman explained that under the existing system, the president consults the chief justice before approving a judge's transfer, but the government intends to end this consultation.

"If a judicial commission is to be given this authority, then both the concerned high courts should be represented," he said.



Bilawal reiterated that the PPP has always supported judicial reforms in line with democratic principles.

"We stand for constitutional courts because they are part of the Charter of Democracy," he said, adding that the party would continue to engage with the government to build consensus on other constitutional matters, including electoral reforms.

On governance issues, Bilawal said the PPP remains committed to strengthening local governments across the country.

"We want to see a stronger local government system. Sindh has the most empowered local bodies, and we want to make them even stronger," he said, criticising Punjab for abolishing the office of the Lahore mayor.

He added that progress on other points of the Charter of Democracy would be a welcome step towards political stability and institutional harmony.

Cabinet meeting on 27th Amendment deferred as PM assigns Dar to seek allies' support

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The federal cabinet meeting scheduled to approve the proposed 27th Constitutional Amendment was postponed on Friday after the government failed to secure a clear commitment from its coalition partners.

According to official sources, the amendment bill, which was expected to be tabled in the Senate today, has also been delayed due to ongoing consultations within the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP).

The government is now awaiting the outcome of the PPP's Central Executive Committee (CEC) meeting before deciding on the next step.

Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif has assigned Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar to reach out to the leadership of the PPP and Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) to seek their formal support for the proposed amendment.

Sources said Dar has been instructed to complete consultations before proceeding with any foreign commitments.

Thousands gather at Gurdwara Panja Sahib for Guru Nanak’s 556th Birth Anniversary

 **Raza Naqvi**

ATTOCK: On the occasion of Baba Guru Nanak Dev Ji’s 556th birth anniversary, thousands of Sikh pilgrims from around the world performed their religious rituals at Gurdwara Sri Panja Sahib, Hasan Abdal. Among them, more than 2,100 pilgrims had come from India.

The gurdwara was beautifully decorated with flowers, flags, banners, and posters, while a large number of devotees gathered in the spacious courtyard to offer prayers. The celebrations began early in the morning with the ritual bath (Ishnan) in the sacred pond.

A significant number of Sikh pilgrims from the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, and other countries also arrived in Hasan Abdal



to mark this sacred occasion.

The district administration made foolproof security arrangements, deploying over 3,000 police personnel. All routes were sealed off by law

enforcement and Elite Force officials. For security reasons, local markets and bazaars remained closed.

After their arrival, the pilgrims participated in various religious

ceremonies including Akhand Path (continuous recitation of Guru Granth Sahib), Matha Tekna (bowing or prostration), Shabad Kirtan (devotional singing), and Ishnan (holy bathing).

The Sikh pilgrims expressed gratitude to the Government of Pakistan, describing the arrangements as highly satisfactory.

Deputy Commissioner Rao Atif Raza visited the gurdwara and reviewed the arrangements related to the pilgrims’ accommodation and meals. He said that the district administration, in collaboration with the Evacuee Trust Property Board (ETPB) and the Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (PSGPC), had made excellent arrangements to ensure a comfortable environment for the pilgrims to perform their religious rituals in Hasan Abdal.

Tajik Handicraft

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Tajikistan Sharifzoda Yusuf Toiralali presenting traditional Tajik handicraft gift to the Federal Minister for National Heritage and Culture Division Aurangzeb Khan Khichi on Friday.



Photo: PID

CISS-AJK Hosts International Hybrid Seminar on ‘Jammu Genocide’

 **Bureau Report**

MUZAFFARABAD: The Center for International Strategic Studies, Azad Jammu and Kashmir (CISS-AJK), organized an international hybrid seminar titled “Jammu Genocide: A Policy from the Hindutva Playbook” on November 5, 2025. The session brought together prominent academics, policymakers, human rights advocates, and survivors to revisit the tragic events of November 1947 in Jammu and analyze their enduring impact on contemporary India’s ideological, political, and military structures.

Moderated by Ms. Syeda Tahreem Bukhari from CISS-AJK, the webinar opened with reflections on how the Jammu Genocide marked one of



the darkest yet least acknowledged episodes in South Asian history. It represented not only a campaign of ethnic cleansing but the institutional birth of Hindutva-driven statecraft, one that continues to shape India’s political, military, and societal apparatuses.

The session began with a documentary presentation by CISS-AJK, tracing the historical roots and continuing manifestations of state-sponsored persecution in Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IIOJK).

Ms. Saba Ghulam Nabi, Mr. Bashir

Ahmed Chaudhary, Additional Secretary (Retd.), Dr. Mubeen Shah, Former President of the Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industries and Chairman, Duke Salman Khan and Dr. Asma Shakir Khawaja spoke on “A Policy from the Hindutva Playbook”.

AD Labour Welfare Shahbaz inspects several shopkeepers

 **Zafar Chishti**

TOBA TEK SINGH: Under the vision of Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif, effective measures are underway to ensure that essential food items are provided to citizens at government-fixed rates.

Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Mela is leading a comprehensive price control mechanism across the district, with Assistant Commissioners and Price Control Magistrates

actively monitoring the markets.

In this regard, Assistant Director Labour Welfare, Muhammad Shahbaz visited various markets where he reviewed the prices of sugar, flour and other essential commodities in detail.

During the inspection, several shopkeepers were issued warnings for overcharging, while one retailer was fined Rs. 2,000 for selling an item above the official rate list.

Muhammad Shahbaz stated that



providing relief to the public is the top priority as per the directives of the Government of Punjab. He

emphasized that profiteering and hoarding will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

Attock Administration gears up anti-dengue fight in crucial review meeting

 **Raza Naqvi**

ATTOCK: meeting regarding the anti-dengue campaign was held at the Deputy Commissioner’s Office, Attock, under the chairmanship of Additional Deputy Commissioner General (ADCG) Attock, Mr. Aneel Saeed



The meeting was attended by Chief Executive Officer Health, Dr. Asad Ismail, and officers from the Health, Education, Municipal Committee, Public Health, District Council, and other concerned departments.

During the briefing, CEO Health Dr. Asad Ismail gave a detailed presentation on the anti-dengue measures being implemented across the district. He informed the participants that activities such as larvae elimination, surveillance, fogging, and awareness campaigns are being carried out effectively in both urban and rural areas.

Addressing the meeting, ADCG Attock Aneel Saeed emphasized that all departments should work under a coordinated strategy to eliminate dengue. He directed that immediate action should be taken after identifying hotspots, and that indoor and outdoor surveillance teams must submit their daily reports regularly.

The Additional Deputy Commissioner General made it clear that negligence or carelessness will not be tolerated, and all departments must perform their duties with honesty and dedication. He instructed the Health Department to prepare daily reports regarding patient data, hotspot areas, and field activities to ensure timely action.

Concluding the meeting, ADCG Attock Aneel Saeed stated that the district administration is taking all possible measures to protect public health, and that efforts will continue until dengue is completely eradicated.

Commercial Gas tariff should be reduced immediately: Farooq Chaudhry



 **City Desk**

RAWALPINDI: Under the leadership of Muhammad Farooq Chaudhry, President of the Restaurants, Caterers, Sweets and Bakers Association Rawalpindi Punjab (Registered), Senior Vice President Huzaifa Ansar and Executive Member Chaudhry Nasir participated in the Sui Gas hearing in Lahore.

Upon returning from the hearing, President Muhammad Farooq Chaudhry informed the esteemed members that during the hearing held at the Lahore Sui Gas Head Office against the unjust increase in gas prices, the stance of the commercial sector was presented. The concerns and difficulties faced by traders associated with the restaurant, catering, bakery, and sweets businesses were highlighted.

Muhammad Farooq Chaudhry stated that while representing the commercial sector, the Association took the position that the recent increase in gas tariffs has become an unbearable burden for traders, negatively affecting employment opportunities and severely pressuring business activities.

CECOS University Hosts “AI and Emerging Tech Summit 2025”

 **News Desk**

PESHAWAR: CECOS University of IT and Emerging Sciences proudly hosted the AI and Emerging Tech Summit 2025, a one-day event dedicated to advancing dialogue, learning, and innovation in artificial intelligence and emerging technologies. Organized by the Center for Digital Governance and Agentic Innovation (CDGAI), the summit brought together students, researchers, and industry professionals for an engaging day of competitions, workshops, and expert discussions.

The summit featured a diverse lineup of activities including an expert panel discussion, AI Prompt Challenge, a Poster Competition, and parallel technical workshops, all aimed at fostering creativity, technical learning, and cross-sector collaboration.

A panel discussion brought together a distinguished lineup of experts from academia, industry, and government, including Umair Ali (Knowledge Platform), Engr. Adil Jaleel (vResolv.io), Amir Abbas (SectionSoft), Dr. Saad Salman (Department of Pharmacy, CECOS University), Dr. Akif Khan (KPITB) Dr. Farida Anjum (Directorate of Soil and Plant Nutrition), Tahueed (Precision Medicine Lab), Ms. Karishma (World Bank), Tariq (Architecture, CECOS University).

SECP Organizes Fire Safety and Emergency Evacuation Training in Collaboration with Rescue 1122

 **Commerce Desk**

ISLAMABAD: To strengthen employees’ awareness and preparedness for fire safety, first aid, and emergency response, the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) organized a comprehensive training session titled “Fire Safety and Emergency Evacuation” at its Head Office in collaboration with Rescue 1122.

The training aimed to equip designated Fire Marshals and focal persons with essential firefighting and emergency management skills, while also enhancing general staff understanding of fire safety protocols.

The session covered a wide range of life-saving topics, including the chemistry of fire, the fire triangle and tetrahedron, how fire spreads, its stages and classifications, various fire extinguishing methods, and the types and proper use of fire extinguishers.

Participants also received hands-on training in using fire extinguishers and took part in a live firefighting and evacuation drill. This practical exercise helped reinforce their skills and improved the organization’s overall emergency readiness.

The SECP remains committed to fostering a safe and secure workplace environment through regular awareness sessions, safety drills, and capacity-building initiatives for its employees.



Islamabad

30° – 38° Clear

SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr5:07 am
Zohr11:51 am
Asr3:32 pm
Maghrib5:10 pm
Isha6:35 pm

EMERGENCY

Rescue (Police) 15
Bomb Disposal 15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/
Islamabad1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance 1122 &
& Rescue Services 4451122
Motorway Police 9266044
Motorway Police 9270601-20

ENQUIRY

Edhi Ambulance115
PIA Flight Info 114
PIA Cargo 9280979
Railway Inquiry117
Railway Exchange 9270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi5555489
CAA 9281092

HOSPITALS

CMH561111
MH561116
MH561116
Cantt Hospital9270907-11
DHQ5556311-4
RGH9290301-7
Holy Family9290322-7
PIMS9261170-79
Polyclinic9218300-09
Shifa International4603666

DEPARTMENTS

CDA 9221334-43
CDA 9208301-04
Met Office 9250360-6
RDA 5555864
TMA 5770886
Cantonment Board 9270151-3

Opposition delegation meets NA speaker over leader of opposition appointment

ISLAMABAD: A parliamentary delegation of opposition members led by Barrister Gohar Ali Khan, called on National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq at Parliament House on Friday to hold discussions regarding the appointment of the Leader of the Opposition in the House.

The delegation comprises former Speaker National Assembly Asad Qaiser along with other opposition members in the National Assembly.

During the meeting, detailed discussions were held regarding the appointment of the Leader of the Opposition in the House. The delegation requested for the nomination of the Leader of the Opposition.

National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq informed the delegation that the matter is currently sub judice. On this occasion, the Speaker emphasized that Parliament is the most important and credible institution of democracy, and all political parties should play a constructive role in strengthening it. He urged Opposition to play an active and positive role on the parliamentary forum.

The Speaker stated that both the government and the opposition need to move forward with a spirit of consultation and cooperation to resolve the political, economic, and public challenges facing the country. He affirmed his readiness to serve as a bridge between the government and the opposition for the promotion of national reconciliation, parliamentary traditions, and the consolidation of the democratic process.

Graduation Ceremony of No 61 Combat Commanders' Course held at PAF ACE

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Graduation Ceremony of No 61 Combat Commanders' Course was held at PAF Aerospacepower Centre of Excellence. Air Vice Marshal Muhammad Asim Rana, Air Officer Commanding, Central Air Command was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

In his address to graduating officers, the Chief Guest lauded the exceptional dedication, professionalism and perseverance displayed by the course participants. He emphasized that combat readiness remains the cornerstone of PAF's operational doctrine and that realistic, adaptable & technology-driven training was essential to maintain the Force's decisive edge. He highlighted that PAF Aerospacepower Centre of Excellence continues to serve as the cradle of tactical brilliance, where cutting-edge concepts of air combat are tested, refined and translated into doctrine. Expressing satisfaction over the high professional standards achieved by the institution, the Chief Guest remarked

that all schools within PAF ACE were working in perfect harmony to produce combat leaders who could harness modern technologies and integrate them across multiple domains. Reflecting on the visionary leadership of Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu, Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force, the Chief Guest noted that PAF is undergoing a remarkable transformation under the guidance of its leadership. He further said that the comprehensive modernization drive initiated by the Air Chief has ushered in an era of unprecedented growth focusing on indigenization, network-centric operations, artificial intelligence integration and enhanced jointness across air, cyber and space domains.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, the Chief Guest awarded trophies and certificates to the officers who distinguished themselves through their outstanding performance during the demanding course. Chief of the Air Staff Trophy for Best Overall Performance among Combat Pilots was awarded



to Wing Commander Ikrash Munir Awan, while Air Officer Commanding

Air Defence Trophy for Best Overall Performance among Combat Control-

lers was awarded to Squadron Leader Javed Iqbal.

Yakjheti ky Rang

ISLAMABAD: Artists are performing on stage during the opening ceremony of annual "Lok Mela" at Lok Versa as this year the Lok Versa is celebrating its Golden Jubilee with the slogan of "Yakjheti ky Rang, Lok Versa ky Sang" in Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Need for aligning sustainable investments stressed at sustainability plenary

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Aligning investments with climate resilience, inclusive growth and financing sustainable development were underscored at the high-level plenary participated by United Nations Development Program, Nestlé Pakistan, The World Bank Group and International Monetary Fund at the 28th Sustainable Development Conference by Sustainable Development Policy Institute.

Talking on the occasion, Jason Avancena, Chief Executive Officer, Nestlé Pakistan said, "Financing sustainable development demands inno-



vative mechanisms that blend public, private, and multilateral resources together.

Highlighting UNDP's perspective, Dr Samuel Rizk, Resident Representative UNDP said "Chances of collective action are greater when all stakeholders play

their part – with the government as the primary driver.

Talking on the occasion, Dr Mahir Binici, Resident Representative of International Monetary Fund, said, "The IMF truly recognizes the environment related shocks as macro-critical challenges

that directly affect economic activity and growth.

Talking about resilience to macroeconomic shocks, Bolormaa Amgaabazar, Country Director, The World Bank Group said that the ten-year Country Partnership Framework that WB has planned has heavy emphasis on human development.

High-level plenary moderated by Dr Abid Suleri, Executive Director SDPI, also highlighted how collective action with public and private stakeholders can accelerate efforts towards mitigating impact of climate change, ensuring that food systems continue to nourish people for generations to come.

Seminar on Allama Iqbal's Vision for Poverty Alleviation Scheduled for November 9th in Rawalpindi

City Desk

RAWALPINDI: Under the auspices of the Jinnah Iqbal South Asian Forum, a special seminar on Poet of the East, Allama Dr. Muhammad Iqbal's vision of poverty alleviation will be held on Sunday, 9 November 2025, at Anjuman Faiz-ul-Islam, Faizabad, Murree Road, Rawalpindi.

The chief guest of the event will be former Punjab Health Minister Dr. Jamal Nasir, while Commodore (R) Shahid Nawaz will chair the session.

Chairman of the Forum Rana Abdul Baqi, senior Supreme Court lawyer Sajjad Akbar Abbasi, and Dr. Sadia Kamal will address the gathering and shed light on Allama Iqbal's vision for eradicating poverty.

On this occasion, warm polyester quilts will be distributed among flood-affected families of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, in addition to deserving local households.

Forum Chairman Rana Abdul Baqi stated that the gifts for flood victims will be delivered directly to the homes of deserving families by the Forum's dedicated teams.

Multan Academy of Letters Office is playing an important role in promoting the literary activities

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Director General of Pakistan Academy of Letters, Islamabad, Abdul Basit, on the occasion of the inauguration of the Multan Office of the Academy of Letters, said that the Multan Office is playing an important role in promoting the literary activities of the writers, poets and intellectuals of the southern Punjab region and the chairperson of the institution, Dr. Najiba Arif, is playing her special role in including the writers of this region in the national mainstream. He further said that all the regional offices of the Pakistan Academy of Letters have been activated. Local writers, poets and their works are being further promoted through meetings with writers and book launch events.

On this occasion, Director General of Pakistan Academy of Letters, Abdul Basit, while welcoming the suggestions of Honorary President Azhar Saleem Majuka, assured his full support to further activate the Multan Office despite the lack of funds. On this occasion, Director General Abdul Basit was also presented with a bouquet on his arrival at the Multan office. Mian Muhammad Aamir of the Academy of Letters Multan Office was also present on this occasion. On this occasion, Director General Pakistan Academy of Letters Abdul Basit also thanked Jafar Baloch, Station Director of Radio Pakistan Multan, for his special cooperation in meeting him.

Fostering an Innovative Entrepreneurial Mindset in the New Generation: Ch. Zulfiqar

Zain Khan Malghani



MULTAN: Renowned industrialist and national business leader Chaudhry Zulfiqar Ali Anjum has said that the nations that progress in the modern world are those which make their young generation creative, confident, and innovative in their business thinking. He stated, "The coming era belongs to those young people who will find new paths through their own ideas — those who will not wait for opportunities but will create them."

According to Ch. Zulfiqar Ali Anjum, the purpose of education

should not be limited to securing a job, but rather to developing minds capable of solving problems and bringing positive change to the economic system. He emphasized that practical training, entrepreneurship, and industry-linked experiences must be included in university and college curricula so that students become not just degree-holders but visionaries and innovators.

Mr. Anjum said that Pakistan is full of talent, but this potential needs guidance, confidence, and opportunities to move in the right direction. In his view, if the youth channel their energy positively, they can elevate not only their own lives but also the country's economy to new heights.

He further remarked that successful businesses are not built merely on capital but on intention, knowledge, and perseverance. "An entrepreneurial mindset is a state of mind that allows a person to see opportunities within problems," he noted — adding that this way of thinking is the secret behind the success of the world's greatest companies and inventors.

In conclusion, Ch. Zulfiqar Ali Anjum stressed that the government, educational institutions, and industrialists must work together to create an environment where young people are free to research, experiment, and innovate. "If we give today's youth confidence and direction," he said, "then tomorrow's Pakistan will become an innovative, self-reliant, and strong nation."

Millennium Education Group Wins Fastest Growing Brand of the Year Award 2025

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Millennium Education Group, Pakistan's leading private education system, has been honoured with the "Fastest Growing Brand of the Year Award 2025" in the School Education category, reaffirming its position as a trailblazer in redefining the educational landscape of Pakistan says a press release.

This prestigious national accolade, presented at the Brand of the Year Awards 2025 ceremony, celebrates The Millennium Education's remarkable growth trajectory, visionary leadership, and unwavering commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and learner empowerment.

Mr. Abid Hussain, Chief Operating Officer of The Millennium Education Group, received the award on behalf of the organization from Honourable Syed



Yusuf Raza Gillani, Chairman Senate of Pakistan, during a grand ceremony held in Islamabad.

The recognition marks yet another

milestone in the Group's journey of success under the dynamic and visionary leadership of Dr. Faisal Mushtaq TI, Chairman & CEO of The Millennium

Education Group, Pakistan. His innovation-driven vision and strategic foresight have propelled TME to become one of Pakistan's most progressive and future-focused education systems.

Through a forward-looking approach, The Millennium Education has championed digital transformation in learning, global curriculum delivery, and professional development initiatives that empower both educators and learners.

Over the years, The Millennium Education Group has evolved into a hallmark of academic excellence, blending scholastic rigor with technology, creativity, and global citizenship. Its collaborations with world-leading education partners such as Cambridge International Education, Microsoft, and Google for Education reflect its mission to prepare future-ready learners equipped with the skills and mindset for global success.

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Pakistan, UK Agree to Fast-Track Trade Mechanism and Expand Economic Partnership

Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, held a productive meeting with the UK’s Minister of State for Trade Policy, Mr. Chris Bryant, to advance Pakistan–UK economic co-operation under the recently signed Pakistan–UK Trade Dialogue Mechanism.

Minister Ahsan Iqbal reaffirmed that Pakistan and the United Kingdom share a deep, historic bond rooted in longstanding cultural ties and strong people-to-people linkages. He stated, “Pakistan and the UK enjoy excellent political relations, but now is the time to match that strength on the economic front. Our goal is to turn goodwill into growth.”

Highlighting that bilateral trade currently stands at £ 5.5 billion, the Minister emphasized the need to significantly expand trade volumes.

“With £ 5.5 billion in bilateral trade, we have only touched the surface. The Trade Dialogue Mechanism must now become the engine that unlocks our true economic potential,” he added.

He underlined the importance of swiftly operationalizing the three working groups established under the Trade Dialogue Mechanism to address priority areas and unlock commercial opportunities.

“We cannot afford delays. The working groups must become operational immediately so our next ministerial meeting delivers concrete, measurable outcomes.”

Minister Chris Bryant acknowledged the significance of the Trade Dialogue Mechanism signed in July 2025, which provides for annual ministerial engagements and requires the working groups to become functional within six months. He noted that technical discussions around SPS measures and tariffs are essential, and emphasized the need for subject-matter experts to develop practical solutions.

Responding to an inquiry on Pakistan’s broader economic direction, Minister Ahsan Iqbal briefed on the Government of Pakistan’s efforts over the past three years to stabilize and grow the economy. He stated,

“Pakistan has reversed the economic downturn of recent years. Inflation is falling, growth is recovering, and Pakistan is open for business like never before.”

He highlighted the Government’s commitment, under Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif’s leadership, to position Pakistan as a regional investment hub.

“Under Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif’s vision, Pakistan is positioning itself as a regional investment hub — a country where investors see stability, opportunity, and long-term value.”

The Minister underscored Pakistan’s strong potential in IT human resources and the technology sector, identifying multiple avenues for Pak–UK collaboration in technological and scientific domains.

“Pakistan’s greatest asset today is its young, highly skilled tech talent. Deep technology collaboration between Pakistan and the UK can create a new bridge between our economies.”

The Immigrant Who Rewrote America’s Political Destiny

A new chapter has been written in the political and administrative history of the United States — one authored not by an old establishment figure, but by a 34-year-old South Asian whose intellect, integrity, and irresistible smile conquered one of the most challenging cities in the world: New York. Zohran Mamdani’s victory as Mayor is not just a political triumph; it is a moment of moral reawakening for America — a reminder that the nation still rewards courage, clarity, and conviction over color, creed, or capital.

Born in Kampala, Uganda, raised in a South Asian family, and educated in the United States, Mamdani’s rise is nothing short of revolutionary. In a city long ruled by power brokers, media barons, and billionaires, he stood alone — an immigrant’s son knocking on every door of every borough, shaking every hand, and smiling through every insult hurled his way. With unshakable composure, he challenged the system and charmed New Yorkers of every race and religion.

In many ways, Zohran Mamdani is the mirror America needed. His victory exposed the fault lines between old-guard politics and the emerging conscience of a new generation. He represented the immigrant who built this nation yet was too long kept away from leading it. He reminded America that New York — the city that welcomed Italians, Irish, Jews, Puerto Ricans, Dominicans, Pakistanis, and Bangladeshis — owes its greatness to its diversity.

During his victory speech, his voice carried both gratitude and defiance: “New York was built by immigrants, and today, it is led by one.” That line alone set

the tone for a new political age.

Mamdani promised affordable housing for all New Yorkers, a moratorium on rent increases, fare-free buses, and city-run grocery stores to fight inflation. He vowed to make public services not a privilege but a right. Critics dismissed these pledges as utopian. But Mamdani replied with characteristic wit: “Every day I will wake up to make New York better than it was yesterday.”

His agenda reflects the deep inequities that define the modern metropolis. In 2025, median rent in Manhattan surpassed \$5,000 a month — a record high. More than 60,000 New Yorkers sleep in shelters nightly, while the city’s billionaires doubled their wealth since 2020. Mamdani’s victory came as a moral revolt — a democratic uprising against profit-driven governance.

Even President Donald Trump, when asked about Mamdani’s win, could not resist commenting. “He’s a communist,” Trump said, half-smiling. “He’ll fail, and that will only help Republicans.” Yet, observers noted the unease behind his humor — a recognition that a formidable force had entered the national arena. Trump, a master of populist energy, recognized in Mamdani a younger reflection of his own political magnetism — only directed by conscience rather than ego.

In the weeks following the election, the White House reportedly tried to assess how to handle the new mayor who refused to be co-opted. Mamdani, however, made his position clear: “I will

cooperate with Washington if Washington cooperates with New York’s people. My loyalty is to my voters, not to the corridors of power.”

He stood unshaken even when both Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and India’s Prime Minister Narendra Modi mocked him publicly for his promise to honor international warrants

for their arrest should they enter New York. Netanyahu had sneered, “He’ll never be mayor,” and Modi dismissed him as irrelevant. Yet, the ballots proved otherwise — the people of New York had spoken.

Mamdani’s win has triggered more than political ripples; it has ignited a national awakening. Across the United States, from Chicago to San Francisco, young South Asians, African Americans, Latinos, and Arab-Americans have found new hope. His unapologetic independence has inspired debates on the corrosive influence of foreign lobbies and corporate donors in American politics.

A recent independent survey by the Pew Research Center showed that 68% of Americans now believe politicians should prioritize domestic welfare over foreign alliances — a shift many attribute to Mamdani’s rhetoric and example. Conversations once whispered in private — about AIPAC funding, media bias, and political coercion — are now part of mainstream discourse.

For decades, America’s unquestioned alignment with Israel — despite global condemnation of its actions in Gaza — was seen as untouchable. But Mamdani’s stance has torn that veil. His refusal to

visit Israel, his insistence on compassion for both Jews and Palestinians, and his commitment to New York’s multicultural reality have forced the nation to rethink where its moral compass truly points.

Political analysts across U. S. networks now call Zohran Mamdani “the Obama of a new era.” Like Barack Obama’s 2008 rise, Mamdani’s victory carries symbolic power — proof that the American dream, though battered, still breathes. He may not seek the presidency soon, but many already whisper that history has found its next great contender.

If an African-American from Chicago could rise to the presidency in 2008, why not a South Asian from Queens in the decade ahead? His journey embodies the American ideal — not of inherited privilege, but of earned respect.

In an age of polarization, Mamdani offers something rare: a unifying moral vision that transcends political lines. He speaks not as a partisan but as a citizen-leader who loves his city more than his career. His victory reminds America that greatness lies not in dominance but in decency — not in fear, but in faith.

As the confetti of his triumph settles over the streets of New York, one truth rings clear: the son of immigrants has rekindled the immigrant spirit of America. And if his light continues to rise, he may yet illuminate the path to a better nation — one where every child, regardless of origin, can dream not just of belonging, but of leading.

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



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

Pakistan’s Perpetual Pendulum: How History and Instability Stifle Economic Revival

To comprehend Pakistan in the context of the contemporary era, one must first engage with the historical substratum that undergirds its formation. The Partition of the Subcontinent, recurrent military interventions, feudal social structures, and the repetitive collapse of democratic experiments have together crystallized a long-term politico-economic alignment that remains operative to this day. History has implanted within this state a persistent tension between institutional authority and popular aspirations where an unstable political culture, interlocked with judicial and bureaucratic forces, continues to exert a profound influence on the trajectory of economic policymaking. (Historical perspective: general reference to the body of research literature; historical illustrations and debates have been extensively published.)

Simultaneously, Islamabad’s recalibrated overtures toward Washington, coupled with selective diplomatic re-engagements, have been interpreted as an attempt to reconstitute Pakistan’s image as a balanced, pragmatic actor within the global order a posture described by observers as “pragmatic equilibrium.” The emerging strategy seeks to sustain relations with both the United States and the Gulf, without marginalizing China, thus anchoring external relations in a matrix of mutual benefit. The immediate dividends financial, defensive, and investment-related may indeed accrue; however, their durability will

hinge upon the strength of domestic systemic and civil reforms.

Security concerns and regional instability particularly Afghan border tensions and the resurgence of militant factions within Pakistan continue to impose unrelenting pressure upon both foreign policy and internal equilibrium. The October 2025 cross-border skirmishes and the subsequent militant incursions into Pakistani territory exemplify these enduring threats. Such developments compel heightened military engagement, divert fiscal allocations toward defense expenditures, and inevitably relegate the economic reform agenda to a secondary plane. Concurrently, domestic political dynamics have been fraught with extremist movements and governmental countermeasures for instance, the October 23, 2025, imposition of stringent curbs on hard-line factions actions that risk igniting political unrest and public dissent, thereby undermining investor confidence. Collectively, these phenomena form a complex web of “risks and opportunities” that the state must navigate through coherent and adaptive strategic management.

The intricate nexus among historical antecedents, political decision-making, and external diplomacy leads to an unavoidable inference: the path toward a successful Pakistani future demands multi-dimensional reform. These must encompass:

1. Political transparency and institutional autonomy ensuring the independent functioning of the judiciary, election commission,

and bureaucracy;

2. Continuity of economic reform expanding the tax base, implementing agrarian restructuring, and advancing the growth of small and medium-scale industries;

3. Environmental and climate resilience reorienting infrastructural and agricultural policies to confront the dual threats of floods and droughts;

4. Balanced foreign policy assigning equal weight to regional stability and economic partnerships.

Historical experience demonstrates that neither external aid nor transient political settlements can serve as enduring engines of economic development. What is required instead is a sustained process of reform and a transparent, accountable economic governance framework.

Pakistan’s future thus rests upon an intricate symbiosis of its historical roots, internal political temperament, economic policies, and a well-calibrated external strategy. The events of 2025 ranging from border confrontations and Gulf defense accords to international financial reports and domestic political developments underscore that the nation stands at a delicate yet opportunity-laden juncture. Should the ruling elite embrace durable political dialogue, institutional reform, and technically grounded economic planning, Pakistan may not only harness external partnerships more effectively but also gradually transcend its inherited historical constraints. Only through vision, perseverance, and systemic coherence can history transform from being a burden upon state policy into an enduring instrument of wisdom and renewal.

Where Do I Belong?

Aafia Javed

A girl born and brought up in a metropolitan city, in a businessman’s house. She had her own home and car, yet she often saw her father, who owned his office, travel there by bus. She saw her grandfather generously spending money on his grandchildren but never on his own clothes or shoes. She went to a private school where teachers instantly humbled students if they did anything wrong. Everyone at school thought she belonged to a rich background, but she often asked herself, “Which class do I really belong to?”

Well, I could get anything I wanted in life, that makes me rich, I guess. But did I ever ask? Certainly not. But that doesn’t make me poor either; I’m just hesitant to ask for it. Every month, her family went grocery shopping. Even though they could afford small treats, she always felt hesitant to ask for a packet of Milo or a jar of marshmallows. It wasn’t that they couldn’t afford such things, they just never felt the need to spend on them, and she never asked either. Things like that always felt like a luxury.

Although she could afford them, she always felt uneasy walking into upscale restaurants because she felt she’d never fit in. But at school, she would tell stories of her trips to Islamabad, Lahore while her classmates gushed over the fact that they had never once left Karachi.

Years passed, and as she stepped into adulthood, the question still lingered, where do I belong? Now grown up, she had never gone out with friends, while all her classmates hung out in cafés or malls. She never even went from school to home with friends because her brothers were always there to pick her up in their car. Though because of that, she never had to struggle with public transport either.

A few years later, they owned a house, a farmhouse, a car, and an office on a street in Karachi often called Pakistan’s Wall Street because it

serves as the nerve center of the country’s economy. Her friends, even her cousins, had this perception about her family, that they were a bunch of rich people. But by then, her brothers were already struggling with their university fees, and she was struggling with her lack of freedom, a freedom of choice, usually abundant in rich households. That made her let go of her dream career and choose a random degree just for the sake of having one, in a relatively inexpensive university.

Growing up in a metropolitan city, she had dreams like any city child would. But moving from a city lifestyle to a farmhouse far away sounded luxurious, yet it felt like life had taken a 360-degree turn back to simpler, almost ancient times. At the same time, it reflected a modern mindset, off-grid living, a rare yet progressive concept in society. This contrast of thoughts often made her question, “Where do I actually belong?”

She often questioned her social and emotional hierarchy. Although as an adult she had grown used to the peace of a life far from chaos and consumerism, the city child in her with big dreams wasn’t proud of her. She never felt like complaining. Was it because she had made peace with it, or was she simply exhausted? That was another question that lingered with her existence.

The silence in her routine was beautiful yet deafening, a peace she hadn’t asked for but had learned to live with. Maybe belonging isn’t about class at all, maybe it’s a mindset. Because her parents taught her that dignity matters more than display, that comfort comes from having just enough and not spending excessively. She always had enough, maybe even more than enough, but at the same time, she used to crave a getaway, a burger, or a metropolitan pizza.

Perhaps, she belongs somewhere between gratitude and longing, not rich—not poor, just human.

The writer reached at aafiajaved03@gmail.com

Blasts injure dozens at Indonesian mosque, student suspected

Agencies

JAKARTA: Explosions at a mosque in Indonesia's capital Jakarta that injured dozens of people during Friday prayers could have been an attack, officials indicated, with a 17-year-old student the suspected perpetrator.

Police said 55 people were in hospitals with a range of minor to serious injuries, including burns, after the blasts at the mosque inside a school complex in the Kelapa Gading area.

"We were so surprised by the sound, it was massive. Our hearts were beating fast, we couldn't breathe, and we ran outside," said Luciana, 43, who was working at the school canteen at the time. She described multiple blasts, broken windows and panic as dozens fled the complex.

"I thought it was an electrical wiring problem, or the sound system exploded, but we didn't know exactly what it was because



we ran out just as a white smoke billowed from the mosque."

Deputy house speaker Sufmi Dasco Ahmad, speaking to media after visiting a hospital, said the young male suspect was undergoing surgery, without giving more details or possible motive.



Indonesia's national police chief Listyo Sigit Prabowo said the suspect was a student at the adjacent school, and an investigation was underway into his background and motive.

"We have identified the suspected perpetrator, and we are currently investigating the perpetrator's identity, his environment, including his home and other things," he said.

Police found a "toy weapon" at the scene with some inscriptions on it, Indonesia's presidential palace said, without elaborating

A Great Leader

ISSI hosts launch of book titled 'Shavkat Mirziyoyev'

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI), in collaboration with the Embassy of Uzbekistan, hosted the launch of the book titled "Shavkat Mirziyoyev: A Great Leader of Reforms and Regional Integration". The Chief Guest on the occasion was Aurangzeb Khan Khichi, Federal Minister for National Heritage & Culture Division. Other speakers included Ambassador Sohail Mahmood, Director General, ISSI; Dr. Talat Shabbir, Director, China Pakistan Study Centre (CPSC), ISSI; H. E. Alisher Tuhtayev, Ambassador of Uzbekistan to Pakistan; Dr. Mehmood-ul-Hasan Khan, author; Major General Syed Khalid Amir Jaffery, President of the Centre for South Asia and International Studies, Islamabad; and Professor Dr. Adam Saud, Dean of Bahria University, Islamabad.

The event began with the national anthems of Pakistan and Uzbekistan, followed by the screening of a video

highlighting the achievements and activities of H. E. Shavkat Mirziyoyev, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

In his introductory remarks, Dr. Talat Shabbir congratulated Dr. Mehmood-ul-Hasan Khan on his important contribution. He noted that the book highlights President Mirziyoyev's visionary leadership and Uzbekistan's reform process.

Ambassador Sohail Mahmood lauded the author for his insightful and comprehensive study that vividly portrays Uzbekistan's remarkable transformation under the visionary leadership of President Mirziyoyev. He noted that since assuming office in 2016, President Mirziyoyev has led an ambitious reform agenda that reinvigorated Uzbekistan's internal governance and reshaped its foreign policy outlook.

Ambassador Sohail Mahmood underscored that Pakistan and Uzbekistan share deep-rooted bonds of faith, history, and culture, and have a developed a strategic partnership grounded

in mutual trust and shared aspirations. He pointed to growing cooperation in trade, transport, energy, and security, as well as expanding cultural and educational linkages between the two nations.

Chief Guest Minister Aurangzeb Khan Khichi said the book celebrates the visionary leadership shaping Uzbekistan's future. He noted that President Mirziyoyev's reform agenda is a model for others. He described Uzbekistan as a wonderful country and stressed that greater connectivity is bringing Pakistan and Uzbekistan closer. Appreciating the Uzbek President's vision, he said the book reflects the growing strength of bilateral relations.

Ambassador Alisher Tuhtayev, in his congratulatory address, praised the strong friendship between Pakistan and Uzbekistan. He noted that the book reflects deep academic interest in Uzbekistan's economic model and years of dedicated research. Highlighting President Mirziyoyev's leadership, he said it captures key economic and social

reforms and regional connectivity. He appreciated the author's effort, calling the book a gesture that strengthens Pakistan-Uzbekistan relations.

Dr. Mehmood-ul-Hasan Khan said the completion of this book marks a proud moment for Pakistan, Uzbekistan, and the wider Central Asian region. He thanked Ambassador Tuhtayev, Uzbek think-tanks, and scholars for their cooperation.

Major General Syed Khalid Amir Jaffery (R) highlighted Uzbekistan's transformation under President Mirziyoyev's leadership and his vision of a "New Uzbekistan" focused on openness, modernisation, and global integration.

Professor Adam Saud highlighted that under President Mirziyoyev, Uzbekistan's per capita income has doubled, reflecting strong economic progress.

The event was attended by a cross-section of people including diplomats, senior officials, academics, think-tank experts, and representatives of the media.

President expresses sorrow over mosque explosion in Jakarta

City Desk



ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari on Friday expressed deep sorrow and concern over the tragic explosion at a school mosque in Indonesia's capital Jakarta during Friday prayers, which left several people injured.

The president conveyed his sympathies to the government and people of Indonesia and prayed for the swift recovery of those injured in the incident. President Zardari reaffirmed Pakistan's solidarity with Indonesia in the fight against terrorism and extremism, noting that Pakistan has itself suffered greatly and rendered immense sacrifices in this struggle.

He added that terrorism has also left a deep mark on his own life, having lost close family members to acts of terror.

He said such personal loss strengthens his resolve to work for peace and to stand firmly against extremism in all its forms.

The president said that Pakistan stands shoulder to shoulder with Indonesia and the international community in its commitment to defeat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

Serious Housing Fraud Uncovered at Newham Council 35 Homes Given to Ineligible Tenants

Chaudhry Tabraiz Aurah

LONDON: A Newham Council housing officer allegedly manipulated internal systems to give 35 homes to people who were not eligible, the authority has revealed. The fraud was uncovered after a whistleblower alerted the council's anti-fraud team. The staff member resigned immediately when confronted. A council spokesperson said Newham is working with police to pursue a criminal investigation and to recover the 35 properties. However, the Met Police said there is currently no active investigation. The case emerges as Newham faces a temporary housing crisis, with more than 7,500 households in temporary accommodation the highest in England costing the council £100m a year.

Coca-Cola's Social Impact Honored at SDPI's 28th Sustainability Development Conference

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Coca-Cola successfully showcased its wide range of sustainability initiatives at the 28th Sustainable Development Conference, hosted by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI). A major highlight was The Coca-Cola Foundation receiving the Best Social Impact Award for its Home Chefs Project from SDPI. Implemented in partnership with CARE Pakistan, this initiative is training 8,000 home-based chefs, 80% of whom are women, to scale up their micro-businesses.

The Coca-Cola sustainability pavilion at Sustainable Development Conference was inaugurated by Mr. Hakan Ergen, Vice President of Coca-Cola Eurasia & Middle East. General Manager Coca-Cola Pakistan Mr. Sami Wahid, high-profile government officials, including Minister for Planning and Development Dr. Ahsan Iqbal and Minister for Climate Change Dr. Musadik Malik, visited the Coca-Cola pavilion. They commended Coca-Cola Pakistan's efforts in environmental stewardship, water security, waste management, and community empowerment.

Chinese Embassy hosts Sangam Gala 2025 bringing leaders and communities together

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Pakistan hosted the Sangam Gala 2025. Mr. Jiang Zaidong, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, Mr. Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh, Federal Minister for Investment, and Senator Mushahid Hussain Sayed, Chairman of the Pakistan-China Institute, attended the event, which brought together representatives from Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh, and Balochistan. Participants represented a wide range of sectors, including government, political parties, religious communities, think tanks, and media, covering all age groups.

During the sessions, attendees engaged in extensive exchanges, sharing updates on their respective countries' development, recounting heartwarming stories of China-Pakistan friendship, and discussing prospects for future cooperation. Both sides agreed that the ongoing moderniza-



tion efforts in China and Pakistan have opened up broad avenues for collaboration. In particular, the proposals outlined in China's 15th Five-Year Plan—focused on building a community with a shared future for mankind, promoting high-quality Belt and

Road cooperation, and expanding high-standard opening up—present important opportunities for strengthening the China-Pakistan community with a shared future. These initiatives also provide strong momentum for upgrading CPEC and solid support for

the two countries to jointly advance economic globalization.

Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to carrying forward the ironclad friendship, deepening practical cooperation, and working together to create a brighter shared future.

Expert Panel Deconstructs Pakistan's Stance on Biological Weapons Conventions

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: the Centre for Aerospace and Security Studies (CASS), Lahore organised a roundtable discussion titled "Biological Risks, Global Conventions and Pakistan's Options". As an independent think tank, CASS Lahore organises academic events for scholars and practitioners interested in national security in its wider context. The event was attended by academics, intellectuals, and domain experts. Ms Ezba Walayat Khan, a Research Assistant at CASS Lahore, delivered the opening address.

Prof Dr Syed Javaid Khurshid, Consultant for Science Communication and Diplomacy, delivered a talk structured in two sessions. In the

first session, "Understanding Current Biosafety and Biosecurity Conventions, Treaties, Agreements and Implementation Challenges", he traced the evolution of the 1972 Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) and explained that the absence of a verification mechanism undermines confidence and leaves states vulnerable to non-compliance. He highlighted the dual-use dilemma of modern biotechnology, where scientific advances may be misused for biowarfare or bioterrorism. Citing COVID-19, he highlighted the difficulty in distinguishing natural outbreaks from deliberate biological incidents.

In the second session, "Emerging Global Challenges in the Implementation of the Biological Weapons Conven-

tion and Pakistan's Policy Options", Dr Khurshid urged nations to take confidence building measures through the development of education programmes and strengthening methods and capacities for detection of outbreaks of diseases at the national, regional, and international levels. He also brought the Russia-Ukraine conflict in the discussion as it renewed attention to biological weapons concern. Furthermore, he commended Pakistan's commitment to biosecurity through the BWC Act, Export Control Laws, and Biosafety Rules 2005. He concluded with several key recommendations, including the establishment of a vaccine bank, the local production of essential vaccines, and Pakistan's inclusion in the Australia Group and the

Wassenaar Arrangement.

In his concluding remarks, Air Marshal Asim Suleiman (Retd), President CASS Lahore, stated that today's rapidly changing security landscape demands stronger global and national responses to biological threats. This is especially important in the backdrop of accidental releases, potential weaponisation of biology, and weak international oversight mechanisms. Nevertheless, he observed, Pakistan has met its BWC obligations through strong laws, biosafety institutions, and responsible scientific practice. However, Pakistan must strengthen resilience through ethical innovation and balanced diplomacy to promote equitable global preparedness for collective biological security.



The seminar concluded with a lively interactive session. It highlighted Pakistan's BWC engagement and biosafety challenges, urging the development of a stronger biotechnology and pharmaceutical capacity for national health security. The participants appreciated CASS Lahore's initiative in hosting an engaging and thought-provoking discussion.

Bull & Bears

PSX 100-Share Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
159,592.90	159,096.78
Day's High	Day's Low
160,435.94	159,005.13
Index Value	Change
18,319,671,344	+ 496.12
Percentage	Time
+0.31%	7 Nov, 2025 4:30 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
9,682.57	-53.21
Percentage	Time
-0.55%	7 Nov, 4:35 pm GMT+1

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
46,607.97	-304.33
Percentage	Time
-0.65%	7 Nov, 12:46 pm GMT-5

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
50,276.37	-607.31
Percentage	Time
-1.19%	7 Nov, 3:45 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	185.65	190.65
Bahrain Dinar	747.1	754.6
Canadian Dollar	205.9	212.9
China Yuan	39.29	39.69
Danish Krone	43.15	43.55
Euro	332.2	335.7
Hong Kong Dollar	36.1	36.45
Indian Rupee	3.10	3.19
Japanese Yen	1.8765	1.9765
Kuwaiti Dinar	914.25	923.25
Malaysian Ringgit	66.8	67.4
New Zealand \$	158.25	160.25
Norwegians Krone	27.52	27.82
Omani Riyal	731.7	739.2
Qatari Riyal	77	77.8
Saudi Riyal	75.75	76.35
Singapore Dollar	217.25	222.05
Swedish Korona	29.25	29.55
Swiss Franc	346.65	349.4
Thai Bhat	8.55	8.7
U.A.E Dirham	76.95	77.95
UK Pound Sterling	381.35	384.35
US Dollar	282.6	282.85

IP Facilitation Desk inaugurated at Multan Chambers

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: The IP Facilitation Desk was officially inaugurated at the Multan Chamber of Commerce and Industry in collaboration with the Intellectual Property Organization of Pakistan. The inauguration was jointly attended by Chairman IPO Ambassador Farrukh Amol, Director General IPO Pakistan Numan Aslam Sheikh and President Multan Chamber of Commerce and Industry Mian Bakhtawar Tanveer Sheikh.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by a large number of representatives from the business community, Multan Chamber of Small Traders and Small Industry, Bed Sheet Association, Cotton Ginners Association, Punjab Small Industries Corporation, TDAP, universities, Tax Bar Association and government and private institutions. Speaking, President Chamber Mian Bakhtawar Tanveer Sheikh said that the establishment of the IPO Help Desk is a major achievement of the Multan Chamber, which is the first center of its kind in the whole of Pakistan. Its establishment will help industrialists, traders and investors of the region in protecting, registering and commercializing their brands, trademarks and other assets at the national and international levels.

Chairman IPO Pakistan Farrukh Amol said in his address that it is very important



to create awareness among the public about IP rights to give Pakistan a prominent place on the world's intellectual property map. He said that Pakistan is a big country, it is happy

that Multan has taken the lead in this regard, and if the country has to move forward on the path of development, the private sector must be brought forward.

Former President Multan Chamber Mian Rashid Iqbal said that it is a matter of honor that the first IPO Help Desk in Pakistan has been established in Multan.

Dry fruits

KARACHI: A vendor sells dry fruits at a market stall as with the onset of cold weather, sales of dried fruits and nuts have increased despite rising prices, particularly for almonds and peanuts across the Country.




Photo: Online

Wateen Telecom Secures 20-Year Renewal LDI License from PTA

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Wateen Telecom Limited, Pakistan's leading ICT and connectivity solutions provider, is pleased to announce that the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) has renewed its Long Distance International (LDI) License for a 20-year term. The formal signing ceremony took place in Islamabad on November 6, 2025, attended by senior leadership from PTA and Wateen.

Over the past year, Wateen worked closely with PTA to amicably resolve the Access Promotion Contribution (APC) matter related to the Universal Service Fund (USF). The settlement was formalized through an order of the Sindh High Court

dated October 22, 2025, endorsed by both the PTA and the Ministry of IT and Telecom.

Adil Rashid, CEO of Wateen Telecom, stated: "The renewal of our LDI License is a testament to Wateen's consistent compliance, operational excellence, and contribution to Pakistan's digital ecosystem. It reinforces our commitment to expanding the country's connectivity backbone and supporting national 5G readiness through the fiber infrastructure essential for future networks. Wateen remains dedicated to empowering CMOs, enterprises, and government institutions in their digital transformation journeys and driving sustainable technological progress."

Privatisation Commission Board takes key decisions on the privatisation of HBFCL, PIACL, and three international airports

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Privatisation Commission (PC) Board, in its 242nd meeting held today under the chairmanship of Mr. Muhammad Ali, Adviser to the Prime Minister on Privatisation, made significant decisions regarding the ongoing privatisation initiatives of the House Building Finance Company Limited (HBFCL), Pakistan International Airlines Corporation Limited (PIACL), and the management of three international airports located in Islamabad, Lahore, and Karachi.

The Board recommended a reference price for the privatisation of HBFCL, along with the terms of the Sale Purchase Agreement, for submission to the Cabinet Committee on Privatisation (CCoP). The company is being privatised through a



negotiated sale to the Pakistan Mortgage Refinance Company Limited (PMRCL),

which has been pre-qualified as a bidder. The CCoP and the Federal Cabinet had previously approved proceeding with a negotiated sale to a single pre-qualified bidder in July 2023. PMRCL has submitted its bid, which will be opened after the approval of the reference price by the CCoP and its ratification by the Cabinet.

The Board also approved the inclusion of AKD Group Holdings (Pvt.) Ltd in the consortium led by Arif Habib Corporation Limited (AHCL), upon the consortium's request.

This inclusion is permissible under the conditions stipulated in the Statement of Qualifications (SOQ). The AHCL consortium is among the four pre-qualified parties participating in the privatisation process of PIACL.

Tetra Pak Factory OS™ offers AI-enabled Smart Manufacturing to Pakistan's F&B Sector

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Tetra Pak recently unveiled its next-generation Automation and Digitalisation (A&D) portfolio, Tetra Pak® Factory OS™, at the Gulf Food Manufacturing event in Dubai. This new suite of modular, open, and scalable smart factory technologies will transform food and beverage (F&B) production and lay the foundation for AI-ready factories.

Awaiz Bin Nasim, Managing Director of Tetra Pak Pakistan, said, "Pakistan's food and beverage industry holds tremendous potential for growth, but challenges such as high energy consumption, energy supply disruptions, production inefficiencies, and data fragmentation continue to limit progress. Solutions like Tetra Pak® Factory OS™ can revolutionize how factories operate, enabling manufacturers to make real-time, data-driven decisions that enhance efficiency, reduce waste, and support sustainability goals."

Huawei ICT Skill Competition 2025-2026 Roadshow Awareness & Registration Session at KICS UET Lahore

Tahir Amin Malik.

KICS UET Lahore, in collaboration with Huawei Technologies Pakistan, successfully organized an Awareness and Registration Session for the Huawei ICT Skill Competition 2025-2026 on November 7, 2025. The event aimed to encourage students to participate in Huawei's global competition focusing on Networking, Cloud, and Computing technologies.

The session began with booth activities at the KICS reception, where Huawei representatives guided students about the registration process and distributed information materials. The formal



program commenced at 11:00 AM with the recitation of the Holy Quran by Shahid Zulfiqar. Kashif Bashir, Senior Manager Trainings at KICS, delivered the welcome address and presentation highlighting the long-standing partnership between Huawei and UET Lahore since 2002. He shared milestones of the Huawei-UET Joint Telecom IT Centre, training achievements, and global successes of UET students in previous Huawei ICT competitions.

Mr. Zubair from Huawei Pakistan briefed participants about the competition stages, registration process, and opportunities for global exposure. Dr. Ali Hammad Akbar, Chairman of the Computer Engineering Department, encouraged students to actively engage in such initiatives and shared inspirational stories of young ICT achievers.

The event concluded with a Q&A session, distribution of giveaways, and a group photo. The session reinforced Huawei's and KICS UET's commitment to empowering youth with international ICT skills and strengthening Pakistan's presence in global technology competitions.

Devsinc Founder Usman Asif Joins Forbes Business Council

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Usman Asif, Founder and CEO of Devsinc, a Pakistan-grown global technology services company, has been inducted into the Forbes Business Council, one of the world's most influential communities for accomplished entrepreneurs, business owners, and industry leaders.

Out of more than 900 Forbes Business Council members worldwide, only 11 represent Pakistan, and notably, just four are from the IT sector. Usman Asif's inclusion underscores Devsinc's global stature and reflects the growing recognition of Pakistan's technology leadership on the international stage.

"The Forbes Business Council provides a powerful platform to amplify Pakistan's potential in the global technology and innovation ecosystem," said Usman Asif. "We look forward to contributing insights and opening more pathways for collaboration and growth."

Senator Rana Sanaullah hosts dinner in honour of AFC President Sheikh Salman

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Adviser to the Prime Minister on Political and Public Affairs Senator Rana Sanaullah hosted a special dinner in honour of the President of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) and FIFA Vice President, Sheikh Salman bin Ibrahim Al Khalifa.

The event was attended by Federal Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Tariq Fazal Chaudhry, Federal Minister for Housing Riaz Hussain Pirzada, and Minister of State Bilal Azhar Kayani, said a press release.

Federal Secretary for Inter Provincial Coordination (IPC) Mohyuddin Wani, Director General Sports Amjad Gill, President of the Pakistan Foot-

ball Federation (PFF) Mohsin Gilani, and President of the Pakistan Football League (PFL) Farhan Junejo were also present on the occasion.

Extending a warm welcome to Sheikh Salman and his distinguished delegation, Sanaullah, who also holds the portfolio of the IPC Ministry said, "Today marks a reflection of our mutual friendship, respect, and shared commitment to the promotion of football."

He said, "Sports transcend borders and cultures, uniting hearts across nations. The visit of the FIFA Senior Vice President brings a renewed sense of hope for the bright future of football in Pakistan."

He said, "Pakistan and Bahrain share relations rooted in brotherhood,



faith, culture, and mutual respect. Pakistan, Bahrain friendship extends

beyond diplomacy; it is reflected in our cooperation in trade, defence, education, and now, sports."

Expressing his gratitude, Sheikh Salman said, "I am deeply thankful to the Government of Pakistan, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, and Senator Rana Sanaullah for their warm hospitality."

He added, "It is a matter of great pleasure and pride for me to visit Pakistan. The passion and love of the Pakistani people for football are truly admirable."

"I am confident that this visit will further strengthen the relationship between Pakistan and the AFC and mark the beginning of a new era for the development of football in the country," he said.

Medicam Group will continue its cooperation with the Regional Cricket Association Karachi as before

Sports Desk

KARACHI: The Medicam Group of Companies will continue its cooperation with the Regional Cricket Association Karachi for promoting cricket at the Grass Root Level in Karachi said Zafar Riaz Bari, The Chief Guest, Director Administration and External Affairs, Medicam Group of Companies Speaking at the closing ceremony of the Medicam Trophy Under-19 Inter-Zonal Cricket Tournament organized by the Regional Cricket Association and Sponsored by Medicam Group of Companies.

On this occasion, Azam Khan, Coordinator RCAK, said in his emotional speech that despite all opposition, I will continue to work for cricket promotion under Nadeem Omar leadership in Karachi. He congratulated to Khalid Nafees Chairman Tournament Committee for Organizing Successful Tournament and Zone-III on winning the tournament.

Khalid Nafees, Chairman of the Tournament Committee, said in his speech that under Nadeem Omar leadership, they will continue to work for cricket promotion in Karachi despite all difficulties.



Tournament Secretary Mohammad Tauseef Siddiqui presented the tournament report and thanked Khalil Ahmad Nanitalwala Junaid Khalil Nanitalwala, Javed Kiani and tfor Sponsoring RCAK Talent Hunt Program. He also thanked All the Zonal Officials for their full Cooperation and support.

Earlier, in the final, Zone-III Whites defeated Zone-VI Whites by 23 runs

to win these tournament. Zone-III Whites 204/7 in 40 Overs. Imran Khan 65 6x4 2x6, Salman Sarwar 513x4 2x6, Bilal Aqeel 30, Mohammad Hassan 27. Abdullah Javed 2/29, Hammad Alam 2/42.

In reply, Zone-VI Whites allout 181/9 in 40 overs. Abdullah Javed 41, S. M Ali 30, Mohammad Azaan 24, Saad Sakhavat 22, and Abdul Sami 19. Salman

Sarwar 3/27, Akhtar Ali 3/36.

At the end of the tournament, the Chief Guest awarded the winner Trophy to Salman Sarwar, captain of Zone-III Whites, and the runner-up Trophy to Saad Sakhavat, captain of Zone-VI Whites. Awards also given to Best Batsman Mohammad Azaan Zone VI Whites, Best Bowler: Uzair Khan Zone-VII, Best Fielder Waqas Afridi Zone Blues-V Blues, Man of the Final Match and Best All-rounder Salman Sarwar Captain Zone-III Whites, Media Coordinator, Dr. Arif Hafeez and Junaid Afzal

The ceremony was attended by Assistant Secretary Wissal Ansari, Zone-III President Mohammad Raees President Zone-V, Muhammad Sami Khan, Mazhar Ali Awan, President Zone-VII, Arif Waheed Khan, Secretary Zone-I Nusratullah Khan Secretary Zone-II, Mohammad Saeed Jabbar, Secretary Zone-V, M Tariq Hafiz Siddiqui, Treasurer Zone-I, S. M Asim, Vice President Zone-IV, Mohammad Asghar Khattak, Iftikhar Ahmad, Vice Presidents Zone-V Shahbaz Qureshi, Joint Secretary Zone-V and Nawaid Al Aameem, Member Tournament Committee, Shaukat Rajput, and others.

Hunain Shah, Shayan Sheikh lead Islamabad to first win in Quaid-e-Azam Trophy

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad wrapped up a comprehensive 10-wicket win over Multan on third day of the sixth round of Quaid-e-Azam Trophy at the Imran Khan Cricket Stadium in Peshawar on Friday.

This was Islamabad's first win in the tournament. After taking a 163-run first-innings lead, Islamabad's bowlers, led by Shayan Sheikh (4-56) and Hunain Shah (3-25), bowled Multan out for 172 in their second innings after they were enforced a follow-on. Islamabad comfortably achieved the 10-run target in the first over.

Right-arm pacer Hunain Shah, who claimed match figures of six for 81 and scored 51 runs in the first innings, was named player of the match.

At the Shoaib Akhtar Cricket Stadium, FATA maintained control over Abbottabad after posting a mammoth 687 for seven declared on the second day. On



day three, left-arm spinner Asif Afridi carried the momentum by claiming seven wickets for 127 runs to keep Abbottabad's strong response in check.

Abbottabad reached 424 for eight at stumps, courtesy Shahzaib Khan's superb 167 which came off 350 balls and included 20 fours and two sixes, while Khalid Usman remained unbeaten on

50.

Sialkot responded strongly to Bahawalpur's declaration of 511 for nine at the Abbottabad Cricket Stadium, which was built on second day's centuries by Mohammad Ammar (166), Saad Khan (155) and Mohammad Sudais (112).

On day three, Sialkot's opening pair dominated proceedings as Mohammad

Huraira (178, 216b, 24x4s, 3x6s) and Azan Awais (156 not out, 241b, 18x4s, 1x6) put on a massive 326-run stand. At stumps, Sialkot were 375 for one in 80 overs.

At Marghzar Cricket Ground in Islamabad, Karachi Blues consolidated their dominance over Peshawar.

After dismissing Peshawar for 165 on day two, with pacer Muhammad Umar taking six for 30, Karachi batters extended their advantage. Young wicket-keeper-batter Saad Baig followed up his first-innings 109 with another century.

The left-handed batter scored 116 off 153 balls, which included 12 fours and three sixes, while Shan Masood remained unbeaten on 101 as Karachi declared on 283 for three in their second innings. Shan's innings included seven fours and two sixes.

Peshawar, at stumps, were 92 for four, still requiring 418 runs to win with Mohammad Hamza picking up four wickets for 40 runs.

Hamza, Mikael, Abubakar qualifies for ITF World Jr Tennis C'ship finals

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Hamza Roman, Mikael Ali Baig and Abubakar Talha have moved in the finals of the ITF Pakistan National Foods World Junior Tennis Championship J-60 2025 here at the PTF-SDA Tennis Complex on Friday.

In the boys' singles, Hamza Roman and Mikael Ali Baig qualified for the final while Hamza, Mikael and Abubakar also reached the boys doubles final.

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

Aisam-ul-Haq Qureshi, President of the Pakistan Tennis Federation (PTF),



congratulated all the players on their outstanding achievements and said, "Our players are performing remarkably well across the world, and I am very happy

to see such positive results. We have two boys in the singles final and three boys in the doubles final in Islamabad, while Nadir has reached the semifinal in Japan.

This is a great testament to the hard work being done for the development of tennis in the country."

Col. (R) Zia-ud-Din Tufail, Secretary General PTF, also extended his congratulations to all the players for their excellent performances both at home and abroad, and wished them continued success in their upcoming matches.

Boys Singles semifinals: Mikael Ali Baig (PAK) beat Emre Atlamis (TUR) 6-3,7-5; Hamza Roman beat Abubakar Talha (PAK) 6-4,6-2.

Girls Singles semifinals: Haniya Aman Minhas (KSA) beat Denzi Cakil (TUR) 6-0,7-5; Varvara Rubtsova (RUS) beat Karolina Ligai (KAZ) 6-2,7-6(4).

Boys Doubles semifinals: Mikael Ali Baig (PAK), Kristijonas Milasauskas (LTU) beat Abdul Basit, M. Haziq Aasim 2-6,6-2(10-3); Hamza Roman, Abubakar Talha beat 6-7(3), 6-1(10-6).

Pakistani players attend training session ahead of Final ODI against South Africa



Sports Desk

FAISALABAD: The Pakistan's national team conducted an optional training session at Iqbal Stadium where several key players participated to fine-tune their skills ahead of the decisive third and final One-Day International (ODI) of the Pakistan-South Africa series.

According to details, Pakistani cricketers Haris Rauf, Haseebullah, Faisal Akram, and Hasan Nawaz attended the session and actively took part in batting, bowling and fielding drills under the supervision of team coaches.

The optional session was arranged to allow players to work on individual areas of focus and maintain momentum ahead of the crucial final encounter.

The players were seen engaging in intense practice routines for improving consistency and coordination across all departments.

The team management emphasized maintaining focus, discipline and fitness to ensure a strong finish to the series.

The third and final ODI between Pakistan and South Africa is scheduled to be played on Saturday (November 08, 2025), with both teams eyeing victory to secure the series.

Royal Palm Team Championship

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Garrison team in the lead. On the first day of the royal palm team championship the team from garrison surprised all by springing into the lead with a score of gross 233.the team comprises of Jamshed matloob, son of a golf professional, with a score of gross 79, zayd omer with a similar score and young Ahmed kiani with a score of gross 75.the player whose score did not come into contention was saim Tahir

The garrison team players have combined well to be in the leading position.the team standing second was the team from Rawalpindi who appear as runner up with a team aggregate of 234. their combination consisted of Rao Mohammed Hussain, Yasir khokar, Khalid mehmood and ilyas ahmed.other teams following are royal palm b, royal palm a, and the team from gymkhana.in the other gross events the player who leads is Mohammed Shoaib of gymkhana with a score of gross 72 and that by all means is a good score.placed second is Hussain Hamid of royal palm at 72 and Abdul Islam Nazir at 73.at 75 stands Ahmed kiani.a tremendous fight is taking place between these players.in the net category the top performers is Abdul Islam nazir.what a memorable effort in the struggle for supremacy.

Yamal set for Spain return in World Cup qualifiers



Lamine Yamal returned to the Spain squad named on Friday after injury forced Barcelona's young star to miss last month's World Cup qualifiers.

The 18-year-old will be featuring in the lineup to face Georgia and Turkey next week.

He was out of Spain's previous fixtures against Georgia and Bulgaria due to a groin problem.

But after recovering from a groin injury and returning to club duty, Yamal is back in the reckoning to face Georgia on November 15 in Tbilisi, followed by Turkey in Seville three days later.

Paris Saint-Germain midfielder Fabian Ruiz is also fit again after recovering from a leg injury suffered in the 2-1 Champions League defeat of Barcelona at the start of October.

Spain, the European champions, are top of Group E, with automatic qualification for next year's World Cup in their grasp.

While Yamal returns to national duty, Spain coach Luis de la Fuente will be missing his Barca teammate Pedri.

Also out of contention with injury are Real Madrid captain Dani Carvajal, Athletic Bilbao winger Nico Williams, and Atletico Madrid defender Robin Le Normand.

Spain squad:

Goalkeepers: Unai Simón, Alex Remiro and David Raya. Defenders: Aymeric Laporte, Dani Vivian, Alejandro Grimaldo, Marcos Llorente, Marc Cucurella, Pau Cubarsí, Dean Huijsen and Pedro Porro.

Midfielders: Fabián Ruiz, Martín Zubimendi, Mikel Merino, Aleix García, Pablo Barrios, Alex Baena and Pablo Fornals.

Forwards: Mikel Oyarzabal, Yeremy Pino, Dani Olmo, Fermín López, Lamine Yamal, Ferran Torres, Samu Aghehowa, and Borja Iglesias.

Rain plays spoilsport as India edge Pakistan in Hong Kong Sixes

MONG KOK: Rain robbed Pakistan of a potential comeback as India claimed a narrow two-run win via the Duckworth-Lewis-Stern (DLS) method in a pulsating Hong Kong Sixes clash at the Mission Road Ground on Friday.

In pursuit of 87, Pakistan came out firing with Khawaja Nafay leading the charge.

The right-hander flicked Abhimanyu Mithun for four before launching two consecutive sixes to set the tone. With 18 runs coming off the opening over, Pakistan looked well in control of the chase.

However, Stuart Binny struck back in the following over after being hit for a six by Maaz Sadaqat, dismissing him for seven.

Despite the setback, Nafay kept Pakistan afloat, striking Shahbaz Nadeem for a boundary and a six in the third over to take his team to 41-1.

Calls on

ISLAMABAD: Speaker of the Parliament, the Islamic Consultative Assembly, of Islamic Republic of Iran, H.E Dr. Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf along with delegation calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif on Friday.



Photo: PID

Pakistan keen to foster economic, trade cooperation with Iran: Prime Minister

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday emphasized that Pakistan was eager to foster cooperation with Iran in the fields of mutual interest including economic development and bilateral trade.

He was talking to Speaker of Iranian Parliament Dr. Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf who called on him along with delegation at the PM House.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif warmly welcomed the delegation and recalled the cordial bilateral ties with the

brotherly Muslim country of Iran. He reiterated firm commitment of both countries for peaceful means of dialogue and diplomacy for resolution of all outstanding disputes around the world.

He also extended utmost reverence to His Eminence, Supreme Leader of Islamic Republic of Iran, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and President Masoud Pazeshkian.

The prime minister stated that both countries condemned state sponsored terrorism and have always supported each other in the wake of unilateral aggression

against their sovereign states.

He added that both countries had unfortunately been victim of terrorism and thus firmly share the resolve of global peace, prosperity and positive cooperation in the region. "Pakistan and Iran are determined to work in cohesion and cooperation for unity of Muslim Ummah."

Speaker of Iranian Parliament Dr. Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf expressed his gratitude to the prime minister, the government and people of Pakistan for their valued and well-placed support in the recent Iran- Israel conflict.

He stated that the support shown by Pakistan in the 12-day war is deeply appreciated and cherished by the people of Iran. He stated Iran and Pakistan firmly believe in the unity of Muslim Ummah and in the message of global peace.

While expressing special gratitude to the Speaker National Assembly Ayaz Sadiq, the Iranian speaker cherished the positive and robust cooperation between the parliaments of both countries.

He also expressed Iran's commitment to further

enhance bilateral cooperation with Pakistan in the fields of economic development and trade.

The Iranian speaker conveyed message of warmth and reverence from Iranian President Masoud Pazeshkian for Prime Minister and people of Pakistan. He also expressed gratitude for a warm hospitality extended to him during his visit to Pakistan.

Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, and Special Assistant to Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs, Syed Tariq Fatemi also attended the meeting.

PPP, JUI-F unite against any rollback of 18th Amendment



Bureau Report

KARACHI: The Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (F) have agreed to jointly oppose any attempt to amend or roll back the 18th Constitutional Amendment, terming it a cornerstone of provincial autonomy.

According to party sources, PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman held a detailed telephonic conversation to discuss the prevailing political situation and constitutional matters.

Both leaders reaffirmed their commitment to resist any move that

undermines the 18th Amendment.

The development comes as the federal government reaches out to political parties for support on the proposed 27th Constitutional Amendment.

Officials have also contacted JUI-F's leadership to seek its backing for the draft amendment.

Sources said Maulana Fazlur Rehman has demanded the government share the complete text of the proposed amendment before taking a final position.

Meanwhile, the JUI-F parliamentary party has been summoned to meet today at the residence of Maulana Fazlur Rehman.

PM AJK expressed his profound grief over the death of son-in-law of former AJK premier

Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq has expressed his profound grief over the death of Dr. Naveed, son-in-law of former AJK premier Sardar Ilyas Khan.

In his condolence message, the PM, while extending his heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family, prayed to Allah Almighty to rest the departed soul in eternal peace.



Sunni Ittehad Council ex-chief Sahibzada Hamid Raza arrested

Crime Reporter

ISLAMABAD: Sunni Ittehad Council (SIC) ex-chairman and former member of National Assembly from Faisalabad Sahibzada Hamid Raza was arrested by police in Islamabad on Friday morning.

The police made the arrest at D12 near Islamabad Bypass as the former lawmaker was on his way to Faisalabad from Peshawar.

SIC Acting Chairman Sahibzada Hassan Raza, who was with his brother Hamid, Raza confirmed the arrest to 24NewsHD TV channel on phone. He said the Islamabad police only arrested Sahibzada Hamid Raza while he was on his way to Faisalabad. "They neither arrested us or stopped us," he added.

There is a strong possibility that Sahibzada Hamid Raza will be



produced in an anti-terrorism court in Faisalabad today.

In reaction, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) condemned the arrest, saying Sahibzada Hamid Raza, while travelling from Peshawar to Faisalabad to surrender himself, was arrested by Islamabad police at a checkpoint.

In a post uploaded on X platform, the PTI claimed that Hamid Raza has been sentenced to 10 years in prison in the bogus May 9 case.

Punjab's Progress Now Recognised Internationally, says CM Maryam in London

Chaudhry Tabraiz Aurah

LONDON: Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif said that it was a moment of pride that Punjab was now moving onto the global stage. Speaking to media representatives at Avenfield house London, she highlighted her government's achievements over the past eighteen months and said the province was now being recognised internationally for its progress. "I have not broken Shehbaz Sharif's record I am his extension," Maryam Nawaz said, adding that the love and trust shown by the people of Punjab were beyond her imagination. Referring to the recent escalation with India, Maryam Nawaz praised the leadership of Field Marshal



Asim Munir and the Pakistan Armed Forces, crediting them for their decisive and effective response. "After India's attack, the way Pakistan responded deserves full credit to Field

Marshal Asim Munir's leadership and the entire army," she said.

She added that under General Asim Munir's strong leadership, "the whole world is

now listening to Pakistan," and that following India's defeat, "the world is viewing Pakistan with a new and positive perspective. Maryam Nawaz went on to say that Punjab's

performance was being recognised globally. "In just one and a half years, we have achieved milestones that are now being showcased on the international stage," she noted. She confirmed that, for the first time, Punjab would participate in the COP conference, not just as a part of a delegation but in a special and independent capacity.

Maryam Nawaz also said that her government had introduced defamation laws to curb character assassination and fake news. "We have enacted defamation laws — now no one's dignity will be violated," she stated. The Chief Minister reiterated her commitment to building a progressive, secure, and globally connected Punjab that represents the best of Pakistan.

Naqvi denounces KP Chief Minister's remarks against security forces

ISLAMABAD: Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Friday strongly condemned what he described as "provocative and inflammatory" remarks made by the Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) against Pakistan's security forces, terming them baseless and intolerable.

In a strongly worded statement, Naqvi said that the Chief Minister's comments were "factually incorrect" and amounted to an insult to the brave men and women who have laid down their lives for the country's peace and security. "No patriotic person could utter such words about the gallant officers and soldiers who have sacrificed everything for the nation," he said.

The Interior Minister accused the



KP Chief Minister of attempting to "please the eternal enemy" through his remarks, adding that the entire nation and the international community recog-

nize the unparalleled sacrifices of Pakistan's armed forces in restoring peace and stability.

"The Chief Minister of the very

province where the highest number of security personnel have embraced martyrdom has crossed all limits of ingratitude," Naqvi stated. He said the comments were especially painful given the region's history of immense sacrifices by law enforcement and military personnel.

Naqvi urged the Chief Minister to retract his statement and apologize to the nation, emphasizing that such rhetoric only serves to undermine the morale of those who continue to defend Pakistan against terrorism and external threats.

"The sacrifices of our security forces are a matter of national pride," he said. "The Chief Minister must realize the gravity of his words and tender an unconditional apology to the nation."

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Dr Tariq urges youth to verify content before sharing on social media



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Dr Tariq Fazal Chaudhry on Friday urged the social media users to verify and cross-check the information and content before sharing on social networking sites, highlighting that fake and disinformation could be used for nefarious and reprehensible motives.

Addressing a press conference here flanked by Minister of State for

Interior Talal Chaudhry, the federal minister said that evil elements use fake videos and post on social media to propagate against the country.

"Such videos and footage portrait that Islamabad police misconduct with people of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) during checking at check post in federal capital and termed it a totally false, propaganda, and conspiracy against the national institutions," he added.

Terming content and videos an agenda of enemies to incite the AJK's masses against the country's institutions, he said that such elements would not be achieved success against their negative designs.

"It was our foremost responsibility to expose these elements to discourage this practice in the future," he added.