A Leading National Daily

he Spokesman

بن زیدنے بیان کیا، انہوں نے (اس روایت میں یہ ترتیب ای طرح) بیان کی کہ میں قشم ا كفارها دا كر دول گااوروه كام كرول گاجس ميں اچھائی ہو گی یا(اس طرح نبی کریم صلی اللہ علیہ لم نے فرمایا کہ) میں کام وہ کروں گاجس (صیحیج بخاری: حدیث نمبر 6719

Barkat Rice Mills

Senate session begins to deliberate on draft of 27th Constitutional Amendment

The Senate session has stared under the chair of Chairman Yusuf Raza Gilani to discuss the draft of 27th constitutional amendment. Two-thirds support is required from the parliament to approve the constitutional



CM Punjab reaches Brazil to attend global COP 30 Conference

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Jamadi-ul-Awwal 18, Monnday, November 10, 2025

www.dailyspokesman.net





🗾 @daily_spokesman 📢 Daily Spokesman Vol: 19, Issue: 205 🛮 Price Rs. 25.00 Pages 8

Calls on

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC) General Sahir Shamshad Mirza, NI, NI (M), who is on an official



Joint parliamentary committee approves draft amendments to **Article 243**

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: The joint parliamentary committee on law and justice has approved amendments to Article 243 of the Constitution, following detailed consultations, sources said on Sunday.

The approval includes provisions for the establishment of the federal constitutional court and other significant clauses.

committees, three additional amendments were proposed by government-allied parties.

According to the sources, the draft of the 27th Constitutional Amendment has undergone a comprehensive review, with final decisions on the additional

amendments expected by Monday. Coalition parties, including the the number of seats in the Balochistan



Awami National Party (ANP) Balochistan National Party (BNP), and During the session of the standing Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM), also presented their proposals during

deliberate.

rename Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the government requested more time to

Similarly, additional time was sought on the amendment to increase

Final decisions on both matters are expected after further discussions.

The sources confirmed that the

clause granting lifetime immunity to the President has also been approved. The committee approved an amendment to extend the period for disposing

of pending cases from six months to one year. Cases not pursued within a year will

be considered automatically disposed

Federal Law Minister Azam Nazir Regarding the ANP's proposal to Tarar told reporters that work on the clauses of the 27th Amendment was nearly complete, adding that discussions had taken place regarding the renaming of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Continued on Page 7

Saudi Arabia, Pakistan sign Hajj 2026 agreement

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Saudi Arabia and Pakistan have finalised a formal agreement for the arrangements and facilities for Hajj 2026, officials said on Sunday. The agreement was signed in Jeddah by Saudi Deputy Minister for Haii and Umrah. Dr Abdul Fattah bin Suleiman Al Mishat, and Federal Secretary for Religious Affairs, Dr Syed Ata-ur-Rahman.

The signing ceremony was attended by Saudi Ambassador to Pakistan Nawaf bin Said Al Maliki, Director General Hajj Jeddah Abdul Wahab Soomro, Director Hajj Makkah Azizullah Khan, Director Hajj Madinah Zia-ur-Rahman, Deputy Secretary Hajj Policy Chaudhry Kashif Hussain, and representatives of the Private Hajj Companies' Association. Speaking on the occasion, Dr Syed Ata-ur-Rahman thanked the Saudi government for its hospitality and efforts in ensuring top-quality services for Pakistani pilgrims.

He said. "As in previous years, Pakistani Hujiai will be provided with high-standard facilities in 2026. The Ministry of Religious Affairs is committed to completing arrangements for both government and private Hajj schemes in a timely and effective manner, following the directives of the Saudi government."

PM directs immediate removal of proposed amendment over immunity

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, on Sunday, instructed that the proposed constitutional amendment put forward by a few senators from the PML-N. regarding immunity for the Prime Minister, should be withdrawn immediately.

On X handle, the prime minister said that as a matter of principle, an elected prime minister must remain fully accountable, both before the court of law and the people.

"On my return from Azer-



our party have submitted an amendment regarding immunity for the Prime Minister. While I acknowledge their intent in good faith, the proposal was not part of the Cabinet-approved draft. I have baijan, I have learnt that instructed that it be withdrawn some Senators belonging to immediately," he said in a post.

Pakistan cannot compromise on national security: **Foreign Office**

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan will not make any compromise on its national security, the Foreign Office said on Saturday, following talks between Pakistan and the Afghan Tali-

In a strongly worded statement, the Foreign Office spokesperson said that no negotiations would be held with the Fitna Al Hind or Fitna Al Khawarij terrorist groups.

He said Pakistan's only demand from the Afghan interim government is that its soil must not be used for activities against Pakistan.

The spokesperson said Pakistan had been in contact with the Afghan Taliban regime for the past four years and had shown seriousness in the negotiation process, but regretted that the Afghan side raised secondary issues instead of



Taliban were portraying the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) issue as a matter of refugees, which was incorrect. "If they are indeed refu-

through Chaman or Torkham border crossings," the spokesperson said. He expressed gratitude to

gees, they should be sent back

Qatar and Türkiye for their mediation efforts in facilitating dialogue between the two sides. The Foreign Office reiter-

ated that Pakistan's stance is clear and firm — it will not negotiate at the cost of its security or national interests.

Turkish defence and intelligence chiefs to visit Islamabad to seal Pak-Afghan peace deal

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Turkey's foreign and defence ministers and intelligence chief plan to travel to Pakistan this week to discuss its stopstart talks with Afghanistan over a ceasefire in place in South Asia, President Tayyip Erdogan said.

According to an official readout on Sunday of his comments on a return flight from Baku, where he met Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Erdogan said the tripartite visit aim to seal a permanent ceasefire and peace between the nations as soon as possible.

Iran offers to mediate between Pakistan and Afghan Taliban

ISLAMABAD: Iran has offered to mediate between Pakistan and the Afghan Taliban to ease tensions and promote dialogue between the two neighbouring countries. Diplo-

matic sources said Iranian Foreign Minister Seyyed Abbas Araqchi spoke by telephone with Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar and expressed concern over the current situation between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

During the conversation, Araqchi urged both sides to continue talks, stressing that differences between Pakistan and Afghanistan should be resolved through dialogue and that tensions must be reduced.

Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar briefed his Iranian counterpart on Pakistan's recent negotiations with Afghanistan and the prevailing circumstances.



According diplomatic sources, Araqchi underlined the importance of the long-standing and friendly relations between Iran,

Pakistan, and

Afghanistan. The two leaders also discussed bilateral relations, as well as regional and international developments.

The Iranian foreign minister stated that Tehran was keen to strengthen ties with Pakistan across various sectors and reiterated that Iran was ready to extend all possible assistance to help establish peace and reconciliation between the two countries.

Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar emphasized that maintaining regional peace and stability was of utmost importance.

Both sides agreed to continue close contact and consultation on the matter, the sources



Poet of the East's ideas guide generations: PM AJK's Message

👺 Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir Chaudhry Anwar ul Haq has said that Allama Iqbal's message serves as a beacon of hope and guidance for generations

In his special message on the birth anniversary of the Poet of the East, Sir Allama Muhammad Iqbal, the Prime Minister said that Iqbal was a great thinker, philosopher, and visionary leader who left behind an unparalleled legacy in modern history.

The Prime Minister said that it was Allama Iqbal who first conceived the idea of Pakistan — a dream that was



ership of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad of great pride that Allama Iqbal hailed from Kashmir and wholeheartedly supported the struggle of Kashmiri Muslims against the oppressive Dogra

"The State of Jammu and Kashmir was an integral part of the homeland that Allama Iqbal had envisioned for the Muslims of the subcontinent," the Prime Minister said.

Expressing deep sorrow over the current situation in Indian occupied territory of Jammu and Kashmir, he said it was painful that the region ished goal of freedom," he maintained.

later realized under the dynamic lead- continues to reel under India's illegal occupation. "The people of Indian Ali Jinnah. He added that it is a matter Occupied Kashmir continue to face oppression and persecution at the hands of Indian forces," he said, adding that despite all tactics of repression, India has failed to break the spirit or weaken the resolve of the Kashmiri people in their struggle for

> The Prime Minister expressed confidence that the dream of the Poet of the East would one day come true. "I am fully confident that the day is not far when the Muslims of Jammu and Kashmir will achieve their long-cher-

148th birth anniversary of national poet

Punjab Tourism Force paid homage to Dr. Allama Iqbal



LAHORE: Punjab Tourism Force paid homage to commemorate our National Hero and worldly recognized Poet Dr. Allama Iqbal at Javed Manzil, Lahore, started with recitation followed by parade and salami.

Mr. Muneeb Iqbal, grandson of Allama Iqbal.

سبق پیر برطه صداقت کا، عدالت کا، شجاعت کا تجھ سے کام دنیا کی امامت کا

FIA Probes Rs.940 Million Mega Corruption at Civil Hospital Hyderabad

Qayoom Sarohi

HYDERABAD: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) has launched an inquiry into alleged mega corruption at Civil Hospital Hyderabad, involving the transfer of Rs. 940 million to a company owned by Aftab Phul. The FIA has summoned Vice Chancellor of Liaquat University of Medical and Health Sciences Jamshoro, Ikramullah Ajan, and former Medical Superintendent Dr. Muhammad Ali Qaimkhani today.

According to details, the FIA has initiated an investigation into alleged corruption, irregularities, and misuse of government funds at Civil Hospital Hyderabad. The probe has been launched on the directives of the Special Judge, Anti-Corruption Court, through a formal notice. Those under investigation include Vice Chancellor Ikramullah Ajan, former MS Muhammad Ali Qaimkhani, Grade-17 officer Aftab Phul, and several others.

Preliminary findings have revealed that during the period 2023-2024, large-scale financial irregularities, approval of fake and inflated bills, and suspicious procurements took place under the tenure of then MS Muhammad Ali Qaimkhani.

It is alleged that Rs. 940 million from the public exchequer, allocated for the purchase of medicines, was transferred to Aftab Phul's UK-based company, Aftab Structure Limited.

The FIA has summoned former MS Muhammad Ali Qaimkhani, Aftab Phul, store in-charge Ravi, and others to personally appear today, November 10, 2025, at 12:30 PM, at the FIA Hyderabad Zone Office. They have been directed to record their statements and submit all purchase records for 2023-2024, including stock registers, payment approvals, and minutes of relevant meetings.

The notice further warns that failure to submit the required documents or appear for questioning will result in legal action under Section 174 of the Pakistan Penal Code (PPC).

On the other hand, Aftab Phul, one of the accused, denied receiving any FIA notice and rejected the corruption allegations. Speaking to The Spokesman newspaper, he stated that he does not own any company in the UK and that the allegations are baseless. He clarified that his role was limited to hospital look-after responsibilities — he neither handled medicine purchases nor possessed DDO (Drawing and Disbursing Officer)

Aftab Phul further alleged that a group associated with former MS Sattar Jatoi is running a campaign against him because he had opposed their illegal activities and financial irregularities. He added that ongoing inquiries would eventually reveal the facts.

Sardar Attique: Iqbal's Ideology Remains Core of Kashmir Struggle

跨 Bureau Report



MUZAFFARABAD: Former Prime Minister and President of All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan said in his special statement on the occasion of Iqbal's day Ideas, thinking and knowledge provide new direction and clear destination. He said that Allama Iqbal's concept and ideology of Pakistan is still the basic axis of our political struggle. Allama Iqbal made the Muslims of the subcontinent aware that they are a separate nation, and they have a differ-

ent identity, history and destination. decided to be an integral part of the completion. Allama Iqbal paid tribute to the sacrifices of Kashmiris and said that the freedom of Kashmir and the honor of Muslims are linked to the ideology of Pakistan. He said that even today the people of Valley Kashmir are continuing their struggle for freedom with courage and perseverance despite oppression, oppression and siege. He said that when a Muslim recognizes himself, no power in the world can defeat him."

Sugar is a Rapidly Spreading Disease and a Silent Killer Worldwide: Dr Akmal Madani

Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Dr Akmal Madani, Dr Masood-ul-Rauf Haraj Said Sugar is a Rapidly Spreading Disease and a Silent Killer Worldwide.

Precaution awareness and consistency are the three main weapons to win the war against diabetes: Dr. Irfan Paracha, Dr. Ismail Bashir,

1 in every 4 people in Pakistan is suffering from diabetes or pre-dia-betes: Dr. Abdul Sami, Dr. Humayun Shahzad

Symptoms of diabetes include frequent urination, excessive thirst, unusual weight loss, excessive hunger, Dr. Zakaria Khan, Dr. Amjad

Chairman Private Doctors Association South Punjab and renowned specialist in hormones, heart, sugar and blood pressure (UK) Dr. Muhammad Akmal Madani said that sugar is spreading rapidly worldwide and millions of people have fallen victim to it in Pakistan too. The event was specially attended by PDA President Dr. Irfan Paracha, Senior Vice President Dr. Ismail Bashir, President PMA Prof. Dr. Masood-ul-Rauf Hiraj, Former President PMA Prof. Dr. Shahid Rao, and family physicians, PGRs, President PDA Dr. Irfan Paracha, Senior Vice President Dr. Ismail Bashir, President PMA Prof. Dr. Masood-ul-Rauf Haraj, Former President PMA Prof. Dr. Shahid Rao.

The lecture was attended by Dr. Muhammad Ajmal Malik, Dr. Muhammad Nasir, Dr. Amir Mumtaz, Dr. Asma Ansari, Dr. Muhammad Asif Malik, Dr. Syed Abdul Sami, Dr. Humayun Shahzad, Dr. Aftab, Dr. Haroon Iqbal, Dr. Talal Hussain, Dr. Muhammad Zakaria, Dr. Raza, Dr. Hassan Awan, Dr. Ali Raza, Dr. Maqsood Ahmed, Dr. Liaquat Ali, Dr. Shehla, Dr. SM Yamin Bukhari, Dr. Muhammad Safdar and Dr. Muhammad Irfan.

148th birth anniversary of national poet

LAHORE: General Officer Commanding, (GOC) Lahore Atif Bashir laying a floral wreath at the tomb of Pakistan's national poet Allama Mohammad Igbal during 148th birth anniversary of national poet, Dr Allama Muhammad Igbal ceremony in Provincial Capital.



UK MPs back Kashmir Resolution amid intensified global lobby

👺 Abdu Majeed Tahir

LONDON/MIRPUR: members of the British Parliament signed the Kashmir Resolution. APPKG and JKSDMI

United and dynamic to accelerate the global Kashmir lobby. The British Government should immediately resolve the Kashmir issue.

Founding Chairman and Star of Jammu and Kashmir Movement for Self-Determination International Raja Najabat Hussain, his esteemed Team and All Parties Parliamentarian Kashmir Group Vice Chairman Tahir Ali MP intensifies lobby campaign with maximum members of British Parliament Let us succeed in signing the Kashmir Resothe All-Party Parliamentary Kashmir to the British Government. Group and submit this Kashmir



In this connection, the Movement's

lution and increase the strength of Resolution in the British Parliament Patrons Supreme Sardar Abdul Rehman Khan, Secretary General Muhammad Azam, Administration

Founding Chairman of Jammu and Kashmir Volunteer Movement International Raja Najab Hussain Satara has said that Pakistan also appeals to the Pakistani government to resolve the issue of Kashmir with

Director Mohammad Harry Bota, Movement's UK Chairperson Coun- ${\bf cilor\,Naila\,Sharif,Chairman\,of\,Youth}$

Wing Arif, International Lobby

Kashmir Chairperson and former

Lord Mayor Manchester Coun-

selor Yasmeen Dar, International

Lobby Kashmir Secretary General

Professor Dr. Timur Shafiq and UK

Secretary General Zia Zayed Javed

Kaha Members of the British Parlia-

ment continued their contacts with

the British Parliament to sign the

Kashmir Resolution and lobby for

this most important global Kashmir

Women's University Multan And Cardiff Metropolitan University UK Joint Project Win British Council Award 2025

👺 Quratul Ain Asim

MULTAN: Women's University Multan wins Cardiff Metropolitan University UK joint project British Council Award 2025.

A spokesperson for the Women's University says that the joint research project between the UK and Pakistan "Partnership in Equality (PIE) for Women UK and Pakistan in Robotics and Artificial Intelligence" has secured a place among only five selected global projects from around the world in the British Council's Going Global Partnership Awards 2025. This international project was developed in collaboration with Cardiff Metropolitan University's Eureka Robotics Centre, the National University of Science and Technology (NUST) and eight universities in Pakistan. Its aim is to empower women in



the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and

and training opportunities. On this achievement, Vice Chancellor provide them with innovative research Prof. Dr. Kulsoom Paracha said that this

ership at the global level. She congratulated the teams representing Women University in the project, Dr. Zil-e-Shams (Department of Mathematics), Dr. Farkhunda Afzal (NUST), Dr. Shadan Khan Khattak (Cardiff Metropolitan University, UK), and all the participating institutions, and said that this

achievement is a testament to the world-

class academic and research standards

of Women University Multan and its

stone for Women University Multan,

which reflects the academic autonomy

of women and their commitment to lead-

This achievement is a historical mile-

commitment to empowering women.

global recognition of this project is a testament to the international collaboration in education, research and And it is a wonderful example of promoting





SERVI	CES
Namaz T	imings
Fajr	
Zohr	11:52 am
Asr	3:31 pm
Maghrib	5:09 pm
Isha	6:34 pm

EMERGENCY

	•
Rescue (Police)	15
Bomb Disposal	15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/	
Islamabad112	22 & 16
Emergency Ambulance	1122 &
& Rescue Services 4	451122
Motorway Police926	56044
Motorway Police92706	501-20

Women Police

Stations	
Islamabad	9222596
Rawalpindi	9270601-20

Rawalp	indi		927060
	ENQ	UII	RY

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

HOSPITALS

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

DEDADTMENT

DEPARIME	:NI3
CDA	9221334-43
CDA 9	208301-04
Met Office	9250360-6
RDA	5555864
TMA	5770886
Cantonment Board	. 9270151-3
Islamabad Metropolitar	n
Corporation	9209224
Potohar Town	9209224
Rawal Town	5773343

COMPLAINTS

G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 ..9266316 Wapda Islamabad......9217579-80 Sui Gas Complaint..... 119, 9272249 ...0331-5022125

Tablighi Jamaat concludes with special prayer

LAHORE: The first phase of three-day Tableeghi Ijtima concluded at Raiwind on Sunday with special prayers for prosperity and solidarity of the country and unity of the Muslim world.

After the prayer, a large number of participants started leaving Raiwind for their areas.

According to CTO Lahore Dr. Athar Waheed, a special traffic plan has been prepared for the evacuation of participants from the gathering, while about 1200 personnel are on

According to the traffic police spokesperson, the roads leading to Raiwind will remain closed from 7 am to 12 noon. After the closing prayer, Lahore Road, Sundar Road and Manga Road from Raiwind will be operated one-way so that the flow of traffic is not affected.

According to the CTO, one-way traffic will be operated on both sides of Raiwind Road from Pajian Mor to Qazalbash Chowk. Similarly, traffic will be operated on both sides under one-way system up to Sundar Road, Thokar Niaz Baig.

Pakistan Navy assumes guard duties at mausoleum of Dr Allama Muhammad Iqbal

👺 Bureau Report

LAHORE: An impressive Change of Guard Ceremony was held at the mausoleum of Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal as the nation celebrated the 148th birth anniversary of Mufakkir-e-Pakistan, the visionary behind the ideology of an independent Muslim state in the subconti-

A smartly attired contingent of Pakistan Navy took over guard duties from Pakistan Rangers (Punjab). Commander Central Punjab of Pakistan Navy, Rear Admiral Sohail Ahmad Azmie graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

Commander Central Punjab laid a floral wreath at the mausoleum on behalf of Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf as well as Officers, Sailors and Navy Civilians of Pakistan Navy and offered remarks in the visitor's book, paying rich



The ceremony was attended by digninumber of the general public.

Fateha. The Chief Guest also recorded his tribute to the great poet and philosopher. taries, members of the media, and a large

Group photo with Kailash performe

ISLAMABAD: Assistant Director tourism of KPK Afrasiab Khattak posing for a group photograph along with Kalash dancers during Lok Mela at Lok Virsa, in the Federal Capital.



MUL Announces Major Educational Expansion in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

D. I. KHAN: Minhaj University Lahore (MUL) has laid the foundation stone for its new campus in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, marking a significant step in the university's mission to expand access to quality education and promote peace and intellectual development across Pakistan.

Speaking at the ceremony, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Sajid Mehmood Shahzad highlighted the vision behind the new campus, describing it as not merely a building, but "a monumental institution of



intellectual empowerment of with more than 15,000 students the next generation.

He noted that MUL is Reinforcing the university's already recognized internationknowledge and research" that ally for fostering peace, toler- All', the Vice Chancellor shared will contribute to the moral and ance, and academic excellence, that every third student at MUL

enrolled across its 10+ faculties.

commitment to 'Education for

higher education accessible to all segments of society.

Prof. Dr. Sajid Mehmood Shahzad further emphasized that MUL is known as Pakistan's safest university for women and is officially designated a Drug-Free Campus. The new D. I. Khan campus will follow the same standards, providing a secure, supportive, and inclusive learning environment for students in the region.

He concluded by acknowledging the efforts of Mr. Jahangir Saifullah, Chairman D. I. Khan New City, for prioritizing education development and supporting the establishment of this campus.

DC Umar Abbas Mela Reviews Urban Beautification and Civic Improvement Projects

👺 Zafar Chishti

TOBATEK SINGH: Under the Good Governance Vision of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, practical measures are being taken across the district to improve civic facilities and enhance urban beautification projects. A district-level meeting, chaired by Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Mela was held to review ongoing development and civic improvement initiatives. The meeting was attended by the Additional Deputy Commissioner (General) all Assistant Commissioners and Chief Officers of the respective departments. The meeting discussed an 18-point agenda focusing on the improvement of streetlights, sewerage systems, public parks, patchwork, lane marking and greenbelt renovation. Departmental representatives presented detailed progress reports on these



Briefings were also given regarding the removal of encroachments, elimination of wall chalking, drainage cleaning, installation of manhole covers, and the operational status of water filtration plants. The progress on the upgradation of bus stands, control of stray dogs and the implementation

of the beautification plan was also reviewed.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Mela said that providing quality municipal services to citizens is the top priority of the district administration. He directed all departments to ensure practical performance in service delivery and to

expedite ongoing development projects in the public interest.

The Deputy Commissioner emphasized that collective efforts are essential to make the city clean, green and beautiful adding that providing a healthy and pleasant environment to citizens remains a key objective of the district administration.

PFA seized adulterated food and gutka, imposed heavy fines



TOBA TEK SINGH: Under the public health vision of Chief Minister Punjab, Maryam Nawaz Sharif, the Punjab Food Authority (PFA) has intensified its food safety campaign in Toba Tek Singh district. The campaign is being carried out under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Mela, while effective operations are being led by Deputy Director Food Authority Yasir Mushtaq. According to the Food Authority spokesperson, inspection teams conducted a comprehensive crackdown across the district during the past week. 700 fungus-affected eggs, over 100 liters of adulterated milk and more than 2.5 maunds of expired and prohibited food items were destroyed during the operations.

The teams also seized 3,960 sachets of gutka, over 3,632 kilograms of ghee and 675 kilograms of pulses and salt.

75 food points were fined a total of Rs 843,000, while production at 5 units was suspended for violating hygiene and safety standards. In total, 776 food points and production units were inspected across the district in just 7 days. Additionally, 9 samples of various food items from markets were collected and sent for laboratory testing.

The Punjab Food Authority has a zero-tolerance policy against those endangering public health, the spokesperson added. Those playing with citizens' lives are not entitled to any leniency strict legal action is being taken against all violators.

Iqbal's vision laid the intellectual foundation for the creation of a separate Muslim state — Sheikh Abdul Waheed

👺 City Desk

RAWALPINDI: Sheikh Abdul Waheed, Chairman of Markazi Anjuman-e-Tajran (Registered) and Vice President of National Peace of Pakistan Punjab, said that Allama Iqbal's vision provided the intellectual basis for the establishment of a separate Muslim state, which ultimately led to the creation of Pakistan. His philosophy emphasized the creation of a state founded on Islamic principles of justice, equality, and self-awareness. Expressing his views on Iqbal Day,

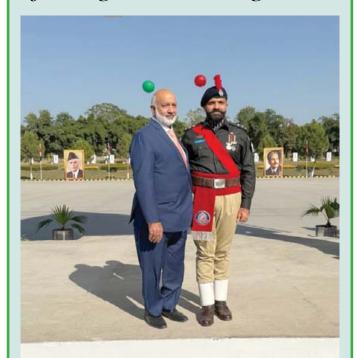


Sheikh Abdul Waheed said that Allama Muhammad Iqbal's ideas focused on protecting the social and political rights of Muslims. His thoughts continue to strengthen national identity, promote unity, and inspire the building of a society that blends Islamic values with

He added that in his famous 1930 Allahabad Address, Allama Iqbal first presented the concept of a separate homeland for the Muslims of the subcontinent. His vision guided and inspired the leaders of the freedom movement. The Poet of the East, Allama Iqbal, along with the Founder of Pakistan, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, strongly advocated for the social and political rights of Muslims. "We pay tribute to Allama Iqbal's great services," Sheikh Abdul Waheed said.

Pride of Pakistan

Trader's Son Joins Police Ranks After Rigorous Training



ISLAMABAD: Prominent trader leader and Chairman of the Rawalpindi Restaurants, Caterers, Sweets and Bakers Association said that youth are Pakistan's valuable asset. Without their participation, the country's development and progress is not possible. Our young people should make the thoughts and teachings of the Founder of Pakistan, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, and Allama Muhammad Iqbal their guiding principles, and become a source of pride for Pakistan among the nations of the world.

He expressed these views during a meeting with the Anjuman-e-Tajran (Traders' Association) of Commercial Market, where the business community congratulated Haji Mumtaz Ahmad on his son's graduation from the National Police Academy.

Haji Mumtaz Ahmad shared that his beloved son, Muhammad Noman, passed the CSS examination in 2022. Afterward, he joined the Pakistan Police Service. Following five months of training at the Civil Services Academy and eighteen months at the National Police Academy, he has successfully graduated. In this training program, eighteen officers graduated in total, who have been posted to various parts of Pakistan, including two officers assigned to Rawalpindi. Haji Mumtaz Ahmad said, "Our youth are our pride. My prayer is

that my son dedicates his life to serving the country and the nation."

On this occasion, trader leaders of the Anjuman-e-Tajran Commercial Market — including Malik Suhail Awan (President), Raja Zafar (General Secretary), Mahfooz Khan, Tahir Ismail (Vice Presidents), Raja Rashid (Vice President), Raheel, Chaudhry Jawed Ahmad (Chairman Election Commission), and members of the General Executive Council — extended heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Haji Mumtaz Ahmad on his son's remarkable achievement.

Group Chairman/Chief Editor: Almass Ayoub Sabir Vice Chairman:

Editor:

Head Editorial Advisory Board: Amjad Mehmood

Bureau Chief Lahore:

Bureau Chief Karachi: Khurram Jaffrani (jaffrani@adpluse.pk Syed Afraz Ali Nazish (afrazalishah@gmail.com)

AIMS Building, Street No. 4, H-8/1, Islamabad. Head Office: spokesmanislamabad@gmail.com

Phone: +92 51 2227123, WhatsApp +92 346 5008408

Karachi office: A111, Block C, Gulsha-e-Jamal, PRECHS,

Karachi Phone:021-33399390 Email: spokesmankarachi@gmail.com

Asim Nazir Ahmad

Naveed Ahmad Khan

Lahore Office: 7-E, Samanberg, Johar Town.

spokesmanlahore@gmail.com

Daily The Spokesman available only on annual subscription

First-Come, First-Served Berthing Mandated at Karachi Ports to Combat **Severe Congestion**

inistry of Maritime Affairs has initiated measures to streamline sugar and cement handling operations at Port Qasim following reports of severe congestion caused by the slow discharge of sugar consignments.

A high-level meeting chaired by Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry reviewed the situation and its impact on export activities, particularly cement and clinker

The meeting brought together senior officials including Secretary Maritime Affairs Syed Zafar Ali Shah, Secretary Commerce Jawad Paul, Chairman Port Qasim Authority Rear Admiral (Retd.) Syed Moazzam Ilyas, Acting Chairman Karachi Port Trust Rear Admiral Atiq-ur-Rehman, Chief Executive Officer of the Trading Corporation of Pakistan (TCP) Syed Rafeo Bashir Shah, Technical Advisor Maritime Affairs Commodore (Retd.) Muhammad Jawad Akhtar, and representatives of the Cement Exporters Association led by Arif

Addressing the meeting, Junaid Anwar Chaudhry underscored the need to enhance operational efficiency, align port management with national logistics priorities, and ensure smooth coordination among stakeholders.

The minister stressed the need for all ports to enhance their operational efficiency to ensure the smooth and timely discharge of consignments, noting that improving these operations is vital to prevent port congestion, which can cause delays, raise costs, and disrupt the supply chain.

The meeting was informed that sugar was being unloaded at a rate lower than the port's potential capacity. The minister directed the Port Qasim Authority (PQA) to optimize sugar unloading operations in line with its discharge capacity of around 4,000 to 4,500 tons per

The meeting also reviewed directives from the Prime Minister's Office, which included utilizing Gwadar Port for up to 60 percent of sugar imports to ease the load on Karachi's terminals. Participants also discussed berthing priorities and measures to prevent bottlenecks affecting the turnaround of export-bound ships.

It was agreed in the meeting that all vessels at Port Qasim and Karachi Port would be berthed strictly on a first-come, first-served

The TCP was instructed to improve its operational planning, ensure better coordination of vessel arrivals, and maintain continuous communication with port authorities to avoid future congestion.

Both port authorities were tasked with enforcing the berthing policy and closely monitoring discharge performance, with penalties to be applied in cases of unnecessary delays.

The federal minister directed all relevant agencies, including TCP and other state importers, to synchronize their freight movement plans with the Ministry of Maritime Affairs ahead of cargo arrivals.

He commended the constructive engagement of all participants and emphasized that consistent adherence to the agreed measures and performance standards was essential to sustaining ports' efficiency and preventing a recurrence of such logistical disruptions.

Did Trump's Second-Term Tariff Crusade Backfire on America?

returned to power staggering liability. in January 2025, he came as a man on a mission — a self-proclaimed savior who promised to restore America's greatness by reversing what he called decades of "plunder" by foreign nations and betrayal by domestic elites. His message was sharp, emotional, and divisive: America had been looted by others, invaded by outsiders, and weakened by globalists. His rallying cry — "Stop the plunder, make America win again" — became the cornerstone of his campaign and the moral justification for his economic, immigration, and security agenda.

But ten months into his presidency, that crusade appears to have collapsed under its own contradictions. His main policy weapon, tariffs, has crippled rather than strengthened the U.S. economy. His promise to expel immigrants and Chinese students has triggered outrage, legal challenges, and civil unrest. His use of National Guards to quell protests and enforce federal directives has been condemned by constitutional scholars as authoritarian overreach. And his deliberate targeting of Democratic-governed states with funding cuts, while rewarding Republican ones, has deepened America's internal divide. The second Trump presidency, which began with boasts of discipline and destiny, now stands mired in disorder and disbelief.

In October 2025, a federal appeals court ruled that large portions of Trump's tariff regime violated constitutional limits under the IEEPA. The case, now before the Supreme Court, threatens to nullify could force Washington to refund up to \$1 trillion in illegally collected tariffs to

hen Donald Trump turning a perceived fiscal victory into a has instead fractured its communities, public need.

Abroad, allies have grown disillusioned. Canada, once America's most dependable partner, has frozen joint energy projects and suspended several defense procurement agreements. The European Union has accelerated plans for

on U.S. markets and military backing. Even India, which Trump once courted as a counterweight to China, has shifted toward a more balanced, non-aligned stance. The geopolitical cost of Trump's tariff crusade may, in time, exceed its economic toll.

While the tariff policy faltered on the global front, Trump's domestic agenda ignited turmoil at home. His pre-election vow to expel Chinese students from American universities and remove undocumented immigrants from the United States ran into fierce institutional and popular resistance. University presidents, state governors, and business leaders across the country denounced the policy as self-destructive, depriving the nation of talent and labor. Mass arrests by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) often televised and heavy-handed shocked the public conscience.

Detention centers overflowed; protests erupted in California, Illinois, Michigan, and New York; and civil-rights groups accused the administration of orchestrating what they called "state-sponsored social division." Even Republican the program entirely. If upheld, the ruling mayors in Texas and Florida warned that the crackdown had disrupted local economies dependent on migrant workers. importers and foreign companies — The plan to "secure America's borders"

producing social tension, moral outrage, and economic stagnation in key industries like agriculture, construction, and services.

Adding to the domestic crisis was Trump's repeated deployment of the National Guard in Democrat-led states, ostensibly to maintain order amid protests

"strategic autonomy" — reducing reliance and labor unrest. Governors and constitutional lawyers called it an unprecedented intrusion into state sovereignty. Several state legislatures passed resolutions condemning the federal overreach, while civil-liberties groups filed lawsuits accusing the administration of violating the Posse Comi-

tatus Act

Simultaneously, the White House began punishing Democratic states by withholding federal infrastructure funds while granting bonuses and subsidies to Republican-governed regions. This selective disbursement of national resources has widened America's internal divide, transforming fiscal policy into a partisan weapon. The attempt to project strength has instead exposed weakness — a federal government at war with its own states.

Ten months into Trump's second term, nearly every pillar of his campaign stands eroded. The tariffs meant to punish foreign "plunderers" punished American workers and consumers instead. The immigration clampdown intended to restore "law and order" has generated chaos and shame. The National Guard deployments, framed as decisive leadership, now symbolize federal authoritarianism. And the selective funding of states has alienated millions of Americans who feel their taxes are being used to reward political loyalty rather than

The economic cost of the tariffs – roughly \$600 billion in losses — combines with the social and political cost of division: a fractured society, disillusioned allies, and a democracy tested at its seams. Even conservative economists concede that the "America First" project has yielded America isolated, economically weaker, and morally diminished.

As 2025 draws to a close, the central question remains: Can a nation become great again by taxing its own people. dividing its own states, and alienating its own allies? The numbers answer before the historians can. America collected \$300 billion but lost nearly twice as much in trade, consumer spending, and trust. Its factories are quieter, its allies colder, its campuses emptier.

Donald Trump's second term began with roaring confidence and ends, barely a year in, with a silent admission: the slogans that once stirred the crowds — Stop the Plunder, Secure the Border, Restore the Greatness — have fallen flat, leaving behind a trail of broken promises and broken partnerships. All those promises that lifted him to power — tariffs, immigration reform, national security, and federal supremacy - have failed to deliver. Now, as the first year of his presidency closes in turmoil and uncertainty, one question looms large over Washington and the world: does Donald Trump still have the legal, moral, and ethical basis to remain in power? That question may, in the end, define not only his legacy but the fate of American democracy itself.

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



Aligning Resources, Provincial Needs and Defense Imperatives in NFC Award

Commission established

and increasing the provincial share of divisible taxes to However, since then, challenges such as weak revenue generation, uneven provincial capacity, and political deadlock have stalled progress. The newly constituted

11th NFC Award (2025) has reopened debates on balancing national and provincial needs, particularly as the federal government advocates a "need-based" formula that prioritizes defense, debt servicing, and allocations—reflecting Pakistan's fiscal strain and growing security imperatives amid regional tensions.

Abdul Basit Alvi

The debate surrounding Pakia simplistic struggle between the It is essential that all stakeholders—

he National Finance federal and provincial—address this tions, particularly in maintaining and (NFC) issue with a sense of national duty, strategic vision, and fiscal sophistiunder Article 160 of cation. The reality is that Pakistan is Pakistan's 1973 Consti- not merely managing internal develtution, is the key framework for opment needs; it is also maneuvering dividing financial resources between through a complex and increasingly the federation and its provinces. It perilous regional security landscape. upholds fiscal federalism by ensuring The country's defense requirements equitable revenue sharing and are not discretionary expenses enabling provinces to manage educa- they are fundamental to its survival, tion, health, and infrastructure. The sovereignty, and deterrence posture 7th NFC Award of 2009 enhanced in the face of evident and persistent provincial autonomy by broadening threats, particularly from an increasthe resource distribution formula ingly militarized and aggressive India.

The provinces must comprehend that their development, security, and stability are inherently connected to the strength and preparedness of the federal defense establishment. Defense is not solely a federal priority; it is a national imperative that supports every

other social and economic objective. Therefore, while it is entirely reasonable for provinces to demand their fair share of national revenues for education, health, infrastructure, and poverty reduction, these demands national projects before provincial must be situated within the wider context of the federation's responsibilities, most importantly the defense of the nation. The NFC Award must embody a balanced approach—one stan's National Finance Commission that ensures the provinces are empow-(NFC) Award must progress beyond ered to meet their service delivery obligations, but also ensures the federal federal government and the provinces. government is not left financially incapacitated in performing its vital func-

advancing the country's military capabilities. Defense technology is evolving rapidly, and falling behind in this race is not an option for a nation like Pakistan that confronts existential threats Investment in defense is an investment in national peace, economic stability, and long-term development. The armed forces are not the property of the federal government alone; they are the protectors of every province, every district, and every citizen Pakistan.

Moreover, provinces should resist the inclination to politicize the NFC Award debate. Transforming it into a zero-sum political competition risks damaging the spirit of cooperative federalism and could foster further division at a time when unity is most critical. Political actors at the provincial level must transcend narrow interests and acknowledge the importance of a strong federation. The success of provincial development programs ultimately depends on national security and macroeconomic stability-both of which are responsibilities anchored at the federal level. In a country with limited fiscal space, shared sacrifices and a collective vision are imperative. A need-based NFC Award is not about depriving provinces; it is about responsibly allocating resources so that both development and defense can coexist without compromising one another. Only through such a balanced and mature approach can Pakistan secure its borders, uplift its people, and build a future grounded in strength, stability, and shared pros-

Pakistan Floods: Millions Displaced, Catastrophic Health and Nutrition Crisis Unfolds

akistan is grappling with a humanitarian crisis of unprecedented scale after an exceptionally strong monsoon and widespread flash floods beginning 26 June 2025.. According to OCHA's Situation Overview (6 October 2025), the floods have caused 1,037 deaths, 1,067 injuries, and damaged or destroyed over 229,760 houses; more than 2.7 million people have been displaced and essential services including health, nutrition hygiene kits for women and households, latrine repair, and and WASH have been severely disrupted.

UNOCHA+1 In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP), roughly 1.57 million people were identified as affected in the RNA, with 604,000 people in urgent need; over 42,000 houses were damaged and more than 150 health facilities recorded damage or service disruption. Nutrition screening in assessed districts reached 16,489 children and 1,118 children were enrolled in treatment for severe acute malnutri-

tion (SAM); mobile MHPSS teams reached 3,126 people marking early but inadequate coverage against the scale of need. UNICEF+1 Punjab has one of the largest humanitarian burdens: RNAs covering 18 flood-affected districts estimate 4.2 million people affected and 2.8 million displaced, with 161,700 houses damaged and 395 health facilities assessed as damaged (out of 742 surveyed). Nutrition screening has reached 114,011 children, 5,460 children have been treated for SAM to date, and MHPSS mobile teams have reached 3,150 people — while the scale of displacement and facility damage continues to overwhelm local capacity. UNICEF+1

Second, restore and adapt health services to the emergency: repair and re-equip damaged facilities (prioritizing facilities serving largest displaced populations), deploy mobile primary-health teams to cut-off valleys, resume immunization and antenatal care campaigns, and ensure supply-chain corridors for essential medicines and vaccines. Health and nutrition teams should coordinate daily so that screening, referral and treatment happen in one contact. UNOCHA+1

Third, make MHPSS universal within the response: embed psychosocial first aid, child-friendly spaces, caregiver support groups and referral pathways into nutrition and health

outreach — especially in displacement sites, schools and OTP/ TSFP centres. Mobile MHPSS teams must scale from the current hundreds to reach tens of thousands, with trained community volunteers and integration into primary care for sustained support. UNICEF+1

Fourth, pair WASH with every health-nutrition contact: ensure safe drinking water (water trucking and rapid repair),

> strong hygiene-promotion to reduce diarrhoeal disease that drives wasting. UNICEF and field sitreps show WASH gaps correlate directly with nutrition deterioration, making these combined actions non-negotiable. UNICEF+1Fifth, protect and restore livelihoods and food systems: emergency cash and food assistance, seed and livestock support, market rehabilitation and social-protection top-ups prevent families from selling assets or skipping meals — actions that would drive

longer-term malnutrition. FAO/WFP and national RNAs recommend linking early recovery interventions to nutrition outcomes, UNOCHA+1

Sixth, surge funding, coordination and preparedness: international donors and national planners must fund integrated packages (health + nutrition + MHPSS + WASH) and pre-position buffer stocks and surge teams for the next shock. OCHA's support plan outlines relief and early-recovery needs through April 2026 and underscores funding shortfalls that constrain integrated scale-up. UNOCHA+1

The floods of 2025 have exposed the fragility of Pakistan's ystems — but the evidence and RNAs show where to target lifesaving integrated action. If nutrition screening and treatment, health services, water and sanitation, and psychosocial support are delivered together, at scale and without delay, we can avert many preventable deaths, reduce long-term developmental harm for children, and help communities rebuild with resilience. The clock is ticking; integrated action is not optional — it is the only humane and effective route out of this crisis. UNICEF+2UNICEF+2 "In a humanitarian crisis, healing must mean more than survival — it must unite health, nutrition, and mental wellbeing into one act of recovery."

German ambassador meets Ch Shujaat Hussain to explore joint ventures

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Germany's Ambassador to Pakistan, Anna Lepel, called on Pakistan Muslim League Quaid (PML-Q) President Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain to discuss matters of mutual interest and ways to enhance bilateral trade and investment. The meeting was also attended by Punjab's Provincial Minister for Industry, Chaudhry Shafay Hussain, and Federal Minister for Overseas Pakistanis, Chaudhry Salik Hussain.

During the discussion, both sides emphasised the need for practical steps to increase trade between Pakistan and Germany.

In the meeting, opportunities for joint ventures between Pakistani and German investors were also explored, reflecting a growing interest in bilateral economic collaboration.

Chaudhry Shafaq Hussain briefed investors. the German envoy on investment



lighting the province's special economic zones, industrial estates, and infrastructure designed to attract both domestic and international

Projects such as the Quaid-e-Azam could greatly benefit Pakistan, espeared and Germany.

opportunities across Punjab, high- Business Park in Sheikhupura and the upcoming Garment City, aimed at textile sector investors, were specifically highlighted.

cially in skill development and value addition in the salt sector.

The PML-Q president noted that collaboration with Germany would strengthen industrial expertise and innovation in Pakistan.

Federal Minister Chaudhry Salik Hussain added that skilled Pakistani professionals are in high demand internationally, and German investment could create further opportunities in Punjab.

The German ambassador highlighted ongoing skill development collaborations with Pakistan and expressed a commitment to expanding cooperation in multiple sectors.

The meeting also included Dr Imran Hashmi, Director of the Punjab Investment Board, and leading industrialists, underlining a strong commit-Chaudhry Shujaat Hussain stressed ment to enhancing economic and that Germany's advanced technology technological ties between Pakistan

play "Mulaqat", written by Jean Pierre

"Rhythm of the World" Dance and Music Night Lights Up the World Culture Festival 2025

👺 Bureau Report

KARACHI: On the tenth day of the 39-day "World Culture Festival 2025", Vibrant cultural activities reached new heights, captivating audiences with theatre, film, and spectacular dance performances. The day began with theatre workshops conducted by Malaysian actress and director Bella Rahim, UK actor Jan Martin, and Raheel Siddiqui, attended by students of the Arts Council Theatre Academy and international participants. During her session, Bella Rahim shared valuable insights on acting techniques. She emphasized that "theatre is not limited to the stage; every movement and every emotion in life reflects a character." Jan Martin, the British theatre artist, focused on character development, stage presence, and dialogue delivery, saying, "A true actor doesn't just speak the lines, he lives every word with emotion."



bouquets to Bella Rahim and Jan Martin in recognition of their contributions. The day continued with the screening of the Pakistani feature film "Dukhtar", directed by Afia Nathaniel, which drew a large audience. The film He also conducted practical tells the story of a mother and her exercises and short performances, ten-year-old daughter who flee their providing on-the-spot feedback to home to save the girl from an arranged the participants. At the conclusion of the winter, and it that we shot during the winter, and it the workshop, President Arts Council emotional depth and powerful perforemains one of Pakistan's finest films." through the universal language of art, Muhammad Ahmad Shah presented mances moved the audience to tears. The festival also featured the comedy music, and dance.

Speaking via video link, director Afia Nathaniel said, "Dukhtar' connects the cultural essence of all provinces of Pakistan. Child marriage is a serious issue, and our films should reflect real social concerns and provoke thought."

Martez, adapted by Waqas Akhtar, and directed by Usama Ranjha, starring Tooba Naeem and Waqas Akhtar. Set at a suburban railway platform where a man and a woman meet after their train is cancelled, the play humorously explores the possibilities that an unexpected encounter can bring — possibly changing their lives forever. Audiences praised the brilliant performances and witty dialogue of the Pakistani cast. The tenth day concluded with a grand music and dance show titled "Rhythm of the World", featuring mesmerizing performances that celebrated cultural harmony through rhythm, light, and color. Performers included Riaz by Cayena Folfolk (Colombia), Gillian Rhodes (USA), Luc Skyz, Tommy Hill (UK), and Nighat Chaudhry (Pakistan), who together created an unforgettable night of music and movement. The hall was packed to capacity, Filmmaker Najaf Bilgrami added, with the audience giving standing "I first watched this film on Netflix ovations to the performers. "Rhythm it's a powerful piece of cinema of the World" truly embodied the spirit

Sweet-flavoured traps: How nicotine pouches are hooking the young

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Sleek tins, fruity flavours and a promise of "smokefree relief" are pulling a growing number of young Pakistanis into a quiet addiction, nicotine pouches. Small white packets tucked between the gum and lip, they deliver a sharp dose of nicotine without smell



or ash, and are rapidly becoming a daily habit among teenagers and young adults. Recent studies show use of nicotine pouches among 16-to 24-year-olds has tripled globally since 2022, from under one percent to 3.6 percent in 2024.

Experts say Pakistan is following the same path, with shops and online sellers offering the pouches freely, no age limits, no warnings. Zar Wali, a cobbler in Islamabad who doubles as a street vendor, says demand is soaring when questioned by APP how this addiction is growing. "A 20-pouch tin costs around Rs 250 to 300. Brands like Velo, Zyn and Loop are popular mint, coffee, berry, whatever you want," he said. "People buy them every day." Each pouch contains 3–14 milligrams of nicotine, absorbed through the mouth's soft tissues. One lasts about an hour but many users go through an entire tin daily. "It costs me Rs 300 a day, but I can't stop now," said Murtaza alias Sherry, a barber from Pandorian, Islamabad. "It gives a stronger kick than cigarettes, and no one even notices, not even at work." Health experts warn the absence of smoke does not make these products safe. "They cause gum irritation, swelling and mouth sores," said Dr Farah Malik, a dental surgeon in Islamabad, in response to an APP query. "Long-term use damages soft tissues, leading to gum disease, oral infections and even tooth loss." Some users face graver consequences.

Subhan, a private driver from Rawalpindi, started using the pouches to quit smoking. Within months, he was addicted. "I used one every hour," he said. "Later, doctors told me I had pancreatic cancer. Surgery cost me over Rs 2.5 million, and I'm still on chemotherapy." Dr Ateeg ur Rehman, a cancer specialist in Islamabad, talking to APP said pancreatic cancer has a survival rate of less than 10 percent when detected late. While there is no proven link between nicotine pouches and pancreatic cancer, he warned prolonged exposure to nicotine can still harm major organs. "Nicotine is toxic," he said. "It raises blood pressure, affects the heart, liver and pancreas, and disrupts cell function. Continuous intake - even through smokeless products — increases the risk of chronic disease and possibly cancer." Pakistan's tobacco laws ban the sale of cigarettes to anyone under 18, but nicotine pouches escape scrutiny because they are not classified as tobacco products. "It's a dangerous loophole," said a senior official at the Tobacco Control Cell. "These contain pure nicotine — the same addictive chemical as in cigarettes - yet children can buy them freely." Globally, regulators are starting to act. In the United Kingdom, health groups such as Action on Smoking and Health have called for strict packaging and age limits. In the United States, the Food and Drug Administration is reviewing rules after a surge in teenage use. Doctors and educators in Pakistan warn that without awareness campaigns and clear laws, the problem could escalate fast. "It's like naswar or cigarettes. The addiction starts quietly but becomes hard to escape," said Dr Malik. "This one just hides behind a modern image." A recent national survey in Pakistan of 14,232 children aged 10-16 found that 3.4 percent of boys and 2.7 percent of girls reported having used nicotine pouches, a higher share than those who reported smoking cigarettes. Nearly one third of respondents said they would accept a nicotine pouch if offered by a friend, and roughly one in three said they found it "easy" to buy such products. A separate point-of-sale survey found that although nicotine-pouch outlets comprised just 7.9 percent of stores across nine Pakistani districts, nearly 12 percent of those displayed dedicated advertising and many placed the products within reach of children. This underlines how the availability and social normalisation of pouches are contributing to early uptake among youth, a worrying indicator of how widespread the "modern alternative" has become. As cases of tobacco-related illness rise, experts fear this new $form\ of "smokeless\ addiction"\ could\ spread\ unchecked-unless\ author$ ities move quickly to curb access and inform the public.

Capturing the full value of next-gen connectivity in Pakistan

future, digital and other-URAAN Pakistan initiative that aims to position the nation as

establishing the country as a leading destination for foreign investment.

As part of the vision, Pakistan works to accelerate its digital transformation to enhance operational efficiency, promote innovation and improve its competitiveness on the global stage. With initiatives by the Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunication (MoITT), startups are given access to funding and cloud credits to accelerate their adoption of emerging technologies and secure their presence globally.

The country is driving digital inclu-

vision for a prosperous communication technologies and telecommunication services to unserved wise, in line with the and underserved areas. It is also building resilience by strengthening its disaster management infrastructure.

And the results of these multifac-This involves rejuvenating the eted efforts are already showing. IT economy, promoting sustainable devel- and IT-enabled services exports are opment, driving inclusive growth and expanding, reaching a record-high \$3.8 billion in FY25. In January 2025, inflation in Pakistan witnessed a sharp drop to 2.4 per cent — the lowest in nine years. In addition, under its Digital Pakistan Policy, the country has been steadily improving its standing in global technology rankings, including reaching seventh place in the number of mobile users. With nearly 200 million telecom subscribers, approximately 150 million broadband users and mobile coverage across almost 80 per cent of its territory, Pakistan provides fertile ground for network modernisation.

Pakistan is now preparing to take

akistan is pursuing a bold sion by extending information and a decisive leap into the next era of spectrum will deliver wide-ranging fully reflected in the spectrum assign- empower Pakistan to secure its posiof 5G networks, a transformation that mobile experiences through superior promises lasting benefits and will rede- video quality, lower latency, and higher

> nicate. This move is expected to accelerate economic growth across all sectors from finance, trade and commerce to mining and services by enabling new use cases and business models that demand ultra-low latency and high bandwidth.

According to a study conducted by Ericsson in collaboration with Analysys Mason across 15 emerging markets, including Pakistan, 5G is projected to contribute an additional \$4.7 billion to the nation's GDP, with a benefit-tocost ratio of 2.8.

Beyond economic impact, the new

fine how people live, work, and commuspeeds. It will also drive social inclusion

by improving access to essential services, strengthen sustainability of key sectors such as manufacturing and agriculture, and bolster the safety and resilience of critical infrastructure through reliable connectivity.

However, success of 5G deployment hinges not only on the availability of new mid-band spectrum, but also on how it is allocated to communications service providers (CSPs). Since 5G technology is designed to operate with 100 MHz carriers in the mid-band, it is essential that this technical requirement is

connectivity with the imminent rollout societal benefits. It will enhance ment process and that spectrum is allocated in 100 MHz blocks per CSP. This approach enables the most cost-efficient 5G rollout, maximises utilisation of radio equipment, and delivers the highest network performance.

As the country prepares for the deployment of the new spectrum, it is crucial to have the right flavour of 5G — and that, in this case, is 5G standalone. Benefits of this type of network architecture include faster connection times and programmability for more agile creation of services and network slices. A 5G standalone network is also a prerequisite for 5G Internet of Things (IoT) use cases based on reduced capability (RedCap) technology. All these features make 5G standalone a profitable innovation platform.

To unlock the full revolutionary potential of 5G, standalone deployments are imperative. Moving decisively on standalone today will

tion in the future economy.

5G is driven by enterprise and business demand, Enterprises investing in Pakistan will expect network solutions from trusted suppliers that support open, vendor-neutral stacks to guarantee transparency and multi-vendor interoperability. Ericsson is positioned to provide these open, secure 5G solu-

With a legacy spanning more than 60 years in Pakistan, we have been at the forefront of transforming the country's telecom sector and creating opportunities for greater inclusion across businesses and communities. We have played a key role in building the ICT infrastructure, revolutionising mobile connectivity and supporting the nation's digital ambitions, and we are here for the long term.

The writer is president of Ericsson North Middle East

"Iqbal's Vision for a Rising Pakistan"

the Poet of the East and the tect of Pakistan, did not offer the Muslims of the subcontinent mere beautiful poetry, he presented a profound intellectual system that became the foundation of national and individual renewal. His poetry and philosophical writings were a call toward selfhood and awakening, providing the intellectual blueprint for the creation of Pakistan. At the center of this entire vision lies the concept of Khudi an urgent call for the individual to recognize their nation. Iqbal envisioned an Muslims could live with dignity, to his people's progress. Today,

political freedom, and harmony between their cultural religious values and modern scientific advancement. This was not a dream of retreat, but a courageous path toward achieving a distinct and progressive identity.

Khudi, is the fundamental pillar of Iqbal's philosophy. It urges the individual to strengthen their inner self, break free from intellectual slavery, and play an active role in shaping their destiny. For Iqbal, a strong nation is composed only of strong individuals. Khudi grows through constant self-accountability, discipline, and active struggle in the world placing action above inner strength and use it for mere thought. This philosthe collective welfare of the ophy was a rebellion against the stagnation and passivity independent homeland where he saw as the greatest obstacles

applying Khudi means rejecting all forms of dependence whether foreign aid or inherited privilege and replacing them with self-confidence, innovation, and personal responsibility. When an individual acts with dignity and self-respect, the national character strengthens, and the nation becomes more resilient against external pressures and internal moral decay. The true rebuilding of Pakistan begins not in the assemblies, but within the conscience of the individual. Pakistan today faces a stark

contrast between Iqbal's lofty ideals and the harsh ground reality. The country suffers from deep-rooted challenges, severe economic instability, rising debt, sectarian divisions, corruption, and inadequate education. These issues represent a deviation from the very

principles Iqbal emphasized, justice, unity, and moral purity. He warned against the pursuit of wealth at the expense of moral character, and today's govern-

Kevin Murphy



ance crises prove his warning precisely true. Yet these challenges are also an opportunity an opportunity to reinterpret Iqbal's dream in a modern, practical manner. If current policies are examined through the lens of Khudi, self-reliance, dignity,

national renewal can become

To Iqbal, knowledge was the modern science. foundation upon which the strength of society rests. He means of earning a livelihood, but as a tool for intellectual freedom and moral refinement. Modern Pakistan must usher in a revolution in quality education centered on critical thinking, scientific research, and technological expertise. This includes everything from basic schooling to vocational training, digital literacy, and strong industry academia collaborations. Institutions must produce individuals who are not just graduates, but morally and intellectually strong leaders. Progress is impossible without promoting responsibility. research and challenging

the very balance Iqbal sought recalling Iqbal's dream as a relic between Islamic philosophy and of the past, it must be under-

is one that possesses internal saw education not merely as a unity. He saw sectarianism and actionable national frameas a major cause of national destruction. Therefore, Pakistan urgently needs interfaith harmony, respect for cultural and the youth must embrace diversity, and inclusive policies. The core of Iqbal's political thought also revolves around iustice and accountability. The reconstruction of Pakistan is ance, Pakistan can overcome its impossible without transparency in governance, the rule of nation that not only safeguards law, and high moral standards its intellectual heritage but also for public leaders. Transparency, civil service reform, and active moral excellence, and enlightcitizen participation are essential to strengthening collective In truth, rebuilding Paki-

and justice then the path to conventional thought this is stan cannot be treated as merely stood as a practical necessity. His For Iqbal, a strong nation principles Khudi, unity, justice, and knowledge offer a dynamic work. The government must adopt ethical governance society must promote social harmony critical thinking and self-reliance. When Iqbal's wisdom is practically applied to policy, education, society, and governcurrent obstacles and rise as a stands as a symbol of progress, ened unity in the modern world.

The writer is senior analyst. He can be reaqched at javedullahraja@gmail.com

Monnday, November 10, 2025



Index Fluctuation		
Pakistan: PSX 1	00-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: FTS	E 100 Index	
Index Value	Change	
9,682.57	-53.21	
Percentage	Time	
-0.55%	7 Nov, 4:35 pm GMT+1	
USA: Dow Jones I	ndustrial Averag	

USA: Dow Jones I	ndustrial 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		

elling
0.65
4.6
2.9
.69
.55
5.7
.45
19
9765
3.25
.4
0.25
.82
9.2
.8
.35
2.05
.55
9.4
7

Pakistan must fully exploit potential of halal food exports in global markets:-Shahid Imran

282.85



Example 2 Commerce Desk

US Dollar

LAHORE: Pakistan's corporate sector must fully exploit the potential of vast scope of halal food exports in global markets as its current size \$2tr is expected to touch the level of \$3tr by next five

Talking to a delegation of halal food exporters here on Sunday led by Shabir Ahmad from Mardan Convener Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry regional committee on food Shahid Imran said there were enormous opportunities for cooperation in "Halal Food Market" between Pakistan and Malaysia and this sector in Malaysia had an extensive network of value added Industry and multinational companies that could help Pakistan to connect with the global supply chain. He said that traditionally halal food includes meat, poultry, seafood, fruits and vegetables, dairy products, grains, oil, fats, waxes and confectioneries that could be exported at competitive price in the emerging global market by bringing value added products.

He said there was a FTA between Pakistan and Malaysia to bring the business communities of both countries closer to make it more effective. He said Pakistan should be partner and catalyst for reform to drive sustainability and to contribute to our collective goal of shared prosperity. He said Malaysia can play a major role in providing Pakistan with economic and trade opportunities in the Association of East Asian Nations(ASEAN) regional

RCCI Delegation visits Uzhek Chamber of Commerce on the sidelines of 36th IAA & BOC



Spokesman Report ■ Spokesman Report ■ ■ Spokesman Report Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: The 36th International Achievement Awards and Business Opportunities Conference (IAA & BOC), organized and Industry (RCCI), is set to commence on November 10, 2025, in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. various sectors.

An RCCI delegation, led by President

event. The delegation includes Group Leader Sohail Altaf, Senior Vice President Khalid Farooq Qazi, Vice President Fahad Barlas, former presidents, SCCI President Junaid by the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce Altaf, Executive Committee members, and prominent business representatives from

Usman Shaukat, has arrived in Tashkent to are participating in the conference, which aims national Achievement Awards and Busi-stan and Uzbekistan.

explore new trade opportunities.

On the sidelines of the event, the RCCI delegation paid a visit to the Uzbekistan Chamber of Commerce, where discussions were held to enhance mutual cooperation and trade facilitation between Pakistan and Uzbekistan.

Over 200 delegates from diverse industries Shaukat highlighted that RCCI's 36th Inter-bilateral trade and investment between Paki-

participate in the prestigious international to foster international business linkages and ness Opportunities Conference continues the Chamber's long-standing tradition of promoting entrepreneurship and global partnerships.

He noted that the conference provides a valuable platform for networking, business collaborations, and international recognition, Speaking on the occasion, President Usman while also paying the way for new avenues of

Railway Reformist

ISLAMABAD: US Chargé d'Affaires Natalie Baker visits Golra Railway Station and Museum; lauds Federal Minister for Railways, Muhammad Hanif Abbasi as a "Railway Reformist" driving unprece-



Iftikhar Malik calls for stronger Pakistan-ASEAN economic cooperation

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry former President Iftikhar Ali Malik Sunday urged the government to explore new avenues of investment and economic cooperation with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to strengthen regional trade integration and economic growth, a need of the hour.

In a statement here today octogenarian popular trade leader of South Asia, he said ASEAN, comprising ten dynamic economies, offers vast potential for Pakistan to diversify its export markets, attract foreign investment, and enhance people-to-people connectivity. He said Pakistan must focus on developing strategic trade partnerships



with ASEAN member states in sectors like agriculture, inforthrough joint ventures, indus- mation technology, renewable trial collaboration, and tech- energy, halal food, and textile nology exchange, particularly manufacturing. He called upon

the government to engage private sectors, chambers, and think tanks in devising a comprehensive ASEAN engagement strategy to maximize economic diplomacy. "The time has come for Pakistan to look beyond traditional markets and strengthen ties with emerging economies of Southeast Asia for shared growth and sustainable development."

Iftikhar Ali Malik Malik further stressed the need for institutional reforms, ease of doing business, and a stable policy framework to attract ASEAN investors to Pakistan. He said that mutual trade promotion missions, regular business-to-business exchanges, and exchange of trade delegation would help build confidence and open new commer-

Climate change, population growth pose serious threats to Pakistan's economy: Saif Ur Rehman

E Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Coordinator to Minister of State and Federal Tax Ombudsman Saif Ur Rehman Sunday cautioned tion explosion coupled with hovering climate changes has posed severe and multifaceted threats to Pakistan's economy.

Addressing here today at a seminar on "Impact of Climate Change and Growing Population on Pak Economy" he said ralid

on the country's limited resources, aggravating unemployment, poverty, and food insecurity. This unchecked rise in population dilutes the benefits of that ever-growing popula- economic progress, strains social services, and hinders efforts toward human development. At the same time, the growing impact of climate change-manifested through floods, droughts, heatwaves, and declining agricultural tivity-further weakens the economic fabric and disrupts population growth continues livelihoods, particularly in to exert immense pressure rural areas, he added.

Chairman of SATI, Zubair Ghagra, nominated District **Member of Human Rights** Committee Hyderabad

👺 Bureau Report

HYDERABAD: Another remarkable achievement for the Hyderabad SITE Association of Trade & Industry, the true representative body of Hyderabad's industrial sector. The Chairman of HSATI, Zubair Ghangra, has been nominated as a Member of the District Human Rights Committee Hyderabad by the Human Rights Department, Government of Sindh

According to the notification issued by the Human Rights Department, Government of Sindh, dated 7th November 2025, the committee has been formed to promote and safeguard human rights and to monitor and prevent any violations at the district level. The committee will be chaired by the Deputy Commissioner Hyderabad, of Police, Superintendent of bility of every citizen."



of Education, Health, Women Development, and Social Welfare Departments, among other representatives from various sectors.

On this occasion, Chairman HSATI Mr. Zubair Ghangra expressed his gratitude to the Government of Sindh and the **Human Rights Department** for reposing their trust in the representatives of trade and industry. He stated that "the protection of human rights is not only a governmental while its members include obligation but also a social, the Senior Superintendent moral, and civic responsi-

Pak offers ample opportunities to foreign investors in thriving IT sector

Example 2 Commerce Desk

Consular to Italy Muhammad Sheheryar Khan Sunday said Pakistan's as Pakistan ranks among the top Information Technology sectors dits remarkable growth.

Pakistan Furniture Council Mian continue to grow. Kashif Ashfaq here today in a zoom meeting he said with a young, tech- 25, Pakistan has a vast pool of highly savvy population, competitive labor skilled programmers, designers, costs, and government incentives, and IT engineers. The workforce Pakistan is emerging as a hotspot for is fluent in English, cost-competi-

He elaborated why Invest in Paki-LAHORE: Pakistan Investment stan's IT Sector because of booming freelance and software export industry economy is evolving rapidly and countries globally for freelance talent, with thousands of IT professionals allied services have consistently shown providing services to clients worldwide. Software exports alone reached Talking to Chief Executive Officer over \$3 billion in recent years and

He said with a median age under



both local and international investors tive, and highly adaptable to global market needs. Regarding govern-ment incentives, he said Special Tech-

nology Zones have been established with tax breaks for export incentives for IT services and startups. He said government has also successfully kicked off Initiatives like Digital Pakistan to promote digital infrastructure and innovation. He said the shift to digital services-e-commerce, fintech, edtech, and healthtech-is accelerating, creating a strong domestic market alongside global exports.

Mian Kashif Ashfaq invited Italian investors to Pakistan and offered PFC head office to facilitate them for collaboration and joint ventures in IT sector including furniture manu-

Aisam-ul-Haq calls on **Governor KP**

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Tennis Federation (PTF) President, Aisam-ul-Haq Qureshi, called on Governor Khvber Pakhtunkhwa, Faisal Karim Kundi, here

for the upcoming sports events, particument of sports infrastructure in the region.

larly the historic ATP Challenger Tournament scheduled to take place in the last week of November 2025, said a press release.

During the meeting, President PTF and the Governor discussed various matters The meeting focused on preparations Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the develop-



It was also decided that outstanding scheduled for November 26. Col. (R) related to the promotion of tennis in tennis players from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Gul Rehman, Director Coordination & will be honored by the KP Govern- Sports, Pakistan Tennis Federation, was ment during a special award ceremony also present in the meeting.

Hasan Nawaz released from Pakistan men's squad for ODI and tri-nation series

👺 Abdul Majid

Right-handed batter Hasan Nawaz has been released from the Pakistan men's squad for the upcoming three-match ODI series against Sri Lanka and the T20I tri-nation series featuring Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe.

The ODIs will be played at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium from 11 to 15 November, while the tri-nation series will be staged in Rawalpindi and Lahore from 17 to 29 November.

Left-handed batter Fakhar Zaman will replace Hasan in the T20I squad, while no player will be added to the ODI squad as Hasan's replacement.

Hasan has been released to participate in the ongoing Quaid-e-Azam Trophy the country's premier first-class tournament. The seventh round of the competition commences from 11 November.

Updated 15-member ODI squad: Shaheen Shah Afridi (captain), Abrar Ahmed, Babar Azam, Faheem Ashraf, Faisal Akram, Fakhar Zaman, Haris Rauf, Haseebullah, Hussain Talat, Mohammad Nawaz, Mohammad Rizwan (wicket-keeper), Mohammad Wasim Jnr, Naseem Shah, Saim Ayub, Salman Ali Agha

Updated 15-member T20I squad:

Samad, Abrar Ahmed, Babar Azam, Faheem Ashraf, Fakhar Zaman,



Mohammad Nawaz, Mohammad Wasim Jnr, Mohammad Salman Mirza, Naseem Shah, Sahibzada Farhan (wicket-keeper), Saim Ayub, Shaheen Shah Afridi, Usman Khan (wicket-keeper), Usman Tariq Sri Lanka tour to Pakistan

11 November - First ODI at Rawal-Salman Ali Agha (captain), Abdul pindi Cricket Stadium, Rawalpindi 13 November - Second ODI at Rawal-

pindi Cricket Stadium, Rawalpindi

15 November - Third ODI at Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium, Rawalpindi T20I Tri-Series (Pakistan, Sri Lanka,

Zimbabwe) 17 November - Pakistan v Zimbabwe,

Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium, Rawal-

19 November - Sri Lanka v Zimbabwe, Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium, Rawal-

22 November - Pakistan v Sri Lanka, Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore

23 November - Pakistan v Zimbabwe, Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore

25 November - Sri Lanka v Zimbabwe,

Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore

27 November – Pakistan v Sri Lanka, Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore

29 November -Final, Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore.

PCB Talent Hunt Programme for School Cricket (Karachi Region)

Sports Desk

KARACHI: Standard Secondary School and Five Star School moved into Semi Final after beating their opponents in PCB Talent Hunt Programme for School Cricket (Karachi Region) at various grounds of the

The highlights of the days play some Fine batting by Soman Kabir 88, Muhammad Mudasir 75 and deadly bowling by slow left arm spinner Shazil Farooqui 5/12.



Scores in Brief:

In the 3rd Quarter Final Standard Secondary School beat Beacon House School by 71 runs. Standard Secondary

88 9x4 3x6, Muhammad Mudasir 75 out. Muhammad Mohib (rlb) 4/43.

In reply Beacon House 165 all-out in 30.2 overs. Muhammad Saad 37, Ahmed 2/5. Muhammad Mohib 36, Muhammad Shah Zain 25. Durrani Khan (rlb) 3/21, Soman Kabir (ob) 3/24. Later Former First class Cricketer and Coach Match to Soman Kabir of Standard Head Master Ebrahim Ali Bhai School Secondary School.

School 236/9 in 40 overs. Soman Kabir School beat Ebrahim Ali Bhai School by 65 runs. Five Star School 137 all-out 10x4 2x6, Muhammad Usaid 24 not in 22.2 overs. Abdullah Butt 49 3x4 5x6. Muhammad Abbas (mf) 3/26, Muhamma Umer (sla) 3/34, Hasan

In reply Ebrahim Ali Bhai School 72 allout in 15.1 overs. Muhammad Abbas 17. Shazil Farooqui (sla) 5/12, Tausif ul Hasan 2/17, Abdullah Butt Awais Rehmani give the player of the 2/26. After the end of the Match Chief give the Player of the Match Award In the 4th Quarter Final Five Star to Abdullah Butt of Five Star School.

Sardar Tahir Mehmood reaffirms ICCI's commitment to promoting sports and youth development

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Faisal Town Group, Chaudhry Abdul Majeed graced the final match of the ICCI-IEAA Tape Ball Cricket Tournament as the Chief Guest at the F-9 Park Cricket Ground on Sunday. The exciting event, jointly organized by the ICCI and the Islamabad Estate Agents Association (IEAA), concluded with great enthusiasm and true sportsmanship.

Chaudhry Abdul Majeed along with President Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry Sardar Tahir pline, and a healthy lifestyle. He said that Mehmood presented the championship trophy along with a cash prize of Rs. 2.5 million to the winning team, Gondal

Tigers in recognition of its commendable performance.

A total of 24 teams participated in the tournament, which was played under the knockout format, drawing vibrant participation from the business community and sports enthusiasts across the capital.

In his address, the Chief Guest while announcing Rs10 lakh cash award for the winning team, Gondal Tigers and Rs. 5 lakh for the runner up team, Gulberg Greens Eleven emphasized the vital role of sports in promoting teamwork, discisuch activities always foster leadership qualities and unity among the youth,



He also appreciated the ICCI and the IEAA for organizing such a significant commitment by ICCI to promote sports healthy activity which is in fact a true national service.

In his address Sardar Tahir Mehmood reaffirmed ICCI's commitment to encouraging positive and healthy initiwhich are essential for nation-building. and engage the youth in constructive their favourite teams to encourage them.

Sardar Tahir Mehmood also appreciated the IEAA and the organizing committee for their excellent arrangements and praised the players for demonstrating high standards of passion, performance, and sportsmanship throughout the tournament.

The event concluded with a message of unity, enthusiasm, and a reaffirmed and recreational activities alongside business development in the federal capital.

It is noteworthy that the final match was witnessed by thousands of Cricket atives that strengthen community bonds fans amid full throat slogans in favour of



Faisalabad: Group photo of Faisalabad Serena Hotel Director Sales and Marketing Noman Shabbir after congratulating the heroes of the Pakistan cricket team on winning the International One Day Cricket Tournament series. Photo by

Pakistan Vs Sri Lanka Cricket Team's One Day International Cricket Series Start From 12 November 2025

Asim Tanveer

ISLAMABAD: Sri Lanka Cricket Team For One Day International Cricket squads have arrived in Islamabad for the Three One Day International Cricket Match Series, scheduled to be played at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium (RCS), Rawalpindi.

Below are the details of the media opportunities and key contact

Training & Media Schedule

9 Novembe

Sri Lanka team will train from 6:00pm to 9:00pm at Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium. This will be a vision-only opportunity.

10 November: Sri Lanka team will train from 6:30pm to 9:30pm at RCS, while

the Pakistan team will rest.

Prior to the training session, both captains will hold the pre-series press conference.

11 November - 1st ODI:

Toss will take place at 2:00pm and the first ball will be bowled at 2:30pm. After the match, a player or team management representative from each side will be available for the post-match press

12 November:

Both teams will train from 6:30pm to 9:30pm at RCS. This will be a vision-only opportunity.

13 November - 2nd ODI:

Toss will take place at 2:00pm and the first ball will be bowled at 2:30pm. After the match, a player or team management representative from each side will be available for the post-match press conference.

14 November:

Both teams will train from 6:30pm to 9:30pm at RCS. This will be a vision-only opportunity.

Toss will take place at 2:00pm and the first ball will be bowled at 2:30pm. After the match, a player or team management representative from each side will be available for the post-match press

Pak cueists win matches in IBSF World C'ship

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistani cueists Asjad Iqbal, Muhammad Asif and Muhammad Hasnain earned victories in the IBSF World Championship 2025 at Doha, Qatar.

According to details, in Stage 2 matches, Asjad Iqbal (Pak) beat Cao Zevi (China) 4-1 (4-57, 57-51,



Muhammad Asif (Pak) beat Habib Subah (Behrain) 4-2 (70(50)-28, 50-77, 56(56)-74, 65(50)-21, 69-29, 64-51(50); Muhammad Hasnain (Pak) beat Hesham Shawky (Egypt) 4-1 (1-79, 83-24, 64-46, 75(50)-42, 53-29).

Joint parliamentary committee approves draft amendments to Article 243

Continued From Page 1

He said proposals from MQM and Balochistan Awami Party (BAP) are still under consideration.

It must be noted that the amendment will require two-thirds support in both houses, meaning 64 votes in the Senate and 224 votes in the National Assembly

Opposition benches in the Senate, with 30 members, are expected to oppose the amend- IPP, for their contributions.

In a separate development, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will host a dinner for coalition senators

According to the prime minister, the constitutional amendment was prepared to strengthen federal-provincial relations and serve the broader national interest. He praised all coalition part-

ners, including PPP, MQM, and

PU and UMT Teams Clinch Joint First Position in 4th HEC All Pakistan Intervarsity Women Boxing Championship 2025–26 hosted by TUF

👺 Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: The University of Faisalabad proudly hosted the 4th HEC All Pakistan Intervarsity Women Boxing Championship 2025-26 from November 4 to 6, 2025, uniting talented female boxers from universities across the country in a spirited display of strength, skill, and determi-

The championship was inaugurated at the Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan Ground, TUF, with a grand opening ceremony attended by the Rector, Registrar, distinguished guests, faculty members,

Fifteen leading universities • from across Pakistan participated in the championship, including:

- Government College Univer-

sity (GCU) Faisalabad

Forman Christian College Lahore University of Agriculture Fais-

alabad

Fatima Jinnah Women • University, Lahore Lahore Garrison University

University of Sargodha

- University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences Lahore Government College University Lahore
- Igra University Karachi University of Lahore
- Lahore College for Women
- University Superior University Lahore University of Management
- Government College Women University Faisalabad The University of Faisalabad Adding to the excitement,

students of TUF presented a

and Technology (UMT)

captivating Gymnastics and • Formation Demonstration. symbolizing strength, balance, and unity — the true essence of sportsmanship.

The championship concluded on November 6, 2025, with an energetic closing ceremony that celebrated the remarkable performances of participating athletes. In the championship results:

Final Results Overall:

- Punjab both secured the 1st position
- University (LCWU) clinched the 2nd position
- (TUF) proudly achieved the 3rd position

University of Management TUF graced the closing cereand Technology (UMT) mony and distributed awards Lahore and University of the among the winning universities, appreciating the participants for their outstanding performances, Lahore College for Women dedication, and sportsmanship. Their presence brought immense encouragement and motiva-The University of Faisalabad tion to all competing athletes, marking the event as a memorable celebration of women's The Rector and Registrar of empowerment through sports

Israeli Aggressions

GAZA: The death toll in the Gaza Strip has risen to 69,176, the majority of them children and women, since the beginning of the Israeli aggression on October 7, 2023, medical sources announced on Sunday.



NA Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq categorically denied to get immunity under Article 248 of the Constitution

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: A joint meeting of the Senate and National Assembly's Parliamentary Committee on Law and Senate and Speaker National Justice was held in Islamabad to deliberate upon vari- in nature, they should, in prinous constitutional and legal ciple, enjoy similar immunity matters. During the proceed- as accorded to the Governors ings, a proposal was presented under Article 4 of the Constitusuggesting that constitutional tion. The rationale behind this officeholders such as the Chair-suggestion, according to Mr. man Senate and the Speaker Virk, was to ensure parity and National Assembly may also legal protection for constitube granted immunity under tional functionaries performing Article 248 of the Constitu- critical roles within the parlia- Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, he cate- should stand above the law. He tion of the Islamic Republic of mentary structure.

Assembly Standing Committee on Law and Justice, Mr. Mahmood Bashir Virk. He maintained that since the offices of the Chairman Assembly are constitutional

However, when this proposal by Chairman of the National Speaker National Assembly



gorically declined to endorse emphasized that accountability any such privilege. The Speaker and transparency are corner-The proposal was moved was brought to the notice of maintained that no individual, stones of democratic govern-

regardless of position or office, ance and that the public's trust

in institutions depends on the personal integrity of its representatives."I am, first and foremost, a representative of the people and an office-bearer only afterward. I do not seek, nor will I ever accept, any form of immunity,"said Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq.

The Speaker reiterated his unwavering belief that all public officeholders must remain answerable to the Constitution, the rule of law, and the citizens who have entrusted them with their mandate. He added that leadership carries an obligation of service and responsibility, not privilege or protection.

Education key to Pakistan's bright future: Attaullah Tarar

LAHORE: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar has said that progress in education is the foundation of a bright and prosperous future for the country and society.

Addressing the convocation of Lahore Leads University via video link on Sunday, the minister said the world recognises the skills, creativity, and potential of Pakistan's youth, and Prime Minister



Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif their role in promoting educahas introduced policies aimed at empowering them.

He said the government is ensuring equal opportunities for young people across the country. Congratulating the graduates, he praised their dedication and the sacrifices of their parents, noting that their the country's bright future." He achievement was the result of hard work and perseverance.

minister commended Leads University, its faculty, vice chancellor, sity are playing a crucial role in and the Board of Governors for

tion and equipping students with modern knowledge and

technological skills. Highlighting the importance of education, Tarar said that "68 percent of Pakistan's population comprises youth, who are the true guarantee of stressed that equipping them with relevant skills is vital for national development, and institutions like Leads Univerthis regard.

PM hosts dinner in honour of Senators

ISLAMABAD, NOV 09 (APP): Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif Sunday here hosted a dinner in honour of Senators from the government and coalition parties.

The Prime Minister welcomed the Senators from the government and coalition parties and thanked them for their cooperation in the process of approving the 27th Constitutional amendment.

"We are grateful to President Asif Ali Zardari and the leaders of all coalition parties," he said adding, "All coalition parties fully supported the national approach."

He said, "We all worked together for the 27th Constitutional amendment to strengthen the federation, for the wider interests of the country and to increase harmony between the provinces and improve governance."

He said, "All the milestones achieved during this government are the result of mutual cooperation between the



government and allied parties." "Pakistan's diplomatic successes and

recognition in the world are a reflection of harmony and mutual unity between all the coalition parties," he observed.

"Thanks to the joint efforts of all of

us, Pakistan has achieved an enhanced direction has been corrected because status," he said adding, "The country's economic situation is gradually

improving? The Prime Minister said, "By the the development and prosperity of the grace and mercy of Allah, the country's country," he added.

of political and economic stability in the country."

"Everyone has to work together for

Published by: Almass Ayoub Sabir from Zero Point Printers Rawalpindi

DPM/FM Dar pays tribute to Allama Iqbal

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar, Sunday, said that they honoured and paid tribute to Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal, whose vision and philosophy were the foundation for Pakistan.

"His ideals of faith, self-reliance, and discipline continue to guide Pakistan and the Muslim world," the DPM/FM said in a post on X handle with regard to observance of Allama Iqbal's birthday anniversary.



Ahsan urges youth to follow Iqbal's vision of selfreliance, knowledge, perseverance

👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Professor Ahsan Iqbal on Sunday paid rich tribute to the great philosopher-poet and thinker of the Muslim world, Dr Allama Muhammad Iqbal, on his birth anniversary, calling him a visionary leader and the architect of the Muslim Ummah's intellectual awakening.

In his message, the minister said that Iqbal envisioned a dignified and self-reliant nation, guided by the philosophy of khudi (selfhood), self-confidence and a sense of purpose that would enable it to play a leading role in the world.

Quoting Iqbal's timeless verse "Sitaron se age jahan aur bhi hain" ("There are worlds beyond the stars"), the minister said the message reminded the nation that the journey of pursuit, hard work and progress never ends.

"Iqbal's message continues to serve as a beacon of guidance for our the virtues of knowledge, character, Ahsan Iqbal remarked.



discipline and unwavering faith to achieve excellence in leadership and service to the nation.

"There is no shortcut to success: we must move forward with constant effort, confidence, and determination," the minister stressed.

He said the government, under its 'Uraan Pakistan' vision, was striving to translate Iqbal's dream into reality by fostering national spirit, intellectual revival and collective resolve.

"Let us all, with a renewed spirit, work together to take Pakistan to the youth," he said, urging them to adopt heights envisioned by Allama Iqbal,"

Constitutional court has been criticised the most, says minister

№ News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The inside story of the meeting of the Standing Committee on Law and Justice has come to light, In the meeting, Federal Law Minister Azam Nazir Tarar told the committee members that the proposal to set up a constitutional court had been criticized the most. "Each and every clause has been explained in detail," he said and added that the constitutional court would relieve the Supreme Court of pressure as it would clear

the case backlog to a great extent. He said that the way the war between India and Pakistan had been led was in front of everyone.

years while the honorary post will

"A proposal has been made to give two per cent representation to smaller provinces in the federal cabinet," he informed.

He suggested increasing the representation of the people of Balochistan in both houses of parliament, National Assembly and Senate, in view of the province's vastness and ethnic diversity.

Tarar said that after leaving the presidency, there will be an honorary post for life, provided that he does not take up any official post again.

Here it happens that when the president reaches home after The minister said that the post completing his term, summons of the army chief would be for five start coming, Law Minister said.

Punjab extends Section 144 for another week across province

跨 Bureau Report

LAHORE: The Punjab govern- and burials are exempted from ment has extended the enforcement of Section 144 across the province for another seven days to maintain law and order and ensure public safety.

According to a notification issued by the Punjab Home Department, the restrictions will

remain in effect until November 15. Under the order, all rallies, processions, sit-ins, demonstrations and public protests are strictly prohibited, while gatherings of four or more people in

public places will not be allowed. The notification also maintains weapons, the use of loudspeakers, and the publication or distribution during this period.

of hate or sectarian material. However, weddings, funerals

the restrictions.

enforcement personnel and courts have also been excluded from the purview of the order.

Government officials, law

The use of loudspeakers will be permitted only for Azaan (call to prayer) and Friday sermons.

A spokesperson for the Home Department said the decision was made to maintain peace and protect the lives and property of citizens, adding that public gatherings and sit-ins could become soft targets for terrorists.

The department has appealed to a complete ban on the display of citizens to cooperate with authorities in maintaining law and order