(صحیح بناری: مدیث نبر 6249) **Barkat Rice Mills** 



#### UN chief slams suicide attack at FC HQ in Peshawar

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has decried the deadly suicide attack in Peshawar on Monday in which three Federal Constabulary (FC) men were martyred. We obviously condemn this attack...," the UN Chief's Spokesperson Stephane Dujarric said in response to a question at the regular noon briefing at UN Headquarters in New York.



Sardar Attique expressed deep concern over the rapidly deteriorating situation in Indian IIOJK

structures, and destroying orchards and crops

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

**CJCSC General** 

Sahir Shamshad

**Army Chief at GHQ** 

ISLAMABAD: Chairman highlighted the outgoing

Mirza paid a farewell call on diplomacy, and the strength-

vices synergy, strengthening from a smartly turned-out joint operational prepared- contingent of the Pakistan

successful flight test

Navy conducts a successful by Admiral Naveed Ashraf,

flight test of an indigenously Chief of the Naval Staff, along developed ship-launched Anti- with senior scientists, eno

of ship launched

anti-ship ballistic

bids farewell to

Maveed Ahmad Khan

Joint Chiefs of Staff Commit-

tee General Sahir Shamshad

Field Marshal Syed Asim

Munir, Chief of Army Staff, at General Headquarters on

According to ISPR, the

Army Chief commended

General Sahir's "exemplary

leadership, strategic foresight

and dedicated service," noting his key role in boosting tri-ser-

ness, and advancing Pakistan's Army.

PN conducts

missile

Ship Ballistic Missile.

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan

The Pakistan Navy (PN)

conducted a successful flight

test of an indigenously devel-

oped ship-launched Anti-

Ship Ballistic Missile (ASBM),

showcasing the country's

operational objectives, high-

Tuesday.

Jamadi-us-Sani 4, Wednesday, November 26, 2025



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🗾 @daily spokesman



Daily Spokesman Vol: 19, Issue: 221 Price Rs. 25.00 Pages 8

strategic security objectives. Field Marshal Munir also

CJCSC's contributions to

regional stability, military

ening of Pakistan's engagement with partner countries.

General Sahir expressed

Upon arrival at GHQ, the

gratitude to the COAS and the

Armed Forces for their support

CJCSC laid a floral wreath at "Yadgar-e-Shuhada" and

received a Guard of Honour

commitment to safeguarding

The flight test was witnessed

neers, and other key personnel.

efforts of the scientific commu-

nity, engineers, and all partic-

ipating units, describing the

achievement as another step

towards defence self-reliance.

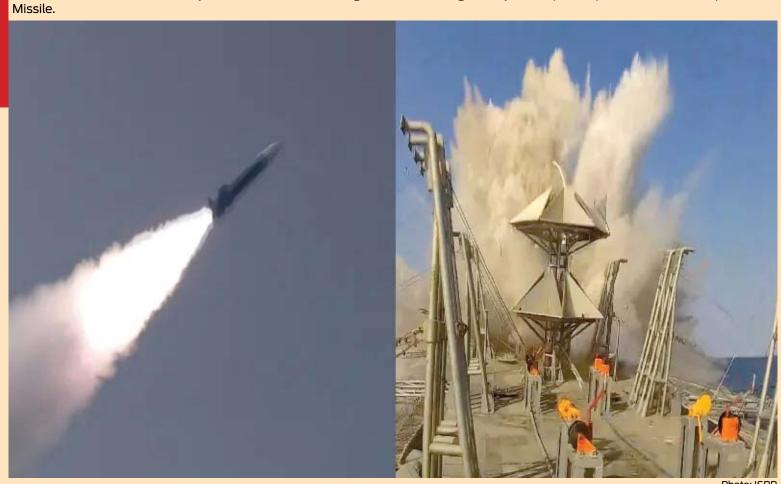
Admiral Ashraf lauded the

national interests.

throughout his career.

#### Allahu Akbar

RAWALPINDI The Pakistan Navy conducts a successful flight test of an indigenously developed ship-launched Anti-Ship Ballistic



# PM orders top-quality execution of Jinnah Medical Complex, Daanish University projects

**E** City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday directed the relevant authorities to ensure world-class standards. transparency, and complete digitisation in the execution of the Jinnah Medical Complex and Daanish University projects.

During his visit to the sites.

being constructed in the institutional-sector along Srinagar Highway.

It was informed in the briefing that 600 kanals of land had been allocated for Jinnah Medical Complex and 800 kanals for Daanish University develop-

Officials informed him that water-supply works will be the affectees of the land acquithe prime minister was given a completed within two months,

prepared in consultation with experts.

On the occasion, the prime minister stressed that only the most credible and well-reputed companies must be pre-qualified and awarded the contracts to ensure the highest construction and operational quality.

He said that the payment to detailed briefing on the projects while the PC-1 had been made after third party valida- nent, whether university opera-

tion to ensure transparency in the process.

PM Shehbaz Sharif further directed that all project-affected individuals be given their due rights without delay. He instructed the Ministers for Power and Energy to personally focus on and supervise the

Stressing modern standsition for the project should be ards, he said that every compo-

tions, management, or auxiliary systems, must be fully digitised and paperless, adding that the entire setup should meet global benchmarks. He also emphasised the need for comprehensive horticulture and landscaping.

The prime minister made it clear that no politics should interfere with the projects, underscoring that all decisions must be based on fair play, merit, and honesty of purpose.

# Security forces kill 22 Khawarij in Bannu operation

**Spokesman Report** 

ISLAMABAD: Security forces conducted an intelligence-based operation in Bannu district on 24 November, targeting the reported presence of militants linked to an Indian proxy network, Fitna al Khawarij, the military said in a statement.

According to the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), troops "effectively engaged the Khawarij location" and, after an intense exchange of fire, 22 militants were "sent to hell."

The statement added that a sanitisation operation was



sored Khawarij," reaffirming that the ongoing counterterrorism drive under the "Azm-e-Istehkam"

Action Plan, would continue at full pace.

The ISPR reiterated that vision, security forces and law

menace of foreign-sponsored and supported terrorism from the country.

President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday commended the security forces for carrying out a successful intelligence-based operation against Khawarij in Bannu.

The president and prime minister, in their separate statements, paid tribute to the security forces for their timely and effective response and for eliminating 22 terrorists of the Indian-backed Fitna al Khawarij.

They appreciated the deterunderway to clear the area of endorsed by the Federal Apex enforcement agencies remain mination of the Pakistan Army any remaining "Indian-spon- Committee on the National committed to eliminating "the and law-enforcement agencies,

saying that the ongoing counter-terrorism campaign under the vision of "Azm-e-Istehkam" was achieving great success.

"Eliminating the Indian-backed Khawarij is the state's top priority. The martyrs and the war veterans (Ghazis) are the pride of the nation," President Zardari remarked and also saluted the soldiers who displayed courage during the operation.

Prime Minister Shehbaz said that the entire nation stood with Pakistan's armed forces in this war against terrorism.

"We are determined to purge the country of every form of terrorism," he resolved.

#### growing technological and The successful test drew defence capabilities, the milicongratulations from Presitary's media affairs wing said dent Asif Ali Zardari, Prime on Tuesday. Minister Shehbaz Sharif, According to ISPR, the Chief of Army Staff Field missile is designed to engage Marshal Syed Asim Munir, both sea and land targets with Chairman Joint Chiefs of high precision. It is equipped Staff Committee General with state-of-the-art guidance Sahir Shamshad Mirza, and systems, advanced manoeuall service chiefs, who termed it vrability, and high-precision a major advancement in Pakitracking, making it a signifistan's national defence capacant strategic asset for Pakistan bilities. in the region. The test reinforces Pakistan The missile successfully achieved all its technical and

Navy's operational readiness and the country's ability to develop cutting-edge indigelighting Pakistan Navy's nous defence systems.

# President, PM praise security forces for successful anti-terrorist operation in Bannu

👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Miniscommended the security forces for carrying out a successful intelligence-based

operation against Khawarij in Bannu. The president

and prime minister, in their separate statements, paid tribute to the security forces for their timely and effective response and

for eliminating 22 terrorists of Indian-backed Fitna al

Khawarii. They appreciated the determination of the Pakistan Army and law-enforcement agencies, saying that the ongoing counter-terrorism campaign under the vision of "Azm-e-Istehkam" was achieving great success.

"Eliminating the Indian-backed Khawarij is the government's top priority. The martyrs and the war veterans ter Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday (Ghazis) are the pride of the nation," President Zardari remarked and also saluted the



soldiers who displayed courage during the operation.

Prime Minister Shehbaz said that the entire nation stood with Pakistan's armed forces in this war against terrorism.

"We are determined to purge the country of terrorism in all of its forms," he resolved.

## Pak, Saudi interior ministers chart new security roadmap in strategic Riyadh talks tion and deepening institution- commitment to expanding stra-

👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi held an important meeting with his Saudi counterpart, Prince Abdulaziz bin Saud bin Naif, during his visit to Saudi Arabia, where both sides discussed strengthening security coopera-

al ties between the two interior ministries. The meeting focused on enhancing bilateral collaboration in security matters, including information sharing, capacity building and coordinated efforts to counter emerging threats.

Both ministers reaffirmed their

tegic cooperation. A significant portion of the discussion centred on the long-standing issue of the legal status of Rohingya Muslims residing in Saudi Arabia.

The Saudi interior minister expressed gratitude to Mohsin Naqvi for Pakistan's support and

efforts regarding the matter. Prince Abdulaziz also conveyed

condolences to the families of the personnel martyred in the recent attack on the Federal Constabulary Headquarters in Peshawar, acknowledging their sacrifice and

Pakistan's Interior Secretary

Khurram Agha, Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Ahmad Farooq, Commandant Federal Constabulary Nazir Gaara, Commandant National Police Academy Muhammad Idrees, and senior officials of the Saudi Interior Ministry were also present during the meeting.

Wednesday, November 26, 2025

# PPP Singola meeting hails New AJK PM, demands focus on neglected constituency

#### 👺 Bureau Report

RAWALAKOT: Pakistan Peoples Party Azad Kashmir, Union Council Singola, held an important meeting yesterday at a local hotel. The session was presided over by President PPP UC Singola. Muhammad Saleem Khan, while former Minister for Government and central PPP leader Abid Hussain Abid attended as the chief guest. Party workers and notables from Union Council Singola participated in large numbers, turning the meeting into a significant political gathering.

Participants expressed happiness, confidence, and full satisfaction over the election of Prime Minister Azad Kashmir, Faisal Mumtaz Rathore, extending heartfelt congratulations to him. Speakers said that Faisal Mumtaz Rathore's leadership would not only strengthen the party but also create new hope for the resolution of public

During the meeting, senior leaders Awan, and Altaf Hussain highlighted



held a detailed discussion on the longstanding and fundamental issues of Union Council Singola. Senior figures Muhammad Nazir Awan, Muhammad Saleem Khan, Akhtar Awan, Saleem

that despite being an urban constituency, ÛC Singola has consistently remained neglected by successive

Leaders expressed hope that PM Faisal Mumtaz Rathore would soon

include a visit to UC Singola in his priorities and initiate practical measures to address public problems.

Addressing the gathering, former Minister Abid Hussain Abid stated that the Pakistan Peoples Party has always fought for the rights of the people. He said that if a comparative review is taken, real development in the region has occurred only during PPP govern-

Among the participants were Abid Hussain Abid, Muhammad Saleem Khan, Altaf Hussain, Parvez Muhammad Saleem Awan, Akhtar Awan, Seth Siddique Awan, Muhammad Saleem, Abdul Qayyum, Ameer Azam, Muhammad Khurshid, Muhammad Younis Mughal, Muhammad Altaf, Muhammad Ilyas, Muhammad Khalim, Muhammad Fareed Baig, Ghalib Hussain, along with many other leaders and workers. The meeting is being termed an important development in the political activities of Union Council Singola.

#### Pink and Blue Vans, revolutionary initiative of CM Punjab: Nasir Rana

Abdul Majid
■

FAISALABAD: Chief Traffic Officer Nasir Javed Rana has said that Pink and Blue Vans are engaged in providing the best services to women and citizens. Both the vans have a mobile police station and a licensing unit. Pink Van is providing services only to women at their doorsteps. While the entire staff of Pink Van consists of women. Blue



Van is providing services to citizens in different areas of the city. Citizens should take full advantage of this wonderful facility of the Chief Minister of Punjab.

## PPP to hold district-level foundation day rallies on november 30: Nisar Khuhro



👺 🛮 Abdul Ghafoor Sarohi

HYDERABAD: Sindh Public Accounts Committee Chairman and Pakistan Peoples Party Sindh President Nisar Ahmed Khuhro has said that 30 November is a defining milestone in Pakistan's political history, marking the beginning of a new era of party-based politics and parliamentary democracy. He was addressing a press conference after the organisational meeting of the Hyderabad Division.

Earlier, the PPP's Hyderabad Division meeting in connection with the 58th Foundation Day, presided over by Nisar Ahmed Khuhro, was held at Rizvi House, Gulistan-e-Sajjad. Those present included Provincial Minister Shafqat Shah Sherazi, Hyderabad Mayor Kashif Khan Shoro, PPP Hyderabad Division President Aajiz Dhamrah, General Secretary Gianchand Esrani, MNA Sadiq Memon, MNA Syed Tariq Hussain Shah Jamot, MPA Jabbar Khan, Dr. Mohan Lal Kohistani, MPA Syed Ejaz Shah, Engineer Sikandar Hayat and several other party leaders.

#### Prem Union leaders meet at JI General Assembly, pledge support for 'Badal Do Nizam' Movement

#### 👺 Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: On the occasion of the Pakistan General Assembly of Jamaat-e-Islami, a consultative meeting of all levels of officials and workers of the Prem Union from all over the country was held in the central camp of the assembly hall under the chairmanship of President Prem Union Sheikh Muhammad Anwar in the presence of Deputy Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami and Nazim Ijtima Aam, Honorable Liaquat Baloch. The meeting was also attended by Ameer Jamaat-e-Islami North Punjab and Deputy Nazim Ijtima Aam Dr. Tariq Saleem, Secretary General Al-Khidmat and Deputy Nazim Ijtima Aam Syed Waqas Anjum Jafri, while Chief Organizer Khalid Mahmood Chaudhry, Divisional Presidents Muhammad Arshad Yousafzai, Dr. Ishtiaq Irfan, Muhammad Anwar Khan, Central Officials Dawoodur Rehman, Khurram Manzoor, Allah Bakhsh Marri, Junaid Khurram, Chairman Lahore Division Muhammad Riaz Asi, Balochistan, Peshawar, Rawalpindi and Abdullah Shahwani, Ghiyasuddin Noorzai (Dalbandin), Haji Fazlur Rehman (Chaman), Abdul Shakoor Abbasi, Khizr Hayat, Malik Tahir, Naqeeb Khan, Muhammad Khalid (Peshawar) Arshad Khan, Aqil Khan from all over the country. Kakar, Fazal Khan, Khalid Gujjar, Usman Baloch and others participated. Speaking on the occasion, Liaquat Baloch appreciated the efforts of Prem Union President Sheikh Muhammad Anwar for the public meeting and said that the workers of Prem Union across the country have worked day and night under the leadership of Sheikh Muhammad Anwar for the success of the public meeting and this will always be remembered. On this occasion, Sheikh Muhammad Anwar assured Ameer Jamaat and Liaquat Baloch Sahib of Prem Union's full role in the "Badal Do

#### KP Assembly refers Chitral education issue to standing committee

PESHAWAR: The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly session was held on Tuesday under the chairmanship of Humayun Khan from the

During question hour, MPA Nilofer sought details regarding the developmental projects of the education department in Chitral over the past five years.

As the department failed to provide a satisfactory response, the matter was referred to the standing committee.

In Tuesday's session of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly, major public issues such as education, health, drug prevention, and minority quotas remained the focus of the House.

#### 11th National Book Mela

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training, Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui hold National Book Foundation flag during opening ceremony of three day 11Th National Book Mela at Lok Virsa, in the Federal Capital.



# AJK Prime Minister Rathore receives hero's welcome in Islamabad

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Faisal Mumtaz Rathore, received a rousing welcome upon his arrival at Jammu and Kashmir House, Islamabad on Tuesday. A large number of people and PPP workers, present on the occasion, raised slogans in favour of the prime minister. Meanwhile, prime minister Rathore spent a busy day as people from different walks of life visited Kashmir House to meet and greet him.

Speaking on the occasion, Prime Minister Raja Faisal Mumtaz Rathore thanked the people and asked them to pray that Allah, the Almighty, helps him discharge his duties and serve the people of Azad Kashmir.

The Prime Minister said that the immense love and trust the workers had expressed upon his elevation as Prime Minister of the state was a debt



to continue serving the people of Azad Kashmir until his last breath.

Recalling the legacy of his father and former Prime Minister Raja Mumtaz

he could never repay in his life. He vowed Hussain Rathore, he said, "My father always taught me that public service is the greatest form of worship."

"I will work for the development and progress of Azad Kashmir by making his

thoughts and ideas my guiding principles," he added.

"I will work day and night to meet the expectations of the people and will make every effort to fulfil them," he remarked.

# Women's University Multan hosts 2nd International Conference on AI Computing & Data Sciences

#### 👺 Quratul Ain Asim

MULTAN: The Women University Multan inaugurated the two days 2nd International Conference on Artifiinternational scholars, researchers, and technology experts for an in-depth discourse on the future of intelligent

Pracha, the Guest of Honor, delivered conference aims to cultivate interdisan insightful address highlighting the profound impact of Artificial Intelligence on modern society. She noted that AI and data sciences have become cial Intelligence, Computing, and central to solving complex global chal-Data Sciences (AICD-2025), bring- lenges—ranging from healthcare and ing together a distinguished panel of climate analysis to industrial automation and digital governance.

Conference Focal Person, Director Dr. Khadija Kanwal, outlined the vision and academic objectives of the academic discourse with innova-Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Kalsoom AICD-2025. She shared that the tive perspectives in AI and data science.

ciplinary thinking, empower emerging researchers, and strengthen global academic collaborations.

Dr. Tahseen Ahmed, Dr. Sohail Chohan, Dr. M. A. Shamim Dr. Sanaullah, Dr. Malika M. Saad, Dr. Ammar Hawbani, Dr. Abdul Razaq, Dr. Shamaila Iram, Dr. Tahir Abbass, Dr. Naji Alhussaini, Dr. Fariha, Sadia Tariq and Fatima Bukhari further enriched







#### **Namaz Timings** Maghrib ma 00:5.. .. 6:28 pm

## **EMERGENCY**

#### Rescue (Police) Bomb Disposal Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad . Emergency Ambulance...... 1122 & & Rescue Services ... ...9266044 Motorway Police ... Motorway Police ...... 9270601-20

#### **Women Police Stations**

Islamabad	9222
Rawalpindi	9270601
ENALII	DV

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

#### HOCDITALC

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

#### **DEPARTMENTS**

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

#### **COMPLAINTS**

Water Tanker Service G-5, G-6, G-7, G-8, G-9, G-10, G-11, G-12, H-8 ..9266316 Wapda Islamabad......9217579-80 Sui Gas Complaint..... 119, 9272249 Wasa Water Tank ...0331-5022125

CM vision Safe Punjab Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: The Government of Punjab, in line with the Chief Minister's vision of a "Safe Punjab," has issued directives to all provincial institutions, departments, educational establishments, police, and administrative officers. For this purpose, the Home Department of Punjab has released a notification instructing all government bodies to further strengthen joint efforts for maintaining law and order and ensuring the safety of citizens.

According to the notification, the objective of the Chief Minister's "Safe Punjab" vision is to establish a peaceful and law-abiding society where complete enforcement of laws is ensured, so that citizens' lives and property are protected, and a secure and stable environment is provided for economic and social activ-

The notification directs all institutions to play an active role in identifying suspicious activities, crimes, and antipeace elements. Citizens have also been encouraged to become "partners in peace," and informed that in case of any emergency information, they may contact Police Helpline 15 or the district administration. Additionally, the Punjab Home Department has also issued a WhatsApp number: 0311-4340000.

The Home Department has directed all institutions

# Indonesian Envoy vows to deepen economic ties with Pakistan

#### Bureau Report

KARACHI: The Pakistan-Indonesia Business Council (PIBC) of FPCCI hosted an important meeting with H. E. Mudzakir M. A., the Consul General of the Republic of Indonesia, at the FPCCI, marking a significant step toward strengthening bilateral trade ties between the two countries.

The meeting was attended by a diverse group of influential figures, including Ahmad Syofian, Consul for Economic Affairs; Saquib Fayyaz Magoon, Senior Vice President of FPCCI; Abid Nisar, Chairman of the Pakistan-Indonesia Business Council (PIBC); Muhammad Abdullah, Director of PIBC; Abdul Rasheed Jan Mohammad, Chairman of the Pakistan Edible Oil & Refinery Association; and other prominent business leaders such as Shabir Mansha, Ahmed Ali Bawa, Zahid Iqbal, Imran Tessori, S. M. Raza, and Fareed Patka. Their presence underscored the seriousness with which both sides view the future of bilateral trade.

In his address, H. E. Mudzakir M. A., emergence as an economic power.

the Consul General of Indonesia, stated that Indonesia is determined to deepen its economic relations with Pakistan. He highlighted the vast opportunities to increase trade between the two countries, emphasizing that through joint projects, significant success can be achieved in sectors such as agriculture, energy, and manufacturing. He referred to the meeting as an important step toward promoting bilateral trade relations between the two nations.

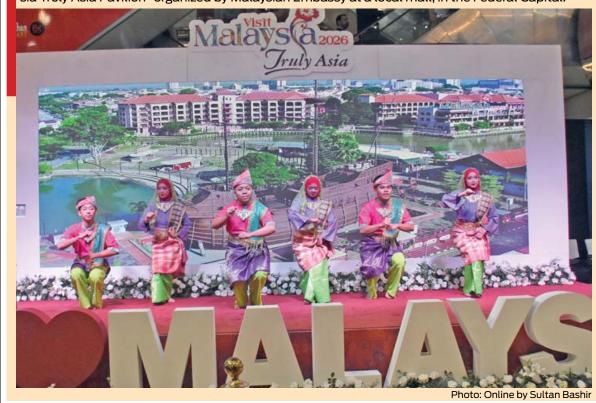
Pakistan-Indonesia Business Council Chairman Abid Nisar, while welcoming the Indonesian Consul General, expressed that the partnership between the two countries could evolve into a long-term strategic alliance. He noted that this dialogue is not limited to statistics alone but serves as a means of building trust and strengthening the economies of both nations.

FPCCI Senior Vice President Saquib Fayyaz Magoon emphasized that the Pakistan-Indonesia Business Council will continue to play its role in making Pakistan the gateway to regional markets and supporting Indonesia's



#### Performance

ISLAMABAD: Malaysian artists performing traditional dance during a ceremony title "Visit Malaysia Truly Asia Pavilion" organized by Malaysian Embassy at a local mall, in the Federal Capital.



# Ziauddin University organized the Film Festival 'Nazariya'

#### 👺 Bureau Report

KARACH: Ziauddin University's College of Media Sciences organized the Film Festival "Nazariya, themed "Roots & Routes," aimed to celebrate creativity and freedom of expression by providing a platform for young storytellers to showcase their filmmaking talent and to highlight stories of connection, movement, and transformation, reflecting how our origins and journeys shape our narratives.

of the film festival, Prof. Dr. Abbas Zafar, Acting Vice Chancellor of Ziauddin University, stated, "Roots & Routes" beautifully balances tradition with progress. Our paths and new possibilities, while our roots remind us of who we



While praising the vision are, our culture, our stories, and our history. This journey is powerfully captured in the films showcased today."

generations perceive the evolution of music and film, reflect creativity, innovation, renowned anchor and journalist Sidra Iqbal noted, "It's interesting how every genera-

tion believes the past was better. that their culture and music were superior.

On this occasion, a Life-Reflecting on how different time Achievement Award was presented to veteran actress Bushra Ansari for her exceptional contributions to Pakistan's entertainment industry. Renowned writer Zafar

restores what is missing within

The jury and panel, including Kainat Thebbo, Amin Iqbal, Zarqa Naz, Gumby, Hamza Lari, Alam Azeemi, Syed Mohsin, and others, played a pivotal role in evaluating submissions and guiding young filmmakers, ensuring a fair and insightful selection process.

Mairaj emphasized that while

mediums continue to evolve,

the soul of storytelling remains

timeless. Performer and artist

Kaif Ghazanavi described

stories as a powerful form of healing — "a medicine that

Earlier in her welcome address, Prof. Dr. Shehla Najib Siddiqui highlighted the significance of the theme, emphasizing the festival's focus on understanding where we come from and how our creative journevs evolve.

# Amna Riaz lights up Times Square as Spotify's EQUAL Pakistan Ambassador for Q4

#### 

ISLAMABAD: Spotify has announced Amna Riaz as the EQUAL Pakistan Ambassador for the last quarter of 2025, celebrating her as one of the rising voices shaping Pakistan's contemporary soundscape. On November 20, the indie pop singer and songwriter was featured on Spotify's Times Square billboard in New York City and has been showcased prominently across the platform's curated playlists. Amna's global recognition



signifies not only her growing popularity but also reflects the growing diversity of the Pakistani music scene.

Amna's listenership has grown by 200% over the past year, with her  $\,$ music added to more than 120,000 playlists. Her most-streamed songs include "Kya sach ho tum?", "Duur Se", "Dunya", "Bachpan", and "Khizaan", earning her fans across borders including in the US, Bangladesh, the UK, Canada, and the UAE.

Speaking about her recognition, Amna Riaz shared, "I'm super grateful to serve as the EQUAL Pakistan Ambassador. In an industry where the number of women artists is still so limited, being part of a platform dedicated to amplifying women's voices means the world to me. It's not just about celebrating my journey, but about inspiring other women to step forward, claim their space, and pursue music with confidence."

#### NCSW Unveils Digital System and Campaign to Tackle Growing Gender Crimes

#### **№** City Desk

ISLAMABAD: National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) inaugurated the global 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence with the launch of Pakistan's first Multi-Channel Gender-Based Violence Complaint Management System (CMS-II), a Digital Safety Video Series, and a national Technology-Facilitated partnership with PKCERT.



Gender-Based Violence (TFGBV) Awareness Campaign, developed in

Chairperson Ume Laila Azhar while Speaking at the launch, stated that the 16-day campaign is a powerful reminder that dignity, safety, and justice are fundamental rights for every woman and girl in Pakistan.

She emphasized that this year's global theme highlights the urgent threat of technology-facilitated gender-based violence, which demands immediate investment, coordinated national action, and stronger institutional capacity.

Minister of State for Law & Justice, Barrister Aqeel said digital crimes are evolving at unprecedented speed and have become significantly more  $\,$ complex with the misuse of artificial intelligence.

He highlighted that NCSW's CMS-II will improve reporting, confidentiality, and accountability, and will support justice delivery across

Parliamentary Secretary for Human Rights, Saba Sadiq. PKCERT Director Labs, Adeela Waqar, Secretary Humaira Zia Mufti also speak on the occasion.

# Kohatians Celebrate 60 Years of Legacy at Cadet College Kohat

ISLAMABAD: Ex-cadets of Chief of Naval Staff, alongside institution; it has shaped thou-Cadet College Kohat (CCK) gathered to celebrate 60 years of the Kohatian legacy, bringing together alumni from the 1st Entry (1965) to the recently graduated 56th Entry. The event highlighted six decades of the college's role in shaping leaders across Pakistan's armed forces, civil services, business, media, and social sectors.

Distinguished attendees included Major General (R) Haroon Pasha, Lt. General (R) Sabahat Hussain, Commodore (R) Mahmood ur Rehman, and Admiral (R) Asif Sandila, former

senior government and military officials.

The ceremony featured the college anthem penned by renowned poet Ahmed Faraz as well as speeches and a prayer for honored Kohatians martyred in service to Pakistan. Alumni were recognized for their contributions and presented with mementos by

the Kohatian Association. Veterans shared memories spanning decades, reflecting on the college's transformative role. Major (R) Javed Rana, a firstentry alumnus and 1971 war

veteran, said, "It isn't an ordinary

sands of students who went on to serve the country."

The Kohatian Association, registered under Pakistan's charity regulations, supports alumni networking, professional development, and cadet scholarships through an endowment fund. It also employs a modern e-voting and online donations system to strengthen transparency and engagement. "Once a Kohatian, Always a Kohatian"; a motto celebrated at the 60-year reunion; underscored the spirit of camaraderie and lifelong connection that defines CCK.



360° on the Russia-Ukraine Peace Plan Group Chairman/Chief Editor: Almass Ayoub Sabir Asim Nazir Ahmad Vice Chairman:

to find a path toward stability. That is

why Zelensky agreed to meet U.S. diplo-

mats in Geneva, where a "refined peace

framework" was announced. The revised

American position, though not publicly

detailed, signaled a shift toward accom-

modating Ukraine's red lines on sover-

eignty and security guarantees. It was a

diplomatic maneuver designed to reas-

sure Kyiv while keeping Moscow tenta-

tively engaged. However, without public

details, the framework remains more of a

political gesture than a concrete roadmap.

and Russia has not formally endorsed it.

Vladimir Putin has alternated between

signaling openness to negotiations and

insisting that Russia's territorial gains

remain non-negotiable. Moscow said

the original U.S. proposal could serve as

a "basis for further discussion," primarily

On the Russian side, President

Naveed Ahmad Khan Editor: Head Editorial Advisory Board: Amjad Mehmood Bureau Chief Karachi: Khurram Jaffrani (jaffrani@adpluse.pk

Bureau Chief Lahore: Syed Afraz Ali Nazish (afrazalishah@gmail.com) Head Office: AIMS Building, Street No. 4, H-8/1, Islamabad.

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

Lahore Office: 7-E, Samanberg, Johar Town. spokesmanlahore@gmail.com

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## **Amid truce violations** & Israeli airstrikes in Gaza, Pakistan urges full compliance with ceasefire deal

ith the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories remaining "dire" despite the October 10 Israel-Hamas ceasefire. Pakistan has called for steps to ensure adherence to the truce agreement to stop the bloodshed, ensure humanitarian relief and pave the way for the reconstruction of Gaza.

"Israeli airstrikes have killed and injured civilians, including children; more than three hundred Palestinians have reportedly been killed since the ceasefire announcement," Ambassador Asim Iftikhar Ahmad, permanent representative of Pakistan to the UN, told the UN Security Council on Tuesday.

This reveals a stark truth: peace declared in words has not yet brought full protection and stability on ground," he said in the course of a debate on the situation in the Middle East.

"Lives are still being lost, homes are still being demolished, and families remain in fear," the Pakistani envoy said, adding that the settler violence in the West Bank had risen to "unprecedented" lev-

"Entire communities have been displaced, especially in the northern West Bank, amid closures, raids and increasing intimidation." Ambassador Asim Ahmad said. Palestinians, he added, must be allowed to return to their homes, and communities must be able to function without constant fear.

Pakistan, he recalled, had welcomed the initiative and personal engagement of US President Donald Trump and the proposals to end the war, rebuild Gaza, prevent displacement, advance comprehensive peace and halt the annexation of the West Bank. Throughout this period, Pakistan had been constructively engaging, consistent with its principled and longstanding support for the Palestinian people and their inalienable rights.

Pakistan joined this process, as it offers a pathway to Palestinian self-determination and statehood," the Pakistani envoy added

"To ensure efforts translate into progress, resolution 2803 (2025) must be implemented in good faith, notably to advance Palestinian-led and -owned governance", he said.

Ambassador Asim Ahmad called for full adherence to the ceasefire; unhindered humanitarian access; recovery and reconstruction in Gaza; no annexation or forced displacement under any circumstances; an immediate end to illegal Israeli settlement expansion; accountability for violations of international law; and an end to Israeli occupation of all Arab territories.

There must be a time-bound political process, he said, anchored in UN resolutions, leading to a sovereign, independent and contiguous State of Palestine, based on pre-1967 borders with Al Quds al-Sharif as its capital.

Reaffirming its unwavering solidarity with the Palestinian people, he said their resilience under unimaginable hardship demands equal conviction on part of the international community.

This is a defining moment, of course: Commitments must now translate into concrete actions," Ambassador Asim Ahmad stressed.

he search for peace between Ukraine would never join NATO, interna- Europe for decades. Many European substantively, the gap remains as wide Russia and Ukraine has tional acceptance of the annexed regions, capitals are quietly drafting an alterna- as ever. The United States wants a deal and a demilitarized Ukraine incapable entered a new and complicated phase, shaped not only of threatening Russian territory. For the by events on the battlefield Kremlin, any settlement must also include but by the conflicting ambitions of global the phased lifting of Western sanctions powers, domestic pressures on leaders, preferably early in the process rather than and the shifting calculus of international diplomacy. For nearly three years, the Russia will not halt operations unless the political settlement secures these world has watched the war drag on with unrelenting devastation, and vet none of the principal actors—Russia, Ukraine, rejects the deal outright, Russian forces sovereignty and Europe's stability. the United States, or Europe—have fully will "resolve it on the embraced a compromise that could end the conflict. Today, diplomacy is active The United States

but still gridlocked. Negotiators produce now finds itself occuframeworks, counter-frameworks, and pying an awkward amendments, but the distance between middle ground. It what Moscow demands and what Kyiv remains Ukraine's princan accept remains wide enough to keep cipal military backer, real peace out of reach. A full 360° exambut it is also attempting ination reveals that every stakeholder to shape a diplomatic settlement that could wants peace on their own terms, and those terms often collide instead of converging. Yet Ukraine also faces military fatigue, economic strain, and internal pressure

end a war with global economic and strategic consequences. The political pressure on Washington is tangible. Inside the U. S., critics argue that the administration's proposal either forces Ukraine toward capitulation or, conversely, does too little to compel Moscow. Trump's impatience calling for a deal "before Thanksgiving"clashes with the slow pace of diplomatic reality. U. S. envoys have tried to smooth the fissures by insisting that Washington will not impose peace on Ukraine, while simultaneously pushing for a framework that would satisfy Moscow enough to freeze the conflict.

Europe's role has become increasingly assertive. After two years of relying heavily on U.S. leadership, European governments now insist that peace cannot be brokered through a bilateral U. S.-Russia channel. Officials in Berlin, Warsaw, Paris, and London have emphasized that European security architecture is directly affected by whatever settlement because it reflected several longstanding emerges. They warn that any agreement Russian demands: a guarantee that that rewards Russia could destabilize

tive peace package emphasizing tougher term military support, and maintaining frozen Russian assets until reparations are addressed. European leaders publicly at the end. Putin has emphasized that describe recent diplomatic movements as "promising," but privately they express concern that Washington's desire for a goals, and he has warned that if Ukraine quick deal could undermine Ukraine's

China, though not directly involved in the latest negotiations, continues to promote its earlier 12-point peace blueprint calling for a ceasefire, negotiation, and respect for sovereignty—while opposing unilateral sanctions. But Beijing avoids

demanding Russian withdrawal and instead emphasizes "legitimate security concerns of all parties," a phrase widely interpreted as support for Moscow's objections to NATO expansion. China's stance gives Russia diplomatic cover and economic stability but also enables Beijing to present itself as a global peacemaker without assuming real responsibility for

India maintains a carefully balanced position, calling repeatedly for dialogue and diplomacy while avoiding any criticism of Moscow. New Delhi has become one of the largest buyers of discounted Russian oil, even as it increases exports of refined fuels-ironically, some of which end up in European markets. India portrays itself as a potential bridge between East and West, but it has not presented a concrete peace proposal. Instead, it limits its role to public messaging and quiet diplomacy.

With so many competing perspectives, what is the actual trajectory of peace? Diplomatically, activity has increased;

but cannot impose one. Ukraine wants security guarantees for Ukraine, long- peace without sacrifice. Russia wants concessions Kyiv cannot accept. Europe wants a settlement that does not reward aggression. China wants stability without compromising its relationship with Moscow. India wants neutrality without

Most experts predict that a final peace deal remains distant. The war has not reached a point where either side believes the battlefield has exhausted its political value. Absent a dramatic military shift or a major political transition in Moscow, Kyiv, or Washington, the most plausible near-term outcome is not full peace but a limited arrangement—perhaps a sectoral ceasefire around the Black Sea or a monitored freeze along a defined front line. Even such limited steps, however, require trust, guarantees, and enforcement mechanisms that the parties have not yet agreed

A comprehensive settlement that resolves territorial disputes, security guarantees, sanctions, and reparations may ultimately require a new geopolitical moment—one in which either Russia recognizes the cost of perpetual war or Ukraine recalibrates its conditions for peace under global pressure. Until then, the negotiations will continue, the frameworks will multiply, and diplomats will fly from Riyadh to Geneva to Ankara hoping that one day the war will finally bend toward resolution. But for now, the Russia-Ukraine peace plan remains an aspiration more than a destination, suspended between what the world hopes for and what the parties can actually accept.

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



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

# 'Is the G20 2025 Johannesburg Summit a Turning Point for Global South Power?'

**Iqra Tariq** 

South Africa hosted the G20 Summit in Johannesburg in November 2025, the world witnessed more than a diplomatic gathering. It saw a moment where the Global South finally moved from the margins of global governance to the center of the debate. The question now is not whether the Global South is rising, but whether this summit marks an irreversible turning point in global power politics.

The Global South where most of the world lives has been insisting on structural change: less predatory debt arrangements, climate justice, institutional reforms of world financial architecture. However, such demands were marginal in G20 agendas full of G7 interests. The presidency of South Africa changed the pitch. Johannesburg was not hosting a summit, but a recalibration

According to the South African President, Cyril Ramaphosa, who addressed the closing session, the objectives of the G20 now represent the reality of the developing world by emphasizing on the fact that shared objectives dominate geopolitical rifts (Al Jazeera, 2025). This is the mood that helped the 2025 summit stand out: it was the first G20, whose Global South interests made the list; not accompanied the list.

The summit also made climate justice a key issue. Third world countries restated that they were not merely unequally impacted by the changes in climate but are also historically underfunded. According to the Washington Post, the developing countries demanded aggressive stimulus to take real action supported by funds rather than the promise since they demanded more climate finance and technology transfer (Washington Post, 2025).

The renewed initiative to achieve the unmet commitment of \$100 billion annually on climate finance was one of the major issues that were raised, something that had been overlooked in earlier summits. The presidency of South Africa repackaged climate discourses on the subject

developing world, and critical minerals justice. Africa has over 30 percent of all the critical minerals in the world required to produce renewable technologies, and it is not included in value-added production chains (IOL, 2025).

This contradiction was realized by this G20. It brought in new terminology in recognition of the fair beneficiation of minerals, and resource justice arguments had the potential to redefine supply chains in the world.

The most geopolitically important change perhaps was the fact that the summit was focused on the reform of the world financial institutions (IMF, World Bank, and WTO). The Johannesburg came up with the agreement among the Global South states that the world governance systems were not in line with the present geopolitical reality. The third world demanded a more equal representation in IMF executive boards and cited that the existing voting stocks put a lopsided vote in favor of the developed nations despite the demographic and economic mass of the Global South. They also insisted on the reforms in the voting procedure, so that a small group of rich states does not control the key decisions. The second critical issue was related to the necessity of restructured loan conditionalities because several developing countries have to deal with strict policy requirements on the lending by the IMF and the World Bank which can frequently cripple the goals of domestic development. Lastly, the leaders demanded more economic freedom in which the institutions around the globe should give the developing states the policy space to be able to develop industrially, socially, and climate resilient without any external interference. The concept of inclusive multilateralism, closely related to Global South politics, was also highlighted in the G20 Declaration.

The Guardian termed the summit a moment of leadership redistribution, particularly when the U.S. president was not present, which allowed diplomatic room to be occupied by China, Brazil, South Africa, and India and the dictation of the narrative (Guardian, 2025). This was not a weakness of the summit, it strengthened the other centers of power.

Other critics state that the Increasing voice of the

of loss and damage, renewable energy availability to the Global South remains mostly symbolic due to structural constraints in the G20 decision making processes and the unequal concentration of financial contributions between the Global North and the Global South.

First, the P20 Parliamentary Summit that was meeting simultaneously with the G20 observed legislators in developing states form coalitions on climate, debt, and energy reforms- signifying permanent political impetus outside the states executives (P20, 2025). Second, the advisory role was prominent in the first occasion through the contributions of the civil society groups, African academic institutions and Global South think-tanks. South Africa went out of its way to use local knowledge in the G20 process and democratize what used to be a close space. Third, the solidarity of African Union states, which is currently a full G20 member, gave coherence to demands made in individual states. This unity is an indication that the participation has become more reactive rather than proactive agenda-setting.

The 2025 summit shows that the Global South is no longer waiting to be incorporated, it is demanding it. The Global South has taken center stage in world politics, whether with its calls to be treated equally with other debts, climate justice or through institutional change.

But the answer as to whether Johannesburg is a turning point or not is to be found in the world reaction.

If commitments made in the declaration translate into binding frameworks rather than symbolic gestures, then yes, 2025 could be remembered as the year global governance began to reflect global realities.

If not, Johannesburg will still stand as a moment of clarity, a demonstration that the Global South is no longer silent.

In the words of President Ramaphosa: "A just world order begins when voices long ignored become voices

that must be heard." This summit made it clear: those voices are now impossible to ignore.

The writer is a Peace and Conflict Studies scholar at the National Defence University, Islamabad, currently pursuing her Bachelor's degree. She can be reached at iqra24112511@gmail.com

#### The Gut-Brain Stress **Connection: Surviving Exam Season**

Fatima Zahra

xams fall upon us like an unavoidable calamity every chills you get out of medical emergency as exam day approaches. While you are cramming the never-ending syllabus, your gut is also preparing to stage a full-blown rebellion. You are not alone when you are trying to recall the quadratic formula, and you are struck with a strong sense of nausea and need another bathroom break.

Why does it happen? Maybe it's the change in habits that your body is having trouble tolerating, or the 4th mug of coffee that you've just chugged down in the past 2 hours. Or maybe it's the overly salty and sugary snacks you've munched to distract yourself. Or perhaps, there's more to the story, a scientifically backed perspective that we don't know.

Your gut has its own network of nerves, called the enteric nervous system. Embedded into the walls of your digestive system, these neurons operate with a surprising independence. This network handles everything from digestion and regulating blood flow to signaling your brain, influencing your mood and overall

wellbeing. It's the reason why you get "butterflies" and a "gut feeling" during stressful situations.

Another factor that affects your gut health during stress is the hormonal hijinks where your year. The mild brain's "fight-or-flight" response unleashes the stress hormones anxiety slowly take the shape of a like cortisol and adrenaline. This mechanism in humans prepares them in life-threatening situations, but for students facing stress during exams, this becomes a digestive disaster. These hormones redirect the flow of your blood from your gut to major organs and muscles. As a result, the undigested food sits uncomfortably in your stomach, leading to painful stomach issues and heartburn.

So, if your stomach rumbles and protests during the exams, it's not just you-rather a widespread occurrence among many other students. However, understanding this connection is the first step towards its prevention. A few mindful and healthy habits like staying hydrated, meditating and maintaining a healthy lifestyle and food consumption, you can work with your body and not against it ensuring a slightly less stressful exam season.

The writer is a student at Capital University of Science and Technology. She can be reached at fzahra1904@gmail.

# The Spokesman 5

# PM reiterates Pakistan's proposal for joint investment company with Azerbaijan

**E** City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, Tuesday, reiterated Pakistan's proposal to establish a Pakistan-Azerbaijan Joint Investment Company with equal contributions from both countries.

Minister of Economy of the Republic of Azerbaijan, who is leading a delegation, called on the prime minister and both sides conducted an extensive review of bilateral trade and investment cooperation.

 $\hat{W}hile\ noting\ the\ consistent\ growth$ in bilateral trade, they agreed on the need to accelerate targeted efforts to diversify and deepen economic exchanges, PM Office Media Wing said in a press release. The discussions covered a wide range of sectors including defence production, petroleum and minerals, infrastructure development, dairy and livestock, hospitality, and information tech-

The prime minister also welcomed Azerbaijan's interest in the White Oil Pipeline Project and encouraged SOCAR to explore upstream oil and gas opportunities in Pakistan.

On regional connectivity, both sides underscored the importance of enhancing linkages.

The meeting was attended by Deputy



Power Sardar Awais Khan Leghari, baijan's vital role in initiatives such as Special Assistant to the Prime Minister the Trans-Caspian International Trade on Foreign Affairs Syed Tariq Fatemi, and senior government officials.

The prime minister highlighted Pakistan's strategic location as the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister shortest route to Afghanistan and Muhammad Ishaq Dar, Minister for Central Asia and acknowledged Azer-

Reaffirming Pakistan's commitment to expanding the partnership, Prime Minister Sharif extended an invitation to President Ilham Aliyev of Azerbaijan

Minister Jabbarov thanked the Government of Pakistan for its hospitality and expressed hope that ongoing engagements would culminate in the finalisation of the roadmap on cooperation in commerce, economy, industry and investment (2025-2028) between the two countries.

#### Palestine Ministry links elimination of violence against women to ending Israeli occupation

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: On the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the State of Palestine reaffirms on the fundamental right of Palestinian women and girls to live in safety, dignity, and peace, and to enjoy full protection from the policies and crimes cried out by the Israeli colonial occupation, Including genocide, extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearances,



arbitrary and administrative detention, torture, sexual violence, home demolitions, land confiscation, settler terrorism, starvation, intimidation, and the ongoing systematic wide-scale aggression on their rights. The Ministry stresses that Palestinian women and girls are facing one of the most sever forms of colonial occupation, apatrhide, persecution, and colonial oppression in the world, which killed more than 33,000 Palestinian women and girls in the past two years. While, the destruction of vital infrastructure, including hospitals, women's clinics, reproductive and mental health services, and protection centers, has further deprived women of the basic services they are entitled to under international law.

The Ministry reaffirms that the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women is not merely a moment to recall gender-based violence only, as this year's theme is "Unite to End Digital Violence against Women and Girls", also an opportunity to expose and hold accountable the Israeli colonial occupation for its aparthid policies, which deployes advanced surveillance technologies, artificial intelligence as instruments of control, systematic targeting, and intimidation of our people.

At the national level, the State of Palestine continues to uphold its commitments to international human rights conventions, advance national strategies to eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination against women, promote their participation in decision-making, and strengthen their resilience. Additionally, the State of Palestine is working to harmonize its national legislation with international standards to guarantee the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women.

In this regard, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates underscores the urgent need to sustain the international momentum to end the illegal Israeli colonial occupation, implement the two-state solution with the independence of the State of Palestine, and to safeguard the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination, independence, and the right of return without restrictions. It further calls for intensified international legal efforts to ensure account-

# The Statehood Day of Bosnia & Herzegovina celebrated with students in Islamabad

**Spokesman Report** 

ISLAMABAD: The Embassy of Bosnia & Herzegovina in collaboration with Igra University H-9 campus and media organization "Pakistan in the World" celebrated the Statehood Day, 25 Nov with youth of Pakistan at the social sciences department of the university. At this occasion, famous movie "Quo Vadis Aida" and the message of President Dr. Denis Becirovic were screened for the students who participated in

phodarevi graced the event with his arrival at the University premises alongwith Chief Executive of Media organization Mr. Tazeen Akhtar.

President Dr Denis Becirovic in his

in the event, said, the membership of NATO and European Union are our strategic goals. We are indivisible part of Europe and our future is in NATO and Europe.

Our homeland needs the statesmen who are ready to fight for the realisation of the vision of a European and democratic Bosnia and Herzegovina. Our children deserve a peaceful and secure future, President stressed.

He added, "The statehood day reaffirms our commitment to human Ambassador H. E. Mr. Emin rights and civil liberties. The idea of ZAVNOBiH points to unity, peace and presence. He was warmly recieved by the tolerance that is more relevant than He shared, "Bosnia and Herzegovi-Head of department Dr. Sheharyaar on ever before. We must never bow down to destructive forces."

> ohodarevi in his address, expressed gratitude to Iqra University for collab-

statehood day of his country.

He spoke highly about the young students. He said," It is always a pleasure to speak to students because I know I am speaking to Pakistan's future scholars, leaders and entrepreneurs. Meeting such enthusiastic dedicated young people who will accomplish great things make me feel very optimistic about this country's future. And the potential I see in this room is as promising as the potential I see for Bosnia and Herzegovina - Pakistan friendship in the future."

Ambassador H. E. Mr. Emin that Bosnia's statehood was restored by Anti-Fascist Council of National Liber-

address to the nation, and screened oration in holding this activity on the 1943. On this day, the antifascist liberation movement passed the decision to restore the country's statehood within its historic borders."

"Bosnia and Herzegovina once again confirmed its multicultural and multiethnic history and reaffirmed that its citizens would be entitled to equal rights. Today, we honor Bosnia Herzegovina's statehood and its multi-ethnic and multi-confessional history and we celebrate the country's vibrant culture and institutions, Ambassador noted.

On bilateral relations, Ambas-H. E shed light on the history of sador said, "The multifaceted rela-Statehood to enlighten the students. tions between our two countries have heart, distance can not keep you apart. ation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in Now 3000 miles can no longer keep

Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan apart. Instead, the relationship serves as a bond or a bridge linking our two countries."

He shortly narrated the real story of Aida on who the movie has been produced. He said, "It is not coincidence that we chose this moment to screen the film "Quo vadis Aida?", as we mark the Statehood day of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Quo Vadis, Aida? is a drama about witnessed a steady growth during last a UN translator, Aida, in Srebrenica, a number of students and faculty from na's Statehood Day is celebrated on thirty years characterized by friendship, town in Bosnia, who tries to save her different departments. The students November 25, commemorating the day mutual respect and understanding. If family from the Srebrenica genocide in took keen interest in the history and you have a friend a far who knows your July 1995, highlighting the failure of the status of the state of Bosnia and Herze-UN peacekeepers and Aida's desperate fight for survival."

"Aida's drama and her emotions are the heart of the story. I would like you to take away the feelings and questions the film raises. How many things would have been different if we had more empathy and solidarity? Did this tragedy have to have such a terrible outcome? Ambassador moved the minds of the

The spacious auditoriam of the niversity was packed with large govina. Ambassador answered their

# Kaspersky reveals over \$18B in potential losses from ransomware attacks on the global manufacturing industry in 2025

**Example 2** Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Kaspersky in collaboration with VDC Research has announced that in the first three quarters of 2025 ransomware attacks on manufacturing organizations could have generated over \$18 billion in losses. This figure reflects just the direct cost of an idle workforce during downtime, with overall operational and financial impacts far exceeding this amount.

Estimations were made across APAC, Europe, the Middle East, Kaspersky solutions. The estima-Africa, CIS and LATAM based on the share of manufacturing organizations where ransomware attempts were detected and prevented, the total number of

each region, average downtime hours after real attacks, average number of employees per organization and average hourly pay. According to Kaspersky Secu-

rity Network from January to September 2025, the Middle East (7%) and Latin America (6.5%) led the regional rankings in terms of ransomware detections in manufacturing organizations. APAC (6.3%), Africa (5.8%), CIS (5.2%) and Europe (3.8%) followed. All of these attacks were blocked by tion of potential losses (below) shows the financial impact if these attacks succeeded.

When ransomware hits, production lines halt, triggering

manufacturing organizations in immediate revenue losses from an idle workforce and longerterm shortfalls from reduced output. The average attack lasts 13 days (based on Kaspersky Incident Response Report). As a result, idle labor costs from ransomware in the first three quarters of 2025 could have reached \$11.5 billion in APAC, \$4.4 billion in Europe, \$711 million in LATAM, \$685 million in the Middle East, \$507 million in CIS and \$446 million in Africa region.

> Actual business losses could have been significantly higher when factoring in supplychain disruptions, reputational damage, and recovery expenses.

"No region is exempt from ransomware – whether it's the



Middle East, LATAM, APAC, CIS, Africa or Europe, every manufacturing hub is constantly being targeted. Mid-tier manufacturers that could have been overlooked by threat actors in the past are also among the targets because their security budgets are smaller and their supply chain disruption effects can be larger than most realize. The manufacturing sector and all other organizations need reliable, proven defense systems and continuous user education,"

comments Dmitry Galov, Head Sensors at VDC Research. of Research Center for Russia

and CIS at Kaspersky's GReAT. "Our research provides an estimation of the financial impact that ransomware may have had on manufacturing worldwide. The growing complexity of manufacturing environments, along with widening expertise gaps and ongoing labor challenges, makes it difficult for most organizations to manage cybersecurity effectively, but failure to do so may result in financial losses - followed by reputational blows as well. Partnering with installed security solutions. proven cybersecurity vendors is paramount for effective IT, OT and HoT protection," comments Jared Weiner, Research Director, tive ecosystem that seamlessly Industrial Automation &

More information about ransomware in different regions is available in Kaspersky's 2025 State of Ransomware Report.

Kaspersky encourages organizations to follow best practices to safeguard from ransomware. Enable ransomware protection for all endpoints. There is a free Kaspersky Anti-Ransomware Tool for Business that shields computers and servers from ransomware and other types of malware, prevents exploits gation and timely remediation of and is compatible with already

For comprehensive protection Kaspersky offers a distincintegrates dedicated OT-grade Kaspersky Next Expert.

technologies, expert knowledge and invaluable expertise. At the core of this ecosystem is Kaspersky Industrial CyberSecurity (KICS), a native Extended Detection and Response (XDR) platform designed for critical infrastructure protection. Companies from non-industrial sector can protect themselves by installing anti-APT and EDR solutions that enable capabilities for advanced threat discovery and detection, investiincidents. Organizations can also provide their SOC teams with access to the latest threat intelliof industrial and critical sectors, gence and regularly upskill them with professional training. All of the above is available within

# PCC 2025 Kicks Off at Air University: Pakistan's Premier Cyber Security Symposium Begins

👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The graceful opening ceremony of the PakCrypt International Symposium on Cyber Security (PCC 2025) was held at Air University, E-9 Islamabad. The event was jointly organized by the National Centre for Cyber Security (NCCS) and the National Cyber Security Academy (NCSA).

The ceremony commenced with distinguished participation from national leadership and cyber security experts. The Chief Guest, Additional Secretary IT & Telecom, Mr. Rafique Ahmed Buriro, graced the occasion

along with the Guest of Honor, Dr. Waqar Azeem, Member DSC NESCOM, and Prof. Dr. Haider Abbas, Director General NCERT.

In his address, Mr. Rafique Ahmed Buriro reaffirmed the Ministry of IT & Telecom's commitment to advancing national cyber governance, promoting research and development, and strengthening Pakistan's cyber workforce. He highlighted the rising importance of cryptography and emerging digital technologies in the age of Artificial Intelligence, urging participants to innovate and collaborate for securing Pakistan's

digital future.

Waqar Azeem emphasized that expertise in cryptography is a cornerstone of national sovereignty. He noted that platforms such as the PakCrypt Symposium are instrumental in cultivating skilled youth capable of

addressing the nation's evolving cybersecurity challenges. He congratulated the competitors participating in the various event categories. Delivering the keynote address, Prof. Dr. Haider Abbas

outlined the key initiatives being

undertaken under NCERT to

curity ecosystem and enhance

strengthen Pakistan's cyberse-

Speaking at the ceremony, Dr. national capabilities in critical digital domains.

Addressing the audience, Air University Vice Chancellor, Air Marshal Abdul Moeed Khan Hilal-e-Imtiaz (Military) (Retd), highlighted the remarkable growth in the scale, participation, and national outreach of the PCC event over the past four years. He reiterated that cybersecurity is a shared national responsibility and reaffirmed Air University's commitment to providing platforms that nurture and elevate top cybersecurity talent across

Prof. Dr. Ammar Masood, Director NCCS, shared that PCC 2025 has evolved into a flagship NCCS event, enabling students from across the country to actively engage in high-impact cybersecurity and cryptography competitions. Prof. Dr. Zunera Jalil, Dean NCSA, underscored the importance of preparing the next generation of cybersecurity profesto a secure and resilient Pakistan.

This year's symposium has attracted more than 2,500 participants from over 200 educational institutions nationwide, competing across four major events. Furthermore, thirteen international cybersecurity and cryptography experts from coun-



sionals capable of contributing tries including Turkey, China, all of whom commended the United States, and the United advancing cybersecurity awaresymposium through talks, evaluations, and expert sessions.

The event also drew significant presence from industry and academic institutions, curity education and innovation.

Germany, Saudi Arabia, the efforts of NCCS and NCSA in Kingdom are contributing to the ness, expertise, and national capacity-building. Participants expressed that Air University continues to reaffirm its leadership as Pakistan's premier leaders, government officials, academic institution in cyberse-



illuex Fluctuation			
Pakistan: PSX 1	00-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close		
161,692.49	161,984.08		
Day's High	Day's Low		
162,819.85	161,276.81		
Index Value	Change		
13,045,364,795	-291.59		
Percentage	Time		
-0.18%	25 Nov, 2025 4:30 pm		
Europe: FTSE 100 Index			
Index Value	Change		
9,609.53	+74.62		
Percentage	Time		
+0.78%	25 Nov, 4:35 pm GMT		
<b>USA: Dow Jones I</b>	ndustrial Average		
Index Value	Change		
46,934.86	+486.59		
Percentage	Time		
+1.05%	25 Nov, 12:13 pm GMT-5		
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average			
Inday Value	Change		

Index Value	Change	
48,659.52	+33.64	
Percentage	Time	
+0.069%	25 Nov, 3:45 pm GMT+9	
<b>Open Market Forex Rates</b>		

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	181	186
Bahrain Dinar	745.65	753.15
Canadian Dollar	199	204
China Yuan	39.25	39.65
Danish Krone	43.15	43.55
Euro	324.5	327.5
Hong Kong Dollar	35.85	36.1
Indian Rupee	3.10	3.19
Japanese Yen	1.7800	1.8800
Kuwaiti Dinar	911.5	920.5
Malaysian Ringgit	66.5	67.1
NewZealand \$	156.15	158.15
Norwegians Krone	27.3	27.6
Omani Riyal	730.15	737.65
Qatari Riyal	76.55	77.25
Saudi Riyal	75.10	75.55
Singapore Dollar	214	219
Swedish Korona	29.1	29.4
Swiss Franc	346.1	348.85
Thai Bhat	8.45	8.6
U.A.E Dirham	76.75	77.5
LIK Pound Sterling	360	372 6

## New ACCA playbook shows accountants are the missing link in SME digital transformation

281.55 281.7

#### Commerce Desk

LAHORE: A new ACCA publication, Digital Pathways Playbook: Accountants as leaders in digital adoption for SMEs, shows that accountants are the catalysts for small-business digital transformation.

Drawn from the experiences of 1,026 finance professionals in over 100 markets, the playbook charts six levels of digital maturity, from paper-based processes to AI-enabled operations; and offers practical pathways for SMEs to progress sustainably.

The findings reveal the profession's bold ambition: while only 4% of organisations operate at advanced automation today, 41% expect to reach this stage within three years. Yet cost (62%), skills (46%) and time (32%) remain the biggest perceived

#### PBS launches Labour Force Survey 2024-25, aligned with international standards

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) has released the Labour Force Survey (LFS) 2024-25, marking a major milestone in the modernization of the country's labour statistics.

The new survey has been conducted in accordance with the latest standards of the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS), bringing Pakistan closer to full alignment with global statistical practices, said a release issued here on Tuesday. Speaking at the launch ceremony, Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Ahsan Iqbal said it was "heartening to share the results of the LFS 2024-25, which provide critical labour market insights for policymakers, researchers, and development partners."

# IMF Recognizes CCP's Major Turnaround in Market Enforcement

ISLAMABAD: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has noted that the Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) has taken significant steps to identify market bottlenecks, entry barriers, and gaps in the legal and regulatory framework. The Fund has further observed that the CCP has strengthened its enforcement capacity in recent years.

The IMF, in its Governance and Corruption Diagnostic Report, stated that deficiencies in business regulations at various sectoral levels require stronger and more effective intervention by the competition authorities.

The IMF noted that the CCP has not only stepped-up enforcement but has also resolved more than 200 cases and recovered an unprecedented amount in fines and penalties. However, the CCP spokesperson clarified that the Commission has reduced its backlog of court cases by nearly 70 percent, securing decisions in 428 out

The report further noted that the CCP's newly established Market Intelligence Unit (MIU), is an important development for proactive



detection of collusion and market manipulation. According to the IMF, if backed by strong enforcement, the MIU can help eliminate anti-competitive practices quickly and create genuine deterrence.

The report highlights that, in addition to the CCP's ongoing efforts such as issuing Policy Notes to promote a level playing field across various sectors, the Commission should also identify bottlenecks to competition and barriers to market entry created by regulatory practices. The Commission can then provide remedies by issuing advices and policy notes to the relevant ministries and institutions.

When asked to comment on IMF's observations, the CCP spokesperson said the government has provided complete support to the Commission in achieving its goals. The government made appointments of Chairman and Members of the Competition Appellate Tribunal (CAT) on time that helps in swift resolution of court cases. He said that Commission has undergone a major turnaround in the last two years. With litigation barriers removed, CCP recovered PKR 1.01 billion in penalties, compared to only PKR 200 million in the previous 15 years.

#### Construction

ISLAMABAD: Labourers are busy in construction work of Shaheen Chowk Underpass Project, in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

# Tetra Pak reinforces Sustainability commitment at SDPI's 28th Annual **Development Conference**

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

ISLAMABAD: Tetra Pak Pakistan recently participated in the 28th Annual Sustainable Development Conference represented by Noor Aftab, Director Corporate Affairs Pakistan and MENA region and Muhammad Bin Shahzad, Sustainability Manager at Tetra Pak. The conference was titled "Sustainable Development in the Emerging World Dis|Order" and hosted by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in Islamabad.

The Expo served as a convergence point for governments, diplomats, development partners, and global institutions, including participation from IGES, UNESCAP. UNDP, UNOPS, and the South Asia Circular Economy Forum, along with senior representatives from Pakistan's Federal Government, World Bank, IMF, IFC, DFID, UN bodies, South Asia Coalition for Improved Nutrition SACIN, and Path, as well as dignitaries from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Nairobi.

Tetra Pak officials also engaged with representatives of the Federal Government including Senator Musadik Masood Malik,



and Deputy Chairman Planning Commission; Finance Minister Mr. Muhammad Aurangzeb; and Dr. Mahir Binici, Country Head, IMF & Coordinator to the Prime Minister.

"At Tetra Pak, we believe that sustain-Federal Minister for Climate Change; Mr. ability requires strong collaboration

Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister for PD&SI across governments, industry, and development partners," said Awais Bin Nasim, Managing Director, Tetra Pak Pakistan. "Our participation at SDPI reflects our commitment to building a circular economy, transforming the dairy sector, and enabling climate-resilient food systems for Pakistan."

### Pakistan unveils its first public private genomics venture

#### **E** Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: In a landmark development for the country's first-ever public-private genoma collaboration between the National Institute for Genomics and Advanced Biotechnology (NIGAB), PARC-Agro Tech Company (PATCO) under the umbrella of PARC, and Blazon Diagnostics. The inauguration ceremony was held at NIGAB, NARC, and was Security & Research, Rana attended by a distinguished gathering of national and international experts. Notable participants included, Chairman PARC, Dr. Murtaza Hassan Andra- nutritional security.

bi, Chairman Pak China Business Forum, Lt. Gen. (R) Abdul Qayyum, Dr. Khalid Mehmood, Direc-Pakistan's scientific and tor General NARC, Brig. technological landscape, Ali Raza, Commandant SIBGE, Dr. Shaukat Ali, Director NIGAB, Dr. Taj ics joint venture has been Naseeb Khan, CEO PATCO, formally launched through among several other senior officials, researchers, and stakeholders.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman PARC Dr. Syed Murtaza Hassan Andrabi stated that this initiative has been undertaken under the guidance of the Federal Minister for National Food Tanveer Hussain, which clearly demonstrates the government's strong commitment to ensuring the country's food and

#### Customs **Enforcement Quetta Seizes Non-Custom-Paid Vehicles**

#### Commerce Desk

NOVEMBER: The Collectorate of Customs (Enforcement), Quetta, has seized non-custom-paid (NCP) vehicles valued at approximately Rs. 81 million after foiling a significant smuggling attempt. The operation marks a major success in the department's ongoing efforts to curb illicit movement of vehicles across the

Acting on credible information from the Chief Collector (Enforcement), Islamabad, a customs team conducted a targeted raid the Main RCD Highway in Mastung. During the raid, officers recovered 11 NCP vehicles parked inside the premises. The seized vehicles include four Prius cars, two Aqua cars, one CH-R, one Honda Vezel, one Nissan 350-Z, one Corolla lawful trade across Pakistan.



Fielder, and one Prado Jeep. All vehicles have been taken into custody for further legal action under the Customs Act, 1969.

The Federal Board on a godown located along of Revenue (FBR) has applauded the Quetta Enforcement team for its vigilance and professionalism. FBR reaffirmed its commitment to combating smuggling, protecting national revenue, and ensuring the promotion of

# **Devsinc Acquires Datics** AI to Drive Next-Gen Enterprise AI

#### Commerce Desk

Pakistan's leading IT serviccompany, has acquired Datics AI, one of the country's most decorated AI-first technology firms, in a move that by the President of Pakistan strengthens Pakistan's posi- and founded by 'Dynamic tioning on the global map for Entrepreneur of the Year advanced data and AI solu- 2021' Umair Majeed, brings tions. This marks Devsine's deep expertise in machine

tive and Cloud1, and signals ISLAMABAD: Devsinc, a deliberate strategy to build a world-class, end-to-end AI es and enterprise technology and digital transformation powerhouse.

Datics AI, recognized as 'Best Software House 2022' third major acquisition of learning, predictive analytics,

2025, following Alchema- and agentic AI systems. As part of the acquisition, Umair Majeed joins Devsinc as SVP Growth, while former Chief Technology Officer Rana Umar Majeed becomes SVP, AI Enablement & Transformation. The acquisition is projected to surge to USD

402.70 billion by 2032. strengthens our ability to talent and innovation culture, ership, expanding Devsine's AI economy.'

Global CEO of Devsinc. "By

capabilities," said Usman Asif, data analytics engines. This is a long-term investment in acquisition integrating Datics AI's proven Pakistan's technology lead-

comes at a time when the serve global enterprise clients we are creating one of the reach across North America, global data analytics industry with next-generation AI region's most powerful AI and the Middle East, Europe, and APAC while setting the stage for Pakistan to contribute meaningfully to the global

# Over 400 athletes attend National Games training camps on 2nd day

**Tahir Amin Malik** 

LAHORE: The rigorous training process of Punjab's athletes continued at different venues of Nishtar Park Sports Complex for the preparation of 35th edition of National Games, which are scheduled to be organized at Karachi from December 6 to 13.

On the second day, more than 400 male and female athletes participated in training camps being organised under the auspices of Punjab Sports Department.

DG Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry visited multiple training camps to assess the training techniques of expert coaches minutely. He directed the coaches to focus on players' fitness and playing techniques so that they can offer excellent performance in the National Games. He also checked the quality of food at the mess.

Talking on this occasion, Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry said that best training is being imparted to male and female players at the training camp. "Besides training, best facilities are also being provided to Punjab's selected players at the training

He said that best accommodation arrangements have been made for the players in the hostels at Nishtar Park



Sports Complex.

The karate and wushu camps were held at the Elite Training Center where coaches taught the players modern techniques to combat opponent players' fighting tactics. The badminton and table tennis training camps were conducted at

sium Hall under the supervision of expert coaches Zarina Waqar and Yasmeen

Punjab's women's and men's hockey organised at the National Hockey

Nishtar Park Sports Complex Gymna- Stadium. The coaches organized practice matches between camp probable to improve their match fitness. The Kabaddi players also played friendly match under the supervision of qualified coaches. The teams participated in training camp coaches also indulged the players in stamina-building exercises.

# National Women's One-Day Tournament: Conquerors and Invincibles win

👺 Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: Conquerors and Invincibles won the matches on Tuesday in the National Women's One-Day Tour-

Conquerors (152 runs, 8 players out) defeated Stars (148 runs) by 2 wickets. Stars' Umaima Sohail scored 94 runs

Lubna Bahram took four wickets for lengers.

Conquerors. Iram Javed scored 57 runs for runs for Invincibles.

Conquerors Diana Baig took three wickets for of the Match.

Iram Javed and Lubna Bahram were

the players of the match. Invincibles (188 runs) defeated Chal-

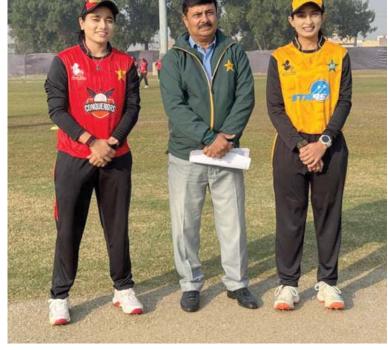
lengers (172 runs) by 16 runs. Natalia Parvez scored 62 and Muniba

Ali scored 53 runs for Invincibles. Challengers' Quratul Ain took four

Sadaf Shams scored 36 runs for Chal-

Momina Riyatza took 5 wickets for 23

Momina Rivatza was named Player



# Sri Lanka outplay Zimbabwe by 9 wickets

**Sports Desk** 

ISLAMABAD: Sri Lanka cruised to a dominant nine-wicket victory over Zimbabwe, with 22 balls to spare, in the fifth match of the Pakistan T20I Tri-Series at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium on Tuesday.

Chasing a target of 147, openers Pathum Nissanka and Kamil Mishara laid a solid foundation with a 59-run stand for the first wicket before Mishara departed for 12, dismissed by Brad Evans.

Nissanka produced a commanding performance, finishing unbeaten on 98 off 58 deliveries, striking eleven 4s and four 6s to steer Sri Lanka to an emphatic

He was ably supported by Kusal Mendis, who remained not out on 25,



ensuring Sri Lanka reached the target

Earlier, Zimbabwe, having won the toss, elected to bat first and posted a the match.

competitive 146 for 5 in their allotted

Opener Brian Bennett anchored the innings with a composed 34, while Tadiwanashe Marumani fell early for 4. Dion Myers (6) and Brendan Taylor (14) added brief contributions in the middle order.

Captain Sikandar Raza steadied the innings with a crucial 37 off 29 balls, and Ryan Burl provided late impetus with an unbeaten 37 from 26 deliveries. Tashinga Musekiwa remained not out on 6 as Zimbabwe closed their innings with

a respectable total. For Sri Lanka, Maheesh Theekshana and Wanindu Hasaranga were the standout performers, each claiming two wickets for 23 runs while Dasun Shanaka chipped in with a wicket, conceding 36 runs. Nissanka was declared Player of

# Faisal Gymkhana and Rising Star CC moved into Quarter Final of S. M. Adil Zone-IV Inter Club Cricket *Tournament*

Sports Desk

KARACHI: Faisal Gymkhana and Rising Cricket Club moved into Quarter Final of the S. M. Adil Zone-IV Inter Club Cricket Tournament after beating their opponents at various Grounds.

ERICKIET TO The high-

lights of the days play was another dashing unbeaten Century 100 by Afnan Khan, Some good bowling by Off Spinner Muhammad Maaz 4/28 and Fine unbeaten 66 by Waleed Ahmed.

The Tournament is being organized by Regional Cricket Association Karachi Zone-IV.

Scores in Brief:

Faisal Gymkhana beat Model Cricket Club by 9 Wickets. Model CC 131 all-out in 30.5 overs. Daniyal Niazi 61 5x4 4x6, Mohib Abbas 20. Syed Khizar 2/21, Waleed Ahmed 2/22, Ahmed

In reply Faisal Gymkhana 135/1 in 23.2 overs. Waleed Ahmed 66 4x4 2x6, Aun Abbas 51 3x4 both not out. Later Waleed Ahmed received the Man of the Match Award.

In the 2nd Match Rising Star Cricket Club beat Sindh Rana Cricket Club by 7 Wickets. Sindh Rana CC 169 all-out in 27 overs. Rafi ullah 46 7x4 1x6, Shafi Agha 40 4x4 2x6, Shayan Khan 23. Muhammad Maaz (ob) 4/28, Abbas Khan 2/26,

In reply Rising Star CC 170/3 in 21 overs. Afnan Khan 100 8x4 5x6 (in 57 ballas) not out, Owais Abbasi 34 not out, Asad Iqbal 19. Umer Ghazi 2/30. After the end of the Match Afnan Khan received the Man of the Match Award

#### ICC unveils schedule for men's T20 World Cup 2026



DUBAI: The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Tuesday revealed the schedule for the forthcoming ICC T20 World Cup 2026, co-hosted by Sri Lanka and India.

The mega-event will be played from February 7 to March 8 across five venues in India-Arun Jaitley Stadium, Eden Gardens, Kolkata; MA Chidambaram Stadium, Chennai; Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad; and Wankhede Stadium, Mumbai.

Three venues will host matches in Sri Lanka—Pallekele International Cricket Stadium, Kandy; R. Premadasa Stadium, Colombo; and Sinhalese Sports Club, Colombo.

The 2026 tournament format will mirror the 2024 T20 World Cup, with 20 teams divided into five groups of four. The top two teams from each group will advance to the Super

Eight stage, before progressing to the semi-finals and ultimately the final.

The high-stakes encounter between Pakistan and defending champions India will be played on February 15 in Colombo as

The model has previously been applied in the ICC Champions Trophy 2025, when the UAE co-hosted India's matches. and during the ICC Women's World Cup 2025, with Sri Lanka joining as co-hosts.

Pakistan will play three of their group-stage fixtures at the Sinhalese Sports Club in Colombo, including the opening fixture of the World Cup against the Netherlands, whereas India will play their opening match against USA same day in the evening. T20 World Cup Groups:

Group A: India, Pakistan, USA, Namibia, Netherlands, Group B: Australia, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe, Ireland, Oman Group C: England, West Indies, Bangladesh, Italy, Nepal Group D: South Africa, New Zealand, Afghanistan, Canada,

# Karachi Blues qualify for Quaid Trophy final

**Sports Desk** 

ISLAMABAD: The third day of the last Quaid-e-Azam Trophy round saw Karachi Blues, Multan and Lahore Whites register victories, while Bahawalpur lined themselves up for a 310-run chase over final contenders Faisalabad, and Peshawar respondcall on a busy Tuesday across the five venues.

Karachi Blues, who were placed fifth after playing five matches - ended their league stage run in the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy at the top with five wins and berth in the final.

Blues got over the line with three wickets in hand against Sialkot in their ninth and last league game of the tournament at the Shoaib Akhtar Cricket Stadium, Rawalpindi.

Chasing 212 to win, Blues benefited from the second-wicket 133-run stand between Shan Masood (86, 112b, 3x4s, 3x6s) and Saad Baig (68, 96b, 5x4s,

Haroon Arshad (30, 45b, 4x4s) in a 51-run third-wicket stand as Blues inched closer to victory.

From 192-3, they slipped to 206-7 before crossing the line in 57.2 overs as Mehran Mumtaz took 4-40 and Hamza Nazar picked up two wickets. Earlier in the day, Sialkot 217-7 and managed to 260 all out ed well to Islamabad's follow-on stretching thei lead from 168 to 211 - with Hamza Nazar scoring 66 and Afzaal Manzoor 48 not

Karachi Blues's Kashif Bhatti picked up his 28th first-class five-for as he returned figures of 5-72 in 34 overs – finishing with nine wickets in the match, while Mohammad Asghar picked up three wickets.

Faisalabad are faced with the prospect of an outright win against Bahawalpur to pip second-placed Sialkot and qualify for the final. Bahawalpur finished the day three with 124-2 in 28 overs – requiring another 186 runs to win – in pursuit of the 310-run target at the Marghzar 3x6s). Shan then accompanied Cricket Ground, Islamabad.

Mohammad Alamgir (69, 86b, 8x4s, 4x6s) and Mohammad Sudais (53, 69b, 7x4s, 1×6) strung together a 113-run opening stand before both fell in the dying moments

Earlier, Faisalabad were dismissed for 185 in 53.2 overs in their second dig after earning a 124-run first innings lead as Bahawalpur's Mohammad Junaid (21-4-58-7) returned only the third seven-fer and third-best individual bowling performance in an innings of the tournament and his maiden haul of five or more scalps.

Faisalabad slumped from 90-3 to 185 all out as opening batter Hasan Raza top-scored with 48 off 62 balls hitting five fours.

Peshawar were made to follow-on by Islamabad on day three after they folded for 231 all out in 57.4 overs in response to 563 all out at the Diamond Cricket Ground, Islamabad. In turn, Peshawar closed the day with 183-2 in 41 overs, trailing by another 149 runs.



The 20-year-old Razaullah had a day to remember in just his third first-class game - where he is yet to be dismissed in single the deficit. figures across six innings - as he struck his maiden first-class century while opening (100, 95b, 10x4s, 5x6s) in the second innings just after striking 57 not out in the first innings batting

Resuming the day from 81-4 in the first innings, Peshawar slipped to 102-7, when skipper Sajid Khan (64, 76b, 9x4s, 1×6) and Razaullah (57 not out, 83b,

6x4s, 2x6s) stitched a crucial 101-run stand frustrating the Islamabad bowlers and erasing

Peshawar eventually fell for 231 all out - conceding 332-run deficit with Musa Khan taking his eighth first-class five-wicket haul (5-79).

Peshawar's decision to open with their unbeaten batter Razaullah proved to pay dividends as he put on a 53-run opening stand with Mohammad

not out, 88b, 8x4s) before falling lead. No.9 batter Khawaja to Musa Khan late in the day.

Lahore Whites bagged their Mohammad Abbas' 53rd five-141 all out chasing 175 at the Imran Khan Cricket Stadium, Peshawar.

Lahore Whites' bowling attack comprising of three Test bowlers ment - at the Abbottabad Cricket Abbas (5-31), Aamir Jamal (1-31) and Noman Ali (1-59) and uncapped Mohammad Rameez Jnr (3-20) pulled off a memorable triumph for their team to close out the tournament.

Fata 42-5, when their top-scorer Rehan Afridi (45, runs to make Multan bat again 101b, 4x4s) walked in to bat and in the game. with no.9 Havatullah (24, 27b, 4x4s,  $1\times6$ ) took their team 114 before White struck again as the last two wickets too added 27 runs but in vain.

his 17th first-class five-wicket overs finished at the bottom of haul (20-5-67-5) as Fata the table with just a solitary win dismissed Lahore Whites for to their name. Ali was aided by Shahbaz and then a 105-run 208 after they had resumed Sharoon Siraj and Faisal Akram, stand with Wagar Ahmed (63 from 144-4 with a mere 110-run who picked up two wickets each.

Mohammad Abdullah landed some decisive punches for Whites third win of the tournament as as struck 10 fours in his 28-ball 49. Khushdil Shah and Hayatwicket haul restricted FATA to ullah picked up two wickets each. Multan managed to avoid rele-

gation as they beat Abbottabad by an innings and 201 runs their second win in the tourna-Stadium with player of the match Ali Usman taking 6-65 and 4-92 - his third-consecutive 10-wicket haul in the tournament.

On day three, Abbottabad resumed from eight for no loss further requiring another 375

No Abbottabad batter apart from Shahzaib Khan (61, 147b, 5x4s,  $1\times6$ ) and Ahmed Khan (51, 46b, 3x4s, 4x6s) could trouble the Multan bowlers as they went Earlier, Asif Afridi completed from 68-3 to 182 all out in 52.4

# THE SPOKESIMAN Wednesday, November 26, 2025

#### Meeting

Islamabad: President Asif Ali Zardari meeting H.E. Mr Ali Ardeshir Larijani, Secretary of the Supreme National Security



# President calls for stronger Pak-Iran rail link to boost trade

ISLAMABAD: Asif Ali Zardari has called for make it easier for businesses strengthening the rail link with and travelers, especially the Iran between on priority basis to support trade and promote tourism, saying Pakistan wishes to work closely with Iran to increase the bilateral trade.

Secretary of the Supreme National Security Council Dr. energy needs. He welcomed the

on him in Islamabad today.

The President said that President improved connectivity would talks in Tehran. economic cooperation between the two countries.

On the Iran-Pakistan Gas Pipeline, he stressed the need tion, noting Pakistan's growing Ali Ardashir Larijani, who called recent technical discussions in

looks forward to continuing

Asif Ali Zardari thanked the Iranian leadership for its soli-Zaireen, and would help deepen darity with Pakistan after the recent floods, including the humanitarian assistance sent by the Iranian Red Crescent. He further said that cooper-He was talking to the Iranian for a mutually workable solu- ation between neighboring countries is essential and in the

shared interest of both peoples. He thanked Iran for its diplomatic and moral support trade target of ten billion dollars.

war with India and reiterated this year. He praised the Pakistan's political and diplomatic backing for Iran in the wake of Israeli aggression.

In his remarks, Dr. Larijani conveyed the best wishes and regards of the Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Hosseini Khamenei, and the President, Masoud Pezeshkian, to President Zardari.

Islamabad and said Pakistan consistent support during the during the 12-day war earlier valour and success of Pakistan armed forces in recent events and said Pakistan's victory is our victory.

He further said that following the Iranian President's visit to Pakistan, several directives had been issued to give preferential access to Pakistani products in Iran, creating a clear path He thanked Pakistan for its toward achieving the bilateral

# Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee pays farewell visit to Air Headquarters

👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: As part of his farewell engagements, General Sahir Shamshad Mirza, Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, visited Air Headquarters, Islamabad. He was received by Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu, Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force. A smartly turned-out contingent of PAF presented the distinguished guest with a Guard of Honour.

Later, the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee called on the Air Chief in his office. Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu commended the CJCSC's exemplary services and his pivotal role in strengthening tri-services synergy. He appreciated General Sahir Shamshad Mirza's significant contributions towards national defence and reaffirmed PAF's unwa-



vering resolve to continue working closely with sister services to eradicate the menace of terrorism.

The CJCSC expressed his satisfaction over the combat readiness of Pakistan Air Force and the progress achieved through its modernization and up-gradation initiatives. He lauded the professionalism and dedication of PAF personnel in safeguarding Pakistan's aerial frontiers and acknowledged the vital role of the Service in the national fight against terrorism. He also appreciated the seamless coordination among the tri-services and expressed confidence that this cooperation would continue to flourish in the years ahead. General Sahir Shamshad Mirza thanked the Air Chief for PAF's wholehearted support and conveyed his best wishes for the Service and its

# Pakistan never conducts covert strikes, says DG ISPR

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan never conducts covert strikes and does not differentiate between 'good' or 'bad' Taliban, as all militants fall under the same category of terrorism, Director General of the Inter-Services Public Relations (DG ISPR) Lt-Gen Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry said during a briefing to senior journalists on Tuesday.

Lt-Gen Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry clarified that Pakistan never targets Afghan civilians and conducts announced operations solely against terrorism.

His comments came after the Taliban government's spokesperson, Zabihullah Mujahid, alleged on X ated that Pakistan conducts opera-added. that Pakistani forces had carried out air strikes on Monday night in three Afghan provinces — Paktika, Khost, and Kunar — claiming 10 casualties

in Khost's Gurbuz district. Responding, the DG ISPR reiter-



tions openly and urged the Afghan Taliban to act as a responsible state rather than as a non-state actor.

"Ground realities show there is no distinction between Tehreek-e-Taliban Afghanistan and the TTP," he

He noted that non-custom paid vehicles have frequently been used in terrorist activities and stressed that immediate restrictions must be imposed on them.

Lt-Gen Ahmed Sharif underlined immediately," he said. Published by: Almass Ayoub Sabir from Zero Point Printers Rawalpindi

The DG ISPR stressed that security considerations must take precedence over commercial interests.

that Pakistan responds as a state.

"Blood and business cannot run together. It is not possible for attacks to continue while trade also goes on. Our fight is not against the Afghan

people; it is against terrorism." He also said a political party was running anti-state campaigns on social media from abroad.

Providing an update on counterterrorism efforts, the DG ISPR said that since November 4, security forces have conducted 4.910 operations averaging 232 per day — in response to 336 terrorist incidents.

Regarding former ISI chief Lt-Gen (retd) Faiz Hameed, the ISPR chief said his trial is a legal matter and warned against speculations.

"When the matter reaches its final conclusion, it will be announced

# Dr. Ali Larijani calls on NA Speaker Sardar Ayaz



B City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Secretary of Iran's Supreme National Security Council Dr. Ali Larijani called on Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq at the Parliament House. The meeting focused on Pakistan-Iran bilateral relations, regional security, parliamentary cooperation, and opportunities for enhanced economic partnership.

The Speaker emphasized the need to further expand regional peace, stability, and mutual cooperation. He stated that Pakistan and Iran are brotherly, neighbouring countries, and the recent high-level contacts between their leaderships in strengthening bilateral ties. Both people of Pakistan.

sides agreed to promote parliamentary and people-to-people exchanges and underscored the importance of unity, solidarity, and a joint approach among Muslim countries.

Dr. Ali Larijani appreciated Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq's remarks regarding Iran and commended the Pakistani people for their support during the recent Israeli aggression. He welcomed the defence agreement between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia. Dr. Larijani noted that there are vast opportunities for enhancing cooperation between Iran and Pakistan across multiple sectors and stressed the need to expand collaboration in diverse fields. He added that the people of Iran hold deep affection will prove to be a crucial milestone and strong bonds of goodwill for the

# Commander Chattogram Bangladesh Navy calls on Chief of the Naval Staff



ISLAMABAD: A Bangladesh Navy delegation, led by Commander Chattogram (COMCHIT), Rear Admiral of ongoing bilateral naval engage- cooperation between the two navies.

During the visit, the delegation head, Rear Admiral Md Moinul Hassan, called on Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Naveed Ashraf. The matters of mutual professional interest, including avenues to further time peace and stability.

strengthen bilateral maritime collaboration and reinforce regional security mechanisms. Both dignitaries expressed a shared resolve to broaden operational engagements Md Moinul Hassan, visited Naval enhance information sharing, and Headquarters, Islamabad, as part explore new dimensions of strategic

The visit of Bangladesh Navy delegation underscores the enduring bond between the two navies and reflects their mutual commitment to deepen professional linkages, meeting entailed discussions on enhance operational synergy, and jointly contribute to regional mari-

#### **Constitutional Court Chief Justice Aminuddin** gets security cover

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad Police on Tuesday provided security to Chief Justice of the Federal Constitutional Court, Aminuddin Khan, as part of newly announced security arrangements.

According to the official notifica-In addition, DSP Security Yasin Tagar court's operations.

has been appointed DSP security for the Federal Constitutional Court.

The notification states that DSP Mukhtiar Bugti has been given the additional charge of DSP Security Division. These transfers and appointments were issued by the AIG Establishment Division.

The updated security meastion, SP Special Branch Sajjad Haider ures underscore Islamabad Police's Bukhari has been appointed the chief commitment to ensuring safety and security officer for Justice Aminuddin. support of the chief justice and the

#### Ashfaq Ahmad Khalil appointed Federal Secretary for **Information & Broadcasting**

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Senior officer of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Ashfaq Ahmad Khalil, has been appointed as the new Federal Secretary for Information and Broad-

casting, according to an official notification issued here on Monday. The appointment was approved by Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz

Sharif, following a round of interviews with senior officers of the ministry. Candidates included Tariq Khan, Arshad Munir, Ms. Imrana Wazir, Saeed Ahmed Sheikh, and Khalil himself. After the evaluation process, Khalil was selected for the top post.

Khalil, who previously served as Addi-

tional Secretary at the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, brings extensive experience to the role. His career spans multiple senior assignments, including Director General of the Press Information Department

in Peshawar, Press Counsellor at Pakistan's embassy in Tokyo, and key positions at the Directorate of Electronic Media and Publications, Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA), Information Service Academy, and the Press Information Department.

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting emphasized that with Khalil's appointment, administrative and policy continuity will be ensured, while government coordination is expected to become more effective.