(Pvt) Limited



Erdogan praises Pope's 'astute stance' on Palestinian issue

Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan praised Pope Leo's stance on the Palestinian issue after meeting him in Ankara on Thursday, and said he hoped his first overseas visit as Catholic leader will benefit humanity at a time of tension and uncertainty.



Security forces kill 22 terrorists in DI Khan

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

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Business opportunity

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif among business community at the reception hosted by the Deputy Prime minister of Bahrain at the Economic Development Board HQ in Manama in the Kingdom of Bahrain on 27 Thursday.



PM urges Bahrain businesses to tap Pakistan's potential; cites proinvestor reforms, facilitations

Spokesman Report

MANAMA: Prime Minisday highlighting the structural transformation, regulatory and economic reforms by his govern- our regulations and opened new ment, urged the Bahraini business sector to seize Pakistan's immense investment potential with new sectors opened like agribusiness, IT, minerals,

long-term partnership. "Pakistan is undergoing The event was attended enormous potential, combined between Pakistan and GCC was over half a century.

red tape forever, strengthened sectors such as agribusiness, IT, minerals, energy and tourism for long-term partnership," the prime minister said, addressing the members of the business

two-day official visit.

a structural transformation by Bahrain's deputy prime with Bahrain's financial experembodying economic reforms, minister, ministers for digital modernization and foreign affairs, finance and ter Shehbaz Sharif on Thurs- a decisive push for a private national economy, industries sector-led growth. We have cut and commerce, besides the prime minister's own delegation including Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar, Information Minister Attaullah Tarar

He said that Pakistan offered energy and tourism, to build a community here during his talent, resources and a growing and Bahraini entrepreneurs consumer market which had

and others.

tise and business acumen.

The prime minister said that Pakistan was ready to enhance economic cooperation with Bahrain in the field of agriculture, IT, AI, FinTech and all other areas to create synergy through mutual efforts, knowledge and experience.

He told the gathering of overthat the Free Trade Agreement

expected to be signed soon to

strengthen trade cooperation. Earlier, in his remarks, Bahrain's Finance Minister Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, said that the generations of Pakistanis had played a vital role in Bahrain's growth with many having made the kingdom

their second home. He said that Pakistan's seas Pakistanis and Pakistani financial institutions had been important contributors to Bahrain's financial sector for

Nawaz Sharif inaugurates 'Apni Zameen, Apna Ghar' programme



跨 Bureau Report

LAHORE: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) President Nawaz Sharif on Thursday inaugurated the "Apni Zameen, Apna Ghar" housing programme at the request of Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, pressing the ceremo-

nial button to mark the launch. During the digital lottery draw, two women, Rukhsana Bibi from Attock and Mero Mai from Mandi Yazman, won

CM Maryam personally called both winners to congratulate them.

"Congratulations, your free plot has been allocated to you," she told them over the phone. Nawaz Sharif also spoke with the winners, extending his best wishes

He contacted Mero Mai's husband, Ramesh Lal, who replied respectfully, "You are our greatest national leader."

The programme aims to provide affordable housing opportunities and reinforce the government's commitment to supporting citizens' access to land and homes across Paki-

Those who boycott by-elections has no right to criticize results: Tarar

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar dismissing the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf's (PTI) claims of rigging in by-elections said that those who had boycotted the by-polls has no right to criticize the results. Responding to the alle-

gations of rigging by PTI Chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan on the floor of National Assembly, the minister said the opposition had no evidence to back their claims of rigging.

The opposition boycotted elections publicly, but ironically ran covert campaigns against their rival candidates on social media and in the field, he added.

"Politics does not run on Speaker, and Nawaz Sharif. This behaviour is regrettable,"



he said, regretting their double standard which stands exposed due to their delaying tactics in the courts where they sought adjournments instead of presenting any evidence.

The minister asked the PTI Chairman how many cases they have furnished to present before the election tribunals to prove their claims of riggings.

Tarar said that Babar Nawaz boycotts. To hide your mistake, Khan had defeated the PTI with you blame Parliament, the a considerable margin, highlighting the party's declining political standing.

Gen Sahir Shamshad Mirza retires after 40-year service

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC) General Sahir Shamshad Mirza has retired from service, concluding a 40-year distinguished military career.

His retirement coincides with the abolition of the CJCSC position under the 27th Constitutional Amendment, which was recently passed by Parliament.

Under the amendment, the post of Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee has been dissolved, and the Chief of Army Staff will now also Forces.



tenure as CJCSC.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee served as serve as the Chief of Defence an inter-services forum responsible for promoting General Sahir Shamshad coordination and coopera-Mirza stepped down after tion among Pakistan's three completing a three-year armed forces.

UAE confirms no visa restrictions on Pakistanis amid Senate report

Spokesman Report

KARACHI/ISLAMABAD: The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has rejected reports of a visa ban on Pakistani citizens, a statement that comes shortly after the Pakistan Senate was

UAE Consul General in Karachi, Bakheet Ateeq Alremeithi, told local media that matic (blue) passport holders. and reports of a ban are encing an unprecedented surge Pakistani passports. The interior involved in minor offences.

in applications, with some cate- ministry has obtained digital gories now requiring advance records of 180-200 million citibooking exceeding one month, zens to prevent misuse or irregmarking the highest demand in the past three years.

Secretary Salman Chaudhry had stating that the UAE was allegedly issuing visas only to diplowould be difficult to reverse

ularities in passport issuance.

The UAE official, on the other Earlier, Additional Interior hand, explained that some Pakistani travel agents had previbriefed the Senate Functional ously tampered with visa appliinformed of alleged restrictions. Committee on Human Rights, cation records, creating challenges for both applicants and authorities. To maintain transparency, a biometric system was all visa types are being processed He warned that a potential ban introduced. Around 2.27 million Pakistanis currently reside in the "completely false". He added that and added that Saudi Arabia UAE, with authorities offering the Karachi consulate is experi- had also considered restricting record corrections for those



Pakistan and the UAE share of remittances. close diplomatic, economic, and cultural relations.

Middle East and a major source connections with home.

Many Pakistanis continue to

live and work in the Emirates, The UAE is one of Pakistan's contributing to its economy largest trade partners in the while maintaining strong

Pakistan, Bahrain vow to deepen security, counter-narcotics cooperation

News Desk

MANAMA: Federal Minister for Interior and Narcotics Control Mohsin Naqvi held an important meeting with Bahrain's Interior Minister General Sheikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa during his visit to Manama on Thursday.

The two sides discussed bilateral relations, regional security, and matters of mutual interest in detail.



Both interior ministers agreed to enhance cooperation in counter-narcotics efforts, strengthen the capacity of law enforcement agencies, and make intelligence sharing more effective.

Mohsin Naqvi expressed gratitude for the warm hospitality extended by his Bahraini counterpart and appreciated Bahrain's commitment to expanding cooperation with Pakistan in the fields of security and stability.

He said the brotherly relations between Pakistan and Bahrain are built on strong foundations of mutual trust and respect, adding that close coordination between institutions of both countries is essential for peace and security in the region. The meeting concluded with both

sides reaffirming their resolve to further strengthen partnerships for the mutual benefit and a secure future of the peoples of Pakistan and Bahrain.

AJK PM demands 100% development fund utilization by year-end deadline

👺 Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: A development review meeting was held under the chairmanship of AJK Prime Minister Faisal Mumtaz Rathore here on Thurs-

The meeting was attended by Most Senior Minister Mian Abdul Waheed; Ministers Javed Iqbal Badhanvi, Diwan Ali Khan Chughtai, Sardar Javed Ayub, Chaudhry Rafique Nayyar, Aamir Yasin, Zafar Iqbal Malik, Sardar Zia Al-Qamar, Ali Shan Soni, Chaudhry Muhammad Rashid and Syed Bazal Ali Naqvi; Adviser to the Government Sardar Fahad Yaqoob Khan; Chief Secretary (Development) Khushal Khan; secretaries to the government; and heads of departments.

Addressing the session, Prime Minister Rathore directed all departments to ensure 100 percent utilisation of development funds by December 10, stressing the need to fast-track work due to limited time. Warning that his government would not tolerate negligence or laxity in project execution, he instructed all departments to complete allocation under the PSDP, while Rs their tasks on time and submit them to 17 billion comes from the AJK govern-



the relevant forums.

He further directed that schemes under block allocation be prepared and submitted before December 15. Atifur-Rehman said Azad Kashmir's total development budget stands at Rs 49 billion, of which Rs 32 billion is block

ment's own resources.

He noted that schemes worth Rs 8 billion are included in the PSDP, while Rs 5 billion fall under the Prime Minister of Pakistan's package. Presently, 472 projects are ongoing, and 117 new schemes have been added to the Annual Development Programme.

"So far, Rs 9.6 billion, which amounts

to 40 percent of the total development budget, has been released for the first two quarters," he said, adding that Rs 7.3 billion, or 70 percent of the released funds, has been utilised.

He maintained that Azad Kashmir has ensured 100 percent utilisation of development allocations over the past

M-Tag registration

M-TAG REGISTRATIC

ISLAMABAD: People stand in a queue to install E-tags/M-tags for their vehicles at Fatima Jinnah Park, in the Federal Capital.



AJK PM, former PM meet to discuss Kashmir strategy and development

👺 Bureau Report

ISLAMABAD: Former AJK prime minister and senior PPP leader Sardar Tanveer Ilvas Khan called on AJK Prime Minister Faisal Mumtaz Rathore here on Wednesday.

During the meeting, the two leaders discussed matters of mutual interest, including the prevailing political situation, the strategy to better highlight the Kashmir issue, and the status of ongoing development projects in Azad Kashmir.

They also reviewed proposals for new development initiatives to be launched in the region. Furthermore, challenges facing the new government, effective functioning of the cabinet, and measures to streamline governance also



were held on preparations for the PPP's Foundation Day in Azad Kashmir.

Both leaders expressed their resolve to observe the day across the region in a dignified manner. They noted that the occasion would be dedicated to paying homage to Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and other party stalwarts for their lifecame under discussion. Deliberations long struggle and sacrifices. Speaking on Ilyas hosted a dinner in honour of the

the formation of the PPP government had established "people's rule in the true sense" and generated a renewed sense of optimism across the liberated territory.

He also extended his best wishes to Prime Minister Faisal Mumtaz Rathore on assuming office. Later, Mr. Tanveer

the occasion, Sardar Tanveer Ilyas said prime minister and other party leaders. Among those present on the occasion were MPA Javed Butt, former government adviser Sardar Amjad Yousaf, Deputy Secretary Information PPP Syed Azadar Hussain Kazmi, Central Coordination Secretary PPP Azad Kashmir Aamir Zeeshan Jaral and other party

Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

AJK Chief Justice reviews progress on key judicial construction projects

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: Chief Justice of the High Court of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Justice Sardar Liaqat Hussain, presided over an important meeting to review the ongoing construction and development projects pertaining to the High Court and subordinate judiciary across Azad Jammu & Kashmir. Senior Judge of the High Court, Justice Syed Shahid Bahar, also attended the meeting.

on the directives issued by Chief Justice



Raja Saeed Akram Khan, during the Supreme Court Building Committee meeting. These directives relate to During the briefing, the Chief Justice the implementation of development was informed about the progress made projects under the Law & Justice sub-sector, including schemes for the

Chief Justice Sardar Liaqat Hussain instructed the relevant departments to ensure timely release of funds for the Judicial Rest House Mirpur, expedite construction of the approach road to Judicial Complex Naluchi, and Judicial Complex Abbaspur.

guarantee the provision of required resources for the ongoing development work at the High Court Headquarters Muzaffarabad. He further directed early progress on the construction of Judicial Complex Haveli (Kahuta) and

AJK PM vows action to streamline project approvals after high-level development

👺 Bureau Report

MUZAFFARA-

BAD: A development review meeting was held under the chairmanship of AJK Prime Minister Faisal Mumtaz Rathore here on Thursday. The meeting was attended by Most Senior Minis-



ter Mian Abdul Waheed; Ministers Javed Iqbal Badhanvi, Diwan Ali Khan Chughtai, Sardar Javed Ayub, Chaudhry Rafique Nayyar, Aamir Yasin, Zafar Iqbal Malik, Sardar Zia Al-Qamar, Ali Shan Soni, Chaudhry Muhammad Rashid and Syed Bazal Ali Naqvi; Adviser to the Government Sardar Fahad Yaqoob Khan; Chief Secretary (Development) Khushal Khan; secretaries to the government; and heads of

Prime Minister Rathore said he would take up the matter with the Prime Minister of Pakistan and the Chairman ECNEC to further empower the Development Working Party and the Cabinet Development Committee, so that their powers are enhanced and project approvals are not delayed. Briefing the meeting, Atif-ur-Rehman said Azad Kashmir's total development budget stands at Rs 49 billion, of which Rs 32 billion is block allocation under the PSDP, while Rs 17 billion comes from the AJK government's own resources. He noted that schemes worth Rs 8 billion are included in the PSDP, while Rs 5 billion fall under the Prime Minister of Pakistan's package, Presently. 472 projects are ongoing, and 117 new schemes have been added to the Annual Development Programme. "So far, Rs 9.6 billion, which amounts to 40 percent of the total development budget, has been released for the first two quarters," he said, adding that Rs 7.3 billion, or 70 percent of the released funds, has been utilised. He maintained that Azad Kashmir has ensured 100 percent utilisation of development allocations over the past five years.

DFP denounces escalating human rights violations

👺 Abdul Majeed Tahir

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Democratic Freedom Party (DFP) has strongly condemned the escalating human rights violations and illegal detentions of innocent Kashmiris, particularly the ongoing witch-hunt against educated youth and professionals by Indian forces in Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (IOJK).

In a statement issued today, DFP spokesperson Advocate Arshad Iqbal expressed his party's serious concern over the arbitrary detention of hundreds of civilians arrested during cordon and search operations (CASOs) conducted across the region.

"Nearly 1,500 civilians, mostly youth, have been detained during the massive CASOs and raids carried out across the Kashmir Valley and Muslim-majority areas of the Jammu region," he said, adding that those arrested include medical professionals and pro-freedom activists, have been booked under draconian laws.

The spokesperson also denounced the harassment of residents during raids, as well as incidents of vandalism and theft of personal belongings by Indian forces.

Terming these actions a form of collective punishment, Iqbal said that the confiscation of civilian properties was part of the Indian government's broader strategy to disempower the people of Kashmir.

Former PM condemns Indian forces' raid on Jammu newspaper office

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: President of the All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference and former Prime Minister, Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan, has strongly condemned the recent raid by Indian forces on the offices of the Kashmir Times in Jammu and the registration of a case against



its editor, Anuradha Bhasin. He said that an attack on Kashmir Times—a newspaper founded by renowned journalist, intellectual, and peace advocate Ved Bhasin—is an attack on freedom of the press.

Talking to the media persons, Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan said that Kashmir Times has always been a voice of truth, which is why India repeatedly imposed restrictions on it. He noted that Anuradha Bhasin was forced to leave Jammu and relocate to the United States due to India's repressive policies and persistent pressure. He added that the Indian authorities are clearly threatened by the newspaper's independent and outspoken editorial stance. The so-called "recovery of weapons" from the office, he said, is yet another shameful example of India's oppressive tactics.

He stated that India has completely buried freedom of expression in Kashmir. Filing cases against journalists, raiding media houses, shutting down offices, and levelling fabricated charges reflect the panic and authoritarian mindset of the Indian state.

Naqvi Directs Swift Recruitment and Enhanced Service in Remote A7K Areas



Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: The Minister for Public Health and Population Welfare, Azad Kashmir, Syed Bazil Ali Naqvi, received a detailed departmental briefing on the performance of the Population Welfare Department, its ongoing development initiatives, and the future course

During the briefing, the Minister emphasized the need to further strengthen the department in line with federal and international standards. He directed that all public welfare projects be executed with greater transparency, efficiency, and speed. He highlighted special focus on maternal and child health, population balance, and public awareness programmes to ensure timely and improved service delivery to citizens.

Syed Bazil Ali Naqvi instructed the concerned officers to immediately resolve issues related to office space and land requirements. He also ordered the prompt conduct of walk-in interviews for vacant positions of doctors to address shortages in human resources. The Minister further directed that services in remote regions, particularly LOC Haveli and Jhelum Valley, be strengthened through the establishment of necessary offices and improved outreach.



Namaz Timings Maghrib .5:00 pm ... 6:28 pm

EMERGENCY

EMENOEIG I	
Rescue (Police)	15
Bomb Disposal	15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/	
Islamabad1122 &	16
Emergency Ambulance 1122	2 &
& Rescue Services 44511	22
Motorway Police92660	44
Motorway Police 9270601-	20

Women Police

Statio	/IIS
Islamabad	922259
Rawalpindi	9270601-2

ENOUIRY

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WASA Rawalpindi	5555489
CAA	9281092

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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
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DEPARTMENTS

CDA	9221334-43
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RDA	5555864
TMA	5770886
Cantonment Board	9270151-3
Islamabad Metropo	litan
Corporation	9209224
Potohar Town	9209224
Rawal Town	5773343

KOICA and Local Partners Forge Ahead on Multan Stormwater *System* Development

👺 Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Roshni Welfare Organization in collaboration with Multan Development Authority (MDA), WASA and Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) organized a program on the formation of a master plan for urban flood, disaster preven tion and construction of a storm water storage system in Multan city to adapt to climate change in Punjab province, Pakistan. In which Kim Yong from KOICA participated in the program. Apart from this, Samiullah from Multan WASA also participated in the program. Speaking in this program, Executive Director of Roshni Welfare Organization Zahid Zahoor said that our people get education but do not learn life skills, that is, they get education but do not get CIVIC EDUCA-TION. After this, Samiullah from WASA said that the sewage system in our areas of Multan is very disturbed. The responsibility for this cannot be placed only on WASA, but every individual living in this society is also responsible. He said that in the past few years, there has been a series of heavy rains in Multan. Often, more water accumulates on the roads.

Students can counter false narratives through digital literacy: DG PID

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Director General Press Information Department (PID) Lahore Shafqat Abbas has said that students can effectively counter the spread of false narratives by equipping themselves with media literacy, critical thinking, and digital verification skills, ensuring that truth prevails over propaganda.

He stressed that universities and colleges must integrate digital awareness and ethical communication into their learning environments.

He expressed these views on Thursday while addressing a seminar titled "Peace Diplomacy in the Age of Digital Extremism", organised by PID Lahore at the Department of Media Development Communication, Punjab University.

Welcoming participants, the DG PID said it was an honour to speak at this important session. He noted that the today's world faces a new kind of conflict-one that does not begin on the battlefield but in the digital arena, where narratives are distorted and truths manipulated, turning perceptions into weapons even before the first shot is fired.



nalist Muhammad Dilawar Chaudhry said that people must acknowledge their own mistakes, as individuals are

Addressing the seminar, senior jour- responsible for spreading content on social media..

said that reliance on authentic informa-

tion sources has declined, while social YouTube users and 49.4 million Facemedia usage continues to rise. She noted book users. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Ayesha that 66.9 million people in Pakistan use TikTok, followed by 55.9 million

At the end of the seminar, shields were

Mismanaged

ISLAMABAD: A massive traffic jam F-10 chowk due to construction work of Shaheen chowk un-



Decent Welfare Society hosts special dinner honoring Prof. Dr. A. R. Gatrad for humanitarian work

GUJRAT: A special dinner was held yesterday at Gymkhana by the Decent Welfare Society to honor Prof. Dr. Abdul Rashid Gatrad, recognizing his outstanding contributions to humanitarian and medical services. The event brought together an array of distinguished personalities from the fields of politics, healthcare, business, and media, highlighting the widespread respect and admiration for Dr. Gatrad's decades-long service to society.

The evening was graced by Mr. Waqas, representing Gujrat, along with Mr. Imran



Tariq Saleem, Ameer Jamaat- Naeem of Radio Awaz, Mr. e-Islami Punjab, Chaudhry Imtiaz Kosar of Trauma Nadeem Manzoor Bega, Aziz Center, Mr. Fiaz Bashir of ur Rehman Mujahid, Mian Decent Furniture, esteemed

Masood, former Minister Dr. Muhammad Safdar, Mirza

journalists, and dedicated staff members.

During the event, speakers highlighted Prof. Dr. Gatrad's extensive humanitarian initiatives, particularly his work with children suffering from congenital deformities such as clubfoot. The society also showcased its ongoing clubfoot treatment programs, emphasizing the plight of patients awaiting surgical intervention and corrective care. Attendees were informed about the challenges faced by families seeking medical support and the vital role of community engagement and fundraising in addressing these needs.

An Awareness Walk on Sugar Control Organized at Nishtar Medical College

👺 Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Sugar is the Root of all diseases that affect all parts of the body from the scalp to the toenails. According to experts, there is an urgent need for increased awareness and systematic practical measures to prevent it. According to the data released by the International Diabetes Federation, the sugar rate in Pakistan has increased to an alarming level. Keeping this alarming situation in mind, Vice Chancellor Nishtar Medical University Prof. Dr. Mehnaz Khakwani conducted an awareness walk at the main gate of Nishtar Medical College University under the supervision of Head of the Department of Endocrinology Prof. Dr. Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, Registrar Dr. Salahuddin Mahmood Rind. On this

occasion, Vice Chancellor of Nishtar Medical College and University Prof. Dr. Mehnaz Khakwani said that sugar is a silent Killer.



Sugar beyond a certain limit starts to hollow out the human body. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Mehnaz Khakwani Lead The Sugar Awareness Walk. participated

Walk MS Nishtar Hospital Dr. Rao cellor Nishtar Medical College University Amjad, Prof. Dr. Zahra Nazish, Prof. Dr. Tahir Chaudhry, Dr. Mehboob Qadir, Dr. Salahuddin Mahmood and Vice Chan-

Staff Officer Dr. Muhammad Wali and a large number of Medical students and Staff nmNurses participated.

Traders' Rights to Be Raised at All Forums: Zahid Bakhtawari

RAWALPINDI: A joint meeting of the Central Organization of TradersRawalpindi Cantt (Registered) and Anjuman-e-Tajran Cantt was held in Rawalpindi Cantonment to discuss local business issues, economic conditions, and future strategy for the traders of the area.

Addressing the participants, President of the Central Organization of Traders, Zahid Bakhtawari, said that unity within the business community was essential for protecting traders' rights and for ensuring commercial development in the city. "The problems of traders cannot be solved through words alone. Practical measures are needed," he emphasized.

He noted that traders in the cantonment had been facing difficulties for decades, while anti-business initiatives had further worsened the situation. Bakhtawari stressed the need for a collective and organized approach to counter such challenges. "Our goal is to solve long-standing issues related to taxes, encroachments, the sealing of shops, and the harassment of traders," he added.

Other participants included Sheikh Inayat Ullah, Nazim Butt, Saqib Raheem Khan, Farman Ullah Khan, Wajeeha Khan, Rafiq Bhattia, Imran Kayani, Chaudhry Imran Rasheed, Khan Wazir, Asghar Khan, Ayaz Butt, Mateen Khan, Malik Ahmed Awan, Shehzad Chaudhry, Jamshed Gakkhar, Raja Ibrahim, and Chaudhry Qaiser.

The meeting concluded with a luncheon hosted by President Zahid Bakhtawari in honor of the participants.

Anti-Corruption Office Achieves Major Success as Corrupt Officials Forced on the Back **FOOt**



👺 🛮 Zain Khan Malghani

MULTAN: Due to the dedicated efforts and consistent hard work of the head of the Anti-Corruption Establishment (ACE) Multan Office, corrupt government officials are being pushed onto the back foot. Following the clear instructions of Basharat Nabi, Director Anti-Corruption Establishment, Multan Region, the subordinate staff is carrying out their duties with responsibility and determination.

In a significant development, a trap raid was conducted by the Circle Officer Khanewal against Ghulam Hussain, an official of the Punjab Government Servant Housing Foundation (PGSHF), Khanewal. During the operation, a tainted amount of Rs 100,000 was recovered from the accused. Further legal proceedings are currently underway and will

Such actions not only help curb corruption but also strengthen the foundation of justice and merit. These efforts play a crucial role in restoring public trust in government institutions and ensuring transparency and accountability across the board.

Inauguration of Peace & Pieces - Volume 5 art exhibition at World Culture Festival

KARACHI: The international art exhibition "Peace & Piece - Volume 5" was inaugurated at the Ahmed Pervez Art Gallery, Arts Council of Pakistan Karachi by Minister Saeed Ghani, along with Arts Council President Muhammad Ahmed Shah on Thursday.

Icelandic artist Halldor Ragnarsson and Madagascan artist Mendricka Ratsima were also present. Artworks by international artists, as well as Pakistani artists Adeela Suleman, Moeen Faruqi, Qamar Siddiqui, Abdul Jabbar Gull, Ghulam Mustafa, Salman Farooqi, Tanveer Farooqi, Chitra Pritam, Imran Soomro, Abdul Malik Channa, Sajid Ali Talpur, Abid Aslam, Aqeel Solangi, Muhammad Ali Khan, Sajid Ali, Uzma Noor, Anum Ashraf, Ramsha Rabbani and Muhammad Owais, were showcased.

Speaking at the inauguration, Minister Saeed Ghani said that "Ahmed Shah is not an ordinary man—that is why such a grand festival has been organized. Bringing one thousand artists from 142 countries is no easy task. I once saw the Arts Council in ruins; today the whole world is talking about it. There is no cultural venue like the Arts Council Karachi in all of South Asia. This is the people's money being spent on the people."

He added that the Arts Council deserves a place in the Guinness Book of World Records and that Ahmed Shah should be nominated.

President Arts Council Muhammad Ahmed Shah said that artists from all fields—painters, musicians, actors, and singers—are participating in the World Culture Festival 2025.

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Himmat Cards For Special Students

hief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif announced to launch 'Himmat Cards' for special students, along with revamping Special Education Centers across the province. She also declared that a Center of Excellence for Special Students will be established in every district and transport facilities will be provided to all special education centers. Speaking at the inauguration ceremony of 'School Meal Program' for Special Education Students and Center of Excellence, she said that the Punjab government is not merely focusing on special individuals but investing in them so that they can become useful citizens. She added that establishment of Punjab's first government autism school is nothing short of a blessing. She paid tribute to teachers and special heroes to acknowledge their exceptional abilities.

Chief Minister Punjab commended Special Assistant for Special Education department Sania Ashiq and her entire team for turning the vision of Centers of Excellence into reality within a short span of one and a half years. She said that 28 districts already have Centers of Excellence, while remaining districts will be provided soon. She highlighted that a total of 313 institutions across Punjab will be upgraded to better serve special individuals. She emphasized crucial role played by parents of special children and remarked that serving special children is her foremost duty. She shared that her own family has a special member who brings immense joy to their home. She called special children "a source of blessings," adding that parents often face deep stress and anxiety due to their children's challenges. She added that she regularly reviews videos, photos and virtual inspections of Punjab's ongoing projects. She termed upcoming state-of-the-art Center of Excellence in Lahore a historic initiative. Thousands of special children are receiving education in Centers of Excellence in Layyah, Bhakkar, South Punjab, North Punjab and Central Punjab.

Chief Minister Punjab emphasized her commitment to redress issues related to parents, special children, education, health, roads, employment and soaring prices. "The Chief Minister's office is not a source of power or leisure; it is a huge responsibility," she added. She envisioned a Punjab where the government personally ensures that special children are brought to school.

Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif said that 'Himmat' Card aims to reassure parents that the Punjab government stands with them, adding that around 40,000 special children underwent health screening and 30,000 received treatment, enabling hundreds to regain their hearing ability.

Political Relations Are Always Founded Upon Mutual Interests

n the realm of global statecraft, ests, or mutual vulnerabilities. international relations are often predicated upon the implicit logic that "our association endures only as long as we both derive benefit from it." In other words, political alliances that appear to be amicable or based on shared objectives are, in most cases, the product of underlying compulsions. From this perspective, it is not incorrect to assert that political relationships are, in essence, another name for necessity.

To understand this dynamic, it is important to recall that in the academic study of international relations, several theoretical frameworks elucidate how states seldom operate on purely moral or ideological foundations. Instead, they prioritize national interest, security imperatives, and existential continuity. Within this discourse, the Realist school of thought in International Relations deserves special mention, as it considers states sovereign, self-interested, and constantly maneuvering to maximize their own strategic

Realism posits that states function in an anarchic international environment one in which no overarching global authority exists to legally or morally bind them. Consequently, states must safeguard their own security and interests independently. Within this context, diplomacy and alliance-building become mechanisms inherently tied to the contingencies of immediate strategic needs.

Furthermore, scholarship introduces the concept of "Alliances of Convenience," describing situations in which two or more states collaborate temporarily despite fundamental ideological divergences, often due to shared threats, overlapping inter-

Here, "compulsion" signifies that states frequently enter into relationships not because they genuinely choose them, but because they represent the "least undesirable alternative." Limited strategic options, heightened threats, insufficient resources, or complex regional dynamics force states toward partnerships that appear friendly on the surface but are, in truth, manifes-

For instance, a weak or middle-power state navigating Cold War or post Cold War geopolitical currents may align with a major power despite ideological incompatibility, simply to ensure its own security. The paucity Dr. Muhammad Tayyab of viable alternatives and the magnitude of threats convert such alliances from

tations of necessity.

friendships into contingent necessities. A prominent example is the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact (1939), in which Germany and the Soviet Union entered a non-aggression treaty. This agreement transcended ideological hostility between Nazi Germany and the Socialist Soviet Union revealing how temporary interests can supersede profound ideological conflict. The pact vividly demonstrates that political alliances are frequently forged under duress or strategic compulsion rather than philosophical harmony.

The academic discourse on "alliances of convenience" further indicates that when states face shared adversaries, defensive imperatives, or acute regional pressures, they are drawn toward temporary coalitions. Once the underlying need dissi-

in the contemporary global landscape. Numerous states construct strategic networks and partnerships not on the basis of absolute cooperation or sincerity. but according to immediate objectives, economic opportunities, regional security concerns, and shifting power equilibria. Thus, most political relationships

today are anchored more in pragmatism than in enduring moral or humanitarian values.

South Asia, Pakistan, and the Middle East offer abundant examples of states forming relationships driven by global realignments, economic dependency, military requirements, or regional

tensions. Consequently, even alliances that appear "friendly" may, beneath the surface, reflect internal and external compulsions.

From this analysis, several key conclusions emerge:

First, when political relationships are built on necessity, the element of trust becomes inherently fragile. As the alliance is tied to temporary interests, its dissolution becomes inevitable once those interests evolve. Second, states must contemplate not merely short-term benefits but also long-term national interests, sovereignty, ethical reputation, and the diversification of regional engagement. Such an approach elevates partnerships from mere necessity to enduring cooperation.

Third, the public must recognize that international alliances are influenced far

pates, the alliance weakens or collapses more by interests than by "friendship." altogether. The same pattern persists Understanding this dynamic fosters a more informed civic discourse and enhances expectations of transparency from political leadership.

From a theoretical standpoint, Realism teaches that moral considerations seldom dominate the conduct of states in the international system. When confronted with the imperatives of "threat, power, and interest," states often behave in ways detached from ideological consistency or value-driven principles.

Furthermore, the notion of alliances of convenience reinforces that partnerships are rarely "friendships" in the traditional sense; they are "strategic necessities." When necessity fades, so too does the partnership. Recognizing this inevitability prevents political relationships from being misconceived as emotionally permanent or ideologically sacred.

In summary, "political relations are always founded upon mutual interests." The overwhelming majority of global partnerships arise from the compulsions of circumstance, the pressures of contemporary realities, the magnitude of threats. and the demands of strategic interest. Although such an interpretation may seem stark or unsentimental, it represents the prevailing truth of international affairs.

Meaningful partnerships are those grounded not in mere necessity, but in mutual trust, long-term cooperation, and principled alignment. Only then can a political relationship transcend transactional utility and evolve into something genuinely substantive and credible. It is along this path that politics, national interest, and ethical considerations may finally converge in a harmonious equideological



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

Pakistan-Saudi Defence Pact: A New Era of Strategic Partnership in the Muslim World

Mehreen Akhtar

significant step in strengthening their defence and security cooperation was taken in September 2025 when Saudi Arabia and Pakistan signed the Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement (SMDA). A strong desire for greater collective security among Muslim nations is evident in the pact, which commits both parties to treat any assault against one as aggression against both. This partnership gives both countries a stronger voice in Muslim world politics by focusing on diplomacy, the economy, and regional peace, in addition to promoting peace.

This agreement gives Saudi Arabia a powerful military ally. Pakistan is the only nuclear state in the Muslim world and possesses one of the most highly skilled armies. Pakistan's defence proficiency and front-line military capabilities will be beneficial to Riyadh through this alliance, particularly at a time when U. S. engagement in the Middle East is waning. The SMDA offers Pakistan both economic and political advantages. It reinforces Islamabad's position as a regional balancing force and links it to Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030, which offers ignificant investment opportunities that can help expand Pakistan's economy. The agreement erves as an economic boost as well as a security measure. It encourages trade collaboration, military instructions, and the exchange of defence technology. Additionally, it can establish energy alliances that aid Pakistan in addressing its economic issues. The agreement reduces Saudi Arabia's reliance on Western support while advancing its defences. This partnership creates a balanced and independent power in the Gulf by uniting Muslim nations from future dangers and help

with nuclear power.

Every country has unique advantages that benefit the other. Saudi Arabia possesses stable finances, gold assets, and energy resources. Mecca and Medina, the two sacred Islamic towns, are located there as well, which gives it spiritual influence and moral leadership among Muslims. Comparatively, Pakistan has a highly developed defence industry, advanced missile technology, and a powerful, tested military. Its intelligence organisation, the ISI, is renowned for its worldwide capabilities, and its armed forces also provide training to soldiers from several Arab nations. Saudi Arabia and Pakistan are a perfect strategic combination because of their combined advantages. On a global level, the timing of this agreement is very crucial. It was signed not long after the Israeli invasion of Qatar, which made many Gulf tates realise that they could not solely rely on American security. This incident encouraged Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries to look for reliable Muslim allies.

Pakistan's strong military and friendly relations with the Gulf monarchs made it the natural choice. This indicates a new trend: Muslim countries are now attempting to establish collective security mechanisms rather than relying exclusively on Western powers.

Additionally, the SMDA facilitates further collaboration within the Muslim world. The Islamic Military Counter Terrorism Coalition (IMCTC), established in 2015 by former Pakistani army chief General Raheel Sharif, might serve as the foundation of a single Muslimdefence structure. The coalition, which now has 43 countries, is not particularly active. It might convey a powerful message of strength and power if it were expanded to other Muslim nations, like Iran. Furthermore, it might shield the largest monarchy and the only Muslim state in stopping Israeli aggression in Gaza, indi-

cating that the Islamic world can come together for justice and peace.

A "Muslim NATO", or unified defence system for Muslim nations, may eventually result from this, according to some experts. Such an alliance already has the groundwork in place; it just needs cohesion and capable leadership. This would provide Pakistan with more security upport and make it more significant diplomatically. It would help Saudi Arabia reduce its dependence on Western technology for defence and sustain its position as a leader in the Muslim world. Moreover, it would encourage the Islamic community to have a more independent security system.

But regional politics are also impacted by the accord. India, as well as Iran, is among the nations keenly monitoring this development. Their security estimates are altered by the tatement that "an assault on one is an assault on all." India would interpret it as a shift in Pakistan's defensive strategy, while Iraq would consider it a challenge to its hegemony.

Nonetheless, both Riyadh and Islamabad have made it clear that the SMDA is defensive rather than offensive, and that its goal is regional peace and advancement.

In brief, the Muslim world's strategy of collective security has entered a new phase with the igning of the Pakistan-Saudi Defence Pact. It demonstrates a willingness to improve inter-Islamic collaboration and lessen reliance on Western forces. However, how both nations carry out the deal will be the true test. It will iust be a symbolic gesture if it stays on paper.

However, a new and durable order of security for the Muslim world may begin if Saudi Arabia and Pakistan can establish genuine, cooperative defence structures founded on openness

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The Berlin Wall

nation is mentioned, it is impossible not to mention Hitler. He was the person who set out to conquer the world to make the German nation powerful and great, and to have it called the supreme nation in the world. But he did not know that there is another Power in the world that turns day into into a beggar and raise whom it wills from a of German reunification began. prison to become the king of Egypt. And that

Power is Omnipotent, and It does not need to toil for anything. It only says "Be," and it is. That is why Abu Turab (Ali ibn Abi Talib) had to say, "I recognized my Lord by the breaking of my resolves."

The man who became Chancellor of Germany in 1933 died, or committed suicide, in **Amir Mohammad Kalwar** April 1945, the final year of the

able to definitively determine the exact circumstances of his death. A person inherits hatred either biologically through genes, or the circumstances surrounding them in their childhood or youth make them rebellious. Who knows, if the one who had a passion for painting in his childhood had gotten admission to the Vienna School of Art in Austria, he might never have developed German nationalism and hatred for Jews. But that child tried twice to get admission to the Vienna School of Art in Austria but was not accepted. And it was from this point that a new Hitler was born, whose German nationalism and hatred for Jews ultimately culminated in the Holocaust.

Wall was one of those walls in human history that was built not just of bricks, but of ideologies, fear, and the disparity of power.

Today is November 9th, and it has been 46

hen Germany or the German of East Germany to prevent people from fleeing from East Berlin to West Berlin.

For almost 28 years, this wall stood as a symbol of a political and ideological division between East and West Germany.

In 1989, following the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and public protests, the government announced the opening of the borders. That very night, people took to the night and night into day; that can make a king streets, the wall was torn down, and the process

The fall of the Berlin Wall is considered a symbol of the end of the Cold

War and the beginning of a new era of freedom in Europe. After its construction, the Berlin Wall remained on the

pages of history for ten thousand, three hundred and fifteen days as a metaphor and symbol of the Cold War. During attempts to cross this wall from the Communist East, over

Second World War. History has still not been two hundred and fifty people embraced death through the bullets of the security forces. At the time of the wall's construction, every second citizen among those fleeing the Eastern sector was under twenty-five years of age.

It is a bitter truth that the young German generation of 1961 was born in an era of war, destruction, and bombing. Many children of this generation had never even seen their own fathers because they had perished on the battlefield. For the bright future of this generation, their elders nurtured them by forgetting the bitter past defined by war. The Berlin Wall was one of those walls in human history that was built not just of bricks, but of ideologies, fear, and the disparity of power. The fall of the Berlin Wall was not only Now, let's come to our main topic. The Berlin a symbol of German unity but also taught the world the lesson that freedom and truth cannot be imprisoned for long. In the United States, in 2001, President George W. Bush declared this day, November 9th, to be celebrated as World years since the fall of the Berlin Wall. This wall Freedom Day, and since then, this day has been was built on August 13, 1961, by the government observed as World Freedom Day.

New Uzbekistan: From Constitutional Reforms to Constitutional Stability 2025: A Year of Milestones

👺 A. Kh. Saidov

larly noteworthy that this year marks and national development. the 80th anniversary of the United At the anniversary 80th session of the General Assembly, the international community once again reaffirmed the need to transform the UN's work identifying opportunities to enhance efficiency, revising the procedure for implementing mandates, and exploring potential structural changes and program restructuring.

In 2025, the global community also celebrates the 60th anniversary of the transformation, which, in turn, calls for adoption of the first legally binding a theoretical understanding of constituhuman rights treaty, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination as well as the 30th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, which laid the foundation for the gender dimension of modern social and political life.

Human rights are an indicator of the progress of modern civilization. Unfortunately, ongoing global socio-economic crises, trade conflicts, climate change, and threats to food security continue to exert a profound impact on the state of human rights and impede progress toward achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

Today, New Uzbekistan is confidently advancing along the path of irreversible democratic reforms, pursuing a pragmatic foreign policy, conducting an open and active dialogue with the international community, and implementing large-scale reforms aimed at strengthening guarantees for the protection of human rights and free-

The 21st Century: The Constitutional Map of the World

We live in a world of constitutions shaped by rapidly changing dynamics and characterized by significant divernational identity, ease social tensions,

entury has witnessed an unprecedented wave of constitutional reforms constitutional law. and constitutional renewal worldwide. mately 60 new constitutions have been may be summarized as follows: adopted across the globe during this

period, parliaments have considered amendments to constitutions more he year 2025 is marked than 750 times. Practically no constiby an exceptional concentution in the world has remained tration of commemora- unchanged. In essence, contempotive and landmark anni- rary constitutions seek to reflect the versaries. It is particu- combined imperatives of globalization

Indeed, the possibility of introducing Nations and the 50th anniversary of amendments is a fundamental feature the Helsinki Final Act of the CSCE. of all written constitutions. One key characteristic of constitutional reform is the strengthening of national constitutional identity by enshrining fundamental values, above all, state sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the country, as well as the protection of family and childhood.

This intense global constitutional dynamism inevitably requires turning to the foundations of constitutional tionalism, modern constitutional legal thinking.

Understanding the Constitution presupposes not only theoretical interpretation but also its real implementation: the "Constitution in action." The primary goal is to build a constitutional

The development of a constitution has always reflected the main stages of the development of society and the

Encompassing virtually all aspects of national and social development, the Constitution determines the most generalized form of normative regulation. More often than other laws, including codes, the Constitution addresses society as a whole, its social strata, and the individual citizen.

A study of global constitutional transformations demonstrates a defining trend: the enduring need to adapt a country's Basic Law to the demands of modernity and to ensure its capacity to respond to emerging global and challenges.

The 21st Century: Trends in Global Constitutional Development

In addressing the challenges of an increasingly globalized world across various spheres of constitutional sity. Today, constitutions help form regulation, one inevitably encounters the broader question of legal underadapt human life to interaction with standing, particularly constitutional machines and artificial intelligence, interpretation. The profound transforand respond to natural and techno- mations occurring within the socio-economic structures and political life of The first quarter of the twenty-first individual states are, in one way or another, reflected in the evolution of

The principal trends of contempo-The empirical data are telling: approxi-rary global constitutional development far beyond the mere establishment protection of human rights and free-standing national practice and in posi-

comprehensiveness of constitu-



tional reforms, encompassing political, economic, social, cultural, and humanitarian domains, as well as the interconnections and mutual conditionality between constitutional reforms and broader modernization processes;

 expansion of the scope of constitutional regulation, including reforms of governance mechanisms and transitions in systems of government;

 development of constitutional space, strengthening legal sovereignty, and shaping the constitutional identity of the state:

 broadening of the catalogue of constitutional rights and freedoms, and enhancement of judicial guarantees for the protection of human rights;

· expansion of the powers of constitutional justice, including the introduction of mechanisms for direct individual access to constitutional courts;

globalization of constitutional lawmaking, manifested in the incorporation of universally recognized principles and norms of international law into national constitutions;

• environmentalization of constitutional development, coupled with the constitutionalization of the right to accessible, high-quality medical care;

• recognition and protection of digital rights, institutionalization of the information society, and legal regulation of cybersecurity;

• internationalization of constitutional development and the increasing influence of international legal norms. In the contemporary world, the

Constitution stands as one of the political and social stability and for supporting the sustainable development of civil society.

Modern constitutions extend branches of government or the defini-

tion of procedural frameworks. They have undergone a process of humanization, assigning central importance to the individual and to various social groups by incorporating bills of rights and fundamental freedoms as core elements of constitutional design. The success of constitutional reforms depends, to a significant extent, on the level of support they receive from diverse sectors of society.

Distinctive Features of the Constitution of New Uzbekistan

The United Nations emphasizes that "constitution-making is a sovereign national process, and for it to succeed, it must be led and carried out by the country itself. There is no single 'template' for constitutional models or processes, and national ownership must include the participation of state institutions, political parties, civil society, and the broader public."

The first distinctive feature of the most recent constitutional reforms in Uzbekistan is precisely the broad participation of the population. The amendments were drafted following an open and unrestricted public discussion, which ensured wide civic engagement and substantive debate.

The second feature concerns the constitutional and legal status of human rights institutions. In accordance with the Paris Principles and the recommendations of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, Uzbekistan has established national human rights institutions. It has become the fourth country in the world primary instruments for ensuring after Mexico, Morocco, and Egypt to enshrine the constitutional status of such institutions.

and regulation of relations among doms. The Vienna Declaration and tive international experience. Programme of Action called upon

action plans. To date, more than 150 adopted in 80 countries.

Since 2020, Uzbekistan has been Rights Strategy, which includes the introduction of a constitutional access to the Constitutional Court. A new Strategy to 2030 is currently under development, with priority given to safeguarding fundamental rights in accordance with the new Constitution.

The fourth feature concerns the formation of a culture of constitutional awareness among citizens. Within the framework of the UN World Programme for Human Rights Education, Uzbekistan is undertaking measures to strengthen human rights education across its educational institutions.

It is no coincidence that at the Sixth Congress of the World Conference on Constitutional Justice, held in Madrid in October 2025, participants called for the development of a culture of constitutionalism one in which judicial decisions are implemented in good faith and judicial critique remains constructive. Transparency, accountability, and sustained dialogue with social institutions and civil society serve to strengthen, rather than weaken, the independence of the judiciary.

Thirty Years of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan

This year marks the thirtieth anniversary of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan. It is worth recalling that as early as 1990, thirty-five years ago, the first law on constitutional oversight was adopted in Uzbekistan, establishing the Committee for Constitutional Super-

Over the decades of its existence, the Constitutional Court has developed a substantive body of constitutional jurisprudence. At the same time, this jurisprudence continues to evolve, a clear indication that the legal system remains dynamic, progressing in tandem with broader socio-political processes and institutions. In the context of the Court's thir-

tieth anniversary, particular attention should be paid to the recent amendments to the Constitutional Law "On the Constitutional Court", the foundations of which were laid by the 2023 helping to create and strengthen the constitutional reform. Crucially, the legal foundations for the country's amendments affecting the status of the The third feature is the strength- Constitutional Court and its procedural ening of guarantees for the effective framework are grounded both in long-

One major innovation is the intro-

states to adopt national human rights duction of the principle of exhaustion of domestic remedies as a prerequinational plans or strategies have been site for admissibility. Under this principle, applicants must first exhaust all available judicial remedies within implementing its National Human the national legal system before a complaint may be accepted for consideration. Although such a rule may complaint mechanism and expanding initially appear ambiguous or even restrictive with respect to access to constitutional justice, in practice it is aimed at enhancing the quality and functionality of the constitutional review mechanism. It ensures coherent operation of the entire judiciary and prevents the duplication of judicial

> A notable development in 2024 was the request submitted by the National Human Rights Centre to the Constitutional Court seeking interpretation of Article 86 of the Constitutional Law "On the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan." The Court clarified that the "day of completion of judicial proceedings" refers to the day on which the final judicial document is issued following the adjudication of a case.

Another significant enhancement of the Court's legal status concerns the expansion of its powers. Most prominently, the Court is now authorized to issue opinions on the constitutionality of questions submitted to a national referendum. This competence was successfully tested during the 2023 constitutional reform.

Based on thirty years of experience of the Constitutional Court, it is entirely fair to conclude that the legal formulas enshrined in the Constitution not only have profound legal significance, but also remain in continuous develop-

By applying and interpreting the Constitution, the Constitutional Court reveals not only the 'letter' but also the 'spirit' of its various provisions at each new stage of development, thereby adapting it to changing relations in society.

The thirtieth anniversary provides an important juncture at which to assess the interim results of the development of constitutional justice in New Uzbekistan. The Constitutional Court has demonstrated steadfast commitment to the fundamental legal principles embedded in the Constitution. ongoing development

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Somaliland Engages AlHuda CIBE to Develop Islamic Banking Regulations structuring of Sukuk as a sover- retail, corporate, and SME offer-

Spokesman Report

DUBAI, UAE: AlHuda Centre of Islamic Banking and Economics (AlHuda CIBE) is pleased to announce the commencement of a major strategic consultancy assignment with the Central Bank of Somaliland (BoS), marking a significant step toward establishing a fully developed Islamic banking and capital market ecosystem in the country. The inaugural meeting, held at the Central Bank of Somaliland headquarters, was attended by Mr. Muhammad Zubair- CEO, AlHuda CIBE FZ LLE UAE, Mr. Abdinasir Ahmed Hirsi, Governor, Central Bank of Somaliland, his willingness to create a sustain-Mr. Hamse A. Khaire-Deputy Governor, and Director of the aligns with Islamic principles, Public Debt Management Department Mr. Abdirahman Omar and stimulating economic devel-

During the meeting, Governor Mr. Abdinasir Ahmed Hirsi shared his perspective on this important initiative and highlighted the vision of the Central Bank of Somaliland for modern Islamic financial systems, he also added that Somaliland have a strategic vision to develop 100% Shariah-compliant banking and Financial System in the Country. the Director General of the Central Bank of Somaliland Mr. Yasin Jama Axmed also expressed his commitment for fostering a conducive environment to the growth of Islamic banking products development, he also affirm able financial landscape that promoting financial inclusion

opment across Somaliland land financial institutions.

The consultancy assignment entrusted to AlHuda CIBE encompasses a broad spectrum of interrelated developmental components. These include conducting extensive research and environmental assessments, designing a comprehensive suite of Islamic banking products, and guidance on Shariah governance framework. The work also covers the formulation of operational frameworks and manuals, capacity-building programs for banking professionals with pilot testing and recommendations, and the provision of ongoing Shariah advisory support.

A major area of focus within this assignment is the development of Somaliland's Islamic capital market, particularly the

eign and commercial investment instrument. Through this component, AlHuda CIBE will guide the Central Bank of Somaliland in establishing the regulatory and institutional foundations required for Sukuk issuance, capital market supervision, and long-term investment mobilization. This initiative is expected to significantly enhance Somaliland's ability to finance infrastructure, strengthen fiscal resilience, and attract both domestic and international investors seeking Shariah-compliant opportunities.

Simultaneously, the project places strong emphasis on Islamic banking product development, ensuring that financial equipped with modern, competitive, and fully Shariah-compliant ings. These efforts support the broader objective of promoting financial inclusion and fostering responsible economic development based on the principles of transparency, risk-sharing, and Islamic financing. AlHuda CIBE will undertake the development of Islamic banking operations for the Central Bank and its commercial bank separately, recognizing the unique regulatory and institutional needs of each.

Mr. Muhammad Zubair, CEO of AlHuda CIBE, expressed his commitment to supporting Somaliland in this landmark transformation and emphasized the importance of a well-structured Islamic financial system in institutions in Somaliland will be achieving sustainable economic responsible financial model. growth. He also mentioned that the Islamic capital market &



smooth development of Islamic Banking and Finance industry in

a stable, asset-backed, and socially Through this consultancy, Somaliland is strategically positioning

Sukuk are indispensable for the itself to harness these strengths, ensuring that its financial sector evolves in line with international best practices while main-Islamic finance continues to taining full Shariah compliance. demonstrate global relevance as AlHuda CIBE's technical expertise and global experience will play a pivotal role in shaping a modern, resilient, and inclusive Islamic financial ecosystem for the nation.

Building Resilience in Education through Advancing Disaster Resilient School Infrastructure

ISLAMABAD: UN-Habitat hosted a high-level gathering to highlight progress made in advancing disaster-resilient school infrastructure and to present the achievements of the Disaster Resilient School Infrastructure (DRSI) Project. This marks an important milestone in efforts to create safer and more resilient learning environments for children in Pakistan's

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has long been one of Pakistan's most affected provinces, facing repeated earthquakes, floods, and climate-induced hazards that have severely damaged school infrastructure. Many buildings constructed before the introduction of Pakistan's 2007

disaster-prone regions.

able due to the absence of seismic provisions. To respond to these challenges, the DRSI Project was initiated by UN-Habitat to improve the structural safety of schools through retrofitting, repair, and the upgrading of essential facil-

Building Code remained vulner-

This project was funded with 471 million Japanese Yen by the Government of Japan and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and jointly implemented by UN-Habitat and UNDP in close coordination with the Elementary and Secondary Education Department, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province, the initiative strengthened 150 schools across eight districts. The project improved the learning environment for 31,000 students,

including 13,595 girls, and rehabilitated 300 gender-responsive WASH facilities, including facilities in 66 girls' schools.

Speaking at the event, Mr. Jawed Ali Khan, Senior Advisor and Programme Manager at UN-Habitat, emphasized UN-Habitat's leadership in delivering safer school environments. He noted that the retrofitted schools now provide structurally stable classrooms, improved ventilation and lighting, and essential WASH services that allow children to learn with confidence and security.

JICA's Chief Representative, Mr. Naoaki Miyata, said this project

would contribute to enhance resil- across disaster-prone regions. oration is essential to ensure longience of primary, middle and high school buildings in disaster prone 8 districts, Buner, Swat, Malakand, Peshawar, Chitral Upper & Lower and Dhir Upper and Lower.

The Ambassador of Japan to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, H. E. Mr. Akamatsu Shuichi appreciated the collaborative effort and reaffirmed Japan's support to Pakistan's resilience agenda. He said that strengthening school infrastructure is a vital investment in protecting children and ensuring that education continues even in the face of natural disasters.

Mr. Hamid Mumtaz, Deputy Programme Manager at UN-Habitat, highlighted the urgent need to strengthen resilience in schools

Pakistan, UN-Habitat has guided areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in disaster risk reduction, safer recon- environments have strengthened struction, national guidelines for earthquake- and flood-resistant construction, and multi-hazard risk assessments, contributing to safer and more resilient learning environments for children across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The Secretary of the Elementary and Secondary Education Department, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, expressed appreciation for the support of the Government of Japan, JICA, UN-Habitat, and UNDP noting that the project has strengthened school safety in districts previously hit hard by earthquakes and floods. He emphasized that continued collab-

With two decades of experience in term resilience across the education sector. The improved school trust within communities and encouraged regular attendance. The National Disaster Manage-

ment Authority (NDMA) recognized the project as an important contribution to national disaster preparedness, stressing that resilient school infrastructure can save lives, reduce long-term losses, and ensure uninterrupted learning for children living in vulnerable areas.

The DRSI Project demonstrates how targeted investment in structural safety, WASH facilities, and resilience-building measures can bring children back to school and support equitable access to educa-

Bull & Bears PSX 100-Share

Index Fluctuation		
Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close	
165,373.31	163,188.53	
Day's High	Day's Low	
165,611.10	163,509.28	
Index Value	Change	
22,631,084,791	+2184.78	
Percentage	Time	
+1.34%	27 Nov, 2025 4:30 pm	
Europe: FTSE 100 Index		
Index Value	Change	
9,693.93	+2.35	
Percentage	Time	
+0.024%	27 Nov, 4:35 pm GMT	
USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average		
Index Value	Change	
47,427.12	+314.67	
Percentage	Time	
+0.67%	26 Nov, 5:00 pm GMT-5	
Asia Pacific: Nikk	ei Stocks Average	

Asia Pacific: Nikk	ei Stocks Average
Index Value	Change
50,167.10	+608.03
Percentage	Time
+1.23%	27 Nov, 3:45 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	182	187
Bahrain Dinar	745.6	754.5
Canadian Dollar	199.15	204.15
China Yuan	39.25	39.65
Danish Krone	43.15	43.55
Euro	326	329.5
Hong Kong Dollar	35.85	36.1
Indian Rupee	3.10	3.19
Japanese Yen	1.7850	1.8850
Kuwaiti Dinar	912	922
Malaysian Ringgit	66.5	67.1
NewZealand \$	156.15	158.15
Norwegians Krone	27.3	27.6
Omani Riyal	730.5	739.5
Qatari Riyal	76.55	77.25
Saudi Riyal	75.05	75.5
Singapore Dollar	215	220
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
UK Pound Sterling	371	374
US Dollar	281.5	281.6

Alibaba.com and UPS Pakistan Join Forces to Empower Pakistani Exporters with Advanced Logistics **Services**



Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Alibaba.com, a leading global business-to-business (B2B) e-commerce platform, today announced the collaboration with UPS Authorised Service Contractor in Pakistan to provide cost-effective and reliable logistics services for Pakistani exporters. This initiative aim to helping local Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) connect seamlessly to over 200 countries and regions, optimizing delivery speed, pricing transparency, and customer experience globally.

The collaboration comes as Alibaba. com continues to deepen its investments in Pakistan, achieving a nearly 50% year-over-year increase in new suppliers from April to September and a significant surge in online transaction scale, marked by a nearly 150% rise in monthly order volume compared to six months prior. Over 90% of Pakistani suppliers on Alibaba.com already leverage the platform's Trade Assurance service to secure transactions.

Berry Ma, Head of Pakistan Business at Alibaba.com, added: "By removing shipping obstacles and offering advanced logistics services, Alibaba.com is helping more SMEs in Pakistan reach customers around the world. This collaboration will make it easier for them to succeed in global markets and turn Pakistan's strong manufacturing and entrepreneurial energy into new export opportunities."

CCP Signs MoU with Russian Antitrust Authority

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) and the Federal Antimonopoly Service (FAS) of the Russian Federation have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to enhance bilateral cooperation in the field of competition policy.

The MoU was signed by Chairman CCP Dr. Kabir Ahmed Sidhu and FAS Deputy Head Mr. Andrey Tsyganov during the 10th session of the Russia-Pakistan Intergovernmental Commission on Trade, Investment, Scientific and Technical Cooperation. The signing marks a significant step toward deepening institutional coordination, promoting fair market practices, and strengthening economic ties between the two countries.

The MoU provides a structured framework for collaboration, including the exchange of expertise, best practices, and regulatory experience in areas such as cartel investigations, abuse of



dominance, merger control, deceptive marketing, and sectoral competition assessments. Under the agreement, both authorities will engage through regular meetings, consultations, workshops, expert exchanges, and joint research

FAS was established 35 years ago and operates with a significantly wider mandate compared to the CCP. It has nearly 1,000 employees at its headquarters, whereas the CCP has around 250 staff members in Islamabad. FAS also maintains independent regional offices that play a highly effective role in curbing cartelization and deceptive marketing practices. The CCP stands to learn a great deal from Russia's extensive regulatory experience, and both sides will hold joint sessions in the near future to deepen cooperation and knowledge sharing.

The cooperation is expected to pave the way for stronger regulatory coordination, enhanced enforcement capacity, and more competitive and consumer-friendly markets in both Pakistan and Russia.

MoU ceremony



Hemani Unveils Dr. Herbalist New Range of Functional Gummies in Karachi

Example 2 Commerce Desk

PAKISTAN: Dr. Herbalist by Hemani successfully launched its innovative new range of 11 functional wellness gummies in Karachi on 25th November 2025. The star-studded evening featured the brand's ambassador, cricket legend Wasim Akram, along with Founder and CEO Zohair Hemani, The event marked a significant milestone for a brand that is available in more than 87 countries worldwide and continues to champion simple, accessi-

Speaking at the launch event, Zohair Hemani shared his enthusiasm for the brand's latest breakthrough, "We're excited to launch our new range of 11 functional gummies with Wasim Akram, a partnership that reflects our commitment to simple, effective, and enjoyable wellness. With this launch, Dr. Herbalist is making daily nutrition easier and more approachable for every household."

As the official brand ambassador, Wasim Hemani and its new product line, "Partnership with Dr. Herbalist by Hemani to launch these new gummies range is truly exciting for me. I've always believed that wellness should be simple and delicious, entertainment circles, including Faysal



and these sugar-free gummies make daily Akram expressed his pride in representing utrition easier for everyone. I'm proud to be part of a brand that genuinely cares about people's health."

The launch event attracted notable names from Pakistan's business and

Quraishi, Behroze Sabzwari, Iqrar-ul-Hassan, Moin Khan, Maliha Rehman, Raheel Rao, and Junaid Akram, among others. Social personalities, celebrities, and wellness enthusiasts joined the celebration, creating a vibrant and engaging atmosphere.

TikTok expands AI transparency with new controls and education efforts copy

E Commerce Desk

PAKISTAN: TikTok has introduced a series of updates designed to help AI-created storytelling or people better understand, identify, and control their experience with AI-generated content on the platform. TikTok believes AI can inspire creativity, support discovery, and enhance safety when used responsibly and transparently. These updates aim to give the community clearer information and more choices about how they interact with AI.

A new control for AI-generated content will soon be Topics" feature. This setting interested" button.

will allow users to adjust how much AI-generated content appears in their For You feed. People who enjoy educational clips will be able to increase how often they see them, while others who prefer less AI content can reduce it. This tool is designed to help individuals customise their feed without removing the wide variety of creative content that makes TikTok unique. It adds to the suite of tools that help people personalise content recommendations and discover more of what they love like customizable tested within the "Manage keyword filters and the "not

Jubilee Life Insurance Supports the Digital Future as Title Sponsor of InsurTech 2025

E Commerce Desk

KARACHI: As Pakistan's

leading life insurance provider, Jubilee Life Insurance partnered with InsurTech 2025 as the Title Sponsor, facilitating the Summit's theme of marking "Pakistan's Insurtech Decade: Vision 2030". The event brought together industry leaders, innovators, and technology experts to explore the future of digitization, financial inclusion, and the growing influence of artificial intelligence in reshaping the insur-

signification of the insurance sector's commitment digital insurance evolution and supporting platforms Jubilee

that drive meaningful industry-wide progress.

Pakistan's insurance sector is undergoing a rapid shift, powered by rising internet penetration, a growing fintech ecosystem, and increasing customer expectations for seamless, tech-driven services. With digital payments crossing USD 14 billion annually The Summit serves as a and smartphone penetration surpassing 53%, the momentum for digital to accelerating Pakistan's transformation in financial services has never been

CCP and DRAP Sign MoU to Strengthen Cooperation

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Competition Commission of Pakistan (CCP) and the Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to enhance cooperation and strengthen oversight of Pakistan's pharmaceutical and therapeutic goods market through improved data and information sharing.

The MoU was inked by Salman Amin, Member CCP, and Dr. Obaidullah, Chief Executive Officer DRAP. The ceremony held at CCP's head office was witnessed by Member CCP Saeed Ahmed Nawaz, Aamar Latif, Director Legal Affairs

both organizations.

The MoU establishes a framework for closer coordination. Both institutions will share information, support joint enforcement, and strengthen monitoring of deceptive marketing practices, unfair competition, and misleading claims in the therapeutic goods and Over-the-Counter (OTC) categories. The agreement also covers digital data exchange, capacity building, and collaboration in research and policy

Speaking at the ceremony, Member CCP Salman Amin said the partnership will ensure fair market practices which help economy and protect DRAP, and senior officials from consumers. This collabora-

analysis.

tion is more imminent when online advertising and e-commerce have increased the risk of deceptive practices.

He said that the pharmaceutical sector has a direct impact on public at large and both institutions have to work together to ensure transparency and fair competition.

DRAP CEO Dr. Obaidullah said federal regulatory bodies operate under defined mandates but share common goals in certain domains. He noted that price deregulation and supply challenges require coordinated oversight. He added that harmonization and collaboration between institutions improve regulatory outcomes and help maintain



availability and fair pricing of essential medicines.

their commitment to implement the MoU through CCP and DRAP affirmed practical, joint actions that lated markets.

strengthen Pakistan's health-re-

Minister Khokhar unveils massive 55-day Sports Extravaganza Across Punjab

15 Tahir Amin Malik.

.LAHORE: In a significant development, Punjab Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Malik Faisal Ayub Khokhar has announced to organize historic mega sports event in Punjab in the first quarter of next year.

Punjab Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Malik Faisal Ayub Khokhar made this announcement while presiding over an important meeting of Punjab Sports Department at the National Hockey Stadium, Lahore.

Secretary Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Muzaffar Khan Sial, Director General Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry, SBP Vice-Chairman Salman Malik, Additional Secretary Sports Mian Usman Ali and other officials participated in the important meeting. The comprehensive plan of Mega Sports Activity 2026 was presented to the Provincial Minister Sports in a briefing.

While sharing more details of mega sports event, Punjab Minister for Sports



and Youth Affairs Malik Faisal Ayub mega sports event will be organized at Khokhar informed that the 55-day sports activities will continue from March to April 2026 across Punjab province. "Around 1.3 million athletes are expected to participate in the mega sports activity in which cash prizes worth crores of rupees will be awarded to top performing athletes".

Punjab Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Malik Faisal Ayub Khokhar further said that the competitions of

inter-tehsil, inter-district and inter-di-

sports activity". Affairs Malik Faisal Ayub Khokhar said

vision level. "The participating players

will be provided complete uniform,

playing kit, track suit, shoes, accommo-

dation and transport during the grand

for opening and closing ceremonies of mega sports event. Several sports stalwarts and other notables will be invited at these grand ceremonies".

Highlighting other major sports event, Punjab Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Malik Faisal Ayub Khokhar said that Lahore Marathon will be held in early part of next year and we are determined that this marathon will highlight positive and soft image of Punjab at the global level. 'CM Punjab Games will be organized on a large scale next year while a wide range of sports competitions will be conducted under the Under-16 Talent Hunt Programme".

Punjab Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Malik Faisal Ayub Khokhar said that the promotion of sports is the first priority of the government in accordance with vision of Punjab Chief Punjab Minister for Sports and Youth Minister. "Bringing the young generation towards healthy activities is our that the mega sports event will create a prime goal and Punjab Sports Departnew history of sports in the province. ment is taking effective measures to "Special arrangements will be made achieve this objective".

DG Sports Inspects Multi-Sport Preparation for National Games in Lahore

Sports Desk

LAHORE:. Expert coaches continued to impart modern training to Punjab athletes at multiple training camps being organised at various state-of-theart sports venues of Nishtar Park Sports Complex, Lahore.

Punjab Sports Department is conducting the training camps for the preparation of upcoming 35th National Games which are scheduled to be organised at Karachi from December 6 to 13.

Director General Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry visited weightlifting, kabaddi, hockey, archery, boxing and judo training camps to inspect athletes' training process.

Talking on this occasion, Director General Sports and Youth Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry said that a 20-member team of physiotherapists is also performing its duties to tackle any injury situation during training camps. players in the training camps under the male and female athletes will participate in the National Games". in the National Games with full preparation".

Director General Sports and Youth International Swimming Complex where



Affairs Punjab Khizar Afzaal Chaudhry said that best facilities are being provided to all participating players in the training their fitness and stamina. "Top class training is being given to the camps. "We are quite upbeat that Punjab athletes will clinch plenty of medals supervision of qualified coaches. Punjab's through their excellent performances techniques to win a point during a titions to improve their match fitness.

senior coach Rafi-uz-Zaman conducted competitions among the players to assess ized at Elite Training Centre where,

xpert coaches taught the players vital competitive kabaddi match. In this Likewise, Punjab's expert coaches also Dozens of athletes participated in regar, an exhibition kabaddi match was conducted training camps of judo, the swimming training camp at Punjab also played between the kabaddi camp weightlifting and archery for the prepa-

The wushu training camp was organbesides routine training, the male and Similarly, in the kabaddi camp, the female athletes were indulged in physical training session and practice comperation of National Games

Master Paints/Skywell reach main final of 11th Battle-Axe Polo Cup

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Master Paints/Skywell stormed into the main final while Indus Polo secured their place in the subsidiary final on the fourth day of the 11th Battle-Axe Polo Cup 2025, sponsored by TCL and held under the auspices of the Lahore Garrison Polo Grounds.

The tournament, featuring competitive fixtures and impressive displays of horsemanship, continues to draw strong interest from Lahore's vibrant polo community. Club Secretary Major Babar Mehboob Awan and other officials were present during the matches played at the Fortress Stadium Lahore.

The day featured two Ameri-



can-system pools, with each match cased outstanding teamwork. They victory against Diamond Paints/Din consisting of two chukkas. In the first edged Balochistan 4-3.5 in a thrilling Polo. The third match of the group

group, Master Paints/Skywell show- opener and later sealed a narrow 4-3

saw Diamond Paints/Din Polo defeat Balochistan 4-3.5. With two consecutive wins, Master Paints/Skywell comfortably booked their berth in the main final.

In the second group, Indus Polo dominated proceedings. They first outclassed Sula Polo in style and then overcame Imperial Polo to secure qualification for the subsidiary final in the event.

MATCH SUMMARIES

Group 1 - American System Master Paints/Skywell Balochistan 4-3.5

Master Paints/Skywell beat Diamond Paints/Din Polo 4-3

Diamond Paints/Din Polo beat

Balochistan 4-3.5 Group 2 - American System Indus Polo beat Sula Polo Indus Polo beat Imperial Polo

Malir Cantonment Gymkhana and Azeempura Gymkhana reach Quarter Final of S. M. Adil Zone-IV Inter Club Cricket **Tournament**

Sports Desk

KARACHI: Malir Cantonment Gymkhana and Azeempura Gymkhana qualify for the Quarter Final after beating their opponents in the S. M. Adil Zone-IV Inter Club Cricket Tournament at various Grounds.

The highlights of the days play was brilliant unbeaten Century by Ibad Khan 103 and equally good batting by Asad Majeed 86, Mudasir Abbas 82 and Ahsanullah 68.

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

Scores in Brief:

Malir Cantonment Gymkhana beat Gulzar Cricket Club by 6 Wickets. Gulzar CC 194 all-out in 34.2 overs. Absanullah 68 4x4 1x6, Muhammad Sohail 48 4x4 2x6, Hamza Akbar 21, Idrees Mirza 20. Abdul Rafay Malik 2/34, Khalid Khurshid 2/35, M. Zeeshan Bangash 2/36, Muhammad Talah 2/48.

In reply Malir Cantonment Gymkhana 197/4 in 23 overs. Ibad Khan 103 4x4 12x6 not out, Ishtiaq Ghouri 45 3x4. Later Ibad Khan of Malir Cantonment Gymkhana received the Markhor Player of the Match award.

In the 2nd Match Azeempura Gymkhana defeated Colony Gymkhana by 37 runs. Azeempura Gymkhana 268/8 in 35 overs. Mudasir Abbas 82 8x4 3x6, Sufyan Ghani 46 5x4 1x6, Ramish Shah 34 not out, S. Daniyal 27, Kamran Khan 27. Zain Ashraf 3/57, Jawad 2/33.

In reply Colony Gymkhana 231/8 in 35 overs. Asad Majeed 86 13x4, Abdul Saeed 45 5x4, Zain Ashraf 40. Usama Bin Sultan 3/38, Mudasir Abbas 2/37. After the end of the Match Mudasir Abbas received the Markhor Player of the Match award.

Hamza, Noor to face off in Int'l Squash C'ship final



Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Muhammad Hamza Khan and Noor Zaman would face each other in the final of the Chief of the Air Staff-Serena Hotels International Squash Championship here at Mushaf Squash Complex on Friday. In the semifinals played on Thursday, World No 101 Hamza

Khan defeated World No 85 David Bernet from Switzerland with a game score of 11-9, 11-13, 12-10 and 11-5. The match lasted for 55 minutes while, World No 43 Noor Zaman beat his country mate World No 135 Nasir Iqbal with a game score of 11-4, 11-1 $\,$ (Retd Hurt) in 08 minutes.

Pakistan Squash Federation (PSF) in collaboration with Serena $Hotels, is\ organizing\ the\ International\ Squash\ Championship.$ Apart from seven Pakistanis, a group of 17 world ranking players from Czech Republic, Egypt, Hong Kong-China, Japan and Malaysia are participating in the championship.

The tournament final along with the closing ceremony would be held on Friday (November 28) at 1500 hrs.

Aisam, Muzammil create history, move in ATP Challenger Tour semis



👺 Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistani duo of Aisam-ul-Haq Qureshi and Muzammil Murtaza created history on Thursday by moving in the men's doubles semifinals of ATP Challenger Tour, played at the PTF Tennis Complex here Thursday.

In the men's doubles, Aisam-ul-Haq and Muzammil Murtaza defeated Johan Nikles of Switzerland and Vadym Ursu of Ukraine 6-3, 6-7(5), 10-7, securing their place in the semifinals for the first time in Pakistan tennis history. This remarkable achievement makes them the first Pakistani duo to reach the semifinals of an ATP Tour event, a moment of immense pride for the nation and a significant milestone in Pakistan's tennis history.

Sri Lanka outplays Pakistan to move in Tri-Series final

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Sri Lanka outplayed Pakistan by six run in the 6th match of the Pakistan T20I Tri-Series and qualified for the final at Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium on Thursday.

Pakistan fell short as they were bowled out for 178 for 7 in the 20 overs. Chasing 185, Sahibzada Farhan (9) and Saim Ayub (27) got Pakistan off to a decent start, but Dushmantha Chameera's wickets of Farhan and Babar Azam (0) in quick succession put Sri Lanka back in the game. Fakhar Zaman (1) also left Pakistan struggling.

Salman Agha (63) and Usman Khan (33) steadied the innings, but Pakistan couldn't recover from the loss of key wickets. Mohammad Nawaz (27) and Faheem Ashraf (7) couldn't take



Sri Lanka's bowlers were led Eshan Malinga, who took two has qualified for the final, joining

by Dushmantha Chameera, who for 54. Pakistan's failure to chase hosts Pakistan.

Earlier, after put into bat, Sri Lanka's batting unit showed resilience in their first innings, posting a total of 184 runs for 5 in the 20 overs. Opener Kamil Mishara led the

charge with a brilliant 76 off 48 balls, striking 6 fours and 3 sixes. Kusal Mendis contributed 40 runs off 23 balls, hitting 6 fours and a six, before falling to Abrar Ahmed's flipper. Opener Pathum Nissanka started slowly, scoring 8 runs off 7 balls, before Salman Mirza's clever slower ball ended his innings.

Dasun Shanaka (17 runs) was run out on the last ball of the innings while Janith Liyanage remained unbeaten at 24 runs respectively, helping Sri Lanka to a competitive total.

Pakistan's bowlers struggled to contain the Sri Lankan batsmen, took one wicket each. Dushas Abrar Ahmed bagged two mantha Chameera was named Sri Lanka.



wickets for 28 runs while Player of the match. The final of Salman Mirza and Saim Ayub the T20I Tri-Series will be played on Saturday with Pakistan facing

Pakistan, Bahrain

to form teams for

collaboration

News Desk

MANAMA: Pakistan and Bahrain on

Thursday decided to establish joint

teams of relevant officials to chalk

out a roadmap for future collabora-

tion in the fields of finance, banking,

The bilateral ties and cooperation

were discussed in a meeting between

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign

and Bahrain's Minister for Finance

and National Economy Shaikh

Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar banking sector.

The meeting was held as a countries.

Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa here. central banks of the two brotherly

commerce and economy.

finance, commerce

The Spokesman

Meeting ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Power Division, Sardar Awais Leghari, and Russian Energy Minister, Sergey Tsivilev, co-chairing Pakistan-Russia 10th Intergovernmental Commission Meeting on Thursday. 10[™] SESSION OF PAKISTAN-RUSSIA

Pakistan, Russia seal key trade and energy deals at 10th intergovernmental commission

Example 2 Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The 10th Pakistan-Russia Intergovernmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation concluded successfulagreements and protocols across multiple sectors.

session

co-chaired by Pakistan's to expand bilateral trade, Minister for Energy Sergie Tsiviley.

commitment to a forwardlooking partnership aimed able energy, and hydropower ly in Islamabad on Thurs- at socio-economic developday, resulting in several key ment, regional stability, and enhanced connectivity.

During high-level talks,

Minister for Power Sardar promote exports, and Awais Leghari and Russian strengthen business-to-business engagement. Positive discussions were held in Both sides reaffirmed their the energy sector, covering oil, gas, LNG, LPG, renew-

reviewed progress on indus- media cooperation between trial cooperation, including the Associated Press of Pakiwas Pakistan and Russia agreed the upgrade of Pakistan Steel stan and Russia's Sputnik eral relations.

Mills, and explored collaboration on local insulin production.

Agreements on higher education and scientific cooperation are expected to be finalised soon.

In addition, memoranda of understanding (MoUs) The commission also were signed to enhance

foster collaboration in meteorology and conformity assessment.

Officials from both countries expressed satisfaction over the constructive talks, emphasising the potential of these initiatives to further diversify trade, strengthen technology collaboration, and deepen long-term bilat-

Pakistan, UAE reaffirm resolve to deepen strategic economic partnership

projects.

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Wednesday reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthening the strategic economic partnership between the two countries across multiple sectors.

The commitment was made during the call on meeting of the new Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to Pakistan, Salem M. Salem AlBawab Al Zaabi with Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb.

On the occasion, minister Aurangzeb reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to further deepening its fraternal partnership with the UAE and acknowledged the UAE's consistent support to Pakistan across multiple fronts, including trade, investment-to-government financing, and the UAE's

engagements with international financial institutions.

He noted the frequent highlevel interactions between the ment, remittances, govern- a testament to their close and

He emphasized that Pakicrucial backing in Pakistan's stan's economic policy direc-banking, logistics, and infra- and higher education collab-

tion was firmly oriented structure and encouraged toward expanding trade and attracting long-term investment, moving beyond tradileadership of both countries as tional support mechanisms.

> UAE investments in key sectors such as ports, digital

further participation from UAE sovereign funds, private sector entities, and multinational corporations. He high-He appreciated ongoing lighted Pakistan's significant potential in IT, AI, fintech,

Aurangzeb briefed the Ambassador on Pakistan's improving macroeconomic indicators, including stable foreign exchange reserves, declining inflation, a stronger currency outlook, and increased remittances, particularly from the UAE. He highlighted that Pakistan is now moving toward a growth-focused agenda centred on private-sector-led and investment-driven expan-

On the occasion, Ambassador Al Zaabi noted the deep historical linkages between the peoples of Pakistan and the UAE, highlighting the longstanding contributions of Pakistani professionals across sectors in the UAE, including banking, finance, defence, and

public administration. He underscored that strengthening bilateral ties, particularly in strategic, economic, and cultural dimenagriculture, minerals, logistics, sions, would be a key priority of his tenure.

FIA rejects rumours of arbitrary offloading, calls claims 'baseless' offload any passenger whose travel ISLAMABAD: The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) has urged citi-

zens to beware of fake, misleading and fabricated social media posts regarding the offloading of passengers, calling them an attempt to create panic and damage the agency's credibility.

that certain elements are spreading Attempting to travel with inadincorrect information on social media about passengers being details; Carrying unverified or offloaded without reason, which is completely baseless.

He clarified that FIA does not travel records.

documents are complete and whose purpose of travel is lawful, adding that passenger safety and transparency remain the agency's top priorities.

follow-up to the discussion between

Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif and

Prime Minister and Deputy Supreme

Commander of Bahrain, Prince

The discussion between DPM

Ishaq Dar and Shaikh Salman

focused on enhancing cooperation

Citing their significant progress

The two ministers also discussed

avenues of cooperation between the

in Fintech, Bahrain side offered to share its expertise with the Pakistani

Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

in the finance sector.

The official highlighted that passengers should strictly avoid: Travelling with fake or incomplete travel documents; Relying An FIA official said on Thursday on illegal or unverified agents; missible information or misleading suspicious documents; Travelling with invalid, expired, or illegal

Punjab bans petrol motorcycle-rickshaw production to curb smog

跨 Bureau Report

ban the production of petrol motorcycle-rickshaws as part of a major push to tackle smog.

The decision was taken during a meeting of the provincial antismog cabinet committee chaired by practices and improving waste segre-Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz on gation. Thursday.

The cabinet also approved a phased plan to gradually end the production of petrol motorcycles across the province. Under the new policy, government departments will only purchase electric or hybrid vehicles.

Another key measure includes a complete ban on washing vehicles LAHORE: Punjab has decided to at home using water, a step aimed at conserving resources amid rising pollution levels.

Officials further agreed to introduce colour-coded waste bins across Punjab, aligning with international

The chief minister directed relevant departments to ensure strict implementation of all decisions, saying the shift toward cleaner transport and better waste management is essential for reducing smog and protecting public health.

Sindh Assembly condemns Indian minister's remarks on Sindh

👺 Bureau Report

KARACHI: The Sindh Assembly on Thursday adopted a resolution against Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's remarks about Sindh as "delusional" and termed them a deliberate attempt to distort

The resolution stated that the Sindh Assembly "unequivocally condemns the Defence Minister of India's statement as delusional, inflammatory, and a deliberate distortion of history, made in violation of diplomatic norms and international law".

Speaking on the occasion, Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah condemned the Indian defence historical and cultural significance federal government raise the issue at



The resolution condemned the statements made by the Indian defence minister and his country's aggressive actions, particularly concerning the Indus River. The chief minister stated,

"The impression given by the Defence Minister of India is deplorable."

Murad Ali Shah underscored the contributions of Sindhi leaders to the nation's founding.

The Muslim League Sindh Chapter presented the Pakistan Resolution," he affirmed. "All of us who created Pakistan are sitting here. Pakistan was formed due to the sacrifices of our elders.

Murad Shah labelled the longserving Indian minister as panicked.

Cold snap hits Pakistan: Minimum temperatures fall across cities

👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Most parts of Pakistan will continue to experience dry and cold weather until the first week of December, the Meteorological Department said on Thursday.

Northern areas, including Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Kashmir, are expected to face severe cold during early mornings and nights.

In Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa plains, fog and smog will likely persist in the mornings and evenings, with intensity expected to increase in the coming days. Temperatures in northern regions

are forecasted to drop further over the next few days, while dry and cold nights will continue in Sindh and Balochistan.



minister's remarks, emphasising the of Sindh and demanding that the the international level. Published by: Almass Ayoub Sabir from Zero Point Printers Rawalpindi