Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, Jiang Zaidong, called on Deputy Prime Minister / Foreign Minister (DPM/FM), Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar and discussed matters of mutual interest here on Sunday. The DPM/FM expressed condolences over the tragic killing of three Chinese nationals in Tajikistan, near the Afghan border.



PML-N nominates Shah Ghulam Qadir as Leader of Opposition in AJK

PML-N Azad Kashmir has nominated Shah Ghulam Q

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Meeting

ISLAMABAD: President Asif Ali Zardari in a meeting with Egyptian delegation led by Dr Badr Ahmed Mohamed Abdelatty, Minister



President Zardari calls for greater investment with Egypt in diverse fields

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Egyptian Foreign Minister Dr. Badr Ahmed Mohamed Abdelatty called on President Asif Ali

Talking to him, the President underscored the historic ties between Pakistan and Egypt and conveyed Pakistan's desire to elevate the partnership across all domains.

Views were exchanged on matters of bilateral cooperation, regional stability, and the humanitarian situation in Gaza. The President appreciated Egypt's leadership and constructive diplomatic engagement on issues of regional importance.

The Egyptian Foreign Minister also held a meeting with the Chief of Army Staff, Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, at General Headquar-

ters. Discussions focused on defence and security cooperation, military exchanges, training collaborations, and regional peace and stability. Both sides reaffirmed the importance of continued high-level engagement between the armed forces of the two

Dr Badr Abdelatty also interacted with members of Pakistan's business community during his engagements in

Islamabad, highlighting the potential for expanding trade and investment partnerships.

The visit of the Foreign Minister of Egypt contributed to further strengthening the longstanding Pakistan-Egypt relationship and provided an important opportunity to deepen cooperation across all areas of mutual interest. Both sides reaffirmed their resolve to continue working together for regional

peace, stability, and shared prosperity. latty arrived here on Saturday on an

Earliar, Foreign Minister of Egypt Dr Badr Ahmed Mohamed Abdeofficial visit. During the visit, he will hold formal talks with Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar. The visit underscores the historic brotherly ties between Pakistan and Egypt and will

further deepen bilateral cooperation.

FM Aurangzeb pitches for private-sector-led and export-driven growth strategy

Sommerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb reform this measure reflects the Governprocess is underway successfully and staff-level agreement has been reached with the IMF. Addressing a press conference in Islamabad, Federal Minister for Finance & Revenue ter's economic vision. Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, reaffirmed the Government's strong sector-led and export-driven growth

significance of the recent abolition of the Export Development Surcharge (EDS)—a levy in place since 1991—as a major step taken by the Govern-

competitiveness. He noted that alongside governance reforms to the Export Development Fund (EDF), ment's resolve to empower exporters, encourage innovation, and shift decision-making authority to the private sector, in line with the Prime Minis-

Senator Aurangzeb pointed to encouraging improvements in key commitment to an inclusive, private- economic indicators. Between July and October: • Cement production grew by 16 percent, fertiliser by 9 The Minister highlighted the percent, petroleum by 4 percent, automobiles by 31 percent, mobile phone manufacturing by 26 percent.

He said Large-Scale Manufacturing overall increased by 4.1 percent



ment to strengthen Pakistan's export in the first quarter-a marked improvement compared to last year's contraction.

On the external sector, the Minister said that exports have grown by 5 percent overall. IT services exports are up 20percent+ year-on-year, recording back-to-back historic monthly highs.

Remittances are expected to cross \$41 billion, providing a stable cushion for the current account.

The \$3.5 billion Reko Diq syndication-led by IFC-has achieved financial close and is poised to generate nearly \$3 billion in annual exports He also noted improvements in the tariff regime, explaining that Pakistan is gradually phasing down longstanding protectionist measures to help domestic industries become internationally competitive over the next 4-5 years.

PTI's nexus with anti-Pakistan elements exposed: Ataullah Tarar

😂 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Ataullah Tarar on Sunday said that the nexus between Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and anti-Pakistan elements has already been exposed.

Addressing a Press conference in Islamabad, he said that the Pakistan Army's vigorous operations continue to prevent infiltration from Afghanistan.

The Federal Minister said that the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa govern-



ment's weaknesses are the reason for the increase in infiltration inci-

Ataullah Tarar said that indictments failed in over 4,000 terrorism cases in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

The Federal Minister for Information said that an effective prosecution system has not been created in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa despite the passage of 12 years.

He said the rumors being spread in the country are part of an organized conspiracy. Ataullah Tarar said the Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa knows how to raise

slogans outside Adiala Jail, but he doesn't know how to spell pros-

Ataullah Tarar said the nexus of political, terrorist, and criminal elements is the root of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa's failure.

Billions of rupees are lost to the treasury due to non-customs paid vehicles, money is being used for

The Federal Minister for Information said that Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government has completely failed to stop drug smuggling and illegal mining.

Chief of Defence Forces appointment notification to be issued after PM's return: Khawaja Asif



Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Defence Minister Khawaja Asif Sunday said the notification of the Chief of Defence Forces (CDF) appointment will be issued once Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif returns to the country.

In a post on X, the minister dismissed what he described as "unnecessary and irresponsible speculation," stating that the process for the appointment had already been initiated.

"PM is returning shortly. Notifi-

cation will be issued in due course of time. No room for any conjecturing Period!" he remarked.

under the 27th Constitutional

Amendment, replacing the office of the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC), which was formally abolished on November 27

Observers had anticipated the appointment notification to be issued concurrently with the abolition of the CJCSC office.

Additionally, November 29 carried particular significance as it marked the expiry of the original three-year tenure of the Chief of Army Staff (COAS), Field Marshal Asim Munir.

However, Asif's statement came as November 29 passed without any formal notification, leaving the country's first CDF The CDF post was created appointment pending until the

Bilawal says only PPP can rid the country of crisis

➢ News Desk

ISLAMABAD: PPP chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has said that the manifesto of Pakistan Peoples' Party was the welfare and uplift of the lower classes of the society, adding that only PPP can rid the country of crisis.

Addressing the 58th foundation day ceremony of the PPP in Karachi, Bilawal said that Ouaide-Awaam Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto laid the foundation of democracy and the 1973 Constitution. Bilawal said when Shaheed Zulfikar Bhutto was judicially murdered, then BB Shaheed took the agenda and mission forward

Benazir Bhutto fought against two dictators and was martyred in Liaquat Bagh. He said that after the death of BB Shaheed, President Zardari firmly upheld the banner of the PPP. Bilawal said that PPP



has set a history by getting global fame. Bilawal said PPP granted rights to Balochsiatn and gave an identity to the people of Khyber

He urged the all Opposition parties that, "We all have the right to have political differences among ourselves, but when it comes to Pakistan, let us all unite and confront our opponents". Bilawal said PPP was the only political party that was doing positive politics. He said PPP can get the country out of the current crisis.

Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi reviews major traffic projects in Islamabad

😂 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Sunday visited T-Chowk Flyover, Shaheen Chowk Underpass, and Faizabad Interchange remodelling projects underway in Islamabad. He reviewed and expressed

satisfaction over the progress of work on the three projects. The Minister directed

to complete the projects be completed at the earliest possible time. Mohsin Naqvi said that the passengers coming

from the twin cities and Punjab will also benefit from the T-Chowk flyover. He said the completion of are completed while the asphalt these projects will significantly improve traffic flow and reduce traffic pressure.

He gave instructions to convert Loop One and Loop Two to three lanes to further improve traffic flow at Faizabad Interchange.

Chairman CDA Muhammad Ali Randhawa gave a detailed briefing to the Minister about the projects. He said 80 percent of the

work on the T-Chowk flyover is complete, it will be opened for traffic next month

The Faizabad Interchange



Project Poles Foundation has been completed. He said that RCC walls work is in progress.

Members of CDA, the deputy commissioner, the additional deputy commissioner, and other high-ranking officials were also

present on the occasion.

Reporter: Awais Kiyani

Late Night Visit: AJK Prime Minister reviews healthcare facilities at DHQ Athmuqam

Bureau Report

NEELUM: Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Faisal Mumtaz Rathore, paid a late-night visit to the District Headquarters Hospital, Athmugam. He was accompanied by Senior Minister Mian Abdul Wahid Advocate and Minister for Public Health & Population Welfare, Syed Bazil Ali Naqvi.

During the visit, the Prime Minister inspected various departments, including the Emergency Department, and inquired about the healthcare facilities being provided to patients. He received a detailed briefing from the Medical Superintendent of DHQ Hospital Athmuqam, Dr. Sardar Sajjad Hussain, regarding the deployment of doctors, nursing staff, and paramedical personnel.

The Prime Minister directed the preparation of a feasibility report for at the hospital. He also announced a 100-bed hospital. the upgradation of DHQ Hospital



establishing an operative Smart ICU Athmuqam from a 60-bed facility to assured that a heating system and addi-indicated that specialist doctors and

Additionally, the Prime Minister for the winter season. He further the hospital in the near future.

tional fuel funds would be provided medical officers would be appointed at

58th Founding Day of PPP

ISLAMABAD: Secretary General PPPP Syed Nayar Hussain Bukhari, Incharge Central Secretariat Syed Sibt-ul-Haider Bukhari alias Sibti Shah, Senator Shireen Rehman, Central Minority Leader Rashid Chauhan, Raja Shakeel Abbasi Advocate and others cutting the cake on the occasion of the 58th Foundation Day of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) at the



PPP Celebrates 58th Foundation Amid Renewed Vows to Bhutto's Legacy in Mirpur

Bureau Report

MIRPUR: In accordance with the directions of Chairman Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Bilawal Bhutto Zardari, the 58th Foundation Day of the Pakistan Peoples Party was celebrated across Pakistan and Azad Kashmir, including Mirpur district. Party workers renewed their pledge to uphold the principles laid down by the Founder of the Party, Quaid-e-Awam Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, on 30 November 1967, vowing that they would make every sacrifice necessary to fulfill his mission.

These views were expressed at a ceremony organized by PPP District Mirpur to mark the Party's 58th Foundation Day. The event was presided over by PPP Mirpur District President Yasir Mumtaz Chaudhry, while the Minister for Kashmir Cause, Arts and Languages, Ms. Nabila Ayub



Habib Jarral performed the duties of stage secretary. The ceremony was also addressed by Chaudhry Farid Anwar Advocate, Zulfiqar Zulfi, Raja Khan, and former Minister Chaudhry Iftikhar Ahmed, Shahid Rathore, Adil

Afsar Shahid attended as chief guests. Shah, former Minister Chaudhry Afsar Shahid, PPP District President Yasir Mumtaz Chaudhry, and others. A cake-cutting ceremony was held to mark the occasion.

and Languages Ms. Nabila Ayub Khan said that Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto placed the Kashmir liberation struggle at the forefront of the PPP's priorities and pledged to fight for Kashmir's freedom for a thousand years. She reiterated that PPP and the Kashmir cause are inseparable. She informed participants that two key PPP leaders-former Prime Minister Chaudhry Abdul Majeed and President Azad Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry-could not attend due to illness, and she urged party workers to pray for their speedy recovery, describing both leaders as invaluable assets to the Party and the

A large number of office-bearers and workers from PPP, PSF, PYO, and the PPP Women's Wing attended the ceremony. PPP Central Leader Raja Iftikhar Ahmed led the crowd in gathering, enthusiastic slogans.

AJK PM Conveys Best Wishes to Newly Elected All Kashmir Newspaper Society Leadership

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Raja Faisal Mumtaz Rathore, has congratulated the newly elected President of the All Kashmir Newspaper Society (AKNS), Sardar Zahid Tabsum, on assuming office. He also extended felicitations to Vice Presidents Nisar Kayani and Abid Abbasi, Finance Secretary Ijaz Khan, and Information Secretary Dilawar Bukhari.



The Prime Minister expressed confidence that under the leadership of Sardar Zahid Tabsum, AKNS will continue to promote responsible journalism, strengthen media standards, and work effectively for the welfare of media professionals in Azad Kashmir. He reiterated that journalism remains the fourth pillar of democracy and emphasized his government's unwavering commitment to press freedom.

Prime Minister Rathore reaffirmed that the Government of Azad Kashmir will fully cooperate with AKNS to address challenges facing the print media and will take concrete steps to further strengthen the Society's institutional role.

Offering his best wishes to the newly elected AKNS leadership, the Prime Minister said he is certain that the new team's dedication and vision will contribute significantly to the professional and financial uplift of the newspaper industry. He added that the government regards a free and responsible media as its sincere partner and will extend all possible support.

The election of Sardar Zahid Tabsum is widely seen in journalistic circles as a recognition of experience, commitment, and service to the media fraternity.

PPP workers mark Foundation Day with Tribute to Zulfigar Ali Bhutto's Legacy



👺 Kiran Asim

LARKANA: On the auspicious occasion of the 58th Foundation Day of the Pakistan Peoples Party, Safdar Ali Abbasi, President Pakistan Peoples Party Workers and Naheed khan, Political Assistant to Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto and followers of Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto pay our deepest tributes to the unmatched legacy of Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, a leader whose vision, courage, and commitment to democracy and to the people completely transformed the political landscape of Pakistan.

Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto dismantled the entrenched culture of the elite by bringing politics from palaces to the streets of Pakistan, and ultimately to the doorstep of every ordinary citizen. He restored the neonle's sense of dignity and self-respect through the historic slogan of "Roti, Kapra aur Makan", symbolizing the basic rights of every individual. Under his leadership, the labourer, women, farmers, and students were empowered politically and socially, giving voice to those who had long been unheard.

Legal Education declared vital necessity at Charsadda Institute Launch

跨 Tariq khan Yousafzai

CHARSADDA: Renowned legal expert and President of the District Bar Association Charsadda, Advocate Mujib ur Rahman, has said that legal education is a vital need of the time and a basic necessity for every citizen, so that



all individuals may be fully aware of the Constitution and laws of the country. He expressed these views while addressing the inaugural ceremony of The Charsadda Institute of Legal Studies, Nasta.

The ceremony was also addressed by District Public Prosecutor Charsadda Sangeen Shah Advocate, President Bar Association Tehsil Tangi Ibrahim Advocate, and Director of The Charsadda Institute of Legal Studies Muhammad Israr.

During the event, the institute's Principal, Officer Khan Advocate, gave a detailed briefing on the objectives behind establishing the institution and stated that its purpose is to provide quality legal education to the youth of the region. The speakers said that legal education forms the foundation of any civilized and organized society. It not only plays an important role in preparing future lawyers, judges, and legal experts, but also helps ordinary citizens understand their rights and responsibilities.

Pakistan Peoples Party Celebrating The 58th Foundation Day in Multan

👺 Quratul Ain Asim

MULTAN: Pakistan Peoples Party's 58th Founding Day Observed in Multan, under the auspices of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Multan City and District, a ceremony was held at the Press Club on the occasion of the PPP's 58th Founding Day, presided over by City President Malik Naseem Labar. PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zard-

via a live speech.

The special guests and speakers at the event included "Syed Ali Haider Gillani (Parliamentary Leader, Punjab Assembly), Syed Ahmad Mujtaba Gillani (Former MPA), Khawaja Rizwan Alam (Senior Vice President, South Punjab)", Malik Naseem Labar (Host), Khalid Hanif Lodhi (Divisional President), Rao Sajid Ali ari addressed the office bearers (District General Secretary),

District President), Khawaja Imran (City Secretary Informa-

Chaudhry Yaseen (District Secretary Information), Mian Manzoor Qadri and Sajid Khan Baloch (Senior Vice Presidents, City), Razia Rafique (Senior Vice President Women Wing, South Punjab), Mirza Nazir Baig (Senior Vice President Ulema Wing), Haji Shahid Raza Siddiqui (Former Ticket

and workers present at the event Habibullah Shakir (Former Holder), Haji Khalil Raan, Allah Bakhsh Bhutta, Aslam Bhatti (City Vice Presidents), Haji Amin Sajid (Deputy General Secretary, City), Nisheed Arif Gondal Advocate, Sheikh Saleem (Tehsil General Secretary),

Rana KTG (Tehsil Secretary Information), Qazi Munawar (Divisional President Labour Wing), Abida Bukhari (City

President Women Wing), Malik Iftikhar Ali, Malik Ramzan Kamboh, Abdul Rauf



Lodhi, S Shahzad George, and others. Raheel Anjum, Malik Imdad Jhooley Laal, Tariq Shad, Nazir Kathia, Haji Tahir, Malik Nasir

speakers affirmed that on the Kamboh, Ali Mushtaq Baloch, Day, the Pakistan Peoples Party country.

reaffirms its commitment to its In a joint statement, the guiding principles and its resolve to make Pakistan a democratic, occasion of its 58th Founding progressive, and prosperous





Namaz Timings

EMERGENCY

FINIEIZOFIA I
Rescue (Police)15
Bomb Disposal 15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/
Islamabad1122 & 10
Emergency Ambulance 1122 8
& Rescue Services 445112
Motorway Police9266044
Motorway Police 9270601-20

Women Police Stations

Islamabad	9222590	
Rawalpindi	9270601-20	
ENOI	IIDV	

ENQ	JIR I
Edhi Ambulance	115
PIA Flight Info	114
PIA Cargo	9280979
Railway Inquiry	117
Railway Exchange	9270831-5
WASA Rawalpindi	5555489

HOSPITALS

1100111	
CMH	5611111
MH	561116
MH	561116
Cantt Hospital	9270907-11
DHQ	5556311-4
RGH	9290301-7
Holy Family	9290322-7
PIMS	9261170-79
Polyclinic	9218300-09
Shifa International	4603666

DEDADTMENTS

DEPAR	IMENIS
CDA	9221334-43
CDA	9208301-04
Met Office	9250360-6
RDA	5555864
TMA	5770886
Cantonment Boa	rd 9270151-3
Islamabad Metro	politan
Corporation	9209224
Potohar Town	9209224
Rawal Town	5773343

Indiscriminate campaign against smugglers will be continued. Collector Taimur Kamal Malik

FAISALABAD: Collector-

Majid Majid

ate of Customs Enforcement Sargodha under the supervision of Collector Taimur Kamal Malik and with the full support of all officers and staff continued an indiscriminate campaign against smugglers in all four corners o the Collectorate and foiled several smuggling attempts during the last 24 hours. A detained NCP Prius on M_14 Two raids were conducted on the warehouse of Dajal Bhakkar of Sarai Muhajir Organization, foreign cigarettes worth one crore were recovered while C. ASO Faisalabad detained two persons including foreign cigarettes, Chinese salt, skimmed milk bags and glutamine powder. D. ASO Sahiwal intercepted the vehicle which was carrying 48,000 litres of solvent while the invoice indicated 24000 litres and it was being sold in Sahiwal. The Collectorate is fully committed and determined to continue the anti-smuggling campaign targeting its own interests irrespective of malicious propaganda. It is worthwhile to add that this does not aggregate the overall performance of all the accounts in any way match with any other previous round.

Beaconhouse Concludes SOT XIX with Powerful Conversations, and a Call for Collective Action

LAHORE: The second day of SOT Events Edition XIX opened with the Beaconhouse Distinguished Alumni Awards, presented by the Beaconhouse Old Students Society (BOSS). This annual celebration recognises the outstanding achievements of Beaconites across diverse fields. Ata Tarar, Federal Minister of Information & Broadcasting, and Mian Mujtaba Shuja-ur-Rehman, Finance Minister Punjab, presented the awards, honouring Beaconhouse alumni who have made remarkable contributions to their professions, communities, and beyond.

The day also featured a compelling line-up of speakers, including Sarah Ahmad, MPA Punjab & Chairperson, Child Protection & Welfare Bureau, Government of Punjab, who lauded Beaconhouse for consistently providing a national platform where social issues are addressed with honesty, and a commitment to positive change. She noted that people, experts, and policymakers come creativity, and collective action.

together to confront challenges and imagine better futures.

Other prominent speakers included Ali Azmat, Mekaal Hassan, Tahira Syed, Humayun Bashir Tarar, Daniyal Raheal, Badar Khushnood, Naveed Shahzad, Dr Moeed Yusuf, Fahad Mirza, Deepak Perwani, Nasim Zehra, Tamkenat Mansoor, Hajra Yamin, and Amber Rahim Shamsi, among many others. Their conversations spanned urgent issues and topics from the humanitarian crisis in Palestine, to child protection, self-esteem, entrepreneurship, art, music, cultural identity, and global development. These conversations showcased SOT Events' role in widening public understanding and encouraging critical

As SOT XIX wrapped up, Beaconhouse reaffirmed its commitment to nurturing dialogue that pushes boundaries and prepares society for the complexities of tomorrow. With its long-standing dedication to accessible, future-focused discourse, Beaconhouse continues to SOT creates a rare space where young unite communities around learning,



KARACHI: Pakistani Christians community wearing Santa Claus dresses participating in a Christmas peace rally ahead of the celebration of Christmas, in the Provincial Capital.



DC Mela reviews preparations for polio campaign

Zafar Chishti

TOBA TEK SINGH: Under the vision of Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif, efforts to eradicate polio are ongoing. In this regard, an important meeting regarding the polio campaign was held in Toba Tek Singh, presided over by Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Mela. The meeting was attended by the ADCG, assistant commissioners and officers from relevant departments. District Health Officer (DHO) Dr. Faizan Arshad briefed the meeting, stating that during the polio December 15 to December teams and 106 fixed teams of the health teams. Deputy



dren under the age of five drops. He added that 82 UC district achieved over 100% medical officers, 355 area of the target, which reflects

the campaign. He noted that

18, a total of 4,33,838 chil- will perform duties during Commissioner Umar Abbas Mela directed all departments will be administered polio in the previous two rounds, the to extend full cooperation in the polio campaign and ensure $\,$ complete implementation of campaign scheduled from in-charges, 1,916 mobile the excellent performance all arrangements, including the micro-plan.

Pakistan's culture, traditions and values are admired across the world," says Asma Butt

ISLAMABAD: A grand threeday "Pakistan Cultural Festival" was organized at the Pakistan National Council of Arts (PNCA) in Islamabad, under the joint collaboration of Dolphin Communication, Stiva and PNCA, to showcase and promote Pakistan's cultural heritage. Attractive and distinctive stalls featuring traditional Pakistani cuisine, clothing and jewelry were set up, drawing a large crowd from Rawalpindi and Islamabad. A significant number of participants from various professional backgrounds, including renowned artists, attended the festival. The Qawwali and Bhangra Night



Deputy Attorney General Hafza Bukhari Advocate, who

added colour and excitement was the chief guest, congratu- culture is not only ancient but lated Asma Butt on successfully organizing the cultural its essence. Former Deputy

also unique and beautiful in festival, saving that Pakistan's Speaker of Azad Kashmir,

Shaheen Dar, and acclaimed singer Naseer Raja were also

The guests appreciated the efforts of Ms Asma Butt, Chief Executive of Dolphin Communication, for hosting such a successful cultural celebration, stating that culture is the true identity of a nation and that similar activities should be held regularly in the future.

Asma Butt expressed her gratitude to all the attendees and stated that Pakistan's cultural values are a symbol of national pride. She emphasized that institutions should join hands and continue to invest their energy in promoting cultural initiatives and organizing such events.

DEO Rawalpindi celebrates service of departing officials

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Retiring officers are the pride of our institution and their services can never be forgotten," said former DEO Rawalpindi,

A ceremony was held at a local banquet hall in honour of the officers who retired between November 2023 and November 2025. Shields were presented to the retiring officials in recognition of their services.

The event was attended by CEO Education Rawalpindi, DEO Secondary Dr. Abdul Waheed, Divisional Director Secondary Dr. Anila Hasan, Divisional Director Elementary Najma Asif, Additional Director Elementary, DEO (EMM), DEO (WEE), and a large number of Deputy

The ceremony was organized under the supervision of Dr. Tariq Mahmood Qazi, Principal PECTAA Islamabad. The reception and organizing committee included Dr. Gul Ahmed, Abdul Malik, Tariq Shaheen, Abdul Khaliq, Sajjad Ahmed, Syed Asad Bukhari, Nadeem Asif, Waheed Afzal, Habibullah, Shazia Sharif, Noreen Raja, Saima Noreen, Rashida Faiz, Rubina TV and Faiqa. Concluding the ceremony, Ms. Rubina Raouf expressed her gratitude to all participants and guests.

Prem Union Delegation Embarks on Key Sindh and Karachi Tour to Address Railway Worker Grievances



S Abdul Maiid

FAISALABAD: A delegation of the Prem Union led by Sheikh Muhammad Anwar will leave for a tour of interior Sindh and Karachi on December 3. The delegation will include Secretary General Khair Muhammad Tonio, Chief Organizer Khalid Mahmood Chaudhry, Deputy Chief Organizer Junaid Khurram, Deputy Secretary Information Muhammad Ashraf Hoti and others. In the first phase, labor conventions and organizational meetings will be held in Sukkur and Rohri, in which labor issues and organizational situation will be reviewed. In the second phase, labor conventions and organizational meetings will be held in Hyderabad, Kotri and Karachi to review the situation. Programs will be held under the chairmanship of Divisional President Akhtar Abbasi in Sukkur and Divisional President Raja Abdul Manafin Karachi. Sheikh Muhammad Anwar said that the Prem Union has decided to take action to solve the problems of railways and railway workers by being organized and united, above all prejudices and affiliations, and to take its right from the government and railway administration. The stepmotherly treatment of railways and railway workers will not last long. He has appealed to the railway employees of Mehran Valley and Karachi to participate fully in these programs and come out in the field for their rights so that their voice can reach the higher houses.

Mushaal Mullick seeks support to save Yasin Malik from gallows

LAHORE: Mushaal Hussein Mullick, wife of jailed Kashmiri Hurriyat leader Yasin Malik, has warned that only a few days remain to save him from the gallows

She urged the public to stand with her and support the movement for Yasin Malik's release.

Speaking to the media, Mushaal said the imprisoned Hurriyat leader is being denied essential medical treatment and that his life remains in grave danger inside the jail.

She said every movement that began from Lahore had achieved success in the past. Referring to the Pahalgam incident, she said Indian "state terrorism" was visible to the entire world, adding that Prime Minister Narendra Modi was acting like a "madman" targeting Kashmiris.

Mushaal questioned why the International Court of Justice took up the Kulbhushan Jadhav case but has not initiated proceedings regard-

She said that despite the temporary ceasefire between Pakistan and India, New Delhi "can do anything at any time," warning that India aims to eliminate Hurriyat leadership.

Appealing to Pakistanis and the global community, she urged people to raise their voice for Yasin Malik, saying Modi had turned occupied Kashmir into a "graveyard." She warned that if anything happened to Yasin Malik, the entire region could be engulfed in flames.

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Smoke-emitting vehicles to face heavy fine

he Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency Islamabad (Pak-EPA Islamabad), under the Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, has warned owners of smoke-emitting vehicles of stringent action across the federal capital, cautioning that any vehicle found releasing excessive emissions will face strict punitive

In a statement issued on Sunday, Pak-EPA Director-General Ms. Nazia Zaib Ali said the agency has intensified its enforcement operations as part of ongoing efforts to curb vehicular pollution, which she described as a major contributor to deteriorating air quality and recurring smog episodes in Islamabad.

She said enforcement teams are carrying out regular inspections on major roads, intersections and high-traffic corridors to identify vehicles emitting excessive smoke. Violators would face on-the-spot fines, confiscation of vehicles, or both, depending on the severity of the offence, she added.

Ms. Ali reminded the public that driving a vehicle emitting smoke beyond permissible limits — particularly the thick black smoke from poorly maintained engines — constitutes an environmental crime under federal environmental laws.

"Let me be very clear: smoke-emitting vehicles will not be allowed to operate in Islamabad under any circumstances," Ms. Ali warned. "This is not just a regulatory matter — it is a public health emergency. Vehicular smoke is poisoning the air our children breathe. We will take every lawful measure, including heavy fines and confiscation, to stop this environmental crime.'

She said the agency's heightened vigilance stems from growing alarm over the increasing number of vehicles—particularly diesel buses, trucks, wagons, Qingqi rickshaws and motorcycles—that continue to ply roads without proper maintenance, releasing hazardous emissions that harm both the environment and human health.

Vehicular emissions remain a major source of outdoor air pollution and heat-trapping carbon emissions in urban centres. The smoke released from vehicles contains harmful pollutants such as particulate matter (PM2.5 and PM10), nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide and unburnt hydrocarbons, all of which degrade air quality and contribute to smog formation.

Particulate matter, especially PM2.5, penetrates deep into the lungs and can enter the bloodstream. Long-term exposure increases the risk of chronic respiratory diseases, heart conditions, stroke and premature death. The World Health Organization has repeatedly stated that air pollution is among the top global environmental health risks, causing millions of premature deaths each year.

Islamabad's winter months typically bring stagnant air and temperature inversions that trap pollutants close to the ground, intensifying smog episodes. Vehicular smoke, when combined with dust and industrial pollutants, forms thick layers of toxic air that reduce visibility and trigger respiratory illnesses.

A Lone Gunman Sparks Trump's War on **Legal Immigrants**

Qamar Bashir

the story Donald Trump wanted to tell about a "safe and peaceful" capital exploded in a hail of bullets. Two members of the National Guard, Specialist Sarah Beckstrom and Staff Sergeant Andrew Wolfe, were on routine foot patrol when an Afghan-born gunman walked up and endured delays, and opened fire in a sudden ambush that stunned the entire nation. The attack was quick, brutal, and merciless. Beckstrom died the next day, and Wolfe continues to fight for his life. It in 2024 did we finally was an attack that pierced the heart of the security narrative Trump had been promoting, especially after deploying journey reflects the more than two thousand National Guard troops across Washington, D. C., in a show of restored order.

The shock to the system was immediate. Television screens filled with images of uniformed soldiers bleeding on downtown sidewalks in full view of the White House. What was meant to be proof of law and order became a terrifying reminder that chaos needs only one crack to break through. Very quickly, the identity of the attacker transformed the discussion from crime prevention to national identity.

For Afghan evacuees, the consequences are direct and devastating. Tens of thousands remain in legal limbo in Pakistan, the Gulf, and elsewhere, waiting for visas. Many served U. S. forces, risked their lives, and were promised safety. Now, because of one man's descent into violence, their futures are frozen. Trump's new directives also cast a long shadow over immigrants worldwide, including those who spent decades waiting for lawful entry. Fami-

noon, just two blocks every document, passed every interview, dates now see their dreams threatened overnight.

My own family is among those who waited almost twenty years for a lawful, transparent immigration process.

American relative, repeated paperwork, bureaucratic hurdles, and shifting immigration quotas. Only arrive as legal permanent residents. Our commitment millions

make to follow the rules, respect the system, and contribute to American society. And yet today, even people like us — legal, vetted, documented — find ourselves under the shadow of suspicion because of one man's crime.

Security failures deserve investigation. Policies deserve review. But collective punishment is neither justice nor strategy. The attacker passed multiple layers of security screening, worked alongside U.S. agencies, and seemed to deteriorate quietly while navigating a life of legal uncertainty and psychological distress in a new country. His actions were his own. To transform that into a blanket indictment of millions is a political choice, not a security necessity.

This instinct toward collective punishment has shaped some of the darkest moments of modern history. After 9/11, the United States invaded Afghanistan and Iraq, killing hundreds of thousands, displacing millions, and reducing entire societies to rubble, even though the

individuals. In Libya, Syria, Lebanon, from the White House, and waited patiently for their priority and Palestine, entire populations paid for crimes they did not commit.

On 7 October, Hamas militants carried out a brutal attack that killed Israelis. Instead of targeting only the perpetrators, the retaliation turned We began in 2007, sponsored by an into the collective punishment of an

entire civilian population in Gaza. More than seventy thousand people were killed. Seventy percent of Gaza's residents became homeless, and many now face death from winter cold, hunger, and exposure. Instead of punishing those who committed

the crime, an entire people paid the price. This same principle — punishing the innocent for the actions of the guilty — is now echoing across America's immigration debate. Interestingly, human rights often vanish the moment U.S. strategic interests are invoked, and the victims are left with the consequences.

Trump's anger is understandable on a human level. A young woman in uniform is dead. Another soldier may still die. His promise of security has been shattered in the most public and humiliating way possible. But leadership is not defined by anger; it is defined by what anger is allowed to unleash. Justice demands that the killers and any accomplices be punished fully and swiftly. It does not demand that millions of unrelated immigrants - in Kabul, Karachi, Nairobi, or Washington — be treated as guilty by association.

If America now shuts its doors to lawful immigrants, rescinds visas, freezes green-card approvals, and destroys the

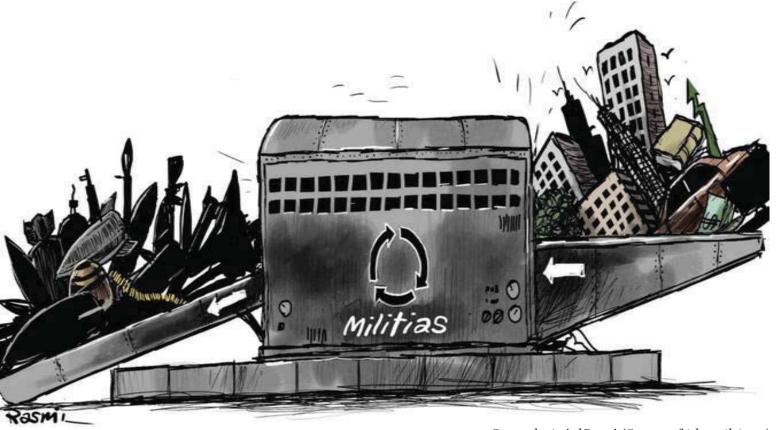
n a gray November after- lies who followed every rule, gathered attacks were carried out by nineteen hopes of families who followed every law, it will not be making itself safer. It will be abandoning the principles that once distinguished its moral claim to leadership. The United States has always been strongest when it recognized the difference between a criminal and a community. That line is now dangerously close to being erased.

It is, of course, the duty of any government to protect its citizens and to learn from failures. The public has a right to know whether Operation Allies Welcome missed warning signs in Lakanwal's background, or whether mental-health problems went unaddressed. But the emerging picture is not one of negligence; it is of a man who passed extensive biometric, biographic, and intelligence checks, worked with U.S. agencies, and then unraveled in the shadows of a new life.

In the coming weeks, investigators will uncover more about the gunman's motives, background, and state of mind. Politicians will shout, the public will divide, and courts will be asked to intervene. But underneath all of this lies a single question that tests the values of the nation: Will America punish the guilty or the innocent? One path leads to justice. The other leads to fear, prejudice, and betrayal of the very ideals engraved on the Statue of Liberty.

For the sake of the young soldiers who bled on the streets of Washington, and for the millions who still believe in the promise of America, one can only hope that reason, not rage, finally prevails.

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

Kabul's Manufactured Airstrike Allegations: A Forensic Look at a Narrative Built on Evasion

ganda clusters is another forensic indicator of coordination. Indian disinformation networks, particularly those operating through anonymous amplification botnets, have a known history of exploiting Afghan sentiment to shape anti-Pakistan narratives. Their sudden synchronized amplification of Kabul's claim—without evidence, without verification, and without dissent-mirrors documented patterns observed during previous Afghan-Paki-

stan tensions. Digital forensics often reveals shared metadata patterns, coordinated posting intervals, and identical message templates. These signatures do not belong to organic users; they belong to networked influence operations.

One must also consider Kabul's repeated refusal to accept Pakistan's proposal for joint verification and ground-based investiga-

tion teams. This is the clearest forensic red flag. A state confident in its claim welcomes verification because it strengthens its moral and diplomatic standing.

Muhammad Akram Choudhry

Further complicating Kabul's posturing is the geopolitical pressure now converging on Afghanistan. Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Russia, and Iran have all expressed concerns—some publicly, many privately-about Afghanistan's failure to restrain transnational militant groups. These states, keen to stabilize the region and protect their own emerging economic corridors, have grown weary of Kabul's assurances that never translate into actions. Under this diplomatic weight, Kabul needs political cover. It needs to portray itself as a besieged state rather than a negligent one. Hence the urgency of crafting an external threat narrative.

The investigative reality, however, is far less

he involvement of Indian propadramatic than Kabul's claims yet far more troubling. The structures in the Khost-Bermal belt are not civilian homes in the traditional sense. They are hybrid dwellings used as logistical nodes, resting points for fighters, smallscale munitions depots, and safehouses for field commanders. The lines between civilian and militant infrastructure in these zones are blurred by design. The Taliban's own governance model, which depends on tribal-based accommodation, allows militants to operate in spaces where families also reside. This co-loca-

tion strategy provides militants cover while creating plausible deniability for Kabul. But co-location also means that when a militant safehouse explodes internally—due to faulty explosives, storage mishandling, or internal rivalry—the structure looks superficially like a "civilian home." Kabul leverages this ambiguity to frame

In forensic conflict analysis, such ambiguity is not unusual; it is weaponized. Groups like ISIS-K, TTP, and JuA often deliberately embed their assets within civilian structures to maximize political backlash after accidental or targeted strikes. Yet Kabul, instead of acknowledging this dangerous practice, exploits it to deny responsibility for hosting militants. When Pakistan points out these hybrid structures, Kabul responds with emotional appeals rather than structural corrections.

The path to resolving these tensions is both simple and difficult: Afghanistan must dismantle militant infrastructure within its borders. It must recognize that allowing TTP and JuA sanctuaries is not merely a security lapse-it is a breach of international responsibility. It must move beyond the political convenience of blaming Pakistan for every explosion

triggered by its own negligence. The longer Kabul relies on falsified narratives, the more isolated it becomes diplomatically and the more deeply entrenched its internal fractures grow.

For Pakistan, the direction remains steady. It continues to insist on verification, transparency, and a rules-based approach. It demands only what any state would demand: that its neighbor prevent cross-border attacks launched from its soil. Pakistan has no reason to strike civilians; it has every reason to target terrorists. Kabul's inability-or unwillingness-to distinguish the two cannot become the basis of regional insta-

The alleged Khost incident is, therefore, not merely a question of one explosion. It is a window into a broader pattern: a state overwhelmed by internal militant entanglements, unable to control its own factions, fearful of international scrutiny, and increasingly dependent on narrative manipulation to mask its security failures. Kabul's accusation is not evidence of Pakistani aggression; it is evidence of Afghan insecurity. And as long as Kabul continues choosing narrative over responsibility, emotional imagery over forensic truth, and propaganda over partnership, the region

will remain hostage to instability. The world must see this episode not as an isolated claim but as part of a larger pattern-a pattern of evasion, denial, and misdirection by a state unwilling to confront the militants it shelters. Stability in South and Central Asia cannot be built on such foundations. It requires honesty, verification, joint mechanisms, and above all, the political courage to confront uncomfortable truths. Kabul still has an opportunity to choose that path. But its fabricated airstrike allegation suggests it fears the truth more than the instability that denying it will continue to generate.

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Cultural Erosion and Identity Conflict in Balochistan

Muhammad Sameer

alochistan, the largest province of Pakistan by area, is a land full of history, traditions, and natural resources. Yet, it remains the least developed and most politically unstable region of the country. At the heart of its troubles lies a problem that is less visible than poverty or militancy, but equally powerful. This is the issue of cultural erosion and identity conflict.

When people feel that their language, customs, and way of life are slowly being lost or suppressed, they develop a sense of alienation. That alienation, if left unaddressed, easily turns into resentment and in some cases even violence. The story of Balochistan is not only about gas fields, seaports, and geopolitics. It is also about ordinary people who struggle to keep their culture alive and demand recognition of their identity in the wider state struc-

tity conflict is serious. The first impact is the possible loss of heritage. Without conscious preservation, ancient songs, crafts, and stories risk disappearing forever. The second is the alienation of youth. With no strong cultural roots or opportunities, many young Baloch either migrate abroad or fall into despair and militancy.

The third impact is political instability. Cultural grievances often translate into protests, insurgencies, and continuous mistrust between the centre and the province. Finally, all these issues become a hindrance to development. No project in Balochistan, whether related to minerals or trade, can succeed unless

the local people feel respected and included. Still, the problems are not impossible to solve. There are ways to reduce cultural erosion

and identity conflict. One important step is the promotion of language and education. The Balochi language should be introduced as a subject in schools and universities. Writers, poets, and historians must be supported through grants and platforms. Inclusive development is another key. Locals must benefit directly from resource projects, and employment quotas for Baloch youth in economic initiatives can give them a sense of ownership. Equally important is

political dialogue. The state must engage in meaningful talks with nationalist groups instead of only treating the issue as a matter of security. Reconciliation is the only way to build trust. Strengthening cultural institutions can also help. Museums, festivals, and cultural centres can provide platforms for heritage to flourish. Finally, there is a need for respect for identity. Recognising the Baloch identity as an integral part of Pakistan's diversity will not weaken unity; it will strengthen it by building

a multicultural federation. In conclusion, cultural erosion and identity The impact of cultural erosion and iden- conflict in Balochistan are deeply connected. When culture weakens, identity becomes insecure, and when identity is insecure, conflict arises. For decades, the province has suffered from violence, poverty, and mistrust. But behind all these challenges lies a very simple human desire: the wish to be respected and recognised for who you are. Balochistan does not only need roads, ports, and pipelines. It also needs cultural revival, political trust, and social justice. Only then can the people of Balochistan feel like equal partners in Pakistan. Protecting their cultural roots and addressing their identity concerns can transform the province from a land of conflict into a land of peace and pride. The writer is BS student in Defence and Strategic Studies at Quaid-e-Azam University. He can reached at sameerbaloch.nhi01@gmail.

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Scientific Findings and Policy Recommendations Unveiled as IGHD Annual Conference 2025 Concludes in Karachi

KARACHI: The IGHD Annual Conference on Climate Change and the Built Environment concluded today after two days of high-level scientific presentations, policy dialogue, and cross-sector collaboration aimed at strengthening Pakistan's resilience to the climate crisis.

Hosted by the Aga Khan University's Institute for Global Health and with Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Pakistan, the conference brought together experts in architecture, engineering, environmental sciences, public health, urban the threat rising sea-levels posed planning, and policy to examine how to settlements along Sindh's coast-Pakistan can best protect itself in a line; significant adaptation gaps rapidly changing world.

presenters shared new evidence on infrastructure; and the strains existing rising sea levels along Karachi's coast- on health systems with evidence line, climate-resilient housing prototypes from Sindh, indigenous design solutions, heat-resilient health systems, and data-driven adaptation strategies several promising solutions, such as

ings painted a detailed picture of urgent threats facing communities and the opportunities available for action.

"The Future is with the young people in the audience, people in their 20s and 30s who are starry-eyed and not cynical - who believe the world can be changed. We need to give them the opportunity, from universities like LUMS, Aga Khan University, and Jam Shoro University who have ideas and knowledge about Development (IGHD) in collaboration new technologies," urged Chief Guest Dr Musadik Malik, Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination.

Researchers especially highlighted in unplanned settlements that face Throughout the conference, extreme heat, water scarcity, and poor showing increasing climate-linked illness and limited resilience capacity.

Among these revelations emerged

for vulnerable populations. Their find- innovations in rural housing including featuring earthquake- and heat-resilient designs piloted in Matiari and interior Sindh, and community-led adaptation models demonstrating the effectiveness of indigenous techniques when aligned with scientific evidence.

"The research shared over these past two days demonstrates what is possible when communities, scientists, and policymakers work together," said Professor Zulfiqar A. Bhutta, Founding Director of IGHD, highlighting the central role of evidence-based collaboration. "Our goal now is to translate this evidence into action across Pakistan."

The conference concluded with a national policy panel featuring leading experts from academia, government, and international development, producing a set of priority recommendations for climate-resilient infrastructure, housing, and health systems.

"AKU is committed to advancing climate research that directly informs Shahabuddin, President of the Aga Khan University, emphasizing insti-

practice and policy," said Dr Sulaiman tutional commitment. "The insights generated here will help strengthen Pakistan's climate readiness for years

reaffirms AKU's leadership in driving withstand a rapidly changing climate.

multidisciplinary, evidence-based solu-The IGHD Annual Conference tions to help strengthen communities to



Ch. Shafay Hussain Visits RCCI, announces New Industrial Estate along Rawalpindi Ring Road

Commerce Desk

RAWALPINDI: Punjab Minister for Industries and Commerce Chaudhay Industries and Commerce Chaudhry Shafay Hussain has announced that a new industrial estate would be constructed near the Rawalpindi Ring Road on the demand of industrialists. Due to the improvement of industrial infrastructure, domestic and foreign investors are preferring Punjab for investment. Manufacturing of mobile phones is going to start Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce commercial potential. and Industry (RCCI). The minister directed immediate improvement of the link road to Rawat Industrial Estate. Minister Shafay Hussain said that Rawalpindi, the third-largest where electricity will be provided to zones planned along its route. He



in Punjab in the next six months, the city in Punjab after Lahore and Faisminister said during his visit to the alabad, holds immense industrial and

> Highlighting government initiatives and priorities, the minister informed that a grid station has already been built in the Bhalwal Industrial Estate,

industrialists at rates lower than market prices.

Earlier, President RCCI Usman Shaukat briefed the minister on RCCI's ongoing initiatives, especially the Rawalpindi Ring Road project and the proposed economic and industrial highlighted that these zones would significantly boost commercial activity and accelerate industrial growth. He added that relocating existing terminals and markets from the city would help improve traffic flow. Emphasizing a long-standing demand, he urged the immediate construction of the access road to the Rawat Industrial Estate, which would help operationalise more than 500 industrial units.

Group Leader and Former President Sohail Altaf added that high taxation and rising energy prices have greatly increased the cost of doing business. He stressed the need for the government to impose Section 4 along the Rawalpindi Ring Road to acquire land without delay, warning that prices would escalate further once the project

The importance of audit reports in government institutional transparency and the role of PAC...

parency and accountthe system of nature and nature. In graphs, which are a reflection of finan- the Auditor General is not to punish the democratic and public system of cial regulations and the world, the assembly, that is, the administrative perforhouse and public representatives, have mance. been given importance. If they want to Meaning of audit parawork for the correctness of the system graph. and for its betterment, they have been given the right in the constitution on is actually a parathe basis of public representation. graph included in the Another way of doing this is to think annual report of the of parliamentary committees and Auditor General, in public accounts committees in the which irregularities, democratic and parliamentary system. On this basis, these parliamentary or institutional and government performance. They have been given the right to audit transparency and financial honesty. Which are listed below in order, what are the functions and

The main objective of the Public ensure transparent and systematic

ccountability, trans- accountability of the government's budget and use of public funds. In ability are mentioned this regard, the committee from the world but also in various departments on audit para-

"Audit paragraph" lack of transparency

public accounts committees identify in the expenditure or planning of any government department.

This paragraph indicates whether the money was used for the right illegal payments are then made into purpose, in the right way and at the right time or not?

objectives that fall under this category. Role of the Auditor General.

The Auditor General of Pakistan is Accounts Committee (PAC) estab- the highest financial watchdog of the the Sindh Assembly, which conducts a lished by the Sindh Assembly is to country, who conducts annual audits of federal and provincial departments.

plans and expenditures of each institution and prepare a report, in not only in the law of time to time seeks clarification from which every irregularity is listed as an "audit paragraph". The purpose of

anyone, but to ensure reform of the financial system, compliance with regulations and conservation of

Role of DG Audit. In each province or sector, the Auditor General is represented by the DG Audit (Director General

or legal violations have been identified Audit), who conducts field audits. DG Audit teams examine project evidence, contracts, bills, payments and reports. Those that reveal significant errors or "audit paragraphs".

Work of PAC.

Rehmatullah Buriro

The Public Accounts Committee is a powerful parliamentary committee of detailed review of audit reports.

It seeks clarification from the

His teams review the accounts, concerned department on each audit report. If an error is found, it issues recommendations to recover the amount or take action against the responsible officer. Through this process, both the accounting and accountability of public resources are strengthened.

Purpose and importance.

The main purpose of the audit report is to strengthen the impression of transparency, accountability and good governance in every government institution. These reports remind us that public money is a trust, and every institution has to be accountable to the public representatives for its use. The Auditor General, DG Audit and PAC together create a system that guarantees financial integrity and good governance. If this system is implemented seriously, not only will resources be saved, but a new standard of transparency and efficiency can also be established in development projects. The Public Accounts Committee submits a report to the Assembly on whatever work or performance it performs on a perfor-

Curtain Raiser-ISSI's flagship annual Dialogue Forum to focus on "Re-imagining South Asia"



he Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) will be holding its annual flagship Dialogue Forum, the "Islamabad Conclave", on 3-4 December 2025. Marking its 5th Edition, the Conclave's thematic focus this year is on: "Re-imagining South Asia: Security, Economy, Climate, Connectivity."

The Islamabad Conclave has, in recent years, evolved into a premier Track 1.5 initiative, convening senior members of Pakistan's leadership alongside eminent scholars, academics, practitioners, and area experts from within the country and abroad. The Conclave provides a platform to reflect on regional and global developments, evaluate their all-encompassing implications, and suggest forward-looking policy pathways for Pakistan. At a time when geopolitical flux, economic uncertainty, climate vulnerability, and connectivity deficits are reshaping the strategic landscape, the Islamabad Conclave aims to foster informed debate and propose innovative, cooperative solutions.

South Asia, today, stands at a decisive crossroads. The receding unipolar moment and the rise of multi-polarity have intensified major-power competition, heightened regional fragilities, and trans formed traditional and non-traditional security domains. Longstanding unresolved disputes, nuclear brinkmanship, transnational terrorism, climate-induced disasters, and low levels of economic integration continue to constrain the region's vast potential. Within this overall context, the Conclave's central theme is divided into five focused sub-themes: (i) Regional Security Order Amid Evolving Multi-polarity; (ii) Emerging Strategic Security Challenges; (iii) Transnational Terrorism and Emerging Security Challenges in South Asia; (iv) Economy and Climate Change; and (v) Regional Connectivity in South Asia: Multilateral Pathways for Collective Growth.

Following the Inaugural Plenary, each sub-theme will be taken up in separate Working Sessions featuring distinguished speakers from $\,$ Pakistan and abroad with diverse expertise, enriching the discourse with academic depth, practical experience, and policy relevance. The Concluding Plenary will draw together the central insights and recommendations emerging from the deliberations.

"This year's Conclave would be richer in scope, depth, and level of participation," stated Director General ISSI Ambassador Sohail Mahmood. He added that renowned academics, practitioners, and thought leaders would share their perspectives on how South Asia must navigate the complex contemporary challenges and find opportunities to build a future of hope, progress and prosperity. "Essentially, this is an exercise in thinking together — re-imaging South Asia in the key realms of security, economy, climate, and connectivity", he concluded.

The Islamabad Conclave is now well-recognised as a cornerstone of Pakistan's think-tank-based Track 1.5 policy dialogues. Each edition has expanded the Forum's intellectual and policy footprint. The Conclave in 2024 focused on "Pakistan and the Evolving Global Order." The 5th Edition aims to further elevate this growing legacy by offering nuanced analyses, proposing actionable strategies, and contributing to a more stable, connected, and prosperous South Asia.

Through this platform, ISSI remains committed to promoting dialogue, advancing Pakistan's foreign policy objectives, and supporting efforts toward cooperative regional solutions.

Foundation Day and Bilawal's Leadership

n Pakistan's political history, different from traditional power elites, Party (PPP) stands as one of the counacross all four provinces as well as Azad Kashmir and Gilgit-Baltistan. On 30 November 1967, PPP was founded at Lahore under the leadership of Quaide-Awam Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. After 58 years, the party's political relevance, public popularity, and national narrative have not only survived, they have grown stronger with time. At its core, and progressive party that has resisted dictatorship in every era and sacrificed thousands of workers and leaders for the protection of democratic institutions.

When Zulfikar Ali Bhutto founded the party in 1967, the people of Pakistan were waiting for a leader who would be

30th November is remem- someone who understood the voice bered as a symbol of democ- of the masses, not just the corridors racy, people's rights, and of power. Bhutto broke the norms of struggle. The Pakistan Peoples conventional politics and empowered youth, laborers, farmers, and common try's largest political forces, present citizens for the first time. That is why the PPP took its very first breath with national-level popularity.

Bhutto's slogan of "Roti, Kapra aur the residence of Dr. Mubashir Hassan in Makan" reshaped Pakistan's political direction. He declared the people as the source of all power and introduced a political philosophy that placed the poor, the working class, farmers, and students at the center of governance. During his tenure, the 1973 unanimous PPP is a people-centric, democratic, Constitution was passed, the foundation of the nuclear program was laid, laborfriendly industrial reforms were introduced, and Pakistan gained a prominent position on the global diplomatic stage. This ideological beginning remains the

backbone of the party's politics. PPP's 58-year journey is incomplete without recalling Shaheed Mohtarma its workers. Benazir Bhutto. She was an icon of courage, steadfastness, and democracy, Bhutto, keeping the party united was and the first female Prime Minister of one an easy task. But Asif Ali Zardari the Muslim world. She fought dicta- took charge with wisdom, patience, and

torships, endured imprisonment, faced exile, and yet never compromised on her principles. She championed women's strengthened press freedom, created opportunities for youth employ-

ment, and introduced modern technology. She also presented restoring the true spirit of parliamena strong and clear narrative against terrorism. Her role is the spine of the PPP's legacy whether resisting dictatorship, leading the democratic movement, or presenting Pakistan's soft and democratic image abroad. Her martyrdom in 2007 was a national tragedy but her ideals continue to inspire the party and

After the assassination of Benazir

remarkable political skill. His philosophy of "Democracy is the best revenge" set a new tone of political tolerance and democratic continuity. Under his leadership, the historic 18th Amendment was passed, empowering the provinces and

Malik Faisal Munir tary democracy.

> Today, as the PPP celebrates its 58th Founding Day, the spotlight is on the leadership of Chairman Bilawal Bhutto, a voice of the new generation and the guardian of the party's ideological continuity. His politics emphasizes inclusion, social justice, youth empowerment,

democracy, and economic strength. Bilawal has promoted a culture of political decency and democratic engagement. He envisions Pakistan on a path of development, employment, economic justice, and constitutional supremacy.

Bilawal represents a rare combination; he carries forward the ideology of his mother and grandfather, while also introducing modern political thinking and refined leadership. His speeches reflect confidence, clarity, and conviction. Whether it is youth rights, economic reforms, foreign policy, or parliamentary debates, Bilawal Bhutto has emerged as a leader who truly represents Pakistan's younger generation. He is well-positioned to become one of the country's successful future Prime Minis-

As a national, democratic, and inclusive party, PPP brings together people from all cultures and regions. On its 58th Founding Day, celebrations have begun across Pakistan and abroad on

special instructions from Chairman Bilawal Bhutto.

PPP's history is written with sacrifice workers who faced lashes, endured prisons, gave their lives, and survived exile in defense of democracy. These sacrifices make PPP the only true people's party of Pakistan. The 58th Founding Day is not just a ceremonial event it is a renewal of commitment: Democracy must continue. The people must rule. The Constitution must prevail.

Over 58 years, PPP has seen highs and lows, but its ideology, public roots, and sacrifices remain its greatest strength. Under Bilawal Bhutto's dynamic and refined leadership, the party is stepping into a new era, one built on youth participation, economic reforms, social justice, and democratic maturity. The message of Founding Day remains clear. Democracy. Struggle. People. This is the identity of the PPP and the roadmap for its future.



Index Fluctuatio		
Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close	
166,677.69	165,373.31	
Day's High	Day's Low	
165,611.10	165,753.35	
Index Value	Change	
32,532,523,753	+1304.38	
Percentage	Time	
+0.79%	27 Nov, 2025 4:30 pm	
Europe: FTS	E 100 Index	
Index Value	Change	
9,720.51	+26.58	
Percentage	Time	
+0.27%	28 Nov, 4:35 pn GMT	
USA: Dow Jones I	ndustrial Averag	
Index Value	Change	

Index Value	Change	
47,674.09	+246.97	
Percentage	Time	
+0.52%	28 Nov, 12:25 pm GMT-5	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		

ISIA PACITIC: NIKKEI STOCKS AVERAGE		
Index Value	Change	
50,253.91	+86.81	
Percentage	Time	
+0.17%	28 Nov, 3:45 pm GMT+9	
Open Market Forey Dates		

Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	181.75	186
Bahrain Dinar	744.5	754.25
Canadian Dollar	199	204
China Yuan	39.25	39.65
Danish Krone	43.15	43.55
Euro	326.15	329.65
Hong Kong Dollar	35.85	36.1
Indian Rupee	3.10	3.19
Japanese Yen	1.7825	1.8825
Kuwaiti Dinar	911	921
Malaysian Ringgit	66.5	67.1
NewZealand \$	156.15	158.15
Norwegians Krone	27.3	27.6
Omani Riyal	729.25	739.25
Qatari Riyal	76.55	77.25
Saudi Riyal	74.95	75.55
Singapore Dollar	215.15	220.15
Swedish Korona	29.1	29.4
Swiss Franc	346.1	348.85
Thai Bhat	8.45	8.6
U.A.E Dirham	76.6	77.35
LIV Dound Ctarling	270 E	070

FPCCI urges govt to shift from short-term stabilisation to sustainable growth

LAHORE: Despite challenges and skepticism, the government has successfully achieved the ambitious goal of



281.55 281.65

fiscal consolidation over the past three consecutive years, even surpassing its primary surplus targets.

This was stated by Shahid Imran, Convener of the Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) regional committee on food, during a meeting with a delegation of economic experts on Sunday.

He stressed that Pakistan should move from operating on the margins of the global economy to becoming a significant player. "The country needs to transition from short-lived stabilisation efforts to a durable, sustainable, and outward-looking growth model," he said.

Shahid Imran stressed the role of the private sector, urging it to align workforce development with changing market demands while pursuing international partnerships, joint ventures, technology transfer, and knowledge exchange to boost productivity and competitiveness.

"We cannot achieve long-term sustainable economic growth if our private sector focuses only on short-term profits at the cost of long-term stagnation and global irrelevance," he warned.

He further called on the State Bank of Pakistan and the government to continue structural reforms, strengthen fiscal and external buffers, and provide

stability for businesses to thrive. Addressing structural challenges through long-term reforms, Shahid Imran said, is crucial. Businesses must shift focus from inward-looking strategies to global competitiveness by producing goods that meet international demand and quality standards. "This requires integration into global value chains, modernization of production processes, and abandoning reliance on substitutes for genuine competitiveness," he concluded.

Unity Above All

Zafar Bakhtawari praises trio's move to strengthen business politics

Example 2 Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Secretary General UBG, Zafar Bakhtawari, has said that the decision of Anjum Nisar, Dr. Gohar Ejaz, and S. M. Tanveer to unite is a step taken in the larger national interest, and it will have deep and lasting effects on FPCCI as well as on business politics in the country.

He said that when we emphasize that businessmen should be role models and that the business community deserves respect, this will only be possible when we bring into our chambers and the federation those individuals who are untainted, educated, and mindful of the country's honor and dignity at every moment.

In a statement issued on the UBG-BNP alliance, he said that the way UBG's the past two years for the upgradation,

Sunday Bazaar

Capital.



Patron-in-Chief, S. M. Tanveer, and Dr. Gohar Ejaz have been working over

ISLAMABAD: People are busy is buying bananas at Sunday weekly bazaar sector G-10, in Federal

respect, and effective functioning of the Federation has paved the way for this new alliance between UBG and BNP. He termed it a historic step in Pakistan's business politics.

Zafar Bakhtawari further said, "I believe that from top to bottom, what we need most is unity. I would propose that S. M. Tanveer, Dr. Gohar Ejaz, and Anjum Nisar undertake a whirlwind tour of the country and visit all major chambers to take the business community into confidence and explain that this decision has been taken in the best national interest. InshaAllah, as a result of this decision, Pakistan's honor and dignity will increase tremendously. and the business community will be able to continue its activities with greater respect, confidence, and stability."

Customs Enforcement Peshawar seized large consignment of smuggled goods

Example 2 Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Collectorate of Customs Enforcement Peshawar seized a large consignment of foreign-origin smuggled and contraband goods worth PKR 50 million, along with the offending vehicle, during an operation at Nizampur, Pindi Road on Saturday. The total value of the case

amounts to PKR 70 million. Operating on discreet surveillance, officials of the Kohat Customs Division followed a suspicious Hino truck through sensitive areas and intercepted it at a mobile checkpoint around 4:30 pm found loaded with non-du- nation's economic frontiers.

foreign-origin goods. The recovered goods included 15,000 sticks of assorted foreign origin cigarettes, 2,200 Kg of betel nuts, 1,000 packets of Gutka, and 1,200 packets of hookah products. The driver failed to produce any documents proving lawful import, leading to immediate seizure of recovered goods under the Customs Act. 1969.

The operation was led by Assistant Commissioner Customs, Mr. Omer Jan, assisted by Inspectors Asif Nisar and Waqar Ahmad of Customs Enforcement Peshawar.

FBR reaffirm its resolve on Saturday evening. Upon to curb smuggling and inspection, the vehicle was illicit trad and to protect the

Local Business Leader Applauds Launch of Electricity **Complaint Hotlin**

Commerce Desk

HYDERABAD: Muhammad Saleem Memon, President Hyderabad Chamber of Small Traders & Small Industry (HCSTSI), warmby WAPDA, aimed at the prompt registration and effective resolution of elec-He said that this modern system is a significant step and industrialists while comprehensive system.

enhancing transparency in the power sector.

President expressed his appreciation to the Prime Minister, the Federal Minister for Power, and all institutions involved ly welcomed the launch of in this initiative for delivthe 118 Complaint Helpline ering this important public service. He highlighted that HCSTSI had previously submitted multiple tricity-related complaints. letters recommending an effective complaint helpline, and he was pleased to toward providing conven- see these efforts finally come ience to citizens, traders, to fruition in a practical and

Iftikhar Malik: Premium Marble **Cuts Renovation Costs and Boosts Building Lifespan**

Example 2 Commerce Desk

LAHORE: SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry former President Iftikhar Ali Malik Sunday said use of quality marble in construction holds immense significance in Pakistan that offset the impact of diverse climatic conditions on buildings.

Talking to a delegation of marble importers and traders here today he said in a country like Pakistan exposed to harsh summers, heavy monsoon rains, dust, and fluctuating temperatures, premium marble provides a stable and resilient surface that can endure these challenges without losing its structural integrity. Its natural density and low porosity help prevent cracks, stains, and erosion, ensuring that floors, walls, and exterior façades maintain their original form and finish for decades, he added. The impact of quality marble on the lifespan of constructed buildings is particularly significant. He said it directly contributes to reducing long-term renovation costs, making it a cost-effective investment for homeowners, builders, and commercial



overall structural reliability of the building, enhancing safety and sustainability.

He congratulated the CEO 5Marble and 5M construction company Shaharyar Ali imported quality marbles imported from economically viable.

developers. Its lasting strength adds to the Italy Vietnam, Iran, China, Sri Lanka and China including Onyx and a number of local best marbles in the market for durable construction which not only enhances the lifespan and beauty of buildings but for introducing 25 various varieties of also long-lasting, structurally sound, and

Stronger Exports Over Consumption: The Path to Pakistan's Financial **Stability**

S Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Coordinator to Federal Tax Ombudsman Saifur Rehman Sunday said export -led growth must become the primary engine of economic revival, supported by value addition, diversification, and access to new markets.

Speaking to a delegation of industrialists here today he said by prioritizing exports over consumption-driven expansion, Pakistan can strengthen its balance of payments and reduce its dependence on external financing.

Only through this integrated approach—productivity, governance, and busichart a stable and pros-

perous economic future, he

He said business reforms remain another vital pillar. Simplifying taxation, improving contract enforcement, and ensuring ease of doing business will enable firms to scale and compete globally.

He said equally critical is governance reform. Streamlined regulations, transparency in public institutions, and decisive action against inefficiencies are essential to rebuilding investor confidence.

well-governed economic environment attracts long-term investment and supports entrepreneurship, which in turn ness reforms—can Pakistan fosters innovation and job

Design and Fashion: Engines of Global Trade and Economic Growth, says Pakistan Furniture Council CEO

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Chief Executive Officer Pakistan Furniture Council Mian Kashif Ashfaq Sunday said fashion industries generate billions in export revenues for countries that excel in branding, craftsmanship, and trend-setting.

Inaugurating the Ist International Design Conference 2025 with a theme of "Fashion and Global Trade" organised by the Pakistan Institute of Fashion and Design(PIFD) here today in his presidential address, Mian Kashif said ultimately, design and fashion fuel economic growth, strengthen national branding, and enable countries to integrate more effec-



tively into global value chains. Tayyaba Khalil in her welcome He said sustainability has further address said today's conference increased the importance of thoughtful design. Eco-friendly materials, circular fashion fashion is more than creativity concepts, and minimal-waste production are becoming essential components of international trade standards.

have demonstrated how strong cross cultural design exchange, design ecosystems can elevate their global market share. For tion of innovation, economics and emerging economies, investment diplomacy. in design education, digital tools, opportunities, he added.

Design University Prof Hina strategic importance.

brings together thinkers and practitioners who understand that it is a global business ecosystem.

From supply chain networks and international sourcing to sustainability mandates, digital He said Italy, France, and China retail, export competitiveness and fashion operates at the intersec-

As Pakistan continues to and creative talent opens doors to strengthen its footprint in global high-value exports and new trade textile and apparel markets, the conversation we initiate here today Vice Chancellor Fashion and carry exceptional relevance and

Master Paints/Sheikhoo clinch 11th Battle Axe Polo Cup title

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: Master Paints/Sheikhoo captured the coveted trophy of the 11th Battle Axe Polo Cup 2025, sponsored by TCL, after defeating Master Paints/ Skywell in an exciting final played at the Lahore Garrison Polo Grounds.

The closing ceremony was graced by chief guest Muhammad Owais, Marketing Manager TCL Pakistan, who distributed prizes among the finalists. Also present were Club Secretary Major Babar Mehboob Awan and senior polo officials. The high-profile event also drew a large crowd of polo enthusiasts, families, and club members who gathered to witness the season's marquee contest.

The final lived up to expectations, producing fast-paced action and impressive horsemanship. Master Paints/Sheikhoo seized control in the opening stages, dominating the first two chukkas to establish a commanding 5-2 lead. Although Master Paints/Skywell mounted a spirited comeback in the final chukkas, outscoring their opponents by four goals to three, the early deficit proved insurmountable. Master Paints/ Sheikhoo held their nerve in the decisive moments to seal a well-deserved 8-6 victory and lift the title.



the front with an exceptional five-goal haul, supported by Mir Huzaifa Ahmed with two goals and Osman Aziz Anwar added two. Earlier in the day, Indus tournament.

Star striker Raja Samiullah led from with one. For Master Paints/Skywell, Polo claimed the subsidiary final with Raja Temur Nadeem impressed with a commanding performance, rounding four goals, while Agha Musa Ali Khan off an action-packed conclusion to the

PFF delegation attends FIFA U-17 World Cup as official observers for the first time

Example 2 Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: A three-member delegation from the Pakistan Football Federation (PFF) attended the FIFA U-17 World Cup in Qatar as official observers, receiving specialised training on the operational and managerial aspects of a major FIFA tournament.

The delegation, comprising Assaam Sany (Director Operations), Aziz Malik (Director HR & Admin), and Ahmed Hashmat (Manager Marketing), participated in an intensive three-day program designed to provide hands-on exposure to the workings of a global football event. Their inclusion in the observer program marks the first time in Pakistan's history that PFF officials have received formal FIFA training during a World Cup.

During the program, the officials engaged with the FIFA Competition Director and various departmental teams to study the full operational framework of the tournament. This year's edition of complexity of event operations.

izing Committee (LOC) departments, including team services, commercial



the FIFA U-17 World Cup is itself historic, rights delivery, broadcast operations, as it is the first to feature 48 partici- transport, security, venue managepating teams, expanding the scale and ment, safeguarding, training logistics, and volunteer management. They also The PFF representatives were briefed conducted detailed venue inspections by multiple FIFA and Local Organ- to understand match-day resource allocation, crowd management, and operational zoning within large stadiums.

Sharing his experience, Ahmed Hashmat said the visit offered invaluable Qatar hosting four international matches on the same day. Observing their workflow helped us understand how largescale football operations can be managed

smoothly. Many of the challenges we face in Pakistan are similar, and FIFA's experience provides a clear roadmap for addressing them effectively," he noted.

Assaam Sany, Director Operations, emphasised the transformative impact of the training. "Witnessing the scale, precision, and professionalism of a FIFA tournament has broadened our perspective. From data-driven competition management to advanced fan engagement strategies, every aspect was executed with exceptional detail. This exposure strengthens our resolve to elevate football

operations in Pakistan," he said. Aziz Malik, Director Administration, echoed the sentiment, calling it a pivotal moment for Pakistan's football governance. "This experience equips us with the knowledge and confidence to integrate global best practices into our own systems. It is a major step toward professionalizing football administration in Pakistan," he added.

The initiative is widely credited to the personal efforts of PFF President Syed Mohsen Gilani, who has prioritized staff lessons in best practices and real-time development and institutional capaciproblem-solving. "It was impressive to see ty-building since assuming office. The participation of Pakistani officials in FIFA's observer program is seen as a significant milestone in that ongoing reform agenda.

Pakistan grabs 3 bronze medals in World Fitness C'ship

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan achieved success at the World Fitness Challenge & Bodybuilding Championship, held in Khobar, Saudi Arabia, by securing three bronze medals at the global event.

Organized under the umbrella of the International Fitness and Bodybuilding Federation (IFBB), the championship featured athletes from 57 countries, where the Pakistani contingent showcased exceptional skill, discipline, and determination, said a press release.

All three medalists proudly represented the Pakistan Army, underscoring the institution's strong contribution to

national sports and physical excellence. In the women's division, Olym-



pian Sadaf Siddiqui—who also won three gold medals for Pakistan Army at the National Fitness Championship earlier this year—demonstrated outstanding strength and technique, earning a bronze medal in the World Women's Masters Category. Her performance stood out among competitors from 18 countries, reaffirming her position as one of Pakistan's premier fitness

In the men's events, Havaldar Maqbool Ahmed secured a bronze medal in the Masters Individual Category, showcasing impressive skill against athletes from 53 countries. Similarly, Inam Ullah earned a bronze medal in the Seniors Category, competing against global participants from 57 nations.

PCB removes Karachi association secretary Javed Ahmed Khan

₿ Sports Desk

KARACHI: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has removed Javed Ahmad Khan from his position as secretary of the Karachi Region Cricket Association, following a successful no confidence motion against him.

In a notification issued on Nov 28 by the PCB's Election Commissioner, Mansoor Qadir, the board stated that a special meeting was convened on Nov 18 at the RCA Karachi office, National Bank Stadium in the presence of a representative of the

The notification cited that the no-confidence motion was passed with the requisite three-fourths majority of the Electoral College, as required by the Model Constitution of the Regional Cricket

Consequently you are hereby de-notified and removed from the office of secretary RCA, Karachi, with immediate effect, the notification stated, directing Javed to hand over all official records and documents to the president of the RCA Karachi without delay.

Karachi's Cyclists Ride Together to Support TCF Education at the 5th annual event of Cycle for Change.

₿ Sports Desk

KARACHI: More than 400 cyclists participated in the TCF's annual event of 'Cycle For Change', turning Karachi's morning roads into a powerful movement for an annual fundraising and awareness initiative led by The Citizens Foundation (TCF). Cyclists



began their ride from various starting points across the city and converged at the TCF Qayyumabad Campus, united by one purpose: advocating for access to quality education for Pakistan's less-privileged children.

This year's event was led by Mrs. Dawoodi and Mrs. Rubina Kamal from Supporters of The Citizens Foundation (STCF), whose dedication continues to strengthen the impact and reach of Cycle for Change. Cycling clubs from across Karachi, including Critical Mass Karachi (CMK), led by its CEO Mazhar Valjee, participated enthusiastically to raise their voice for the millions of out-of-school children in Pakistan and the urgent need to support TCF in providing access to quality education.

For nearly three decades, TCF has remained steadfast in its mission to provide quality education to children from underserved communities. By bringing them from vulnerable circumstances into safe, inspiring, and inclusive learning spaces. Today, TCF is educating 320,000 students across 2,261 school units nationwide, with a strong focus on ensuring access to quality education.

In the spirit of continuity and community engagement, TCF looks forward to celebrating Cycle for Change as a cherished annual tradition, one that brings supporters together to propel its mission of educating Pakistan's less-privileged children and turning their future brighter.

Faf Du Plessis says goodbye to IPL, ready to take on 'new challenge'in PSL

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Former South African captain and star batter Faf Du Plessis announced saying goodbye to the Indian Premier League (IPL) after 14 years to take on a "new challenge" by playing in the upcoming season of the Pakistan Super League (PSL).

After 14 seasons in the IPL,



I've decided not to put my name into the auction this year," he wrote on X.

He called this "a big decision", which came after "a lot of grat-

The 41-year-old has played for four IPL franchises, including Chennai Super Kings, Rising Pune Supergiants, Royal Challengers Bangalore, and Delhi Capitals, for 14 seasons.

"Fourteen years is a long time, and I'm proud of what this chapter has meant to me." He also extended his gratitude to his former team members,

coaches and support staff members for their backing.

"I've been lucky to play with world-class teammates, for amazing franchises, and in front of fans whose passion is like nothing else. India has given me friendships, lessons, and memories that have shaped me as a cricketer and as a person," we wrote.

He announced taking part in the upcoming season of the PSL — 11th since its inception. "This year, I've chosen to take on a new challenge and will be playing in the upcoming PSL season." Du Plessis regarded this as an "exciting step" — a chance to experience something new, to grow as a player.

He called the PSL a league "filled" with incredible talent and

"A new country. A new environment. A new challenge. I'm looking forward to the Pakistan hospitality. See you all soon." He retired from international cricket in 2021 after debuting for South Africa in 2011. He completed his 5000 ODI runs in 2019.

Jay Clarke wins Pakistan ATP Challenger Cup title

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: Great Britain's Jay Clarke secured the maiden men's singles title of the Pakistan ATP Challenger Cup 2025 here at the PTF Tennis Complex, marking a monumental achievement in Pakistan's sporting landscape.

In the men's singles final, he delivered a commanding performance to defeat Mart Alkaya of Turkey with a scoreline of 6-3, 6-1, 169 in the ATP World/PIF Ranksecuring the maiden singles title.

The Pakistan ATP Challenger Cup 2025 concluded with great success as the week-long event brought together 25 international players representing Romania, Republic, Kazakhstan, Australia, Italy, Bulgaria, Austria, Sweden, Georgia, Great Britain, and Switzerland, alongside 10 of Pakistan's leading national players.

This prestigious tournament officially established Pakistan as a new and promising destination on the global tennis map, as it was the first ATP Challenger event ever hosted in the country.

Elias Ymer of Sweden, ranked ings, entered as the top seed, while Jay Clarke of Great Britain, ranked 213, was seeded second.

This historic event also held special emotional significance, as it marked the final ATP Chal-Turkey, Ukraine, USA, Czech lenger Tour appearance of Aisam-

nized tennis icon. His participation added further prestige to the inaugural edition of the Pakistan ATP Challenger Cup. The closing ceremony was graced by Maj. Gen. Usman-

ul-Haq Qureshi-Pakistan's most

decorated and globally recog-

ul-Haq, Director Fauji Foundation, as the chief guest. Aisamul-Haq Qureshi, President PTF, attended as the guests of honor and distributed the prizes alongside Lt. Col. (R) Zia-ud-Din Tufail, Secretary General PTF.

The event was attended by ambassadors, high commissioners, Senior PTF leadership, officials, prominent sports personalities, media representatives, and

a large gathering of enthusiastic tennis fans, creating a vibrant and celebratory atmosphere at the PTF Tennis Complex.

Speaking at the ceremony, the President PTF congratulated the champions, finalists, and all participants. He emphasized that hosting Pakistan's first-ever ATP Challenger Tournament is a landmark accomplishment and expressed optimism about organizing more international tournaments in the future to further promote tennis in the country. He also acknowledged the efforts of the organizers, volunteers, and Sponsors who made the event possible. The Secretary General PTF thanked all the sponsors for



their invaluable support in making the event a success

International players praised Pakistan's exceptional hospi-

delicious cuisine, and the scenic enhancing Pakistan's reputation beauty of Islamabad. Many as a welcoming and capable host expressed their desire to return for global sporting events.

tality, world-class arrangements, for future tournaments, further



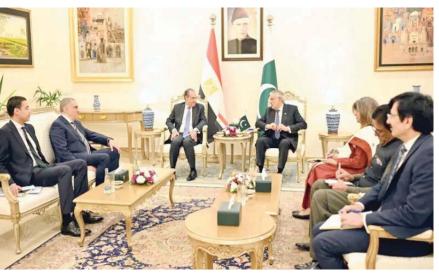
Pakistan to share with Egypt list of 250 business houses: Dar

跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar said on Sunday that Pakistan would share with Egypt a list of 250 business houses to enhance bilateral commercial engagement. This was announced by Dar, while addressing a press conference alongside Foreign Minister of Egypt Dr Badr Ahmed Mohammed Abdelatty, after holding a meeting at the Foreign Office in Islamabad.

Dar informed Pakistan and Egypt had agreed to increase partnership in all areas, including economy and

that cooperation between the



trade was strengthening with sion" today on how their \$300 million. the Egyptian FM's visit would ness upscaling of the bilateral have, we have agreed No. 1, facilitated and supported to cooperation.

ach passing day.

nations could contribute to
He expressed the hope that elevating the business-to-busielevating the business-to-busiaffection the two countries

"With the depth and the economy," Dar announced.

"These businesses will be to ways of boosting economic

The deputy PM further said help achieve common targets. activities, which the deputy that Pakistan will share with Dar said he and Abdelatty PM termed as "surely not Egypt a comprehensive list of two countries in defence and had a "very focused discus- commensurate", with around 250 Pakistani business houses conflicts, including Gaza and representing key sectors of the Sudan, and the dispute over the

enhance bilateral commercial engagement," the deputy premier highlighted.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Badr said that Egypt condemned incidents of terrorism in Islamabad and Peshawar. "We offer our condolences to the government and people of Pakistan and over the loss of lives and properties in these acts of terror," he added.

The Egyptian FM said that there existed brotherly relations between the two countries. "Cooperation between the two countries in security and other sectors in increasing," he added.

During his visit, Abdelatty would discuss a wide agenda from consultations on

Pakistan rejects UNHCHR criticism of 27th Constitutional Amendment

👺 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Constitutional Amendment. The spokesman of the adopted" Foreign Office, Tahir Hussain Andrabi, said that the 27th Constitutional Amendment was passed by the parliament with a two-thirds majority.

The spokesman further said that, like other countries, Pakistani parliamentarians the constitution.

in Geneva, the human rights chief said the latest constitutional amendment, like the expressed serious concerns 26th amendment last year. over the United Nations had been adopted without High Commissioner for broad consultation and Human Rights (UNHCHR) debate with the legal commustatement against the 27th nity and wider civil society. He added that the "hastily amendments undermined judicial independence and raised concerns about military accountability.

A press release issued by the FO said that Pakistan rejected the "baseless" state-

and misplaced apprehen-2025, in a statement issued UN high commissioner for as well as any amendment must be respected".



human rights regarding to the Constitution remains the 27th Constitutional Amendment adopted by the two-thirds majority of the

"Pakistan notes with deep parliament of Pakistan," the are also authorised to amend concern the unfounded press release by the FO said. "Like all parliamentary

elected representatives of the

people of Pakistan," it added. The FO said that democracy and democratic methods "form the bedrock of civil and Earlier on November 28, sions aired on behalf of the democracies, all legislation political rights, and therefore

the exclusive domain of the

constitutional amendments adopted by the parliament of Pakistan followed due procedures as enshrined in Pakistan's Constitution," it said.

It added that Pakistan remained "fully committed to protecting, promoting and upholding human rights, human dignity, basic freedoms and the rule of law" as enshrined in the Constitution.

"While Pakistan gives due importance to the work of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, it is regrettable that Pakistan's views and ground realities were not reflected in the statement issued," the FO said.

Punjab plans to training to 2,500 rural women

ISLAMABAD: The Punjab Women Development Department has selected around 2,500 rural women for hands-on training in various textile-related fields, with the government committed to ensuring employment opportunities for the trained women within their own cities.

Briefing members of the Punjab Assembly, Additional Secretary of the Women Development Department (WDD) Faiza Ahsan said that under the 'She Threads' program, women will be linked with different textile industries where they will receive practical, on-site training, said a press release issued here on Sunday.

Punjab plans to impart textile skills Lahore to be made more beautiful & splendor than before: CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif

👺 Bureau Report

LAHORE,: Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif had a detailed briefing on Lahore Development Plan Phase-II, and formally launched it, under which 6284 streets of Lahore city would be completely upgraded. She was briefed by the authorities concerned that by 30 June next year, 5798 streets of Lahore Municipal Corporation and 486 streets of WASA would be developed and revamped.



They presented a monthly work plan to make every neighborhood of Lahore bright for living. Published by: Almass Ayoub Sabir from Zero Point Printers Rawalpindi

and prosperous in stages. She directed the authorities concerned that there will be no compromise on quality of work in the development of Lahore. She asserted that no delay will be tolerated in the completion of Lahore Development Plan

Chief Minister Punjab said that every corner of Lahore will be made decay free and respectable for citizens. She noted that with the upgradation of over 6000 streets, every neighborhood of Lahore will become a symbol of pride

Meanwhile, three retired lieutenant generals are also being seriously evaluated for the position.

Pakistan Navy continues humanitarian assistance in Sri Lanka

ISLAMABAD: The Humanitariare in progress by Pakistan Navy Ship SAIF. On second day of relief efforts, the ship's embarked Z9EC helicopter undertook multiple missions over severely flood-affected areas in Colombo and its surrounding regions.

Operating in close coordination with Sri Lankan authorities, the helicopter delivered essential an Assistance and Disaster Relief food items and emergency supplies (HADR) operations in Cyclone to stranded families in inundated Ditwah hit areas of Sri Lankan residential zones inaccessible by

PNS SAIF while on overseas deployment to Sri Lanka will continue the relief efforts in coming days to support and provide aid to Sri Lankan populace during their time of need.

JUI-F criticises Punjab govt, warns against policies targeting ulema

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI-F) has launched a strong criticism of the Punjab government, accusing provincial rulers of attempting to pressure religious scholars and create a climate of fear. JUI-F spokesperson Aslam Ghauri alleged that the government was trying to "buy" ulemas for Rs25,000, calling the move disrespectful.

"If you truly want to support religious institutions, then waive the electricity bills of mosques," he remarked.

He warned the rulers against assuming their authority was secure.

"Remember, no chair is strong except the one strengthened by Ayatul-Kursi," he said.



Ghauri added that he had no personal dispute with Imran Khan, stating that his disagreement was only with the policies of the former government.

He cautioned that if the poor continue to be oppressed, the resulting anger could "reach the rulers' palaces."

Ghauri also accused the Punjab government of creating fear to govern and provoking religious polarization.

Afghan refugee camp evacuated in Balochistan



跨 Bureau Report

QEUTTA: In a joint operation of the Chaghi administration and the Dalbadin Rifle, all the Afghan refugees who were residing in these camps left for Afghanistan after their registration in the Chaghi area of Balochistan.

Sources said that following the evacuation of the refugees, the administration has also begun the process of demolishing the vacated houses and shops in the camp.

CCTV footage clearly showed the removed.

demolition of vacant houses located in the Gardhi Jungle. Sources said that all Afghan refugees were repatriated after the completion of all documentary evidence.

About 70,000 Afghan refugees were residing in these camps. The local administration started the repatriation process of Afghan refugees on November 26, 2025.

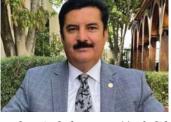
The district administration said that the process will continue as per the policies of the State. All the structures of vacant houses were also being

KP governor likely to be replaced as six names come under consideration

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The federal government is considering replacing the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa governor. According to sources, six prominent names are under review for the top constitutional post, including three political figures and three retired senior military officers.

From the civilian side, Awami National Party (ANP) leader Ameer Haider Khan Hoti, Qaumi Watan Party (QWP) chairman Aftab Ahmad Sherpao, and former defence minister Pervez Khattak have emerged as key contenders.



These include Lt Gen (r) Khalid Rabbani, Lt Gen (r) Ghayur Mehmood, and Lt Gen (r) Tariq Khan, all of whom have held senior leadership roles during their mili-

Sources added that consultations are ongoing, and a final decision regarding the new governor is expected soon.