(محج بغاری: مدیث نمبر 6067) **Barkat Rice Mills** 

AJK Opposition leader writes to PM for early appointment of CEC

Opposition leader demanded immediate appointment of election staff as permanent staff has not yet been appointed for more than 450 polling stations. He said due to lack of timely appointments, there were chances of delay in electoral staffs training.



After Nepa tragedy, another child falls into open manhole in Karachi

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

Jamadi-us-Sani 14, Saturday, December 6, 2025





💟 @daily spokesman



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**Forces issued** 

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: The govern-

ment has issued formal noti-

fications appointing Field

Marshal Syed Asim Munir

as Pakistan's first Chief of

Defence Forces (CDF) for a

five-year term and extend-

ing the tenure of Air Chief

Marshal Zaheer Ahmad Babar

Sidhu as head of the Pakistan

According to the Ministry of

Defence, the notifications were

issued after approval from

Asim Munir, who currently

serves as the Chief of Army

Staff, has been concurrently

appointed the country's first

Chief of Defence Forces for a

period of five years.

President Asif Ali Zardari.

**Notifications for** 

**Field Marshal Asim** 

Munir's appointment as Chief of Defence

#### Celebration

RAWALPINDI: Activists of Ex-Servicemen Society distribute sweets outside Press Club during celebration of the appointment of Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir Ahmed Shah as the First CDF of Pakistan.



## DG ISPR terms Imran Khan's 'delusional mindset' a threat to national security

#### Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Director-General Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Lt. Gen Ahmed Sharif Chaudhary addressed a media briefing on Friday, terming the "delusional and narcissistic" mindset of incarcerated PTI founder Imran Khan a threat to national security.

DG ISPR said that the Pakistan Armed Forces will stand firm and resolute against all internal and external threats.

delusional mindset of a delusional to his own ego, thinking that of the state of Pakistan," Lt Gen army. He said that Imran Khan

ISLAMABAD: A high-lev-

el special meeting chaired by

Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi

and Federal Minister for Over-

seas Pakistanis Chaudhry Salik

Hussain has decided to inten-

sify action against passengers

attempting to travel abroad

government

approved measures to make

has

the passport issuance system Naqvi announced that to

using fake documents.

City Desk



fully foolproof, while reforms curb illegal immigration, an

in the immigration process have AI-based mobile application

in January.

"That threat emanates from a person who has become captive his wishes are bigger than those

also been finalised to facilitate

The two federal ministers

have directed all departments

to submit final recommenda-

ordered against elements and

agent networks involved in the

Interior Minister Mohsin

A strict crackdown has been

tions within seven days.

fake visa business.

passengers.

will be launched as a pilot

project in Islamabad starting

"Through this AI app, author-

ities will be able to determine in

advance who is eligible to travel

passports of deported individ-

uals are cancelled, the govern-

ment will ensure they do not

Nagvi added that after the

and who is not," he said.

Pakistan launches AI crackdown on fake visas

Chaudhry said, in an apparent and his supporters blame the reference to incarcerated PTI founder, Imran Khan,

"His ego, his wishes, and frustrations have grown to such an extent that he thinks that the world would cease to exist without

He added that such behaviour had created dangerous distortions in national discourse and encouraged divisive politics. "These businesses related to false narratives will no longer stand."

He criticised Imran Khan and PTI's "comical obsession" with the

army for diverting attention of the public from their own incompetence and corruption in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa — the province where they have been ruling for over a decade.

"You can fool some people for some time; you can fool all the people for some time; however, you cannot fool all the people all the time."

He said that Imran Khan was responsible for creating a gap between the people of Pakistan

and the Armed Forces. Continued on Page 7

## PM congratulates Field Marshal on historic appoinment as Pakistan's first CDF

The ministry also confirmed Defence Forces and the extenne extension of Air Chief sion of the air chief

#### 

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday warmly congratulated Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir on his historic appointment as Pakistan's first Chief of Defence

Taking on his X handle, Shehbaz wrote, "As the sentinel of our nation's security, his leadership has been pivotal in guiding our brave Armed Forces to a decisive victory in the Battle for Truth."

He paid rich tribute to the Field Marshal Asim Munir, saying, "The people of Pakistan will always remember his bold and courageous leadership in wartime, that unified the Armed Forces, galvanised the entire nation and secured a historic victory for our home-



Sidhu's service. His tenure as

the Chief of Air Staff has been

extended by two years, effec-

tive from March 19, 2026. The

notification was issued under

Article 243 of the Constitution

and Section 10-B of the Paki-

Officials said the presi-

dent approved the summary

forwarded by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, who had

recommended Field Marshal

Asim Munir for the posts of Chief of Army Staff and Chief

The notifications formalise

decisions taken earlier, when

the president endorsed the

prime minister's recommen-

dations regarding both the appointment of the Chief of

stan Air Force Act.

of Defence Forces.

He also congratulated Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmad Babar Sidhu on the extension of his tenure. "Under his exemplary

command, the Pakistan Air Force destroyed seven enemy aircraft and sophisticated missile defence systems with unmatched professionalism and reinforced Pakistan's air superiority," he said.

"All national institutions stand united for the defence, development, and prosperity of Pakistan." He affirmed that, "InshAllah together, we will make our country's defence truly invincible."

## Pakistan opened Afghan border solely for UN humanitarian aid: FO

obtain new visas.

#### 

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Foreign Office on Friday clarified that the country had opened its border with Afghanistan solely to facilitate humanitarian assistance at the request of the United Nations. Foreign Office spokesperson Tahir Hussain Andrabi told reporters that aid consignments would be sent in phases, beginning with of medicines and other relief

The spokesperson emphasised that Pakistan had no issues with the Afghan people and that the humanitarian support stemmed from longstanding goodwill.

Addressing questions regarding reports of Pakistan-Afghanistan talks allegedly held in Saudi Arabia, Andrabi said the

food supplies before the dispatch ministry had seen the media and territorial integrity. coverage but had no information confirming any such negotiations.

Tahir Andrabi also confirmed that the individual arrested recently in the United States was an Afghan national who had spent some time in Pakistan.

Reiterating Islamabad's position on regional issues, the spokesperson affirmed Pakistan's full support for China's sovereignty Turning to developments in

India, he noted that the 33rd anniversary of the demolition of the Babri Mosque would be marked tomorrow, describing the historical incident as profoundly painful and underscoring the need for transparent accountability.

The FO spokesperson said Pakistan remained committed to safeguarding the rights and

religious freedoms of its minority communities

He added that the government was examining the matter of 38 Pakistanis reportedly awaiting recovery in Myanmar.

Responding to a question on Pakistan's posture toward Israel, Tahir Andrabi categorically stated that there was currently no contact between the two coun-

#### **Islamabad Bar announces** strike to express solidarity with Eman Mazari, Hadi Chattha

#### 跨 City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Islamabad Bar Association announced strike tomorrow (Saturday) to express solidarity with lawyer Eman Mazari and advocate Hadi Ali Chattha as trial court denied them access to fair trial in controversial tweet case. In a press statement, Islamabad Bar Association condemned the act of judge who started trail of the case against Eman Mazari and Hadi Ali Chattha without

giving them a chance to explain their position. The Bar said not giving the accused a chance to clear itself is a negation of claims of effective delivery of justice. The Bar said there was concern among the entire legal community about the state of justice.

Islamabad Bar Association stands by its members and will go on strike tomorrow against illegal and unconstitutional practices. Bar said lawyers to boycott court proceedings tomorrow.

## Restoration of Trust of people, major achievement of the newly-born State government: **AJK PM**

#### **Bureau Report**

MUZAFFARABAD/ ABBASPUR: Prime Minister Azad Kashmir, Faisal Mumtaz Rathore has said that restoring the trust of the people of the state is a major achievement of his govern-

While addressing a massive public gathering in Abbaspur, Faisal Mumtaz Rathore said that since he took the reins of the government his focus has primarily been on resolving public issues.

He highlighted his special connection with Abbaspur, noting that his father won elections due to strong support from the area. Regarding the rehabilitation of Kashmiri refugees, the PM said that property rights would be granted to refugees of 1965 and 1971.



announced a slew of development police station in Sahar Chowki. projects including the establishment of Basic Health Units (BHUs) in all

He announced the elevation of Abbaspur's Town Committee to three union councils of Abbaspur, a a municipal committee. He also On the occasion, the PM town committee in Mandhol, and a announced setting up of first aid

posts along the LoC, construction of roads such as the Tetri Note-Abbaspur road, and upgrading of educational institutions.

He assured that Abbaspur Tehsil Hospital would receive necessary support and announced a grant of Rs. 5 lakh for the Abbaspur Press Club. The Prime Minister said that his government has addressed key issues, including issuance of health cards, the scheduling of the Bank of AJK, electricity and other issues in an effective and timely manner.

Former Prime Minister Sardar Tanveer Ilyas, PPP President Chaudhry Muhammad Yasin, Minister for Higher Education Malik Zafar, Minister for Food Javed Iqbal Badhanvi, PPP leaders Amjad Yousaf, Raja Naseer, Faisal Naseem and other leaders were also present on the occa-

## <u>Inauguration</u>

Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir Faisal Mumtaz Rathore inaugurates the Haji Sardar Naseem Khan Memorial Bridge



## Muslim Conference Begins Preparations for 58th Death Anniversary of Ch. Ghulam Abbas

#### Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: The All Jammu & Kashmir Muslim Conference has intensified preparations to observe the 58th death anniversary of Raisul-Ahrar Chaudhry Ghulam Abbas with reverence and respect. A meeting in this regard was held at the Central Secretariat of the Muslim

The meeting was attended by Secretary General Meharunisa. Central Chief Organizer Raja Saqib Majeed, Major (R) Nasrullah Khan,



per the instructions of the party president, the anniversary will be accession to Pakistan, and a guardian commemorated with the same zeal as every year. For this purpose, several committees—including a reception committee, coordination committee, media committee, and social media committee—have been formed. This year, the three-day events will commence on 16 December.

legacy of Chaudhry Ghulam Abbas, Muhammad Ibrahim Khan

Raja Dr. Abid Abbasi, and others. describing him as a close associate The participants stated that, as of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah, a staunch supporter of the of the rights of Kashmiri Muslims. He said that the role of the Muslim Conference in the political and social development of the state has been historic and central, and that the people continue to admire the political foresight of great leaders such as Mujahid-e-Awwal Sardar Secretary General Mohtarma Abdul Qayyum Khan, Chaudhry Mehran-un-Nisa highlighted the Ghulam Abbas, and the late Sardar

## Shahzaib Khurshid met with students of the Department of Zoology, University of Education

#### 👺 Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK:, In light of the directives of the Chief Minister Punjab, Ms. Maryam Nawaz Sharif, and the DG Wildlife & Parks, the Wildlife Rangers Attock, under the supervision of Assistant Chief Wildlife Ranger Attock, Shahzaib Khurshid, met with the students of the Department of Zoology at the University of Education, Attock Campus and organized a comprehensive awareness campaign.

During the session, the department provided a detailed briefing on various measures and regulatory reforms being implemented for the protection of forests and wildlife. Emphasizing the concept of community-based conservancy, the depart- released into their natural habitats.

communities in conservation efforts is essential. It was explained that 80% of the revenue generated from hunting permits will be given to the community and 20% to the government.

To curb illegal hunting, a whistle-blower mechanism has been introduced under which individuals providing verified information will be rewarded, and their identity will be kept completely confidential. Additionally, participants were informed about the formal registration process for private game reserves to ensure legal and sustainable wildlife management.

The department also highlighted the Rewilding Program, under which 100,000 chukar partridges will be

ment highlighted that involving local The Government of Punjab has allocated funds amounting to 640 million rupees for wildlife protection across the district, including habitat restoration, species census, and capacity building.

With the establishment of the Wildlife Helpline 1107, citizens can report any emergencies, illegal hunting, or other related matters immediately.

During the session, the rules and regulations for hunting chukar were also explained. According to these rules, hunting will only be permitted on Sundays during the designated season from December 1, 2025, to February 15, 2026. Hunting will be allowed only in specified areas, for which GIS maps are available at district offices. A Wildlife License and a special Chukar Hunting Permit are mandatory, and

only licensed weapons may be used. Automatic or government-issued weapons, PCP rifles, air guns, drones, electronic devices, and shooting from vehicles are strictly prohibited.

Only licensed gun dogs may be used, while falconers must possess a separate falconry license. A maximum of three hunters is allowed in one group. Hunting is strictly prohibited in Kala Chitta National Park, Kheri Mohr National Park, and Tehsil Jand.

The department urged citizens and hunters to fully comply with the laws, obtain proper licenses, consult GIS maps, and ensure the use of permitted weapons and equipment so that the goals of wildlife protection and sustainable conservation can be

## AJK PM felicitates Field Marshal on appointment as

#### **Spokesman Report**

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir Faisal Mumtaz Rathore has congratulated Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir on becoming Pakistan's first Chief of Defence Forces. Terming the appointment a historic milestone for national security, he said that Field Marshal Asim Munir is a symbol of stability for Pakistan and the region. He said the decision reflects the national leadership's commitment to strong defense. He expressed the optimism that the country's defense system would be



further strengthened under his able leadership. The Prime Minister noted that throughout his career the Field Marshal has consistently demonstrated exceptional professionalism, leadership acumen, and prudence. "We are confident that Pakistan's defense is in strong hands," he maintained. The Prime Minister also congratulated Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Babar Sidhu on the extension of his tenure, noting that under his leadership. Referring to the shooting down of six Indian war planes during the recent war, Prime Minister Rathore said that the Pakistan Air Force demonstrated operational superiority during the war and humiliated India by shooting down half a dozen India jets including a Raphael in a swift and successful operation.

## Syed Shahid Bahar appointed Senior Judge of the High Court AJK

#### **Abdul Majeed Tahir**

MUZAFFARABAD: The Government of Azad Jammu and Kashmir has appointed a Senior Judge of the High Court, Justice Syed Shahid Bahar, as the head of the Judicial Commission constituted to review the privileges granted to top government officials. The appointment has been made in accordance with the agreement reached between the AJK Government and the Jammu & Kashmir Joint Awami Action  $Committee. \ A \ notification \ to \ this \ effect \ has \ been \ is sued \ by \ the \ Services$ and General Administration Department (S&GAD), General Wing.

According to the notification, the President of Azad Jammu & Kashmir has approved the nomination of Justice Shahid Baharrecommended by the High Court—to serve as Chairman of the Judicial Commission, originally constituted under Notification No. Services/ General/125/2024 dated 13 May 2024. The commission has been tasked with reassessing the perks and privileges of high-ranking government personalities in line with the commitments made in agreement

#### No Compromise on Child Labour, Says AD Shahbaz

#### 👺 Zafar Chishti

TOBA TEK SINGH: Assistant Director Labour Welfare Department Toba Tek Singh Muhammad Shahbaz has reaffirmed the department's commitment to eliminating child labour across the district. He stated that strict actions against violators will continue without any interruption.

According to Muhammad Shahbaz, special teams of the Labour Welfare Department remain active in the field on a daily basis. These teams carry out



inspections of shops, workshops and factories to ensurwith labour laws. If any underage child is found working at a shop, workshop, or industrial unit, strict legal action will be taken against the owner, he warned.

He emphasized that the department will not make any compromise  $\,$ when it comes to child labour. Muhammad Shahbaz also urged parents to refrain from endangering their children's future by sending them to workplaces at a young age. Instead, he encouraged them to enroll their children in government schools, where they can receive quality education and build a brighter future.

Your child can only progress and secure a better life through education. The Labour Welfare Department has reiterated that its operations will continue across the district to ensure that every child has access to education and a safe environment.

#### Balochistan CM Bugti orders strict monitoring on PSDP projects to ensure timely completion, transparency



QUETTA: The

Committee the Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) convened a key meeting on Friday, chaired by Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfaraz Bugti, to

review the progress of ongoing development schemes and consult on priorities for the next fiscal year. The session, attended by parliamentary members from the govern-

ment and allied parties, carried out a detailed assessment of projects currently being executed under the PSDP framework

In his address, Chief Minister Sarfraz Bugti emphasized that the timely completion of development projects and the transparent use of financial resources remain the provincial government's foremost

"Every project must be a practical step towards public benefit and the economic development of the province," Bugti asserted.

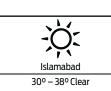
He urged committee members to maintain continuous oversight of ongoing schemes and to take immediate action to remove any delays or hurdles encountered during execution.

The committee discussed measures to improve the quality and pace of current development schemes, while incorporating suggestions for the upcoming fiscal year's program.

Sarfraz Bugti assured attendees that the provincial government is making every possible effort to ensure projects are completed on schedule and deliver direct benefits to the public. He highlighted the importance of parliamentary involvement, noting "Transparent and result-oriented implementation of development projects can be ensured through parliamentary oversight and effective coordination."

Discussions also focused on setting clear targets and priorities across various sectors to maximize development outcomes, create employment opportunities, and guarantee the provision of basic facilities throughout Balochistan

The meeting concluded with a reaffirmation of the government's commitment to transparency, accountability, and efficiency in the execution of development projects, underscoring that the PSDP will serve as a cornerstone for sustainable progress in the province.



## **SERVICES**

| <b>Namaz Timings</b> |          |  |
|----------------------|----------|--|
| Fajr                 | 5:29 am  |  |
| Zohr                 | 11:58 am |  |
| Asr                  | 3:21 pm  |  |
| Maghrib              | 4:59 pm  |  |
| Isha                 | 6:28 pm  |  |
|                      |          |  |

#### **EMERGENCY**

| EINIEINGEI16 I            |      |
|---------------------------|------|
| Rescue (Police)           | 15   |
| Bomb Disposal             | 15   |
| Fire Services Rawalpindi/ |      |
| Islamabad1122 8           | & 16 |
| Emergency Ambulance 112   | 22 & |
| & Rescue Services 445     | 1122 |
| Motorway Police9266       | 044  |
| Motorway Police 9270601   | 1-20 |
|                           |      |

### **Women Police**

| ns         |
|------------|
| 9222596    |
| 9270601-20 |
|            |

| Islamabad      | 9222 |
|----------------|------|
| Rawalpindi 927 | 060  |
| ENOUIRY        | 7    |

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

#### HOSPITALS

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

#### **DEDADTMENTS**

| PEFARII           | VILITIS    |
|-------------------|------------|
| CDA               | 9221334-43 |
| CDA               | 9208301-04 |
| Met Office        | 9250360-6  |
| RDA               | 5555864    |
| TMA               | 5770886    |
| Cantonment Board  | 9270151-3  |
| Islamabad Metropo | litan      |
| Corporation       | 9209224    |
| Potohar Town      | 9209224    |
| Rawal Town        | 5773343    |
|                   |            |

Asia leads global confidence in tax fairness, but trust gaps persist elsewhere in the world

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

LAHORE: Asia and Beyond, produced by the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA), the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC), Chartered Accountants Australian and New Zealand (CA ANZ) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Devel opment (OECD), surveyed more than 12,000 individuals across 29 countries, primarily in Asia but also in Latin America, Western Europe and the Pacific. The report explores perceptions and personal experiences of taxation, as well as attitudes towards tax competition and co-operation to provide insights into public confidence in tax systems.

Discussed during a panel session at the IFAC Connect ASIAPAC 2025 event in Jakarta on December 4, the survey results reveal that taxpayers across Asia largely view their tax systems as equitable and are significantly more confident that their taxes deliver fair public value compared to survey respondents across other regions.

Across all 29 countries surveyed, respondents were more likely to view tax as a contribution to their community rather than a cost, indicating strong support for the fiscal contract in theory. This sentiment was strongest in South-East Asia, where nearly two-thirds (64.7%)

### **™** Traffic Management Plan 2025

## Awareness Campaigns and Strict Crackdown Underway in Multan

#### 跨 🏻 Zain Khan Malghani

MULTAN: On the directives of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz, a comprehensive awareness drive along with a strict crackdown is underway in Multan to ensure enforcement of traffic laws. Under the supervision of Chief Traffic Officer (CTO) Multan, Muhammad Kashif Aslam, traffic education riding on bus rooftops. activities are being conducted at various intersections across the city.

In this regard, In-charge Traffic Education Unit, Inspector Sohail Ahmed, along with his team, visited Chungi No. 9 and Eidgah Chowk where they briefed motorists waiting at signals about the Traffic Management Plan 2025 and the newly revised fines, using display boards and banners.

Meanwhile, the citywide crackdown imposed not only on ordinary citizens but also on drivers of government vehicles found violating traffic rules. A laws in the past.

30-day deadline has been set to curb one-way violations, unlicensed driving, and the use of tinted vehicle windows, aimed at making roads safer and more

Across Punjab, a decisive crackdown continues against underage driving. Legal action is also being taken to end the dangerous practice of passengers

Moreover, a complete ban has been enforced on illegal Qingqi rickshaws, and operations are underway against them as well.

Citizens have welcomed the initiative, stating that if such enforcement and awareness campaigns had been launched earlier, thousands of people would have been spared from being booked in unjust cases. They added that timely action could also have prevented is in full swing. Heavy fines are being widespread public criticism of the government, which largely stemmed from inconsistent enforcement of traffic



## Group Photo

ISLAMABAD: Parliamentary Secretary for the National Heritage and Culture Division Farah Naz Akbar posing for a group photo graph along with Chargé d'Affaires of Embassy of Ethiopia Chalachew Eshetie and others during celebrations of 20th Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Day of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia at the Ethiopian Embassy in Federal Capital.

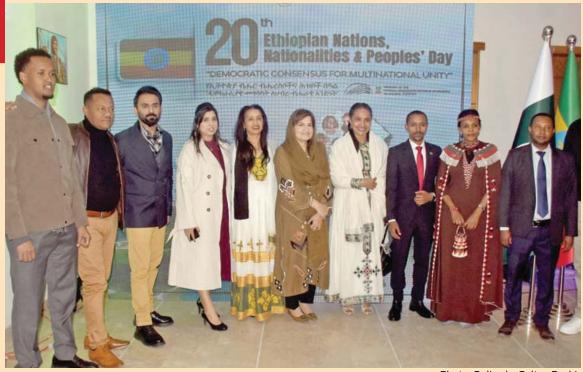


Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

## China's New Five-Year Plan Offers 'Major Opportunity for Pakistan,' Speakers Emphasize at PCI Forum

#### 

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan-China Institute (PCI), under its flagship initiative "Friends of Silk Road," organized a conference titled "The Five-Year Plan and China-Pakistan Future: Innovation, Youth Development, and Shared Opportunities" in Islamabad today. The event brought together young influencers, journalists, researchers, and diplomats to discuss how China's new Five-Year Plan, green development and self-reliance agenda can translate into opportunities for Pakistan's youth and economy.

In his opening remarks, Executive Director PCI, Mustafa Hyder Sayed, underscored that a key message emerging from the recent plenary session of the Communist Party of China is "self-reliance," which



rejuvenation of Chinese civilisation" after the "hundred years

Republic of China in Islamabad, described the conference as "very unique," saying His Excellency Yang Nuo, it felt "like a gathering of fami-Minister Counsellor at the lies, brothers and sisters," and

he described as central to "the Embassy of the People's welcoming the strong presence of young people who "in China mean future and hope.

Qureshi, Jehad Zafar and Jehad Zafar also speak on the occasion.

## Zong holds an exclusive showcase event for its Cloud Solution, Z SAIS, in Hyderabad

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

KARACHI/HYDERABAD: Zong, Pakistan's leading information services and technology innovation company, held a showcase for Z SAIS Cloud, the country's first fully business-ready, locally hosted cloud platform, in Hyderabad. Designed for enterprises, SMEs, and public-sector entities, the service delivers secure, scalable, and AI-ready infrastructure that meets the nation's growing requirements for data sovereignty, regulatory compliance, low-latency performance, and advanced digital services.

The showcase event in Hyderabad, held at Indus Hotel, highlighted Zong's

company committed to delivering secure, intelligent, and future-ready enterprise platforms.

Z SAIS Cloud is anchored by a stateof-the-art Tier-III certified data center in Islamabad, and provides enterprise-grade reliability and low-latency hosting across multiple cities. This infrastructure ensures robust performance and supports mission-critical workloads for organizations across

Speaking at the ceremony, Sameer Mughal, Director Zong Business Solutions (South), said, "Z SAIS Cloud is ready to support Pakistan's national cloud and AI infrastructure agenda.

evolution into a full-fledged technology As organizations increasingly migrate Attendees gained insights from execworkloads to secure, local platforms, Zong's cloud offering ensures complete data sovereignty, enabling sensitive data to remain within Pakistan."

The platform's security framework incorporates AI-driven threat detection and behavioral monitoring, along with defenses against zero-day vulnerabilities, ransomware, intrusion attempts, automated bots, and DDoS attacks

The Hyderabad event also provided an exclusive opportunity for local industry leaders to explore how Zong's cloud services can drive digital transformation while ensuring security, flexibility, and operational efficiency.

utive keynotes on future-ready cloud infrastructure, live demonstrations of the platform's capabilities, and perspectives from early adopters and industry experts, alongside valuable networking with Zong's cloud leadership team.

Looking ahead, Zong plans to expand Z SAIS Cloud services, enabling organizations nationwide to accelerate digital transformation securely and efficiently. By combining local hosting, advanced AI capabilities, and enterprise-grade security, Zong aims to position Pakistan as a regional hub for cloud innovation and technology-driven growth.

#### 5th International Conference on Economic Issues and Sustainable Development **Concludes**



MULTAN: three-day 5th International Conference on Economic Issues and Sustainable Development 2025, hosted by The Women University Multan, concluded successfully today with the release of a comprehensive declaration and policy recommendations aimed at advancing sustainable development in developing economies.

Addressing the closing ceremony, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Kalsom Pracha said that the conference reaffirmed the commitment to steer Pakistan towards economic stability and social prosperity through researchdriven knowledge and innovation. She added that enhancing the capacity of young researchers and promoting evidence-based policy actions remain key priorities of the institution.

Focal person of the conference, Dr. Hina Ali, also addressed the gathering. She expressed gratitude to international and national scholars for their active participation and appreciated the support provided by the university administration. She noted, "This conference has successfully created a dynamic space for young researchers to engage with leading

#### Jahangir Tareen's Support Enables Free Eye Camp in Lodhran



Saim Tanveer

MULTAN: A two-day Free Eye Camp was organized in Lodhran under the Lodhran Pilot Project (LPP) with the special support of Jahangir Khan Tareen. The initiative provided vital eye care services to local residents, where 787 patients were examined, 260 surgeries were performed, and 243 individuals received prescription glasses

In his message, Jahangir Khan Tareen said that providing high-quality and completely free healthcare to the public remains a core mission of his welfare initiatives. "We will continue to expand this journey of service,"

LPP CEO Dr. Abdul Saboor visited the camp, interacted with patients, and reviewed the facilities. He expressed gratitude to Jahangir Khan Tareen and Ali Khan Tareen for their continuous support, noting that LPP has so far organized 45 free eye camps, where over 74,000 patients have been examined and more than 11,000 surgeries have been performed. He added that patients with complicated conditions are also referred

to Sukkur for advanced treatment.

These eye camps serve whole community and specially the underpriv-

#### IHC dismisses petition against Judge Nasir Javed

ISLAMABAD: The Islamabad High Court (IHC) Friday dismissed the petition against Judge Nasir Javed Rana, who had delivered the verdict in the 190 million pound NAB case against PTI founder and Bushra Bibi, declaring it inadmissible.

The IHC's Chief Justice Sardar Sarfaraz Dogar, while pronouncing the verdict on the petition seeking debarment of Sessions Judge Nasir Javed Rana, dismissed the petition. The court has issued orders to dismiss the petition of Usama Riaz Rahi, declaring it inadmissible.

The petitioner Usama Riaz had filed a petition against the appointment and seeking to stop the judge from working in light of the Supreme Court's 2004 observation. The court had previously reserved the verdict after hearing the preliminary arguments.

## Editorial/Opinion

Saturday, December 6, 2025

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## Sudan's civil war and the Ummah's apathy

he African Continent is vast, rich in natural resources and historically subjected to immense suffering. European colonial powers—including France and Britain as well as Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy and Spain—exploited their military strength to impose oppressive control, committing atrocities against the local black population that remain unparalleled in their severity. Even in the present day, major powers continue to engage in competing struggles for dominance over Africa's resources, further aggravating tribal, regional and religious divisions. Although African nations have attained a considerable degree of independence from foreign rule, they have not fully freed themselves from the lingering influence of colonialism, which continues to entangle them in complex economic, political and social challenges.

Sudan, an important African nation, has become a battleground for global colonial powers' conspiracies. On this land, the brutal struggle for power and precious mineral resources has been exemplified by the recent capture of the city of Al-Fasher in West Darfur by the Rapid Support Forces (RSF). The barbarity and savagery witnessed during this takeover have left me at a loss for words to describe the catastrophe inflicted upon innocent civilians. It is lamentable to witness the world's, especially the Muslim world's, apathy towards this crisis. After an 18-month siege, the RSF unleashed unprecedented violence and terror in Al-Fasher following their capture. In just three days, over fifteen hundred innocent civilians were killed, to the point where satellite images showed blood flowing in the city. Mass hangings occurred and millions of people fled to other areas.

According to the United Nations and human rights organizations, the RSF blocked food and medicine from reaching civilians, forcing many to eat animal food amid unbearable hunger. The healthcare system has been destroyed, hospitals reduced to rubble and nearly 10 million children are deprived of education. At a UN Security Council meeting, Sudan's ambassador, Al-Harith Idris Al-Harith Muhammad, stated, "What is happening in Al-Fasher is not merely a civil war but an organized genocide. Women's honour is violated, children are brutally murdered and communities are reduced to dust. This is a systematic continuation of ethnic cleansing ongoing since 2023." Al-Fasher is no longer a city; it has become a mass grave. The entire country faces famine, mass migration and widespread violence. This war is fought between the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF), led by General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), led by Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo, known as Hemetti.

## **CDF Notification: A Firm Rebuttal to Baseless Propaganda**

Abdul Basit Alvi

n recent days, a wave of baseless and deliberately manufactured propaganda circulated across certain corners of Pakistan's political and media landscape, attempting to create confusion regarding the issuance of the notification for the Chief of Defense Forces. From the very beginning, it was evident that the motivations behind this engineered noise were neither rooted in facts nor in any genuine concern for constitutional or administrative procedure. Rather, the forces fueling this misinformation campaign were the same habitual elements that thrive on instability, chaos, and the erosion of public confidence in state institutions. These groups, which include both internal mafias and individuals aligned with broader hostile agendas, have long sought opportunities to weaken Pakistan's unity and sow doubt about the harmony between the nation's civil and military leadership.

The target of their propaganda was none other than Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, a figure whose reputation for professionalism, discipline, merit, and unwavering loyalty to Pakistan has made him a formidable obstacle for all forces working against national stability. It is no secret that certain anti-state networks, criminal syndicates, and external adversaries feel threatened by any leadership that prioritizes national interest over individual or organisational agendas. For such groups, a leader known for transparent decision-making, strict accountability, and strategic clarity represents a significant barrier. Thus, the attempt to manufacture suspicion around the CDF notification was nothing more than an effort to undermine confidence in Pakistan's institutions at a time when continuity and unity

becomes the first Chief of Defense Forces renewed emphasis on merit and accountin Pakistan's history, marking an imporability. The nation witnessed a notable tant evolution in national defense management. While this may be a new designation for Pakistan, the structure itself is neither under his command. His role during major unique nor unprecedented across the world. Many countries maintain a unified military leadership under a position that

oversees all branches of the armed forces. India's Chief of Defence Staff, Britain's Chief of the Defence Staff, Australia's Chief of the Defence Force, Kenya's Chief of Defence Forces, and similar positions in Tanzania and Uganda demonstrate the global

relevance of centralized military leadership. These roles have historically strengthened inter-service coordination, improved national defense policy planning, and ensured greater operational efficiency. Countries that adopted this structure benefited from coherent strategic direction, quicker decision-making in emergencies, and clarity in executing national defense objectives. Pakistan's adoption of a similar model reflects a commitment to modernization, institutional clarity, and greater alignment with international best

practices. Within Pakistan, the appointment of Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir to this centralized role holds special significance because his professional record is widely respected. Over the years, he has served in critical operational, intelligence, and command positions, earning recognition for his disciplined approach and strategic understanding. His leadership has been associated with operational prepared-

Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir thus ness, institutional strengthening, and a ture. There is a broad recognition that sense of unity and confidence during key national defense and security operations counter-terrorism and security actions, and his emphasis on safeguarding Pakistan's internal and external sovereignty,

have strengthened his status as a trusted leader within the armed forces and among the general public. Analysts and observers often note that Pakistan's defense posture has become more streamlined, assertive, and cohesive under his leadership. The Pakistani

Army's outstanding performance against India in the recent Marka-e-Haq, guided by the remarkable leadership of the Field Marshal, has elevated both Pakistan's and the Army's stature worldwide.

Across Pakistan, people from all walks of life have expressed profound satisfaction and renewed confidence following the issuance of the Chief of Defense Forces notification. Citizens have collectively rejected the baseless narratives propagated by anti-state elements, as well as any internal or external actors attempting to create unrest or confusion regarding national defense leadership. Such propaganda, driven by vested interests and hostile agendas, has been widely dismissed by the public as an attempt to undermine Pakistan and weaken the prestige of its armed forces. For the people, this appointment is far more than a mere strong affirmation of stability, continuity, and clarity within Pakistan's defense strucField Marshal Syed Asim Munir's leadership will enhance coordination among the Army, Navy, and Air Force, providing a unified strategic direction at a time when the nation faces multifaceted security and geopolitical challenges. His reputation for discipline, decisiveness, and integrity is widely viewed as an invaluable asset for Pakistan's armed forces, and public sentiment reflects relief that attempts to create unnecessary confusion have been effectively countered through constitutional process and transparency.

From a broader perspective, the nation's

strength is closely tied to the clarity, cohesion, and efficiency of its institutions. The establishment of the Chief of Defense Forces role, now entrusted to a leader of proven competence and unwavering integrity, marks the beginning of a new era in Pakistan's strategic management. This development signals a maturation of the country's defense structure, ensuring that inter-service operations are coordinated with precision and foresight. Across the country, citizens look forward with confidence, reassured that under Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir's stewardship, the Pakistani armed forces will continue to uphold their historic values of professionalism, sacrifice, and commitment to national security. This moment also sends a strong message that any forces attempting to destabilize Pakistan—whether internal conspirators or external adversarieswill face the combined strength of unity, constitutional continuity, and an unshakable national resolve. In essence, the appointment is both a milestone and a reaffirmation that Pakistan's institutions administrative procedure; it represents a remain robust, capable, and steadfast in protecting the nation's sovereignty and



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

## America Falls Victim to Its Own Pre-Emptive Doctrine

he doctrine of preventive and pre-emptive strike, once defended as a tool to neutralize danger, has instead evolved into one of the hierarchy, and criminal ecosystems. most destabilizing forces of the modern era. It was misused in Iraq, misapplied in movement, armed logistics, intimidation, and Afghanistan, refined by Israel across the Middle

momentum. A strategy designed to stop future conflict is in reality manufacturing perpetual instability, radicalization, and blowback that reaches far beyond the battlefield. Today it resurfaces in Venezuela and Colombia, where U. S. kinetic actions mirror the same flawed logic that once plunged entire regions into chaos.

Washington now accuses Venezuela's leadership of facilitating narcotics traffickingincluding fentanyl, cocaine, heroin, and synthetic opioids—into the United States, Acting on these claims, U.S. forces have destroyed 21 Venezuelan maritime vessels, including a mini-submarine, multiple fishing boats, and coastal carriers allegedly tied to smuggling networks. Venezuela has condemned these strikes as "acts of war," and nationwide protests demand retaliation. As naval deployments increase and rhetoric hardens, the region inches toward confrontation.

These external and internal patterns converge with a new and overlooked threat: America's own criminal ecosystem, which is deeply intertwined with the consequences of its foreign and domestic policies. According to law-enforcement estimates, there are approximately 172,000 cartel-affiliated and illegal-gang operatives inside the United States, embedded in trafficking, distribution, logistics, and underground financial networks. If aggressive external crackdowns in

Venezuela and Colombia disrupt these supply chains, tens of thousands of operatives inside the United States will suddenly lose their income,

History shows that men trained in covert criminal coordination rarely retire when their East, and has now begun reshaping U.S. policy networks collapse. Some may reintegrate into in the Western Hemisphere with dangerous society, but many—dispossessed, angry, and

stripped of status—may evolve into more violent, unpredictable actors. A displaced criminal workforce of 172,000 individuals, skilled in violence and trafficking, represents a potential flashpoint for domestic terrorism far greater than the maritime vessels destroyed abroad. Without rehabilitation, education, economic inclusion,

and cultural transformation, enforcement alone may ignite a domestic insurgency that grows silently inside American borders.

Meanwhile, abroad, the preventive doctrine continues generating diplomatic and strategic losses. Israel's long-term reliance on pre-emptive strikes has led to unprecedented isolation from Europe, legal indictments, suspended arms transfers, and deep economic damage. Its military strength remains intact, but its global legitimacy has deteriorated. The United States is experiencing similar erosion. At the United Nations, America increasingly stands alone defending actions viewed internationally as violations of sovereignty. Allies abstain rather than stand with Washington. Latin American anger intensifies as U.S. forces strike vessels and aircraft in waters they consider their own.

If left unchecked, these actions could fracture hemispheric relations for decades. A region historically tied to the United States may transform into a zone of resistance and asymmetric

retaliation. Every destroyed boat, every violated border, every wounded soldier, every act of internal violence becomes part of a growing web of instability linking foreign miscalculations with domestic consequences.

A sustainable solution requires more than interdictions, seizures, or kinetic displays. Preventive violence cannot cure the social, economic, and cultural conditions that fuel crime and extremism. Real security emerges from deeper reforms—education, opportunity, community rebuilding, regional cooperation, and domestic social healing. Without addressing underlying fractures, the United States risks creating the very threats it seeks to eliminate, both abroad and within its borders.

The world must move toward outlawing preventive and pre-emptive strikes. Nations that violate sovereignty must face automatic, impartial economic and diplomatic consequences enforced by mechanisms beyond the reach of political manipulation.

Humanity cannot afford another Iraq, another Libva, another Svria—or a Venezuelan and Colombian conflict born from speculative intelligence and unilateral force. Nor can the United States afford more tragedies like the killing of its own National Guard soldier at the hands of a deeply wounded man shaped by a fractured national psyche.

Pre-emptive doctrine does not provide safety. It creates destruction, resentment, and internal instability. Only when nations reject the impulse to strike first and invest instead in long-term social transformation—at home and abroad will the world begin to heal from the damage this doctrine has unleashed.

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

## When Love Steps In to Calm the Political Fire, Nations Find **Their Way Back**

Muhammad Akram Choudhry

akistan's political temperature today seems to rise faster than our collective capacity to absorb it. Every passing day brings sharper words, firmer stances, and a troubling erosion of the space once occupied by dialogue, graciousness, and mutual respect. Politics-ideally a process

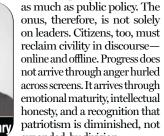
of nation-building-has gradually morphed into a spectacle of confrontation. Yet, amid this turbulence, one is compelled to revisit the quieter worlds created by poets, where conflict does not suffocate, where the human heart remains central, and where love, civility, and introspection continue to overpower

the loudest tempests of hostility. Our poets were never detached observers; they were moral anchors, social mirrors, and the earliest proponents of peaceful dissent. They reminded us that societies sustain themselves not through noise but through nuance, not through division but through connectedness. Faiz's gentle melancholy, Iqbal's moral and philosophical surge, Jalib's fearless truth-telling-all carried the same essential message: that love, empathy, and dignity are not mere sentiments but political tools—capable of diffusing crises, bridging divides, and guiding nations toward stability. Their world seems a far cry from ours today, yet it is precisely the world we must draw from if we are to heal.

Pakistan's political class, too, must confront an uncomfortable truth: nations do not collapse from economic stress alone—they collapse when societies lose their capacity for tolerance. When disagreement becomes synonymous with enmity, and when political opponents are treated as

adversaries rather than participants in a shared democratic contract, systems begin to fracture from within. Love—understood here as respect, restraint, and a willingness to imagine the other's perspective-may seem like an unusual prescription for political recovery, but history suggests otherwise. Nations have been rescued not only by decisive decisions but by humane gestures.

Civil societies are built upon public behavior



expanded, by division. In moments of deep crisis, societies often rediscover the simplest truths. Love softens political fires. Dialogue rebuilds bridges. Respect restores balance. If political leaders allow a measure of grace into their conduct, if citizens resist the urge to dehumanize one another, if institutions remain steady and impartial, Pakistan can still carve a path towards a gentler, more stable political future.

And to you, the reader—thank you. In an age where noise wins attention, choosing to read, reflect, and reconsider is an act of quiet courage. If even a single sentence here compels you to believe that politics can be kinder, or that love and civility can coexist with strength and strategy, then this column has served its purpose. Nations survive on reason, but they flourish on empathy. May Pakistan learn again to flourish.

The writer is senior analyst and he can be reached at 1947@gmail.com

## Thai Embassy Marks National Day, Strengthens Ties with Pakistan

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Minister of State for Finance and Railways, Bilal Azhar Kayani congratulated the government and people of Thailand on the National Day and reiterated the commitment to promote cooperation between the two countries. He addressed to gathering as a Chief Guest on the occasion of National Day of Thailand, which also commemorates the birthday of King Bhumibol Adulvadei (Rama IX), celebrated in Thailand as Father's Day hosted by Royal Thai Embassy in Islamabad.

The event also paid tribute to the late monarch's legacy and observed the national mourning period for Queen Sirikit, the Queen Mother.

The event attended by Federal Minister for Investment and Chairman of the Board of Investment (BOI) Oaiser Ahmed Sheikh, Ambassadors, Govt officials, Friends of Thailand and media persons.

Speaking on the occasion, Kayani expressed satisfaction at the current level of excellent bilateral relations and said the partnership between the two countries "is founded on the prin- the late King's remarkable contribuciples of mutual trust, cooperation, and the common goals of global peace and

He stressed the importance of promoting comprehensive and longterm partnerships in areas including trade and investment, education, defense, security, culture, and tourism.

He appreciated the importance of close cooperation between Pakistan

ranging from climate change and food insecurity to economic and regional security issues. The Minister appreciated the services of Ambassador Rongwuddi Wirabbitar in improving relations between Thailand and Paki-

Earlier, Rongvudhi Virabutr, Ambassador of Thailand, said that December 5 is an auspicious occasion as we commemorate National Day of the Kingdom of Thailand, the Birthday Anniversary of the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej, and Thailand's Father's Day.

"Today event is taking place during the period of national mourning for the passing of Queen Sirikit, the Queen Mother of the Kingdom of Thailand," he said. "This evening, we also recall the immense and lasting legacy of King Bhumibol Adulyadej. Throughout his 70-year reign, he dedicated his life to the well-being of his people, initiating over four thousand Royal Projects," the envoy said.

He said that this auspicious day is also recognized by the United Nations as "World Soil Day," acknowledging tions to soil science, a clear example of science applied directly to improve people's livelihoods. This philosophy, that the people's suffering cannot wait, is the principle guiding our enduring friendship with Pakistan, particularly as we approach the 75th anniversary of our diplomatic relationship in 2026.

"The year 2025 has been a year of intense progress, and our commitment





happiest possible smiles to the faces of our Pakistani friends.'

The ambassador highlighted Thailand's ongoing collaboration with UN Women to uplift women in Swabi and Sialkot, with special focus on beauty

to our partners here is driven by that & livelihood training for home-based simple, profound goal: to bring the income generation, and regenerative agriculture programs to strengthen rural women's economic roles.

> He introduced Jennifer Innes Taylor (Khun Jane) of Udon Organic Farm. who helped train women in sustainable farming practices. "These activi-





ties are only the beginning, from small USD 1.6 billion last year. He stressed seeds, great forests grow," he said.

Ambassador Virabutr emphasized Agreement should be concluded "at the need to accelerate economic ties, noting that bilateral trade reached

that the Pakistan-Thailand Free Trade the earliest" to unlock the next phase

He further highlighted Thailand's interest in expanding collaboration in high-value halal industries, leveraging its global reputation in high-standard food production.

As the current chair of the ASEAN Committee in Islamabad, Thailand is also working to enhance ASEAN-Pakistan cooperation and support Pakistan's aspirations for deeper engagement with the regional bloc.

The evening concluded with a reaffirmation of the warm and growing partnership between Thailand and Pakistan, "As true friends," Ambassador Virabutr said, "Thailand will continue to work hand-in-hand with Pakistan for the happiness and prosperity of our peoples.

Photos by Imtiaz Ahmad Faizi

## SSWMB's first biogas plants to energize Clifton kitchens from 15 Dec, FPCCI panel briefed

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: The Sindh Solid Waste Management Board's first biogas plant, developed to utilise Karachi's substantial organic waste output, will commence operations on 15 December 2025, supplying low-cost cooking fuel to gas-deprived households in Clifton.

This was announced by SSWMB Managing Director, Tariq Ali Nizamani, while addressing a seminar on modern, sustainable urban waste management solutions aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The event was organised by the Central Standing Committee of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI) on SDGs, in collaboration with the National Forum for Environment & Health (NFEH), at the Federation House.



Nizamani said the biogas plant at Bagh Ibn-e-Qasim would process up to seven government to penalise such violations and construction and sewerage waste.

tonnes of livestock waste daily to supply fuel to nearby 70 to 80 households at a subsidised rate of Rs 2,000 per month. In its next phase, the facility will also generate electricity to help resolve longstanding lighting issues at the iconic park.

He added that another biogas plant would soon be set up at Karachi's Cattle Colony, boosting the SSWMB's efforts to convert the city's substantial organic waste into energy rather than allowing hazardous dumping into the sea, which contributes to severe marine

Mr Nizamani further disclosed that heavy vehicles transporting waste recklessly-often scattering rubbish across major roads—would soon be fined up to Rs 20,000, as the SSWMB has requested powers from the provincial

Welcoming participants, FPCCI Vice-President Aman Paracha emphasised the urgent need to roll out modern waste disposal systems, noting that unattended rubbish heaps—particularly along the railway tracks—remained a major civic concern for Karachi's residents.

Senior environmentalist Saqib Ejaz Hussain urged the Sindh government to ensure the safe and proper disposal of the city's enormous quantity of hospital and medical waste, warning that its illegal burning at night significantly worsened air pollution.

Speaking on behalf of the Dawoodi Bohra Community, Ali Asghar Quettawala called for near residential neighbourhoods across the a one-window operation in Karachi to handle all categories of waste, including municipal

The Convener of the FPCCI Standing Committee, Naeem Qureshi, appealed to the Sindh government to allocate greater financial and logistical support to the SSWMB and other civic agencies to strengthen Karachi's waste management systems.

Climate activist, Ahmed Shabbar, called for launching a broad-based awareness drive to ensure that the citizens actively take part in the campaign to make Karachi clean and

NFEH Secretary-General Ruqiya Naeem and Vice-President Engineer Nadeem Ashraf urged the SSWMB to improve and accelerate waste collection from dustbins placed city. Late, the Standing Committee members also visited the upcoming biogas plant of the SSWMB.

## ISSI's Islamabad Conclave 2025 on 'Re-imagining South Asia' concludes after wide-ranging, absorbing deliberations

**Spokesman Report** 

ISLAMABAD: The 5th Edition of added that the Conclave's delibera-Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI)'s annual Dialogue Forum, Islamabad Conclave, concluded after wide-ranging and absorbing deliberations. The thematic focus of this edition was, "Re-imagining South Asia: Security, Economy, Climate, Connectivity." Former Foreign Minister of Pakistan, Ambassador Inam ul Hague, was the Chief Guest at the concluding plenary.

During the session, Director General ISSI, Ambassador Sohail Mahmood. presented Key Takeaways from the Inaugural and five Working Sessions held over the two days.

tion, Director General ISSI Ambassador Sohail Mahmood noted that all the speakers and participants agreed

that "re-imagining South Asia" was a very pertinent and timely theme. He tions reaffirmed the view that South Asia's persistent deficits in security, development, and regional cooperation continued to limit the region's ability to realize its full potential. Escalating geopolitical tensions, unresolved disputes, nuclear and conventional build-ups, and crises such as those witnessed in May 2025 demonstrate the fragility of regional stability. The key message that emerged from the 2-day Conclave, Ambassador Sohail Mahmood noted, was that the region must shift the paradigm from confrontation to cooperation, from zero-sum In his comprehensive presenta- approaches to win-win frameworks. and embrace a reimagined South Asia rooted in institutionalized cooperation, connectivity, economic inte-

discussions emphasised the importance of moving beyond bloc politics, promoting dialogue, strengthening multilateralism, and addressing shared human and environmental challenges through collective strategies.

In his address on the occasion, Chief Guest Ambassador Inam ul Haque commended ISSI for convening a timely and substantive discourse on South Asia's evolving geopolitical, economic, and environmental realities. He presented a wide-ranging and deeply analytical reflection on the evolving global order and its implications for South Asia. He observed that the contemporary international environment is shaped by rapid geopolitical shifts, emerging economic patterns, and accelerated technological transformation. These developments, he empha-

gration, and climate resilience. The sised, require states particularly developing economies, to cultivate strategic foresight, reinforce institutional resilience, and pursue diversified diplomatic partnerships, Ambassador Inam ul Haque noted that long-term global transitions must be assessed with clarity and steadiness, rather than through the lens of short-term policy debates or periodic changes in leadership.

Addressing major-power relations, Ambassador Inam ul Haque highlighted the importance of maintaining balanced, constructive, and mutually respectful engagement with all partners while safeguarding national interests. He reaffirmed the enduring value of Pakistan's strategic and time-tested partnership with China, describing it as a relationship anchored in reliability, shared development priorities, and a strong record of cooperation especially



in connectivity, technological collabotries and other global actors, and must diplomatic and economic objectives. Presenting the Vote of Thanks,

Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, ration, and economic modernization. Chairman Board of Governors ISSI, At the same time, he underscored that expressed gratitude to all distinguished Pakistan continues to benefit from speakers, panelists, and participants for productive ties with Western countheir valuable contributions. Reflecting policy practitioners, students, and briefly on the broader global context, sustain a pragmatic, future-oriented he noted that while the traditional interapproach that advances its broader national order is gradually eroding, a new order has yet to consolidate leaving the world in a period of transi-

tion and uncertainty. He observed that the Conclave successfully captured these complex dynamics while offering forward-looking insights on South Asia's geopolitical and geo-economic trajectory. He thanked regional and international participants for enriching the dialogue and conveved appreciation to the Director General and the ISSI team for their dedication and professionalism in organising the Conclave.

The Conclave brought together a diverse audience, including members of the diplomatic corps, academia, think-tank community, civil society, media representatives. The two-day event affirmed a renewed call for collaborative approaches to regional peace, stability, and shared development in South Asia.

## OIC-COMSTECH and Embassy of Thailand jointly host International Symposium on "Halal Science and Wellness"

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: The OIC Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH) and Embassy of Thailand hosted the International Symposium on "Halal Science and Wellness" at its Secretariat in Islamabad. The event brought together distinguished international experts, senior officials, diplomats, and representatives from scientific and regulatory bodies across the Muslim world.

The session opened with welcome remarks by H. E. Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary, Coordinator General, OIC-COMSTECH, who warmly welcomed the participants and highof the Halal industry, now valued at over USD 1.3 trillion. He underscored the significance testing, and capacity building to strengthen consumer confidence and expand global trade opportunities over growing collaboration with Thailand.



sador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of lighted the rapidly growing global importance the Royal Thai Embassy, graced the event as Chief Guest. He congratulated COMSTECH for its leadership in organizing a symposium of harmonized Halal standards, scientific on such a timely and critical topic. Highlighting opportunities for future cooperation, he emphasized that scientific advancements and emerging technologies, such as molecular analysis, contamination detection, blockchain

H. E. Mr. Rongvudhi Virabutr, Ambastraceability, and AI-enabled risk assessment, can greatly enhance the integrity of halal products and make certification more efficient.

Speaking as guest of honour, H. E. Prof. Ihsan Ovut, Secretary General of SMIIC, emphasized the need for harmonized Halal standards developed under the guidance of experienced experts to ensure global uniformity and credibility.

The symposium witnessed effective partic-



representing Iran, Somalia, Palestine, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Uganda, Bangladesh, Benin, Cameroon, Gabon, Côte d'Ivoire, and Senegal, alongside a significant number of experts from Pakistan.

In his address, Prof. Choudhary highlighted the pivotal role of the Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC) in developing and harmonizing

ipation from over 30 international delegates Halal standards across OIC member states. He shared that COMSTECH and SMIIC have jointly conducted five regional training programs in Uzbekistan, Uganda, Bangladesh, Morocco, and Pakistan, training over 300 laboratory professionals in Halal product standards and testing.

> Prof. Choudhary also shared that major project supported by the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB): the establishment

of a Halal Authentication Laboratory at the Islamic University in Uganda (IUIU). The facility is expected to become operational early next year and will serve several East African OIC member states. He also announced new scholarship programs for training in Halal Science. Distinguished speakers included Prof. Dr.

Pornpimol Mahamad, Director, Halal Science Centre, Chulalongkorn University (Thailand), and Mr. Akhtar A. Bughio, Director General, Pakistan Halal Authority (PHA).

On this occasion, an MoU was signed between OIC-COMSTECH and the Halal Science Centre, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand, aimed at strengthening collaboration in research, capacity building, and Halal science development.

The inaugural session concluded with a group photo, followed by technical presentations and discussions on Halal standards, testing methodologies, and emerging trends

in the global halal market. Photos by Imtiaz Ahmed Faizi

## **Bull & Bears** PSX 100-Share

| index Fluctuation             |                          |  |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index |                          |  |
| Current                       | Prev. Close              |  |
| 167,085.58                    | 166,283.55               |  |
| Day's High                    | Day's Low                |  |
| 167,923.45                    | 166,369.72               |  |
| Index Value                   | Change                   |  |
| 28,450,057,135                | +802.03                  |  |
| Percentage                    | Time                     |  |
| +0.48%                        | 5 Dec, 2025<br>4:30 pm   |  |
| Europe: FTS                   | E 100 Index              |  |
| Index Value                   | Change                   |  |
| 9,667.01                      | -43.86                   |  |
| Percentage                    | Time                     |  |
| -0.45%                        | 5 Dec, 4:35 pm<br>GMT    |  |
| <b>USA:</b> Dow Jones I       | ndustrial Average        |  |
| Index Value                   | Change                   |  |
| 47,986.78                     | +135.84                  |  |
| Percentage                    | Time                     |  |
| +0.28%                        | 5 Dec, 12:54 pm<br>GMT-5 |  |

| Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average |                         |  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Index Value                         | Change                  |  |
| 50,491.87                           | +-536.55                |  |
| Percentage                          | Time                    |  |
| -1.05%                              | 5 Dec, 3:45 pm<br>GMT+9 |  |

| Open Market Forex Rates |        |         |
|-------------------------|--------|---------|
| Currency                | Buying | Selling |
| Australian Dollar       | 184.5  | 188.5   |
| Bahrain Dinar           | 744.5  | 754.5   |
| Canadian Dollar         | 200.05 | 204.75  |
| China Yuan              | 39.26  | 39.66   |
| Danish Krone            | 43.17  | 43.57   |
| Euro                    | 327.5  | 330.5   |
| Hong Kong Dollar        | 35.69  | 36.04   |
| Indian Rupee            | 3.05   | 3.14    |
| Japanese Yen            | 1.8025 | 1.9025  |
| Kuwaiti Dinar           | 912.5  | 922.5   |
| Malaysian Ringgit       | 67.31  | 67.91   |
| NewZealand \$           | 158.95 | 160.95  |
| Norwegians Krone        | 27.42  | 27.72   |
| Omani Riyal             | 728.75 | 738.75  |
| Qatari Riyal            | 76.39  | 77.09   |
| Saudi Riyal             | 74.9   | 75.4    |
| Singapore Dollar        | 215.5  | 220.5   |
| Swedish Korona          | 29.39  | 29.69   |
| Swiss Franc             | 346.63 | 349.38  |
| Thai Bhat               | 8.59   | 8.74    |
| U.A.E Dirham            | 76.6   | 77.35   |
| UK Pound Sterling       | 374.5  | 378     |
| IIS Dollar              | 281.3  | 283.2   |

## Pak-Qatar Family Takaful Set to Raise 1.1 billion through IPO on 11th December

**Example 2** Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Pak Qatar Family Takaful Limited is all set to list itself at Pakistan Stock Exchange through an IPO with registration starting 08th December. Through this IPO PQFTL is aiming to raise approx. Rs. 1.1 billion.

The registration for book building will start on 8th,9th and 10th December while Book Building would start from 11th to 12th December 2025.

Pak-Qatar Family Takaful Ltd will offer 50 million shares at up to Rs. 21 per share through a book building process. The book building would start at Rs.14.00 per share and it can go up to Rs. 21.00 per share with a maximum price band of up to 50% (PKR 21.00 per

Out of total 50 million shares, 37.5 million will be allotted through book building to institutional buyers whereas remaining 25% (12.5) million shares will be issued to general public.

Shahid Ali Habib, CEO of Arif Habib Ltd., the lead manager for the IPO said that it would be first-ever IPO of any dedicated Family Takaful Company in Pakistan and investors are showing strong interest in this offering.

Proceeds from the IPO will help Pak-Qatar Family Takaful meet minimum capital requirements, expand its digital channels, and develop more customer-focused products, Habib said.

The company, which has strong backing from Qatar's financial sector, plans to use the proceeds to expand its operations and product offerings in Paki-

stan's rapidly growing insurance market. Pak-Qatar Family Takaful Limited (PQFTL) is Pakistan's first and largest company dedicated exclusively to Family Takaful, having a 44% market share of the family takaful (incl. Window takaful) sector and a 90.47% market share of the dedicated family takaful segment & With 6.6% of total life insurance business share.

## BankIslami strengthens Saudi Arabia-Pakistan links through strategic dialogue in Riyadh

**Example 2** Commerce Desk

RIYADH: BankIslami hosted a reception dinner in Riyadh in honor of His Excellency Ahmad Farooq, Ambassador of Pakistan to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The event brought together members of Saudi civil society as well as the Pakistani diaspora.

Commenting on the nearly eightdecade-long partnership between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Pakistan, Ambassador Farooq highlighted the deep strategic alignment, enduring mutual trust, and shared Islamic solidarity between both countries. He also commended the Pakistani community in the Kingdom for its efforts in strengthening people-to-people linkages

Members of the diaspora thanked Ambassador Farooq for his dedicated service and the Embassy's consistent support, noting the positive impact of his leadership on bilateral relations.



Imran H Shaikh thanked the participants and stated: "The Kingdom's Vision 2030 reflects the far-sighted leadership of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, and His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Crown Prince and Prime Minister, and serves as a benchmark for other countries."

He further noted, "BankIslami is committed to advancing the global growth of Islamic banking and delivering meaningful, Shariah-compliant value to communities worldwide.

The session concluded with stakeholders emphasizing the need to further strengthen ties between Saudi Arabia and Pakistan and create deeper avenues of cooperation.

BankIslami reaffirmed its commitment to advancing Islamic financing that is free from Riba (interest) and to supporting broader community-driven

## Turkish Coffee Day

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of Türkiye to Pakistan, H.E. Dr. Irfan Neziro lu addressing a seminar on "World Turkish Coffee Day" at National Press Club



## **Iftikhar Malik felicitates** Field Marshal Asim Munir on his appointment as the first Chief of Defence Forces



😂 Commerce Desk

LAHORE: SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry former President Iftikhar Ali Malik Friday congratulated Chief of Army Staff Field Marshal Asim Munir on his prestigious appointment as the first Chief of Defence Forces for a five-vear term.

In a felicitation message, an octogenarian trade leader of South Asia said the historic elevation reflects the nation's trust in Field Marshal Munir's visionary leadership, professionalism, and unwavering

commitment to national security. He said the newly created office of Chief of Defence Forces marks a major step toward strengthening joint operational readiness and enhancing coordination among the armed services. He expressed confidence that under his command, Pakistan's defence architecture will continue to modernize,

ensuring robust preparedness to meet emerging regional and global challenges. He further highlighted that his distinguished career, marked by integrity, strategic insight, and dedication, makes him uniquely qualified to lead the country's defence establishment during a transformative period.

Iftikhar Ali Malik emphasized that strong national security is indispensable for economic revival and regional trade integration

## Architect Lounge At IAPEX-2025 **Attracts Visitors**

**Example 2** Commerce Desk

**LAHORE: Architect Lounge** of ChenOne emerged as the centre of attraction for visitors on the opening day of the three-day IAPEX 2025 exhibition, kicked off Friday at the Lahore Expo Centre.

The exquisitely designed lounge showcased ChenOne's commitment to creativity, craftsmanship, and contemporary lifestyle aesthetics, drawing architects, designers, industry experts, and families alike. With its vibrant ambiance and thoughtfully curated exhibits, the lounge set the tone for the entire exhibition, reinforcing ChenOne's reputation as a trendsetter in Pakistan's lifestyle and interior design industry. ChenOne's design team led by Ms Maria Tauqir GM Interiors remained fully engaged with the architects, answering queries and offering insights into the brand's philosophy of



served as a visual treat but interiors, luxury furniture, and HomeOne furniture range also as an inspiring hub for innovative home solutions. meaningful conversations on Visitors were particularly design excellence. The space impressed by the Art Corner, featured curated segments that where select artworks added blending tradition with inno- highlighted ChenOne's diverse a refined cultural dimension

vation. The lounge not only portfolio, including modern to the overall display. The also stood out for its sleek lines, functional layouts, and elegant finishes, offering attendees a glimpse into modern living

#### **Haleon Jamshoro Plant Earns TRUE Platinum** for Zero Waste

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Haleon Pakistan Limited has announced that its Jamshoro Manufacturing Site has been awarded Platinum Certification under the TRUE (Total Resource Use and Efficiency) rating system. Administered by Green Business Certification Inc. (GBCI), TRUE helps facilities measure, improve and recognize zero waste performance by encouraging the adoption of sustainable waste management and reduction practices, which contribute to positive environmental, health

and economic outcomes. As part of Haleon's global business strategy, all owned sites aim to achieve TRUE Zero Waste Certification by 2030. This milestone achieved by Haleon Jamshoro facility reflects the company's commitment to SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 3

(Good Health and Wellbeing) with an outstanding 99.7% waste diversion rate.

Haleon Pakistan Limited delivered a strategic shift toward circular operations, reducing the facility's environmental footprint while strengthening resource efficiency across the value chain. Key actions included transitioning to e-leaflets and PET bottles to reduce packaging waste, establishing circular partnerships for off-site composting of food and yard waste, and deploying supplier take-back programs for wooden pallets and plastic drums. These measures contributed to the diversion of 33,586 kg of materials, reduced procurement impacts and minimized disposal needs. The site also advanced SDG-focused innovation through upcycling initiatives that repurposed 283 kg of materials and the reuse of obsolete laptops to avoid e-waste.

## FFC Wins Best MAP Corporate Excellence Award in Fertilizer Sector

**Example 2** Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Fauji Fertilizer Company (FFC) has proudly been recognized with Best Corporate Excellence Award for 9th time in Fertilizer Sector as adjudged by the Manage-(MAP) at the 40th Corporate held in Karachi. Syed Imran tion.

Rizvi, Head of Investor Relations, received the award on behalf of FFC.

This prestigious accolade celebrates FFC's enduring commitment to exceptional corporate governance, best management practices, indusment Association of Pakistan trial innovation, and sustained shareholder value; hallmarks Excellence Awards Ceremony of the company since its incep-

These achievements epitomize the visionary leadership of FFC's Board of Directors and the unrelenting commitment, perseverance, and steadfast dedication of the management team, led by MD&CEO, Mr. Jahangir Piracha. FFC reaffirms its unwavering resolve to maintain industry leadership, drive



growth, and set new benchmarks, with gratitude to the Almighty Allah (SWT) for this recognition.

## International Cholistan Desert Rally in February 2026



#### **Sports Desk**

ISLAMABAD: As part of the Government of Punjab's 'Magnificent Punjab' vision, the Tourism Development Corporation of Punjab (TDCP), in collaboration with the Pakistan Tour-Outreach Programme here at a local hotel on Friday.

Speaking on the occasion, the chief guest, Federal Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Tariq Fazal Chaudhary, lauded the joint efforts of TDCP and PTDC.

He described the Cholistan Desert Rally as a flagship initiative for promoting adventure tourism, cultural identity and a positive international image of

He added that such events help strengthen people-to-people ties, ism Development Corporation create investment opportunities (PTDC), organized a Tourism and provide livelihoods for local communities. The minister reaffirmed the government's support for tourism promotion and assured full facilitation for the upcoming rally.

"Participants from across the country will join the rally, helping

project Pakistan's softer image to the world," he said.

He also assured that all necessary facilities would be provided for the rally, noting that tourism is guided by national policy and plays a vital role in promoting Pakistan's culture.

Prime Minister's Coordinator on Tourism, Sardar Yasir Ilyas Khan, noted that the rally has been running for over two decades, a testament to the country's commitment to tourism development. Highlighting the expanded 700-km route, he said it reflects Pakistan's ability

to transform natural landscapes into economic strength.

He added that the sacrifices of the Armed Forces and the nation's resilience contribute to presenting Pakistan as a peaceful destination. "Our target is to bring back the overseas community. We have everything in this Aftab Ur Rehman Rana provincial and federal tourism Punjab's vibrant heritage.

country, we just need to capitalize on it," he remarked.

He emphasized the need for enhancing skills development, job creation and confidence-building in Pakistan's tourism potential.

PTDC Managing Director

commended TDCP's leadership and recognized the active involvement of foreign embassies.

He emphasized PTDC's commitment to strengthening tourism diplomacy and building global partnerships, stressing mentary screening and cultural that collaboration between

bodies is essential to enhance Pakistan's competitiveness as a global tourism destination.

The programme featured the official trophy unveiling, a promotional launch, a docuperformances,

## Faisal Gymkhana and Malir Cantonment reach semis of S. M. Adil Zone-IV Inter Club Cricket Tourney

KARACHI: Faisal Gymkha- organized by Regional na and Malir Cantonment Gymkhana moved into Semi Finals of S. M. Adil Zone-IV Inter Club Cricket after beating their opponents at various Cricket Grounds.

5/57 and Naimat Khan Ahad Ali 2/51.

Cricket Association Karachi Zone-IV.

Scores in Brief:

Faisal Gymkhana beat Youngster Gymkhana by 117 runs at Pak Star Ground. The highlights of the days Faisal Gymkhana 224/8 in by Muhammad Zeeshan 64 5x4 1x6, Imran Shah 53 111. Usama Bin Sultan 107. 8x4. Ahmed Jobal 33. Sved

In reply Youngster The Tournament is being Gymkhana 107 all-out in 26 overs. Salah Khan 27, Faisal Nasir 19. Waleed Ahmed (ob) 5/18. After the end of the Match Waleed Ahmed of Faisal Gymkhana received

Match Award. play was brilliant Centuries 35 overs. Yasir Mushtaq Final Malir Cantonment Khan 4/45, Yasir Munir Gymkhana Gymkhana beat 3/51, Match Talah 2/51. Azeempura Gymkhana by 98 Gymkhana 269/8 in 35 Award.

the Markhor Man of the

overs. Muhammad Zeeshan 111 21x4 2x6, Ishtiaq Ghouri 55 6x4, Adeel Khan 28, Yasir Munir 22. Shahzad Siraj

In reply Azeempura Gymkhana 241 allout in 33 overs. Usama Bin Sultan 107 13x4 3x6, Muhammad In the 2nd Quarter Shoaib 56 4x4 2x6Naimat

Later Muhamm

## ICC reveals Men's Player of the Month nominees for November

DUBAI: The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Friday announced the shortlisted players for the Men's Player of the Month award for November 2025, including Pakistan all-rounder Mohammad Nawaz.

According to the ICC press release, the trio also features South Africa off-spinner Simon Harmer and Bangladesh's leading Test wicket-taker, Taijul Islam.

"A trio of standout performers from South Africa, Bangladesh and Pakistan have been nominated for the ICC Men's Player of the Month award in November," the cricket governing body wrote.

Harmer is shortlisted on the back of his outstanding performance in the Test series against India, where he scalped 17 wickets at a mouthwatering average of only 8.94.

His heroics played a vital role in the Deadly Bowling by Waleed Abdullah Rafee 31. Talah runs at Landhi Gymkhana Zeeshan received the Proteas' first 2-0 series win against India, Ahmed 4/18, Shahzad Siraj Iqbal 3/21, Maaz Ali 2/36, Ground. Malir Cantonment Markhor Man of the Match | marking South Africa's first in India since

### Sports Gala 2025 held in Government Schools across Toba Tek Singh

👺 Zafar Chishti

TOBA TEK SINGH: Under the vision of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, a grand Sports Gala 2025 was organized across government schools in the district. Over 400 schools participated with thousands of students competing in various sports events. The central prize distribution ceremony was held at Government Girls Elementary School, Chak No. 323 Trandi. Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Mela attended as the chief guest with CEO Education Raheela Jamil, DEO and DDEO also in attendance. The Deputy Commissioner praised the Education Department for successfully organizing the Sports Gala and distributed medals and awards among the students. Students also  $presented\ a\ remarkable\ tableau\ highlighting\ national\ unity, hard$ work, and peace. Speaking at the event, Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Mela said that sports not only build patience, perseverance and courage among students but also provide opportunities for healthy activities. He added that efforts will be made to further promote sports activities in all schools across the district. According to the Chief Minister's vision, students are being provided greater opportunities to participate in health-oriented and extracurricular activities, fostering both physical development and social harmony.

#### Punjab Sports Minister Khokhar Expects Strong Showing at 35th National Games

#### **55** Tahir Amin Malik.

Provincial Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Malik Faisal Avub Khokhar has expressed his hope that Punjab athletes will offer excellent performance in the 35th National Games being staged at Karachi from December 6 to 13. He said that the players, who are receiving scholarships from Sports Endowment Fund, are also part of Punjab contingent. Provincial Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Malik Faisal Ayub Khokhar said this in a statement issued on Friday.

Provincial Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Malik Faisal Ayub Khokhar said that Punjab contingent has departed for Karachi in three parts. "The first batch of players departed on December 3, second on December 4 while the third and last batch of Punjab athletes will leave for National Games on December 6 (Saturday)".

Provincial Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs Malik Faisal Ayub Khokhar, who will lead the Punjab contingent in the National Games, said that Punjab's male and female athletes will participate in 26 sports disciplines during 8-day National Games. "The Punjab teams were selected purely on merit in trials and then they were provided best facilities including food and accommodation during the 12-day training camps at Nishtar Park Sports Complex".

## DG ISPR terms Imran Khan's 'delusional mindset' a threat to national security

He said that Imran Khan's whole politics is centred around his obsession with matters related to the military.

DG ISPR said that the "mental patient" shared the same agenda as the Indian media. Indian media had been broad-

casting his narrative with unusual enthusiasm, while Afghan-based social media networks and facilitators of militant groups were helping amplify it, he added.

"Within minutes, this narrative reaches international media."

actions that undermined the state, including calls for civil disobedience, and the father — greater than all."

military leadership, and attempts to provoke attacks on institutions.

He said that the PTI founder is glorifying figures like Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and promoting narratives harmful to Pakistan's unity.

He also recalled incidents of May 9, saving the attacks on military installations, including relics of the 1965 war, the Chagai memorial, and martyrs' monuments, were driven by the same hostile mindset.

Role of the Army and state decisions Clarifying the institutional role of the military, the DG ISPR said, "It is Lt Gen Chaudhary said that the PTI a misunderstanding that the Army is founder had repeatedly encouraged the state. The Army is not the state; the government is. The state is the mother

linguistic or political identities, and that attempts to drive a wedge between the people and the military would not be tolerated.

the public against the army," he added.

"Army does not run on the 'clerk and stand like two fingers, we collectively lift bodies and hold funerals."

Counter-terrorism and governance

Lt Gen Chaudhary said the Armed Forces had conducted 13,270 counter-terrorism operations over the past decade, killing 1,943 terrorists.

He warned against downplaying the threat, saying that some voices had

He stressed that the Armed Forces previously argued for opening offices for represent Pakistan as a whole, not militants in Peshawar and negotiating with violent extremists.

He questioned governance in KP under PTI's long rule, asking what improvements had been made in We will not allow anyone to inflame policing, education, and public welfare. No comment on governor's rule

Responding to a question about the babu' system, our officers and soldiers imposition of governor's rule, officials said the decision rests solely with the

"The Army only gives its opinion; the decisions are made by the government," they said.

Reaffirming the military's commitment to national security, Lt Gen Chaudhary said, "We have sworn an oath to defend the state. No one is more important than Pakistan."

## Karachi Blues won the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy,2025 Final by 218 runs against Sialkot.

#### **Tahir Amin Malik**

Karachi Blues outfoxed defending champions Sialkot by a thumping 218-run margin in the final and 46th match of the 68th edition of the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy as the port city claimed its 22nd title in the historic tournament here at the Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore on Friday evening.

The tournament winners grabbed the prestigious trophy and cash award of PKR 7.5 million, while Sialkot were PKR 4 million for their runners-up campaign.

Player of the final Abdullah Fazal was awarded 100k, best bowler Ali Usman and best batter, wicket-keeper and player of the tournament Saad Baig got 250k each for the three individual

Chasing an insurmountable

their day from 12 for no loss in four overs and were bundled out for 314 in 71.1 overs.

Wicketkeeper-batter Afzaal Manzoor, Abdullah Shafique and Hamza Nazar scored half-centuries but pacer Saqib Khan's third five-wicket haul in the tournament handed Karachi a memorable win under Saud Shakeel.

Saqib - who finished the tournament with 47 poles in nine matches behind leading wicket-taker Ali Usman (48) - drew the first blood on day five as he broke the budding 35-run opening stand between Mohammad Hurraira (39, 65b, 5x4s) and Azan Awais (11, 18b, 1x4).

Abdullah Shafique (58, 98b, 6x4s, 1x6) formed a 46-run stand with Hurraira and then a 40-run stand with Abdul Rehman (18, 81.2 overs (Abdullah Fazal 88,

struck on regular intervals to reduce defending champions to 144-5 in 38.2 overs.

At this juncture, Afzaal (63, 48b, 13x4s) and Hamza (56, 84b, 9x4s) got together to stall the imminent as they faced 107 balls to gather 112 runs for the sixthwicket. Rameez Aziz dismissed Afzaal in the 57th over as Sialkot lost five wickets for 58 runs.

Sagib returned match figures of 9-165 in the 44 overs he sent down across both innings. Mushtaq Ahmed and Ramiz picked up two wickets each. Scores in brief – Day 5

Final - Karachi Blues beat Sialkot by 218 runs at Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore

Karachi Blues 340 all out,

Target for Sialkot: 533

533-run target, Sialkot began 22b, 3x4s) before Karachi Blues Usman Khan 82, Saad Baig 39, Saqib Khan 33, Rameez Aziz 22; Mohammad Ali 4-79, Mohammad Hasnain 2-70, Hasan Ali 2-75) and 458 all out, 133.4 overs (Haroon Arshad 116, Abdullah Fazal 114, Shan Masood 76, Usman Khan 47, Saad Baig 31, Rameez Aziz 30; Usama Mir 5-98, Mohammad Hasnain 3-91)

Sialkot 266 all out, 71.5 overs (Mohsin Riaz 71, Hamza Nazar 64, Hasan Ali 41, Abdullah Shafique 32; Saqib Khan 4-79, Muhammad Umar 4-79) and 314 all out, 71.1 overs (Afzaal Manzoor 63, Abdullah Shafique 59, Hamza Nazar 56, Mohammad Hurraira 39, Hasan Ali 25; Saqib Khan 5-86, Rameez Aziz 2-33, Mushtaq Ahmed 2-82)

Player of the final – Abdullah Fazal (88 & 114 - Karachi Blues) Player of the tournament - Saad



Baig (1000 runs & 32 dismissals in 10 games - Karachi Blues)

Best Batter - Saad Baig Best Bowler - Ali Usman (48

wickets in 8 games-Multan) Best Wicketkeeper - Saad Baig

## The Spokesman

# Wooden model ISLAMABAD: Workers are busy in finishing of newly installed Minar-e-Pakistan and Shahi Qila wooden model along Srinagar Highway in the Federal Capital, for the beautification of the city.

## PM speaks with Malaysian counterpart, expresses solidarity over losses in floods

**E** City Desk

Friday held a telephonic conversation with the Prime Minister of Malaysia Dato Seri Anwar Ibrahim to express solidarity over the recent Cyclone-in-

heartfelt condolences to the Malaysian Prime Minister ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister over the loss of precious lives Muhammad Shehbaz Sharifon and damages done to the property as a result of heavy rainfall, floods and landslides in the wake of recent cyclone.

While offering prayers for those who had lost their lives and wishing an early recovery The prime minister, on behalf of the displaced and injured, of the people and Government the Prime Minister conveved of Pakistan as well as on his complete solidarity with the



personal behalf, expressed his Malaysian people at this time of grief, a press statement issued by the PM House said.

He offered Pakistan's full support for relief and rescue operations, as well as any assistance that the Malaysian side requires to deal with this natural disaster.

Prime Minister of Malaysia Anwar Ibrahim thanked the Prime Minister of Pakistan for his kind and thoughtful telephonic call, which he said reflected the close brotherly ties between Pakistan and Malaysia.

## Minister Musadik Malik highlights climate threats at WWF Indus River Dolphin conference

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Dr. Musadik Malik, addressed a conference organized by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) to mark 25 years of efforts to conserve the Indus River Dolphin on Friday.

In his address, Malik highlighted the direct link between rising temperatures, unchecked pollution. accelerating glacier melt, and



concern over the deterio-

become unfit for agricultural use, let alone drinking.

The Minister also warned economic and human toll of climate-related disasters, revealing that recent floods have resulted in losses mental sustainability. exceeding 9.5 percent of Pakistan's GDP.

people have lost their lives duty, but a moral responand more than 17,000 have sibility, calling it "a matter been disabled in the last four of protecting life and He expressed serious rating water quality of the major floods — a casualty toll humanity."

River Ravi, noting that it has higher than that of any single war in the country's history.

> Appreciating WWF's longstanding conservation work, escalating Dr. Malik reaffirmed the Ministry's full support and commitment to biodiversity protection and environ-

He stressed that saving the Indus River Dolphin is He added that over 4,700 not just an environmental

He acknowledged the

efforts of the Ministry of

Railways, and the govern-

ment of Balochistan, and

urged timely and effective

utilization of the financing

to ensure successful imple-

Country Director ADB,

Ms. Emma Fan expressed

appreciation for the govern-

ment of Pakistan's strong

commitment to these

importance of the two

projects for Balochistan and noted the Railways

She highlighted the

projects.

## Pakistan, ADB sign \$61.8 mln agreements for three development initiatives

**Example 2** Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) here Friday signed agreements for three major development initiatives to support priority needs in connectivity, urban transport, and the water

These included the Project Readiness Financing for Karachi-Rohri Section of Main Line-I, Project Readiness Financing (ML-I PRF) amounting to USD 10 Million, for the Quetta Bus Rapid Transit (Quetta BRT PRF) USD 3.8 Million, and Balochistan Water Resources

Development Sector Project- Additional Financing amounting to USD

Secretary, Ministry of Economic Affairs expressed appreciation for ADB's role as a trusted development support to these critical projects,



partner, and its continued support to Pakistan to complement the development agenda of the country, said

a press release issued by the ministry. The Secretary appreciated ADB's

which would significantly contribute to Pakistan's long-term and sustainable economic growth, address the vital urban infrastructure needs of Quetta city, and enhance agricultural support remains aligned with Paki-

Improvement Project PRF as a key step toward railways modernization. She also reaffirmed ADB's continued commitment to working closely with the Ministry of Economic Affairs and other stakeholders to ensure its

productivity in Balochistan Province. stan's development priorities. Published by: Almass Ayoub Sabir from Zero Point Printers Rawalpindi

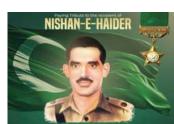
## Martyrdom anniversary of Major Akram observed

**Spokesman Report** 

ISLAMABAD: The 54th martyrdom anniversary of Major Muhammad Akram Shaheed Nishan-e-Haider, was observed on Friday. According to ISPR, Major Muhammad Akram Shaheed, while leading a company of the 4th Frontier then East Pakistan, displayed exceptional courage and tenacity during

Later, on 3rd of December 1971, he was tasked to launch an assault on heavily fortified enemy positions. With unwavering resolve, he

destroyed three enemy tanks during the advance, fighting valiantly until he sustained severe injuries.



Force Regiment in the Hilli sector in day in 1971, exemplifying the highest ideals of bravery and devotion to duty.

Chief of Army Staff and Chief of Defence Forces Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Naveed Ashraf and Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu have solemnly commemorated the Shahadat anniversary of Major He embraced Shahadat on this Muhammad Akram Shaheed.

## Bilawal Bhutto to visit Lahore on Dec 7, set to revamp PPP's Punjab organisational structure

跨 Bureau Report

LAHORE: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari will arrive in Lahore on December 7 for a three-day visit, during which he is expected to undertake major steps to reorganise the party's structure across Punjab, sources said on Friday.

According to the sources, Bilawal will issue notifications for 63 new office-bearers as part of the party's ongoing organisational revamp.

The Lahore chapter will also see fresh appointments, including the city president and other key positions, aimed at activating the provincial capital's party structure.

During his stay, the PPP chairman is scheduled to hold meetings with the newly appointed office-bearers, party leaders, and workers.

Multiple interactions are expected at the Governor House, where Bilawal is likely to review party reor- arrangements, they added.



ganisation plans and future political strategy.

The sources said that the party is also considering shifting Lahore's organisational setup from a districtbased model to a towns-level structure to improve grassroots engage-

In view of the chairman's visit, the Governor House has imposed a restriction on public meetings from Monday to Wednesday to facilitate

## Rana Sanaullah says jail rules must be followed in Imran Khan family meetings

ISLAMABAD: Adviser to the Prime Minister on Political Affairs Rana Sanaullah on Friday said any meetings with under-trial prisoners, including Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan's family, must follow legal and prison rules.

Speaking in the Senate in response to a point of public interest raised by said such meetings cannot be allowed ment.

if they risk disturbing public order or creating unrest.

He added that if the opposition wishes to form a parliamentary committee on this matter, they must first coordinate with their leadership and obtain clear instructions, he said.

Rana Sanaullah highlighted that democracy progresses through dialogue and cited past invitations by the Prime Minister for opposition opposition Senator Mishal Azam, he leaders to discuss issues in Parlia-

## **CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif Directs to Use Body Cams** to Enhance Performance & Transparency of PERA Force

**Bureau Report** 

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif chaired a special meeting regarding Punjab Enforcement and Regulator Authority (PERA), during which she reviewed performance, monitoring system and proposed reforms for PERA Force. She received a detailed briefing from officials concerned and approved several key decisions aimed at improv-

ing service delivery and public trust. Chief Minister Punjab said that there will be zero tolerance for bribery, misconduct or abuse within PERA Force, adding that all field operations will now be recorded through Body Cams. She directed that installation of Body Cams should be completed as soon as possible to ensure transparency and accountability. She underscored that in order to further strengthen operational capacity of PERA Force, special training sessions for PERA personnel will be launched. She also announced introduction of electric vehicles for PERA Force to ensure fast, safe and environmen- by history."



tally friendly service for citizens in the province. Additionally, she granted in-principle approval for establishing a state-of-the-art PERA Training Centre.

In her message to PERA officials, Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif emphasized that enforcement of law must be ensured under any circumstance and further directed PERA Force personnel that their interaction with the public must always remain polite, friendly and dignified. She lauded that PERA Force is performing well, but urged it to work with greater focus on attaining positive results to earn goodwill among the people. She added, "Those who create ease and provide service to the public are always remembered