

AJK PM declares political stability restored, unveils major development projects for Forward Kahuta

 Bureau Report

FORWARD KAHUTA: Prime Minister of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Faisal Mumtaz Rathore, stated that with the grace and mercy of Allah Almighty, the political system in the state has been restored within just 60 days. He said this achievement is not only the success of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) but the collective success of all political parties. "It is through a stable political system that the future of our youth is secured," he added.

Addressing a large public reception in Forward Kahuta, the Prime Minister announced several major development initiatives, including the establishment of a Danish School for the area even before his arrival in Haveli district. He said the standard of this school would be equivalent to that of Aitchison College, one of Pakistan's most prestig-



ious educational institutions. "I believe in work, not in mere announcements," he emphasized.

He also announced "Granting Forward Kahuta the status of a Municipal Corporation.

Naming the Boys Degree College Kahuta after Chaudhry Muhammad Aziz, Installation of street lights in Kahuta Bazaar, Widening of the main road and

Construction of the Kahuta to Haji Pir Road.

The Prime Minister said that despite unfavorable and difficult circumstances, his government restored the political system and ended political uncertainty. He expressed confidence that, God willing, all issues faced by the state would be resolved. He further stated that during the two and a half years of coalition government, they

focused on implementation rather than making hollow announcements.

He assured that all announcements made for the people of Haveli would be implemented in phases. He said that the companions of his father would always be remembered with honor and respect. "Service to the people is our mission. God willing, on the basis of our performance, we will succeed again in the 2026 elections," he concluded.

Inauguration

HAVELI: AJK Premier Raja Faisal Mumtaz Rathore inaugurates Tehsil Headquarters Hospital at Khursheedabad on Wednesday.



Muslim Conference gears up for grand workers' convention in Pasrur today

 Spokesman Report

SIALKOT: In connection with the ongoing Workers' Conventions being organized across the state by the All Jammu & Kashmir Muslim Conference, a grand Workers' Convention will be held today in Pasrur, Sialkot district. The President of the Muslim Conference, former Prime Minister of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan, will be the Chief Guest on the occasion.

Upon his arrival in Sialkot, Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan was accorded a warm and enthusiastic welcome by party workers. The atmosphere was filled with passionate slogans of "Jeay Murshid" and "Pakistan Zindabad." Addressing the workers, he highlighted



the party's ideology, vision, and its historic struggle for the construction, development, and stability of the state.

On this occasion, Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan will also address a gathering at Allama Iqbal Bar Hall, after which he will

preside over and address the Workers' Convention organized in Sialkot.

Talking to the media prior

to his departure for Sialkot, the President of the Muslim Conference stated that the All Jammu & Kashmir Muslim Conference has always worked on the principles of safeguarding the state's identity, ensuring development, and promoting public welfare. He said that the party's struggle is not limited to politics alone, but also carries historical importance on social and cultural fronts.

Earlier while Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan reached Sialkot city a reached reception was accorded by party workers of Muslim Conference and social activists.

Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan also attended luncheon hosted by renowned businessman Mr Ejaz Noori



Pakistan Army brings lifeline to remote Neelum Valley with clean water project

Valley, the severe shortage of clean drinking water had forced women and children to travel several kilometers daily to fetch water, making their lives extremely difficult.

To address this long-standing issue, the Pakistan Army, in collaboration with the local community, took practical steps and successfully completed a clean water supply project by installing a water supply

line to Kail Patti. The project was formally inaugurated by Commander 32 Brigade, Brigadier Muhammad Imran Arshad Cheema.

With the completion of this project, thousands of residents of the area will benefit, and the provision of clean drinking water at their doorsteps has become possible. This initiative has particularly relieved women from the

hardship of fetching water from distant places. Addressing the ceremony, Brigadier Muhammad Imran Arshad Cheema said:

"Pakistan Army and the people are like one body and one soul. Wherever the people face difficulties, the Pakistan Army will always stand shoulder to shoulder with them. Serving the people is our national and moral duty."

Trump's Gaza governance plan's fate tied to his personal will, says Masood Khan

 Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador Masood Khan, former President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir and former Pakistani Ambassador to the United States and the United Nations, said that the proposed multi-tiered governance and stabilization framework for Gaza—anchored in President Donald Trump's 20-point formula—will remain operational only so long as President Trump personally drives and sustains it.



In a statement issued here on Wednesday, he emphasized that the plan does not represent a sudden innovation but rather a formalization of ideas and structures that had been circulating earlier, now consolidated into a comprehensive roadmap.

Ambassador Khan explained that the framework envisages a three-tier structure, headed by a "Board of Peace" chaired by President Trump himself, followed by an Executive Board, and a localized administrative tier for Gaza. He noted that the administrative layer would include Palestinian participation, including individuals with prior ministerial experience in the occupied Palestinian territories, thereby giving the arrangement a limited municipal character while reserving strategic authority at the top.

He said the plan's viability hinges largely on political realities rather than institutional design. As long as President Trump's political authority remains intact, the structure is likely to function, he observed, pointing out that the Board and Executive tiers are populated by individuals closely aligned with the U. S. President, including senior cabinet members, national security officials, and long-standing associates from political and business circles.

Zulfikar Fr again hints at making new political party

 Kamran Khamiso Khawaja

SUJAWAL: Junior Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, grandson of former Pakistani Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, hinted at forming a new political party during a media talk in Sujawal on Wednesday. "We have been devising a long-standing political strategy before the formation of a party that would primarily provide opportunities to youth and would also seek assistance from seasoned political workers," revealed Bhutto, adding that Fatima was always with him and eager to participate in political activities, but they were waiting for the right time. "Experience and innovation would be beneficial for the people of Sindh," he mentioned.

Responding to a question regarding the Pakistan People's Party's constant stay in power, he said that people wanted politicians like Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, Benazir Bhutto, and his father, Meer Murtaza Bhutto, adding that Sindh had been missing quality leadership and people of Sindh, unfortunately, had no other option. He criticized the Sindh Government for its failure to deal with emergency situations. Quoting the Gul Center inferno, he said that poor planning, fragile building structure, and incapability of the Sindh Building Control Authority caused one of the biggest human tragedies in Sindh's history.

Jr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto visited Sujawal to pay homage to veteran political leader and loyal worker of PPP, Shaheed Bhutto Ustad Younus Bhan, who was among the trusted allies of late Meer Murtaza Bhutto. Paying tribute to the stalwart politician, he said that Ustad Younus was among the dynamic and devoted political workers of his father's party who always raised his voice against injustice and inequality, adding that Ustad Bhan's contributions would always be remembered.

National Textile University Faisalabad Administration Seeks Case Against Fake Student

 Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: The administration of the National Textile University (NTU) Faisalabad has submitted a request to the City Police Officer (CPO) Faisalabad and the Station House Officer (SHO) of Jhang Bazar Police Station to register a case against a girl. The accusations include lying, misusing the university's name, and defaming the institution.

In the request sent to the CPO Faisalabad and the SHO of Jhang Bazar Police Station, University Registrar Salman Saif has alleged that a girl named Fauzia Maqbool – a permanent resident of Chak No. A 65/GD East, Tehsil & District Sahiwal, temporarily residing at Gully No. 4/16 near Siddiquia Printing Girls Hostel, Jhang Bazar – had made a false claim.

According to the registrar, Fauzia Maqbool had accused the owner of her hostel, Najaf Khan, of committing rape against her. In the First Information Report (FIR) she lodged at the Jhang Bazar Police Station, she allegedly identified herself as a student of the Artificial Intelligence (A. I.) Computer science department at the National Textile University Faisalabad, which is completely false and incorrect.

The registrar clarified in the request that the university, after conducting a thorough investigation, has confirmed that the said girl has never been a student of the National Textile University at any point. Their stance is that Fauzia Maqbool knowingly lied and unlawfully used the university's name in an attempt to damage the educational institution's reputation.

Deeming this behavior serious, they have requested the police to immediately register a case against Fauzia Maqbool under relevant laws and initiate legal proceedings. They stated that such misrepresentation and unlawful use of the name will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

RPO Faisalabad Stresses Police-Media Cooperation During Press Club Visit

 Abdul Majid

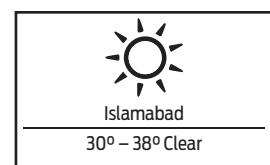
FAISALABAD: Regional Police Officer (RPO) Faisalabad, Sohail Akhtar Sukharia, visited the Faisalabad Press Club accompanied by SP Lyallpur Town Abid Hussain Zafar, SDPOs and other senior police officers.

RPO Sohail Sukharia was received by Press Club President Shahid Ali, office-bearers and senior journalists. The meeting focused on strengthening coordination between the police and the media, ensuring timely and credible information for the public and promoting a positive image of law enforcement.

The RPO Sohail Sukharia lauded the media's constructive and responsible role, saying an impartial press was essential for social stability and development. He assured journalists of full cooperation in addressing their concerns and implementing practical suggestions.

RPO Sohail Sukharia said a comprehensive strategy would be adopted to counter misinformation, rumours and negative propaganda, adding that public awareness about law and order situations depended largely on the media's continuous efforts.

Media representatives reaffirmed their commitment to providing factual and transparent reporting. The RPO said police, with media support, would continue efforts to maintain peace, curb crime and resolve public grievances, terming police-media cooperation vital for societal stability.


SERVICES
Namaz Timings

Fajr	5:44 am
Zohr	12:19 pm
Asr	3:50 pm
Maghrab	5:28 pm
Isha	6:55 pm

EMERGENCY

Rescue (Police)	15
Bomb Disposal	15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad	1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance	1122 & 16
& Rescue Services	4451122
Motorway Police	9266044
Motorway Police	9270601-20

Women Police
Stations

Islamabad	9222596
Rawalpindi	9270601-20

ENQUIRY

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

HOSPITALS

CMH	561111
MH	561116
MH	561116
Cantt Hospital	9270907-11
DHQ	5556311-4
RGH	9290301-7
Holy Family	9290322-7
PIMS	9261170-79
Policlinic	9218300-99
Shifa International	4603666

DEPARTMENTS

CDA	921234-43
CDA	9208301-04
Met Office	9250360-6
RDA	5555864
TMA	5770886
Cantonment Board	9270151-3
Islamabad Metropolitan Corporation	9209224
Pothohar Town	9209224
Rawal Town	5773343

Google launches new AI frontier with Personal Intelligence in Gemini
News Desk

KARACHI: For years, digital planning has felt like a chore. Whether it's organizing a family vacation or finding a specific memory, people have had to act as a "human router"—constantly switching between email tabs, photo galleries, and maps to get things done.

Google is now making that easier as it recently announced a major update to Gemini with the launch of Personal Intelligence, a new way for AI to help you manage your daily life by organizing and processing the various information across your favorite Google apps.

Unlike traditional AI that only knows what it finds on the internet, Personal Intelligence understands people's own personal worlds by analyzing the apps they rely on most. By securely linking with apps like Gmail, Google Photos, and YouTube, Gemini becomes a specialized assistant tailored to your specific needs.

Many things are made easier with Personal Intelligence—take the stress of travel planning as an example. Instead of searching through dozens of emails for flight confirmations and scrolling through years of photos to remember a favorite restaurant, you can simply ask Gemini for help. It can see your travel dates in Gmail, learn your "vibe" by looking at your favorite nature photography or food snaps in Google Photos, and even creates a cohesive, one-of-a-kind itinerary that matches your specific style and schedule.

Chief Minister Punjab inaugurates cath lab at DHQ Hospital Jhang

Asim Tanveer

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif inaugurated a state-of-the-art cath lab at the District

Headquarters Hospital in Jhang, enabling timely and quality treatment of cardiac patients within the district.

With the establishment of the facility, advanced cardiac procedures including



angiography, angioplasty and primary PCI will now be performed locally.

Temporary pacemaker implantation will also be available at the Jhang cath lab, reducing the need for patients to travel to Lahore or Multan.

During her visit, the chief minister Punjab inspected the newly established cath lab and modern operation theatre at the DHQ Hospital. She also reviewed the pre and post procedure wards, angiography ward and the hospital pharmacy, and observed an

ongoing procedure through the control room.

The chief minister met cardiac patients and attendants and prayed for their early recovery. Patients told her that they had never imagined heart attack treatment would be possible in Jhang, adding that local availability of care had spared them the hardship of travelling to major cities.

Provincial Minister for Primary Healthcare Khawaja Imran Nazir briefed the chief minister on the project

and said that treatment within the 60 to 90 minute golden hour would now be possible, significantly improving survival chances for heart attack patients. He said dozens of procedures had already been carried out in recent days, with many patients discharged in improved health.

Earlier, the chief minister received a warm welcome upon her arrival in Jhang, where large crowds gathered along the route and showered flowers in a show of public appreciation.

Sunny Day

ISLAMABAD: A group of friends are having lunch at the broken site of a restaurant at Margalla Hills during sunny day in Federal Capital.

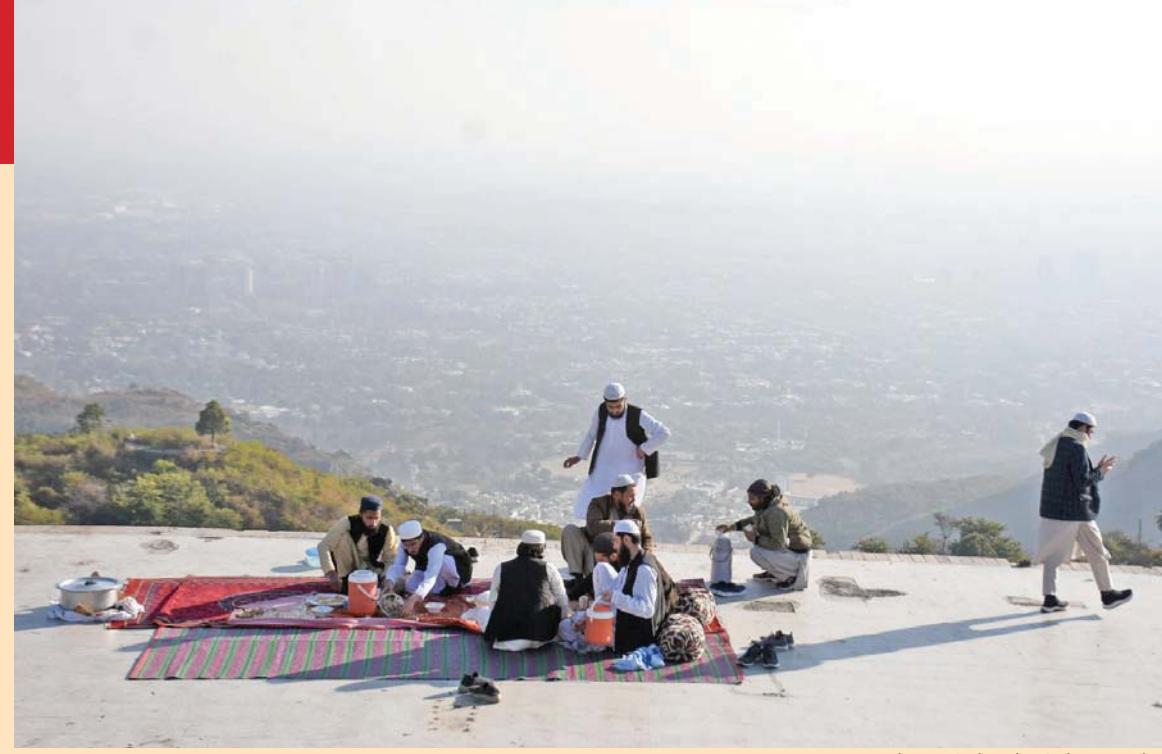


Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Education and Family Planning Fair organized at Cricket Stadium TT Singh

Zafar Chishti

TOBA TEK SINGH: An Education and Family Planning Fair organized by the Health and Population Department was successfully held at the Sports Cricket Stadium Jhang Road in Toba Tek Singh. The fair continued from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm, attracting a large number of families, women and children.

Deputy Commissioner Toba Tek Singh Umar Abbas Mela attended the fair as the chief guest. Also present were Deputy Director Population Muhammad Naeem, District Sports Officer Muhammad Jamil, representatives of civil society and members of the media. The main objective of the fair was to raise awareness among the public about maternal and child health as well as family planning with the goal of promoting a healthy and prosperous society. Deputy Director Population



Umar Abbas Mela said, Organizing such awareness fairs is extremely important for building a healthy and prosperous society.

Deputy Director Population Muhammad Naeem added, By combining education and recreation, an effective and positive message is being delivered to the public.

At the conclusion of the

event, participants appreciated such public and awareness-focused initiatives and expressed the hope that similar activities would continue in the future.

Inner Wheel Club Day Celebrated with Enthusiasm by Inner Wheel District 340


Kiran Asim

MULTAN: Inner Wheel Day was celebrated with great fervor and enthusiasm under the aegis of Inner Wheel District 340. A prestigious ceremony was organized to mark the occasion, attended by a large number of district officials and members.

Addressing the ceremony, the Chairman of Inner Wheel District 340, Rizwana Malik, stated that the true concept of social service must be highlighted to resolve the issues faced by underprivileged segments of society.

District Secretary Mrs. Saliba Pasha remarked that serving humanity is a great virtue. She urged everyone to participate actively in charitable works, as service to creation is the best means of achieving success in both worlds.

District Vice Chairman Shumaila Shaukat stated that Inner Wheel members are bringing positive change to society through their hard work, dedication, and sincerity. She noted that the scope of welfare activities would be further expanded in the future.

The proceedings of the event were moderated by the Bulletin Editor, Mrs. Ayesha Ikram. Presidents, secretaries, and other officials from all clubs within District 340 participated in large numbers. At the conclusion of the ceremony, a cake was cut to commemorate Inner Wheel Day. The officials of all clubs paid tribute to the services of the founder and former District Chairman, Rizwana Tabassum Durrani, affirming that they would continue their social services by following her guidance and instructions.

Accounts Office Prioritizes Transparency and Timely Pension Payments, says DAO Rai Sabir

Zafar Chishti

TOBA TEK SINGH: District Account Officer-I Toba Tek Singh Rai Muhammad Sabir has stated that the doors of his office are always open to the public to provide accurate and timely information regarding all government payments, especially pension-related matters. He clarified that any citizen, government employee or retired official facing issues related to salary, allowances or pensions can approach his office without hesitation.



Rai Muhammad Sabir emphasized that transparency, timely payments and facilitation of the public are among the top priorities of the Accounts Office. He has also directed the concerned staff to resolve public grievances on a priority basis and ensure that no application is delayed unnecessarily. He further said that, in line with the directives of the Punjab Government, all available resources are being utilized to make public service more effective and convenient. This initiative aims to save citizens from unnecessary visits to offices and provide them with prompt relief. In the end, the District Account Officer Rai Muhammad Sabir appealed to the public not to pay attention to any misinformation or rumors and to contact the Accounts Office directly for authentic guidance and assistance.

Pashto declared compulsory subject up to intermediate level in KP

PESHAWAR: The Office of the District Education Officer (Male), Nowshera, has issued fresh directives regarding the implementation of Pashto as a compulsory subject in all government schools of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. According to an official notification dated January 15, 2026, Pashto must be taught as a mandatory subject from primary classes up to second year (Intermediate).

The directive has been addressed to Principals and Headmasters of Government Higher Secondary, High, and Middle Schools, as well as Sub-Divisional Education Officers (SDEOs) of Tehsil Pabbi, Nowshera, and Jahanzeb. The notification refers to earlier instructions issued by the Assistant Director (B&T) on October 3, 2023, and the Deputy Director (P&D-II) on January 22, 2024, emphasizing province-wide implementation of the Pashto subject.

The District Education Officer has once again instructed all heads of government institutions to strictly ensure the teaching of Pashto in all classes. The notification clearly states that in case of non-compliance, the head of the concerned institution or the respective Drawing and Disbursing Officer (DDO) will be held responsible and may face adverse consequences.

ICMA is Fulfilling the Dreams of Students and Parents: Samina Khan Kayani

Asim Tanveer

MULTAN: Samina Khan Kayani, Joint Director of the ICMA International Pakistan Multan Branch, has stated that the institution is fulfilling the dreams of students and their parents. She remarked that graduates from this institution are currently securing excellent employment opportunities in Pakistan and developed countries; many are serving as CEOs in their own factories and playing a vital role in the progress of Pakistan. These views were expressed during her address at the Annual Dinner and Prize Distribution Ceremony held yesterday. Speaking at the event, the



Chief Guest, Director of BZU School of Commerce Dr. Muhammad Ramzan Sheikh, and former ICMA Chairman Waqas Khalid, noted that the future of those studying here is very bright. They highlighted that expert accounting faculty members are striving day and night for student progress, and under the leadership of Joint Director Samina Khan Kayani, ICMA is flourishing. Hundreds of students are bringing pride to Pakistan by winning gold and other merit medals. The ceremony was also addressed by Umar Awan, faculty members, and students. At the conclusion of the event, prizes were distributed among the ICMA graduates.

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Pakistan, Canada Explore Enhanced Cooperation In Minerals And Energy Sectors

Federal Minister for Petroleum Ali Pervaiz Malik held a meeting with the High Commissioner of Canada to Pakistan, H. E. Mr. Tarik Ali Khan, to discuss strengthening bilateral cooperation in the minerals and energy sectors.

During the meeting, High Commissioner Tarik Ali Khan stated that the success of Barrick Gold at Reko Diq is a strong example to build upon Pakistan Canada mineral cooperation. He noted that Canada is actively working to bring more Canadian companies to the Pakistan Minerals Investment Forum (PMIF). Highlighting the evolving global landscape, the High Commissioner remarked that in a changing multilateral world order based on networks, shared values, and common interests there is openness and willingness to engage with Pakistan.

The High Commissioner further conveyed that the Ministry of Natural Resources Canada is ready to support mineral sector cooperation with Pakistan. Sharing his personal experience, he said he had visited the Reko Diq site and was delighted to witness tangible community uplift initiatives, including the development of schools, hospitals, and water purification projects.

Federal Minister Ali Pervaiz Malik underscored that Reko Diq has secured international financing, making it one of the most significant funding rounds for Pakistan. He emphasized that the Government of Pakistan is committed to ensuring the highest standards of labour safety and Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) compliance, and that such projects are being developed for the long-term benefit of the people of Pakistan.

High Commissioner Tarik Ali Khan also extended an invitation to Pakistan to participate in PDAC 2026, the world's premier mineral exploration and mining convention, scheduled to be held in March 2026 in Canada. He noted that PDAC would provide an excellent platform to showcase Pakistan's vast mineral potential to global investors and further deepen Pakistan Canada cooperation in the sector.

Additionally, the High Commissioner shared that Canada is working to provide technical assistance in the energy sector. Welcoming this initiative, the Federal Minister remarked that support in intellectual capital and technical expertise would help make Pakistan's systems more robust and enhance investor confidence, particularly among international mining companies.

Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening bilateral ties and advancing cooperation in minerals and energy as a key pillar of Pakistan Canada relations.

Trump's First Year That Shook the World Order

By the time Donald Trump completed his first year in office this January, the world he confronted was no longer governed by the language of partnership, multilateralism, or shared rules. The central message of his presidency, delivered repeatedly in speeches, interviews, and policy actions, was direct and unambiguous: the United States would no longer bind itself to international institutions, international law, or collective decision-making if these did not serve American power, American wealth, and American control. Sovereignty, in this view, did not mean equality among nations. It meant the freedom of the strongest to impose outcomes on the rest.

This posture was reinforced by continued military action beyond the Americas. U. S. strikes in Somalia, repeated operations in Syria, and the ongoing use of drone warfare extended the same logic into Africa and the Middle East. The pattern was consistent: Washington would act where it judged its interests to be threatened, without waiting for international authorization or consensus.

Europe felt this shift directly. The administration's stated desire to take control of Greenland, a territory tied to the Kingdom of Denmark, was not presented as a diplomatic proposal but as a strategic objective. European leaders responded with unusually direct language. Governments in Denmark, Germany, France, and across the European Union stated plainly that Greenland's future would be decided only by Denmark and the people

of Greenland. The episode became a symbol of a deeper rupture: the United States was no longer seen as a guarantor of European sovereignty, but as a power willing to challenge it.

Canada experienced a similar break. Its economy had been deeply integrated with the United States, with the majority of its exports flowing south across the border. Energy, automobiles, agricultural products, electricity, and critical minerals formed the backbone of this relationship. Under Trump's policy, these ties were recast as vulnerabilities. Tariffs and public rhetoric framed Canadian dependence as a weakness that could be exploited for political and economic gain.

Ottawa responded by changing course. Europe became a strategic priority, not just as a trading partner but as a political counterbalance. Canada then moved to strengthen ties with China, focusing on infrastructure, technology, Arctic cooperation, and energy development. This was not an ideological shift. It was a calculation of risk. Reliance on a single dominant partner had become a liability. Diversification became national policy.

In the Gulf, Canada sought large-scale investment from Qatar, inviting capital into its energy and industrial sectors. The objective was direct: reduce exposure to American pressure by embedding Canada in a wider network of global finance and

trade. Similar strategies appeared across Asia, Africa, and Latin America, where governments began to seek alternatives to U. S.-centered economic systems.

At the World Economic Forum in Davos, this global reaction was expressed openly. Leaders described a world fractured by economic coercion and unilateral action. The institutions designed to

manage conflict through

negotiation—the United Nations, trade bodies, and international courts—were described as weakened by the withdrawal or disregard of their most powerful member. The concern was not abstract. It was practical: without shared

rules, global stability would depend on power balances rather than legal frame-

works. France's clash with Washington over the proposed "Board of Peace" for Gaza illustrated this new reality. When President Emmanuel Macron declined to commit a billion dollars to the initiative, the response from the United States was a threat of heavy tariffs on French exports, including wine and champagne. The signal was clear: political disagreement would be answered with economic punishment.

As these confrontations multiplied, a broader global shift took shape. Countries that felt targeted or marginalized by U. S. policy began to move closer to China. This was not driven primarily by admir-

ation for Beijing's political system. It was driven by calculation. China offered trade, infrastructure financing, and investment without military intervention or explicit political conditions. Through the Belt and Road Initiative, regional trade agreements, and financial partnerships, Beijing positioned itself as an alternative center of gravity in global economics.

By the end of the first year, the direction of change was unmistakable. The world was moving away from a system organized around shared institutions and toward one shaped by competing power centers. Regional blocs, bilateral deals, and alternative financial systems began to replace global frameworks.

This transformation was neither subtle nor accidental. It was the result of a stated ideology: that strength, not law, should govern international relations; that resources, not agreements, define power; and that alliances exist only as long as they serve national advantage.

The first year of this presidency did not merely adjust the global order. It challenged its foundations. The aftershocks continue to spread. Whether this path leads to a more balanced distribution of power or to a more unstable and confrontational world remains the central question facing nations as they navigate the landscape reshaped by this new doctrine.

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



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

Invitation to Palestine's Proposed Board Reflects Pakistan's Remarkable Success

The invitation from US President Donald J. Trump for Pakistan to assume a role in the proposed Board of Peace for Gaza is widely regarded as a historic diplomatic milestone that validates Pakistan's decades-long, principled stance on the Palestinian issue. It reflects rare international recognition of Pakistan's consistent advocacy for justice, international law, and Palestinian self-determination, and signals renewed trust in its diplomatic maturity and moral credibility within the Muslim world. This recognition is the result of sustained, cross-generational diplomatic engagement, humanitarian support, and a unified national position that has remained consistent across successive governments and state institutions, projecting Pakistan as a responsible and ethically grounded actor in global affairs.

Beyond symbolism, the invitation presents Pakistan with a meaningful opportunity to translate its principled positions into tangible diplomatic influence and active peacebuilding. Pakistan's cohesive leadership, clear support for civilian protection and a just political solution, and credibility in international forums have positioned it as a potential contributor to substantive discussions on ceasefires, humanitarian access, reconstruction, and long-term conflict resolution. Participation in such a framework could allow Pakistan to advocate for inclusive dialogue and address the root causes of the conflict, leveraging its unique perspective to help bridge divides and promote a durable and equitable peace grounded in justice and international law.

Analysts and seasoned policy experts within Pakistan's strategic community therefore

emphasize with urgency that the act of accepting this invitation, while historic, must be followed immediately by the formulation and execution of a proactive, sophisticated, and meticulously well-coordinated diplomatic strategy, leveraging this access for maximal effect, ensuring that the opportunity is not squandered through bureaucratic inertia or a lack of strategic follow-through. Pakistan, they argue, must use this hard-won opportunity to further strengthen and amplify its advocacy for the fundamental rights of the Palestinian people, ensuring with relentless diplomatic effort that their rights, their inherent dignity, and their collective aspirations remain the central, non-negotiable

pillar of any proposed peace initiative emanating from the board, while also engaging in the pragmatic diplomacy necessary to build consensus around achievable, if incremental, steps toward peace. This includes a multi-track approach of continuing to engage robustly with all relevant international partners, mobilizing further financial and material humanitarian support for Gaza's reconstruction, and exercising diplomatic vigilance to ensure that any proposed political solutions remain firmly aligned with the corpus of international law, UN resolutions, and the legitimate, internationally recognized demands of the Palestinian people themselves, thus avoiding the pitfall of endorsing agreements that might sacrifice justice for the sake of a fragile and potentially temporary stability. By doing so with consistency and strategic acumen, Pakistan can not only uphold its sacred moral commitments to the Muslim Ummah but also tangibly enhance its global role and identity as a credible, trusted mediator and a forceful, ethical advocate for a

peace that is lasting because it is just, thereby carving out a distinctive and respected niche for itself in the annals of international conflict resolution.

For the nearly 250 million people of Pakistan, this development is perceived as far more than a transient diplomatic success noted in newspaper headlines; it is felt viscerally as a long-awaited validation of the country's deeply emotional, generations-long support for the Palestinian cause and its repeated refusal, despite various external pressures, to compromise on what it sees as non-negotiable matters of universal justice and basic human dignity, a validation that nourishes national self-esteem and reinforces a sense of purposeful identity in the world. The invitation from the President of the United States to Pakistan serves ultimately as a powerful reminder to the world—and a reaffirmation to Pakistanis themselves—that principled geopolitical positions, when pursued with unflinching consistency, strategic patience, and undeniable sincerity, can ultimately earn respect, traction, and a seat at the most exclusive tables, even within a highly polarized, cynical, and interest-driven international environment where moral suasion is often considered a weak force. As Pakistan moves forward from this pivotal moment, it is presented with a historic opportunity to deepen its constructive engagement, to strengthen its profile as a source of moral leadership in a fractured world, and to contribute in a meaningful, lasting, and impactful manner to the herculean global efforts ultimately aimed at achieving a semblance of peace, stability, justice, and a dignified future for the long-suffering Palestinian people, an endeavor that remains one of the defining moral challenges of our time and a testament to the enduring power of a foreign policy guided by principle as much as by pragmatism.

Gul Plaza Fire: Karachi, Negligence, and the Smoldering Question of Collective Accountability

Karachi once again appeared not merely engulfed in flames, but trapped in the grip of collective negligence, administrative apathy, and years of accumulated carelessness. The fire at Gul Plaza on M. A. Jinnah Road was not just an accident; it has now transformed into a question a question directed at the system, at responsibility, and at the future of this city. A fire that raged for 33 hours, rescue workers gaining access to the building only after 40 hours, and then bodies, human remains, and unidentifiable corpses emerging from the debris these scenes have etched themselves into the collective memory of Karachi's residents in a way that may never fade.

The attempt by an enraged crowd to enter the building after the incident reflects the collective anxiety that follows such disasters. This anger is not directed solely at the fire, but at the entire system that, after every major tragedy, is consumed by promises, committees, and announcements. Deploying additional police force may restore temporary order, but it cannot restore public trust.

The Sindh Chief Minister's announcement of compensation of one crore rupees per victim is certainly significant relief, yet the question remains: can financial aid ever replace the lives that have been irreversibly lost? Can these amounts ease the pain of a mother who did not even get to see her son's ashes? Or heal the wounds of a father counting days while waiting for a DNA report? Compensation is necessary, but it is not a solution it is only a temporary salve.

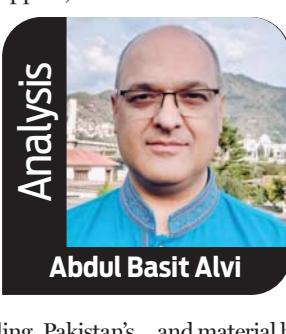
Announcements of inquiry committees, forensic assistance, and possible judicial investi-

gations sound all too familiar from past tragedies. After every major incident, the same narrative emerges: "those responsible will be identified" and "no one will be made a scapegoat without reason." But the real question is whether collective negligence has ever truly been transformed into collective responsibility or whether blame is once again placed on a few lower-level officials while the root causes are quietly ignored.

The Chief Minister's admission that mistakes were made by the government is an important but insufficient step. The real test lies in translating this admission into practical reforms. If the implementation of the Fire Safety Audit 2024, the installation of fire alarms in shops, and regular

building inspections are carried out with genuine seriousness, perhaps this tragedy will not be repeated in another building. However, this requires more than government directives; traders, building owners, and citizens must also recognize and fulfill their responsibilities.

The Gul Plaza fire has taught us that cities are not built solely with buildings, but with laws, ethics, and accountability. When all three weaken, a single spark can set an entire social structure ablaze. Karachi no longer needs another committee it needs a clear and unambiguous decision: either human life is made the top priority, or we prepare ourselves for such tragedies to recur at regular intervals. This tragedy is far more than a column, a news report, or a temporary debate. It is a mirror in which we all must see our reflection the government, the institutions, and ourselves. If we avert our gaze from this mirror, the fire will be extinguished and the debris cleared, but the next Gul Plaza will rise before us on another street, under another name.



Abdul Basit Alvi



Dr. Muhammad Tayyab Khan Singhani

Euro Group Chairman inaugurates free International Cleft Camp in Gujrat

By Anwar Chuhani

GUJRAT: Prominent businessman and Chairman Euro Group, Chaudhry Sajid Mahmood Waraich, formally inaugurated the International Cleft Camp at Ayesha Bashir Cleft Hospital, Gujrat. The objective of this humanitarian camp is to provide free medical treatment with modern healthcare facilities to children suffering from congenital cleft lip and cleft palate conditions, enabling them to return to a healthy and dignified life.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by Chairman Ayesha Bashir Cleft Hospital Dr. Ijaz Bashir, Chairman Friendship Group Chaudhry Nadeem Manzoor Begah, Mirza Ashfaq Bashir, Dr. Riaz Malik, Chaudhry Ghulam Mohiuddin, Azizur-Rehman Mujahid, Chaudhry Zaman (Grand Market), Raja Zain Zain, Chaudhry Hassan, along with many distinguished personalities from political, social, and business circles.

Following the ceremony, Dr. Ijaz Bashir gave the chief guest a detailed tour of the hospital's various departments, including the operation theatres, wards, outpatient department, and advanced medical facilities. He also provided a comprehensive briefing on the hospital's two decades of philanthropic services, successful surgeries, collaboration with inter-



national medical teams, and future development plans.

Addressing the gathering, Chairman Euro Group Chaudhry Sajid Mahmood Waraich praised Dr. Ijaz Bashir and his team, stating that they are a shining example of humanitarian service. He noted that over the past twenty years, more than 28,000 children suffering from cleft lip and palate have undergone completely free surgeries, transforming their lives and

restoring hope to their families. He emphasized that such institutions are the true assets of society, quietly serving humanity with dedication.

Chaudhry Sajid Mahmood Waraich announced that, in consultation with his respected mother, he would extend full personal support to Ayesha Bashir Cleft Hospital, along with the cooperation of his friends and associates. He also announced an initial donation of PKR 200,000, stating that this

contribution marks only the beginning and that continued support will follow.

In conclusion, Dr. Ijaz Bashir expressed gratitude to the chief guest and all participants, reaffirming his commitment that Ayesha Bashir Cleft Hospital will continue its mission of serving humanity, providing modern medical care, and offering free treatment to deserving children with dedication and integrity.

Rotary International Fuels Pakistan Polio Fight with \$9.9 Million WHO Grant

By Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Rotary International has provided a grant of US\$ 9.9 million to the World Health Organization (WHO) in Pakistan to support the vaccination of 27 million children against polio in high-risk districts. This partnership will reinforce the operations of the Government of Pakistan-led Polio Eradication Initiative, which conducts multiple nationwide door-to-door campaigns and sub-national drives each year, reaching over 45 million children.

Rotary is a founding member of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) – a public-private partnership to eradicate polio worldwide led by national governments with six partners: WHO, Rotary International, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, UNICEF, Gates Foundation and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance.

Since the launch of Pakistan's Polio Eradication Initiative three decades ago, Pakistan has reduced polio cases by 99.8% – from 20,000 cases in 1994 to 31 cases in 2025.

Globally, since 1988, the GPEI has brought down polio cases by 99.9%. As of today, wild poliovirus type 1 remains endemic only in two countries: Afghanistan and Pakistan.

To date, Rotary has contributed US\$ 3 billion to global polio eradication efforts and nearly US\$ 500 million to Pakistan, along with high-level advocacy and countless volunteer hours.



"Rotary's support is the best example of how a partnership can protect millions of lives. WHO extends its deepest appreciation to Rotary for its continuing support as a founding partner of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. Rotary's long-standing commitment is crucial in our journey towards a polio-free world," said WHO Representative in Pakistan Dr Luo Dapeng.

"Science indicates that ending polio in Pakistan and worldwide is within reach if we sustain the ongoing partnership and eradication efforts. However, the detection of wild poliovirus type 1 in Germany last November is a strong reminder that the cost of inaction would be far greater than the cost of action, since no country and no child will be safe until the virus is fully eradicated everywhere."

The grant to WHO Pakistan is part of a larger US\$ 14.9 million contribution to overall polio eradication efforts in Pakistan. With these funds, WHO will support polio immunization in high-risk districts of Balochistan, Sindh, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Punjab. The funds will be allocated to campaign operations, including human resources and incentives, training, transportation, supplies for frontline workers, vaccine carriers, and operational costs.

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Huawei Cloud Stack Ranked No.1 in Middle East and Pakistan Hybrid Cloud Market, According to Omdia Report

By News Desk

DUBAI, UAE: In the recently published Hybrid Cloud Middle East and Pakistan Survey Results 2025 from Omdia, a global analyst and advisory leader, Huawei Cloud Stack achieved the highest overall score in the market as well as the highest scores in two key categories: Customer Service and Market, surpassing top global cloud service providers. The report also ranked Huawei Cloud Stack first in four critical sub-categories: brand recognition and customer support, suitability for on-premises AI inference workloads, compliance with local regulations, and key reliability and availability features. This independent validation confirms that Huawei Cloud Stack is now one of the most trusted and intelligent hybrid cloud platforms in the region.

Top Scores in Customer Service and Market

Supported by five global O&M centers delivering 24/7 support to over 5,500 customers across 150+ countries, Huawei Cloud Stack's extensive support network covers more than 80% of the Middle East and Central Asia. This operational excellence is reflected in the Omdia report, which awarded Huawei Cloud Stack the highest score for Brand Recognition and Customer Support. Surveyed enterprises identified Huawei as a highly trusted brand, giving it top scores for "Brand that you trust" and "Response times from customer support." Huawei Cloud Stack leads other vendors by significant margins in local service delivery capabilities, response times, and proactive support. This creates a virtuous, self-reinforcing cycle of superior product capabilities, premium service experience, and strong brand recognition, making it the hybrid cloud platform that customers in the region are most satisfied with for long-term use and are most likely to recommend.

A Solid Sovereign Cloud Foundation

Most countries in the Middle East have adopted forward-looking digital strategies. By building large-scale local data centers and hybrid clouds, countries like the UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar are pioneering a digital sovereignty model that treats data as a critical national asset and data sovereignty as the cornerstone of national security. In this landscape, regulatory

compliance and security have become crucial differentiators for cloud vendors.

Huawei Cloud Stack offers the industry's most extensive portfolio of on-premises cloud services, with well over 100 offerings. Cloud platforms built on Huawei Cloud Stack have passed rigorous scrutiny by regulatory bodies in Oman, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Pakistan, and hold globally recognized certifications such as ISO and PCI DSS. This proves its ability to meet the most stringent compliance and security standards for critical sectors like finance and government. Furthermore, its intra-city dual-AZ architecture delivers exceptional service continuity guarantees, achieving a recovery point objective (RPO) of seconds and a recovery time objective (RTO) of just minutes. The Omdia report validated this strength, awarding it top scores for "compliance with local regulations such as sovereign cloud."

From Cloud Native to AI Native

The Omdia report rated Huawei Cloud Stack as the top vendor for "suitability for on-premises AI inference workloads." Huawei Cloud Stack 8.6 is designed to unify AI training

and data management within a single, integrated system, bringing AI capabilities closer to the data. This enables quick and secure development of intelligent applications such as real-time financial risk control, city digital twins, and AI-supported medical diagnostic models, all

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Fostering Open Ecosystems to Accelerate Digital Growth

Huawei Cloud Stack does more than just provide technology and infrastructure. It also works with governments, telecom operators, education institutions, and ecosystem

partners to build a vibrant digital future for the Middle East. Through initiatives like the UNESCO-endorsed Huawei ICT Competition, Huawei has already cultivated over 500,000 ICT professionals in the region.

This figure is expected to surpass one million over the next decade, expanding the regional digital talent pool that will drive the region's future digital growth.

In education, Ankut built the UAE's national education cloud on Huawei Cloud Stack, continuously powering the region's digital economy.

British Council to host WOW Pakistan 2026 in Karachi



By News Desk

KARACHI: The British Council, in partnership with the WOW Foundation, UNFPA and Entrepreneurship and Community Development Institute (ECDI) is set to celebrate 10 years of WOW – Women of the World Festival Pakistan. The WOW festival will take place at the Beach Luxury Hotel, Karachi, on the 24th and 25th of January 2026 and will celebrate women's achievements, foster dialogue, and address the challenges they face. The festival invites women, girls, and families to enjoy a diverse and inclusive program.

James Hampson, Country Director, British Council Pakistan said: "As we celebrate a decade of Women of the World (WOW) Pakistan it is right that we take a moment to reflect on what 10 years of this Festival has meant since that first gathering in Karachi. Giving space to women and girls and mobilising the transformational power of arts and culture is where WOW really comes into its own: hearing what's needed to make real change."

Amneh Shaikh-Farooqi, Chair and Co-Curator at WOW Pakistan said: "WOW Pakistan began with a simple conviction: women's voices matter, and when they are heard without apology, something shifts. For ten years, this community has built space where ideas could surface, connect, and move forward—even when the world urged restraint. Dastak is both a knock and a claim: I am here. Movements don't begin alone or all at once—they begin with each knock adding to the next, building force, until a quiet heartbeat becomes a shared rhythm in motion. 'Das' means ten, 'tak' means so far—and this moment belongs to everyone who has carried WOW with their belief, love, and support. Ten years in, we are still listening, still creating, and still moving—toward a future shaped by many voices, not just a few."

Jude Kelly, CEO & Founder of The WOW Foundation, said: "When I founded WOW, I always dreamed of it taking root in Pakistan, a country with a powerful legacy of individuals and communities determined to remove barriers for women and girls. Ten years on, WOW Pakistan stands as an extraordinary beacon of creativity, courage and collective action. As we mark this anniversary in Karachi, we celebrate the progress made, honour those who paved the way, and renew our resolve to keep dreaming big and working together for lasting change."

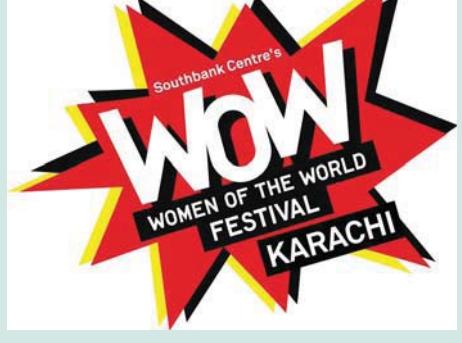
The festival promises an inclusive experience for all with sign language interpretation, Braille resources, wheel-chair friendly ramps and walkways ensuring participation for everyone.

The festival's vibrant lineup includes:

- Opening panel with Senator Sherry Rehman, Jude Kelly CBE, CEO and Founder of The WOW Foundation and Jane Marriott, British High Commissioner to Pakistan. The panel will be moderated by journalist Sidra Iqbal.
- Kathak dance performance by Nighat Chaudhry
- Performances by musicians Natasha Baig and Baber Sheikh
- Live Musical performances by Ustad Noor Buksh
- Panel on AI: Coded Inequality Moderated by Amber Shamsi
- Fireside Chat: Cancer Chaos and Creative Ethos with Angeline Malik
- Master class on Investment by Mashal Khan
- Performances by Sindhi artists
- Dance performance: Unfolding: A Celebration That Raised Us by Adnan Jahangir and Daughters
- Songs and Stories for Children by Khalid Anum
- Performance by GRIPS theatre

This year's theme, Dastak: A New World Is Knocking, marks ten years of women creating, leading, and shaping change. Dastak symbolizes momentum, possibility, and the power of collective becoming, honouring how far we have come while calling us toward what is next. It is an invitation to recognise this moment of transition and to open the door to new narratives, new leadership, and a future shaped together.

Through the WOW Festival, the British Council continues to create platforms for women to voice concerns, challenge systemic barriers, and celebrate their accomplishments.



while keeping data on-premises. At the infrastructure level, Huawei Cloud's AI supernode architecture (or SuperPoD) forms the backbone of high-performance, local AI computing centers. Coupled with its one-stop AI development platform, ModelArts, and its enterprise-grade distributed database, GaussDB, this architecture enables customers to build an intelligent, sustainable, and ever-evolving cloud foundation that accelerates the transforma-

tion of key industries. Supporting heterogeneous multi-cloud management, this cloud provides over 40 cloud services to more than 120 education institutions in the country, helping to establish the UAE as a regional education hub. In telecom, Pakistan's CMPak used Huawei Cloud Stack, along with premium cloud services including DataArts Studio, DWS, and MRS, to build a unified data platform. This platform has helped the operator eliminate data silos, optimize operations, and in doing so, enhance customer loyalty and experience.

As AI becomes deeply embedded in government, finance, energy, and everyday life, hybrid cloud is quickly becoming the most important digital infrastructure, a foundation that seamlessly integrates data, AI, and societal governance.

Looking forward, guided by its commitment to "Cloud for Good" and "AI for Good," Huawei Cloud Stack is poised to continue working with partners in the Middle East and Central Asia to build secure, reliable digital infrastructure like sovereign clouds, continuously powering the region's digital economy.

Bull & Bears PSX 100-Share Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
187,033.26	188,621.78
Day's High	Day's Low
189,523.43	186,626.85
Index Value	Change
53,047,283,548	-1588.52
Percentage	Time
-0.84%	21 Jan, 2024 4:30 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
10,138.09	+11.31
Percentage	Time
+0.11%	21 Jan, 4:35 pm GMT

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
48,765.85	+277.26
Percentage	Time
+0.57%	21 Jan, 12:03 pm GMT-5

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
52,774.64	-216.46
Percentage	Time
-0.41%	21 Jan, 3:45 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	187.54	192.57
Bahrain Dinar	743.95	753.95
Canadian Dollar	201.61	205.11
China Yuan	38.05	42.55
Danish Krone	43.27	43.67
Euro	328.20	332.21
Hong Kong Dollar	35.55	36.45
Indian Rupee	2.82	3.33
Japanese Yen	1.7599	1.8583
Kuwaiti Dinar	908.10	918.05
Malaysian Ringgit	66.50	69.65
New Zealand \$	162.24	167.02
Norwegian Krone	27.56	27.86
Omani Riyal	728.65	738.64
Qatari Riyal	76.10	79.10
Saudi Riyal	74.85	75.35
Singapore Dollar	217.00	221.91
Swedish Korona	30.16	30.46
Swiss Franc	352.54	357.59
Thai Bhat	8.55	9.75
U.A.E Dirham	76.50	77.35
UK Pound Sterling	376.47	380.84
US Dollar	280.7	282.5

Nearly 90% of phishing attacks focus on stealing digital account credentials: Kaspersky Reports



Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Kaspersky analyzed phishing and scam campaigns observed from January through September 2025 and found that 88.5% of attacks sought credentials for various online accounts. Another 9.5% targeted personal data such as names, addresses, and dates of birth, while 2% focused on bank card details.

According to data from Kaspersky, millions of phishing links were clicked in the previous year- all of which were detected and blocked by Kaspersky solutions. Not everyone uses protective solutions on their devices however, and phishing remains one of the most prevalent cyber threats, with attackers luring users to fake websites where they unwittingly surrender their login credentials, personal information, or bank card details.

Kaspersky research shows that most phishing pages transmit stolen information via email, Telegram bots, or attack-controlled panels, before it enters underground resale channels.

"Our analysis shows that credentials account for nearly 90% of phishing attempts. Once collected, logins, passwords, phone numbers, and personal details are aggregated, checked, and resold, sometimes years after the initial theft. Combined with new information, even old credentials can enable account takeovers and targeted attacks against both individuals and organizations. By leveraging open-source intelligence and old breach data, attackers can craft highly personalized scams, turning one-time victims into long-term targets for identity theft, blackmail, or financial fraud," said Olga Altukhova, senior web content analyst at Kaspersky.

Trade Organization DG Offers Solutions as Women Chambers Convene at All Pakistan Conference

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Women affiliated with women chambers from across the country participated enthusiastically in the All Pakistan International Women Conference organized by the Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Azerbaijan Pakistan Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Addressing the closing session of the conference, Director General Trade Organization Bilal Khan Pasha highlighted the issues faced by women's chambers and issued comprehensive guidelines for their resolution.

Bilal Khan Pasha said that the doors of the Trade Organization are always open for chambers of commerce, and anyone facing any kind of issue can contact the Trade Organization without hesitation. He added that the entire system of the Trade Organization is being digitized in the near future, which will enhance transparency and provide greater facilitation to the business community.

Speaking on the occasion, UBG Secretary General Zafar Bakhtawari said that women are playing a key role in the development of the national economy, and women associated with women chambers should be given representation on reserved seats in the National and Provincial Assemblies. He emphasized that sustainable economic development is not



possible without the inclusion of women in policymaking. Zafar Bakhtawari further stated that the government and the private sector must work together to expand business opportunities for women so that they can play an effective role in the national mainstream.

President of the Islamabad Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Samina Fazil, in her address said that conferences of this nature play an important role in strengthening networking among women, exchanging experiences, and promoting international cooperation. She stated

that women chambers are taking practical steps to empower women across the country. Samina Fazil demanded that women entrepreneurs be provided with more facilities and incentives at the policy level so that they can contribute fully to the national economy.

Traditional Atta Chakki

ISLAMABAD: A woman is busy in grinding the wheat at traditional stone Granders "Atta Chakki" as this ancient Chakki stone is running with the flow of water, which shows efforts of ancient people, who discover this method without modern engineering, in the Gokina Village of Margalla Hills.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

ICCD's Sustainable Tourism Forum & Expo 2026 Concludes

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: The Sustainable Tourism Forum & Expo (STF) 2026, organized by the Islamic Chamber of Commerce and Development (ICCD), concluded successfully in Karachi after a high-level dialogue aimed at strengthening multilateral tourism cooperation among OIC member states.

In his welcome address, H. E. Yousef Hassan Khalawi, Secretary General, Islamic Chamber of Commerce & Development (ICCD), said, "Sustainable tourism is not only about destinations, but about people and communities.

Addressing the forum in his keynote speech, H. E. Atif Iqram Sheikh, President, the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FPCCI), said, "Tourism today is a strategic economic sector and a powerful engine for employment, investment, cultural exchange, and sustainable development.

Speaking at the ministerial session, H. E. Qaisar Ahmed Sheikh, Federal Minister of Investment, Pakistan, said "Pakistan is a hub of diverse civilizations, home to numerous historical and

STABLE TOURISM FORUM & EXPO

"TRANSFORMING TOURISM FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT"



cultural sites. However, many of these sites require improved infrastructure and increased investment. Pakistan offers vast opportunities to the world, and such forums serve as an effective platform for networking and collaboration among countries."

Mr. Muhammad Atif Hanif, President

& CEO of AlBaraka Bank Pakistan, also spoke at the event. He underscored Pakistan's vast tourism potential and noted that targeted financial support and long-term investment frameworks could play a pivotal role in developing sustainable tourism destinations and strengthening the national economy.

SECP Approves Prospectus for Initial Public Offering of Ghani Dairies Limited

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) has accorded approval for issuance, circulation and publication of the Prospectus for the Initial Public Offering (IPO) of 104,200,000 Ordinary Shares of Ghani Dairies Limited (GDL), representing

24.28% of the total post-IPO paid up capital of GDL.

The IPO is being made through the book building method, with seventy-five percent of the IPO shares

(78,150,000 shares) being allocated to the book building portion and the remaining twenty-five percent (26,050,000 shares) offered to retail investors.



GDL is involved in the production and sale of raw milk. It operates a dairy farm situated in Khushab and supplies raw milk to dairy processors.

Balochistan Govt and NBP launch subsidized Electric Scooter scheme

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Government of Balochistan and the National Bank of Pakistan have signed a formal agreement to provide electric scooters on subsidized installments to students, working women, and the general public, aiming to improve mobility and promote sustainable transportation.

The MoU signing ceremony was

held at the Chief Minister's Secretariat in Quetta, attended by Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Bugti, Provincial Minister Mir Sadiq Umran, senior provincial officials, and top representatives from the National Bank of Pakistan. Chief Minister Bugti described the initiative as a significant step toward ensuring safe, affordable, and dignified commuting options, especially for students and working women. He noted that the

scheme will not only reduce daily travel challenges but also encourage the adoption of eco-friendly transport alternatives, contributing to cost-effective and sustainable mobility.

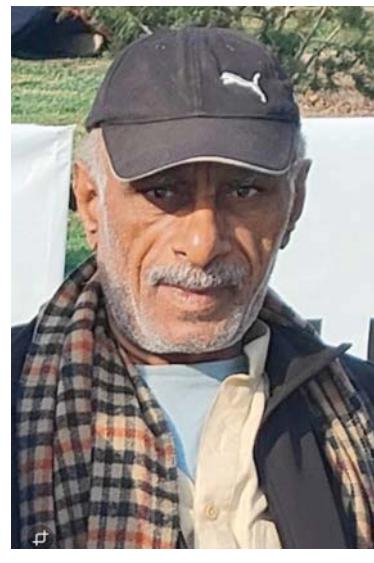
Highlighting the government's focus on public welfare, the Chief Minister emphasized that such initiatives directly improve citizens' daily lives, empower women and youth, and reflect Balochistan's commit-



ment to inclusive development.

He reiterated that the provincial

government will continue to roll out projects that provide tangible benefits and support long-term economic and social progress across the province.



Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The General Secretary of the Pakistan Cycling Federation, Mr. Moazzam Khan Klair, has expressed deep sorrow and grief over the passing of Pakistan's hero, renowned international cyclist, and the title holder of "The

Renowned Pakistan's Hero and International Cyclist Nazakat Ali Passed Away

Genie of Asia," Mr. Nazakat Ali.

In his condolence message, he stated that Mr. Nazakat Ali was associated with Pakistan Railways and earned numerous national and international medals, bringing pride and honor to Pakistan. Through his outstanding performances, dedication, and commitment, he made

invaluable contributions to Pakistani cycling and inspired generations of young athletes.

Mr. Moazzam Khan Klair said that the passing of Nazakat Ali is an irreparable loss for Pakistan sports, particularly the cycling community. His services and achievements will always be remembered.

He extended heartfelt condolences and sympathies to the bereaved family and prayed that Almighty Allah grants the departed soul a high place in Jannahul-Firdaus and gives patience and strength to the family during this difficult time.

RPO Praises Jawad Sports Complex as 'Blessing' for Faisalabad Youth

Abdul Majid

FAISALABAD: Jawad Sports and Cultural Complex is keeping the sports field in Faisalabad to keep the young generation healthy and fit. Today's youth need to spend their energies in a positive direction. Such institutions are no less than a blessing for the country and the nation.

Regional Police Officer Sohail Akhtar Sukhera expressed these views while addressing the annual prize distribution ceremony of Jawad Sports and Cultural Complex. In the year 2025, eight mega cricket matches were organized in this complex in which cash prizes, kits and trophies worth Rs. 5.5 million were distributed to the players of the successful teams.

On this occasion, Chief Executive Jawad Sports and Cultural Complex Sheikh Jawad Afzal and Sheikh Imad Afzal said that we are continuing the vision of our father, Sheikh Muhammad Afzal, of a healthy Faisalabad and will continue this vision of our father in the future as well.

The ceremony was attended by Regional Cricket Association President



Rana Anis Ahmed, former national test player Muhammad Suleman, Faraz Mahmood-ul-Hassan, GMJ Tax Mian, Rizwan-ul-Haq, GM Jawad Club, Mian Nadeem Ashraf, Head Coach Jawad Club, Mian Naveed Nazir, Mian Kashif Farid, Mian Nadeem Ashraf, Hafiz Amin-ul-Haq, Treasurer Cricket Association, Rana Zaheer-ul-Haq, Former Secretary, Mian Haseeb Ahmed, Farukh Mahmood, Muhammad Nadeem Dis, Maqsood Ahmed, ASP Gulberg, Hassan Bilal also participated. Finally, on this occasion, the players of Faisalabad who were successful in the Junior Badminton Championship 2025 and the players who

performed outstandingly in the tournament, RPO Faisalabad, Sohail Akhtar Sukhera, Chief Executive Jawad Club, Sheikh Jawad Afzal, Sheikh Imad Afzal, Faraz Ahmed, Hameed Afzal, Rana Anis and others distributed cash prizes, trophies and kits to the players, groundsmen and umpires.

PANAH expands the scope of pediatric heart surgeries

City Desk

RAWALPINDI: On behalf of PANAH, Secretary General Panah Chaudhry Sanahullah Ghumman handed over the first child for surgery to Dr. Qurban Khan of the Rawalpindi Institute of Cardiology (RIC).

Heart and related diseases are increasing at an alarming rate in Pakistan. More than 240,720 people die annually in Pakistan due to heart diseases and its treatment is so expensive that the common man cannot afford it. PANAH is working tirelessly for the treatment of such deserving people. PANAH has expanded its scope for cardiac surgeries of deserving children and has started working in collaboration with the Rawalpindi Institute of Cardiology. Now PANAH will conduct surgeries of deserving people from AFIC, PNS Shifa and also from RIC Hospital. In this regard, a formal MOU was signed with Rawalpindi Institute of Cardiology. MS-RIC Dr. Qurban Khan said that we will work side by side with PANAH in this mission.

Secretary General of PANAH Sanahullah Ghumman along with Medical Superintendent Dr. Qurban Hussain Khan admitted a heart patient for surgery at Rawalpindi Institute of Cardiology. PANAH strives for the best treatment of poor and deserving heart patients so that no child dies due to lack of treatment. Sanahullah Ghumman said that the management of Panah RIC is especially grateful to Dr. Qurban Hussain Khan.



Pakistan joins Donald Trump's 'Board of Peace' for Gaza

Continued from Page 1

Taking to his social media account on X, Ishaq Dar confirmed Pakistan has announced its decision to join the Board of Peace (BoP) in support of the Gaza peace plan. Deputy Prime Minister said Pakistan has taken this decision under United Nations Security Council Resolution 2803. Pakistan has reiterated its commitment to a permanent ceasefire, the provision of humanitarian aid, and the reconstruction of Gaza. Pakistan has reiterated its support for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state through a fair and time-bound process. Deputy Prime Minister said the capital of

the proposed Palestinian state will be Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

Board of Peace – Pakistan's strategic significance

The Board of Peace initiative is supported by multiple significant countries, including a number of Muslim countries. Turkey, the UAE, and many others have already done it, while others are following up.

Resolution of the Gaza crisis as per the UNSC Resolutions.

Permanent ceasefire in Gaza, ultimately leading to its reconstruction.

Achievement of ultimate peace in Gaza leading to the protection of the rights of the Palestinian people, their statehood, and right

to self-determination.

Ensuring overall security and stability in the region.

Historic and necessary

A pragmatic step for the political solution of the ongoing genocide in Gaza, with the participation of significant nations, including multiple Muslim countries, working collectively to safeguard Palestinian interests.

Recognition of Pakistan's height and importance in the global community.

In line with Pakistan's participation in multiple multilateral forums and engagements in an increasingly polarised, militarised and fragmented world.

Pakistan is perhaps the one or

amongst few countries having no dispute with any global/leading power USA, China and Russia, rather strategic to friendly relations with al;l therefore has the unique capacity to act as a bridge for peace in a world order experiencing uncertainty and flux.

Why is it highly sensible for Pakistan to form part of the Board of Peace (BoP)?

Pakistan does not belong to bloc politics. It engages with all and preserves strategic autonomy, rejecting rigid "either-or" alignments in favour of balance and manoeuvrability.

Pakistan's foreign policy has always promoted key national interests without compromise,

whether it was China, India, Kashmir or Palestine; Pakistan has never wavered from its Principled stances. On India, despite geopolitical circumstances in the past where India seemingly enjoyed US providence with pressure on Pakistan, Pakistan stood strong and unbending. Pakistan's position on Gaza and Kashmir remains fixed and lawful; no recognition of Israel, no policy reversal; rooted in UN resolutions, respect for internationally recognized boundaries, and Al-Quds Al-Sharif as the capital of a free, independent Palestinian state and on Kashmir; recognition as a disputed territory whose final

status to be decided through a fair and impartial plebiscite in line with relevant UNSC Resolutions.

As geopolitical fault lines harden, neutrality becomes indistinguishable from irrelevance. For the world's most significant military power of the Muslim World, abstention is not prudence—it is strategic forfeiture.

Pakistan's credibility is not theoretical. It's growing heft and sustained contributions to UN peacekeeping missions earning trust through action rather than rhetoric.

Portraying Pakistan as a bystander serves only those

invested in paralysis. In a world where power tables are being redrawn daily, Pakistan's presence is not optional—it is a strategic necessity.

International Security Force (ISF) vs Board of Peace

Pakistan already has a very clear stance on its engagement in ISF, which has been repeatedly emphasised at various tiers by the GoP. Any engagement in ISF will be in accordance with our national interest, UN mandate and as per the aspirations of the people of Pakistan and Palestine.

Equating the Board of Peace with participation in ISF is therefore illogical and out of place.

RCAK Whites and Reds win in RCAK U-15 Challenge Cricket League Tournament

Sports Desk

KARACHI: Two more matches were decided in the RCAK Under-15 Challenge Cricket League Tournament here at various Grounds of the City.

The highlights of the days play was brilliant Century 103 by Shayan Khan and some good batting by Areeb Noor 88, Azaam Abbasi 82 Eitazaz 51 abd deadly bowling by Medium Pacer Hassan Khan 5/32.

Scores in Brief:

RCAK Whites beat RCAK Greens by 2 Wickets at Oval Ground NBP Cricket Stadium. RCAK Greens 171 allout in 37.5 overs. Areeb Noor 88 14x4. Hassan Khan (mf) 5/32, Mohib Nasir 2/34, Haris Khan 2/48.

In reply RCAK Whites 172/8 in 47 overs. Aitzaz 51 10x4 not out, Ejjal Tariq 28, Muhammad Zakwan 22. Shayan Khan 2/41.

In the 2nd Match RCAK Yellow beat RCAK Reds by 16 runs at Jinnah College Ground Nazimabad. RCAK Yellow 197 allout in 38.5 overs. Azam Abbasi 82 9x4 2x6, Abdullah Ehsan 41 7x4. Muhammad Hasnain (mf) 3/52, S. M Hussain Imam 2/25, Hamza Salman 2/29, Bilal Khan 2/54.

In reply RCAK Reds 181/7 in 40 overs. Shayan Khan 103 18x4. Wajid ullah 2/48.

Wing 999 Inter Departmental Cricket League Tournament

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: Two

more matches

were decided in

the Wing 999

Inter Departmental

Cricket

League

Tournament here at

various Cricket

Grounds. One

Ten consecutive

3rd Victory in

the tournament after beating Pak Saudi International.

The highlights of the days play was brilliant Unbeaten 116 by Arsalan Farzand and some good batting by Shayan Ahmed 68, Saifullah Khan 52.

The Tournament is being organized by Regional Cricket Association Karachi with the collaboration of Wing 999 Sports.

Scores in Brief:

One Ten Communication beat Pak Saudi International by 8 Wickets at Gulberg Gymkhana Ground. Pak Saudi International 143 all-out in 31.5 overs. Saifullah Khan 52 7x4 1x6, Fahad Nadeem 21. Rehman Ghani (sl) 3/26, Wahid Ali (mf) 3/31, Fayyaz Hussain 2/32.

In reply One Ten Communication 144/2 in 11 overs. Habibullah 49 2x4 6x6 not out, Ahsan Ali 42 7x4 2x6, Wahaj Riaz 39.

In the 2nd Match D Cattle Farms beat Appie Farms by 7 Wickets at Eid Gah Ground Korangi. Appie Farms 231/9 in 40 overs. Shayan Ahmed 68 6x4 2x6, Abdullah Aziz 44 8x4, Awais Qarni 27. Muhammad Khan (ls) 3/28, Sikandar (ls) 3/54, Aliyan 2/58.

In reply D Cattle Farms 232/3 in 27.5 overs. Arsalan Farzand 116 18x4 2x6 not out, Sami Afridi 44 4x4 1x6, Ahmar Riaz Gaziani 26, Musa Azad 25. Muhammad Shaharyar 2/43.

Malik Sohail Awan Vows to Strengthen Rawalpindi as a Commercial Hub

City Desk



RAWALPINDI: Malik Sohail Awan, President of the Commercial Market Traders Association Rawalpindi, said the business community is the backbone of the city's economy and emphasized that new ventures create jobs and strengthen the local economy. The Association works closely with institutions to address business concerns, provide facilities, and promote a business-friendly environment.

He inaugurated a new food and beverage center at Commercial Market, Fifth Road. The event was attended by General Secretary Raja Zafar Yusuf, Joint Secretary Tahir Ismail, Vice Presidents Raja Rashid and Zubair Abbasi, Chairman of B Block Owais Butt, Executive Members Adnan Yameen, Mahfooz Khan, Qari Mukhtar Ahmed Abbasi, and others. Malik Sohail Awan congratulated the organizers, Danish and Mohibullah, highlighting that such centers boost commerce and local economic growth.

He reaffirmed the Association's commitment to resolving business issues and supporting a business-friendly environment.

