



Daily The Spokesman



US condemns Balochistan terror attack, reaffirms solidarity with Pakistan

The United States has strongly condemned the recent terrorist attack in Balochistan, expressing solidarity with Pakistan and sympathy for the victims and their families. In a statement, US Chargé d'Affaires Natalie Baker said Washington denounced in the strongest terms the terrorist attacks targeting security personnel and civilians in Balochistan.

A Leading National Daily

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فرمان رسوی
تمہرے بیوی اور بیویوں کے بیان کیا جائے
تینیں بیویوں کی بیویوں کے بیان کیا جائے
شہاب نے، خوشیں میں نے اور
ایمیں اور پریم کی بیویوں کے بیان کیا جائے
الشہاب نے، خوشیں میں نے اور
تینیں بیویوں کی بیویوں کے بیان کیا جائے
مکہم اسٹلیپیڈ اون تو دے جو غصہ کی کھات میں
اپنے آکر قابو کے بیان کیا جائے
گھنٹے، سیکھی میں (61) 61
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SC Public Facilitation Center helps 6721 visitors in one month

Supreme Court of Pakistan has brought justice more closer to the people by establishing the Public Facilitation Center, Islamabad which is designed as a one-window operation to provide a structured, standardized, and transparent solution under one roof.

Simultaneously published from Islamabad, Lahore and Multan

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Visit

QUETTA: Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi, Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfaraz Bugti and Corps Commander Balochistan visited the injured police personnel at CMH Quetta on Sunday.



Photo: PID

Security forces kill 133 Fitnatul Hindustan terrorists: ISPR

News Desk

ISLAMABAD: As many as 133 terrorists, including three suicide bombers, have been eliminated in Balochistan during the last two days as the operation carried out by the security forces at 12 different places in the province came to a close on Sunday.

The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) said that the terrorists belonging to India-sponsored Fitnatul Hindustan tried to sabotage peace in Balochistan by carrying out attacks at multiple places in the



province on January 31 (Saturday).

It elaborated that the terrorists carried out attacks in Quetta, Mastung, Noshki, Dalbandin and Kharan,

Panjgur, Tump, Gwadar and Pasni. "However, the forces gave a befitting reply," it added.

"Terrorists martyred 18 innocent persons," it said,

adding that 15 jawans of the forces embraced martyrdom during the operation as well.

The ISPR expressed the resolve to go ahead with search and clearance operation so that terrorists could be driven out of the province.

On Saturday, an TV channel, while quoting the ISPR, reported that the security forces eliminated 92 terrorists in counterterrorism operations in parts of Balochistan.

The ISPR's press release read, "On 31 January 2026, terrorists of Indian sponsored Fitna al Hindud

stan attempted to disturb peace of Balochistan by conducting multiple terrorist activities.

"At the behest of their foreign masters, these cowardly acts of terrorism were aimed at disrupting the lives of local populace and development of Balochistan by targeting innocent civilians in districts of Gwadar and Kharan, wherein, terrorists maliciously targeted eight innocent civilians (including women, children, elderly and labours) who embraced Shahadat.

Continued on Page 7

He said, "Our security forces are fully alert," and termed their level of preparedness as remarkable.

Attaullah Tarar said that, by the grace of Allah, The Almighty, Balochistan remained safe from major damage.

high morale of the injured personnel.

Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi told the injured security officials that, "you fought the terrorist attacks like lions and foiled their mission".

Chief Minister Balochistan said that "I salute your courage for foiling the conspiracy to create instability in Balochistan. You are our lion and the nation is with you".

The injured police personnel said that "they will fight against this calamity again after recovering".

The security officers and officials said their spirits were high and their resolve is firm.

"We have to destroy the terrorists of Fitna-ul-Hindustan. Our lives and the lives of our children are also ready to end the scourge of Fitna-ul-Hindustan", they added.

Attaullah Tarar pays tribute to security forces for killing terrorists

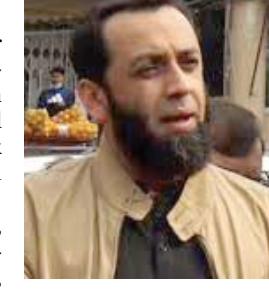
Bureau Report

LAHORE: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar on Sunday strongly condemned the cowardly terrorist attack by Fitna-al-Hindustan in Balochistan.

Talking to the media here, he paid tribute to the Pakistan Army, security forces, police, and the Balochistan government for defeating the terrorists and killing over 80 of them.

He said, "Our security forces are fully alert," and termed their level of preparedness as remarkable.

He stated, "Fitna-al-Hindustan is backed by India, and it is crystal clear how Indian media platforms constantly talk about Balochistan."



He said the credit goes to the country's security forces for exhibiting exceptional professionalism and defeating the terrorists.

He said that security agencies will eliminate these proxies from the country.

The minister said that a jirga of Bara Siyasi Ittehad had presented a charge sheet against the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government.

remained fully aware of the situation in Balochistan, said Attaullah Tarar.

He said that the prime minister had expressed firm resolve to eliminate terrorism from the country.

He said, "India is deeply pained by the Marka-i-Haq victory achieved by the Pakistan Armed Forces under the leadership of Field Marshal Asim Munir.

He gave a clear message to India that its proxies are nothing in front of the Pakistan Armed Forces.

He said that security agencies will eliminate these proxies from the country.

The minister said that a jirga of Bara Siyasi Ittehad had presented a charge sheet against the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government.

KASHMIR IS NOT FORGOTTEN SOLIDARITY DAY – 5 FEBRUARY 2026

The global Kashmiri diaspora stands in unwavering solidarity with the people of Indian-occupied Jammu & Kashmir.

For decades, the people of Kashmir have been denied their right to self-determination,

while grave human rights violations continue under occupation.

The unresolved Kashmir dispute

remains a serious threat to regional and international peace.

To amplify the Kashmiri voice and awaken the world's conscience

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- Choudhary Rafaqat Hussain
- Sardar Sarwar Khan
- Sardar Zubair Khan
- Rt. Major Arif Naveed
- Sardar Zarif Khan
- Sardar Niamat
- Aftab Shah
- Sardar Farooq
- Sardar Niaz
- Saghir Khan
- Raja Liaqat Kiyani
- Sardar Imtiaz Khan Garvali
- Raja Razzak

India, BLA behind coordinated terror attacks in Balochistan: Khawaja Asif

Bureau Report



SIALKOT: Federal Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif has said that coordinated terrorist attacks were carried out on Saturday at twelve different locations across Balochistan, with a deliberate attempt to cause widespread bloodshed. He stated that these attacks were aimed at compensating for the losses suffered over the past year by the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) and its affiliated organizations.

Addressing a press conference at his residence in Sialkot today, the Defence Minister said that multiple locations across Balochistan were targeted simultaneously, highlighting the organized nature of the attacks. He described these incidents as reflecting a clear nexus, two sides

of the same coin, between India and the BLA, stating that the BLA was

operating as a proxy of India. Khawaja Muhammad Asif said that following the major setback faced by India in May last year, such attacks are now being used to deliberately target civilian populations. He said these actions are intended to destabilize Pakistan at a time when the country, after enduring two years of economic hardship, has begun progressing again by the grace of God.

He added that India and the BLA want to push Pakistan back into economic darkness and undermine its national integrity. According to the Defence Minister, intelligence reports and confessional statements from arrested militants clearly indicate that the links of these terrorist activities lead back to India. He reiterated that the BLA is a globally designated terrorist organization, banned both nationally and internationally.

Govt put country back on path of development: Khawaja Saad Rafique

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) leader Khawaja Saad Rafique said that the government has steered the country out of problems and placed it back

on the path of development.

Addressing the party workers in Lahore on Sunday, the veteran PML-N leader said that the country is now moving towards stability and ease.

He added that the govern-

ment has achieved significant successes on the foreign policy front.

The former minister said that Shehbaz Sharif saved the country from default and put the economy on the right track. "The enemy forces are

now attempting to destabilize peace in Balochistan after their defeat in the Marka-i-Haq," he said.

Khawaja Saad Rafique further stated that Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had allocated Rs500 million for

the development work in the constituency.

He stressed that dialogue among political opponents is necessary, saying political differences may not end completely but should be reduced.

Massive Funeral for AJK President Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry

Bureau Report

MIRPUR: The funeral prayers of Azad Jammu and Kashmir President Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry were offered at the Quaid-e-Azam Cricket Stadium, the biggest funeral in the history of Azad Kashmir, which was attended by thousands of people.

The body of the President, Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry, was brought from Sultan House, Chehyan to the cricket stadium in a huge convoy of vehicles.

The coffin of the body was wrapped in the national flags of Pakistan and Azad Kashmir and brought to the stadium in a military gun carriage jeep.

The funeral prayers were offered by Qazi Muhammad Rafique, a prominent spiritual figure of the famous spiritual center Gulhar Sharif.

The funeral prayers were attended by Prime Minister Azad Jammu and Kashmir Faisal Mumtaz Rathore, Acting President and Speaker of the Assembly Chaudhry Latif Akbar, Commander of 10 Corps Lieutenant General Amir Ahsan Nawaz, Chief Justice of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Raja Saeed Akram Khan, Senior Judge Supreme Court Justice Raza

Ali Khan, Judge Supreme Court Justice Chaudhry Khalid Yousaf, Chief Justice High Court Sardar Liaquat Shaheen, Justice Chaudhry Khalid Rashid, High Court judges, Most Senior Minister Mian Abdul Waheed, PPP Azad Kashmir President Chaudhry Muhammad Yasin, Ministers Ikram Chaudhry Muhammad Rafiq Nayar, Sardar Javed Ayub, Chaudhry Muhammad Akhlaq, Malik Zafar Iqbal, Chaudhry Qasim Majed, Sardar Zia Qamar, Faheem Akhtar Rabbani, Aamir Yasin, Syed Bazal Ali Naqvi, Chaudhry Muhammad Rashid, Chaudhry Ali Shan Soni, Javed Iqbal Badhvi, Dewan Ali Chughtai, Advisor to the Government Sardar Fahdyaqob, Sardar Ahmed Saghif, Sardar Saud, Chairman Kashmir Committee MP in the British Parliament Barrister Imran Hussain, former Lord Mayor Chaudhry Altaf Hussain, former Prime Ministers of Azad Kashmir Sardar Muhammad Yaqoob Khan, Raja Farooq Haider Khan, Chaudhry Anwarul Haq, Sardar Tanveer Ilyas, Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan, Sardar Abdul Qayyum Niazi, former President Sardar Masood Khan, former Speaker Shah Ghulam Qadir, former Senior Minister Colonel (retd)



Waqar Ahmad Noor, Sardar Hassan Ibrahim, former Information Minister Sardar Abid Hussain Abid, former Acting Prime Minister Chaudhry Pervaiz Ashraf, former ministers Raja Mushtaq Minhas, Chaudhry Tariq Farooq, Akbar Ibrahim, Mirza Shafiq Jaral, Malik Muhammad Nawaz, Dr. Najeeb Naqvi, Abdul Majid Khan, Akmal Sargala, Ahmad Raza Qadri, Chaudhry Maqbool Gujjar, Khawaja Farooq, Barrister Iftikhar Gilani, Chaudhry Muhammad Saeed, Ansar Abdali, Chaudhry Rukhsar Ahmed, Khalid Masood, Tahir Khokhar, MLA Diwan Mohiuddin, Presidential Advisor Sardar Imtiaz, former

MLA Raja Maqsood Ahmed Khan, former Special Assistant Chaudhry Muhammad Ashraf, former Advisor Amjad Yousuf, former candidate Malik Muhammad Yousuf, Raja Riyat Khan, Inspector General of Police Yasin Qureshi, Azad Kashmir Secretary Information and IT Rashid Hanif Qureshi, Secretary to the Government Ansari Yaqub, Chaudhry Muhammad Raqib, Secretaries to the Government, GOC 23 Division Jhelum Major General Tauqeer Abbas, GOC Major General Muhammad Asif Chaudhry, DG Prime Minister's Secretariat Amir Zeeshan Jaral, Spokesperson Prime Minister Shaukat Javed, Chairman

Ulema Mashaikh Council Sahibzad Zulfiqar, Pir Sahibzada Anjum Sarkar, former Chief Justice Azam Khan, Chairman Prime Minister's Inspection Implementation Commission Chaudhry Hassan Ashraf, former DG Information Raja Azhar Iqbal, former Advisor Chaudhry Shaban, former Chairman Zakat Council Chaudhry Muhammad Siddique, former DG Chaudhry Mansha, Chaudhry Moeez Majeed, Chairman District Council Raja Naveed Akhtar Goga, Mayor Municipal Corporation Usman Ali Khalid, Commissioner Mirpur Raja Tahir Mumtaz Khan, DIG Dr Khalid Chauhan, Deputy Commissioner Raja Muhammad Sadaqat Khan, SSP Khurram Iqbal, former candidate Assembly Zulfiqar Abbasi, former candidate Assembly Sardar Aftab Anjum Advocate, former Ombudsman Mirza Zafar Hussain, Raja Farooq Niaz, former Secretary Raja Amjad Pervez Ali Khan, former President Supreme Court Bar Syed Nishat Kazmi Advocate, former President Supreme Court Bar Javed Najam Al-Saqib, General Secretary Supreme Court Rashid Rashid Advocate, former Director Information Chaudhry Muhammad Rashid, Haji Raja Munirullah Khan, Master Fazlur Rehman, Nadeem Qasmi, Ijaz Raza, Raja Shaukat Khaliq, Principal Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto Shaheed Medical College Dr. Faisal Bashir, Chaudhry Muhammad Hanif, Raja Mubashar Ijaz, Chaudhry Ansar Saran, senior journalists Zahid Tabassum, Aamir Mahboob, Raja Kafeel Ahmed, Khawaja Mateen, Amjad Chaudhry, Ijaz Abbasi, Bashir Usmani, Chaudhry Javed, government advisors, MLAs, leaders of political and religious parties, MLAs, assembly candidates, civil society and thousands of people from every school of thought participated.

Solidarity

RAWALPINDI: Feb01- Activists of Tehreek-e-Jafaria hold a protest in favor of Pak Army, outside press club, in the city.



Photo: Online

KGC President mourns passing of Barrister Sultan, hails his Kashmir struggle

Spokesman Report

NEW YORK: President of the Kashmir Global Council (KGC), Farooq Siddiqi, has expressed profound grief over the death of Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry, former President and Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, describing his demise as a major loss to the Kashmir freedom movement.

Speaking on the occasion, Farooq Siddiqi said Barrister Sultan Mahmood was a formidable and credible voice for the Kashmiri people's right to self-determination. He dedicated his entire political career to highlighting the Kashmir issue at national and international forums.

Over his distinguished career, he served as Deputy Opposition Leader in the Azad Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Prime Minister in 1996, Opposi-



tion Leader in 2001, and President in 2021.

elected nine times from his native constituency of Mirpur, reflecting his unparalleled public support.

He also held leadership positions in major political parties, including President of the Azad Muslim Conference, Liberation League Azad Kashmir, Pakistan Peoples Party Azad Kashmir, and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf Azad Kashmir.

The KGC President highlighted that Barrister Sultan Mahmood had played a pioneering role in bringing the Kashmir issue to global attention. He represented the cause at the United Nations, the U.S. State Department, European Parliament, and other international bodies.

He also led historic mass demonstrations in Trafalgar Square (London), in front of the UN headquarters (New York), Brussels (EU and European Parliament), Dublin (Irish Parliament), and at the Berlin Wall.

Farooq Siddiqi noted that Barrister Sultan Mahmood was

Deep grief over martyrdom of security personnel and civilians in Balochistan

City Desk

RAWALPINDI: Political and social leader Chaudhry Inam Zafar has expressed profound sorrow and grief over the martyrdom of Pakistan Armed Forces personnel and innocent civilians in recent terrorist incidents in Balochistan, stating that targeting defenseless people is an open act of terrorism



and an inhumane crime that cannot be condemned strongly enough. He added that the nation stands in complete solidarity with the armed forces.

In his statement, he strongly condemned the killing of 18 civilians, including women, children, and laborers, in terrorist attacks in Quetta, Mastung, Noshki, Dalbandin, Kharan, Gwadar, and Pasni,

saying that such cowardly acts cannot weaken the nation's resolve. He further said that during the clearance operations, 15 soldiers embraced martyrdom while bravely fighting for the defense of the country and the restoration of peace. The martyrs set an eternal example of courage, sacrifice, and patriotism by laying down their lives in the line of duty.

Muslim Conference Suspends Activities Mourning Loss of AJK President

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: President of All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference and former Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan expressed deep regret over the death of President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry. He said that barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry was a shining star of Azad Kashmir politics. In recognition of the services of Kashmiri barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry, All Jammu-Vikash Muslim Conference announced suspension of its political activities for three days. Sardar Attique Ahmed expressed his heartfelt condolences to Yasir Sultan and prays for the forgiveness of the late and patience of the victims. Chairman of Youth Wing Usman Ali Khan also expressed deep sorrow over the death of President Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry.

Saghar bereaved over president Chaudhry's demise

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: Acting president Jammu and Kashmir Democratic Freedom Party, Mehmood Ahmed Saghar, has expressed his profound grief and sorrow over the sad demise of the AJK President Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry, who breathed his last after a long illness.

In his condolence message, the DFP leader termed his demise as a huge loss for Kashmiris living on both sides of the line of control.

Highlighting the political and social services of the deceased leader, Saghar said that Barrister Chaudhry was a seasoned politician and a strong proponent of Kashmiris' right to self-determination.

He also underscored Barrister Chaudhry's peerless contribution in highlighting the Kashmir issue at the international level.

Expressing heartfelt sympathy with the bereaved family, he prayed to Allah the almighty to rest the departed soul in eternal peace and grant patience to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.

Open Court held at Police lines after long gap

Syed Tauqeer Zaidi

DERA ISMAIL KHAN: After a long interval, an open court (Khuli Kachehri) was organized at the Police Lines in Dera Ismail Khan, where citizens openly presented their grievances and concerns directly before District Police Officer (DPO) Sajid Ahmad Sahibzada.

The session was attended by city elders, social activists, civil society members, and representatives of trader organizations.

Participants paid tribute to the police force for their sacrifices in the fight against terrorism and acknowledged their unwavering commitment to maintaining law and order. At the same time, they demanded effective action against rising social crimes including theft, robbery, drug trafficking, and illegal money lending.

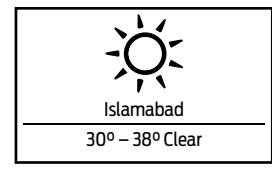
DPO Sajid Ahmad Sahibzada listened patiently to the complaints and issues raised by the participants and issued on-the-spot directives to resolve several matters. He welcomed constructive and sympathetic criticism aimed at improving the police system and assured the attendees that their concerns would be addressed sincerely.

Speaking on the occasion, the DPO said that the police function as a community force and can effectively regulate society only with public cooperation. He urged civil society, trader associations, journalists, social leaders, and religious scholars to create awareness among citizens about their civic responsibilities.

Stage Play 'Be Positive' presented at Arts Council Karachi

City Desk

KARACHI: On the tenth day of the ongoing Awami Theatre Festival 2026 at the Arts Council of Pakistan, Karachi, the stage play "Be Positive" was presented at Auditorium II, receiving an enthusiastic response from the audience. The play was written and directed by senior actor Nazar Hussain, while the cast included Shanzay, Billu Zareef, Honey Khan, Kamal Idrees, and Nasira Noor, who entertained the audience with their powerful and engaging performances. "Be Positive" revolves around a story set in a closed street, where various characters portray the sweet and bitter realities of society. The play highlights social attitudes, human psychology, and everyday life issues in a light-hearted yet meaningful manner. A large number of theatre enthusiasts were present in the hall to watch the performance. It is noteworthy that the Awami Theatre Festival, which began on January 22, will continue until February 15 at AC Auditorium II, where the general public can attend the performances free of cost.


SERVICES
Namaz Timings

Fajr	5:39 am
Zohr	12:21 pm
Asr	4:01 pm
Magrib	5:39 pm
Isha	7:04 pm

EMERGENCY

Rescue (Police)	15
Bomb Disposal	15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad	1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance	1122 &
& 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	9212334-43
CDA	9208301-04
Met Office	9250360-6
RDA	5555864
TMA	5770886

Arif Balgamwala Unveils Stamp Designs for Quaid-i-Azam's 150th Birth Anniversary



KARACHI: Prominent businessman and internationally recognised philatelist Muhammad Arif Balgamwala has proposed the issuance of a special series of commemorative postage stamps to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Quaid-i-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah in 2026.

In a statement, Mr Balgamwala, recipient of the Tamgha-i-Imtiaz, shared that he has designed a set of stamps highlighting key phases of the Founder of the Nation's life, including his political leadership, constitutional struggles, and visionary ideals for Pakistan.

He plans to formally submit the designs to the Government of Pakistan for consideration and official release. "The 150th birth anniversary is a historic milestone that deserves national-level recognition," Mr Balgamwala said. "We must observe it meaningfully throughout the year, starting early, to inspire the younger generation about Quaid-i-Azam's indispensable role in the creation of Pakistan."

CM Punjab Inaugurates Danish School in Mankera, Launches School Meal Programme in Bhakkar

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif inaugurated the Danish School in Mankera, Bhakkar, and formally launched the School Meal Programme at Government Primary School Kisanwala, terming education and nutrition key pillars for a brighter future of children.

During the visit, the chief minister announced the upgradation of three schools in Mankera. Immediate implementation was ordered and official notifications were issued. Government Girls Primary School Kisanwala was upgraded to elementary level, while the government elementary schools of Kari and Noorpur Shah were granted high school status.

The chief minister distributed lunch boxes among students at Government Primary School Kisanwala and visited classrooms, where she interacted warmly with the students. She expressed satisfaction over desks made from recycled milk cartons, and was informed that such recycled furniture can withstand rain and

temperatures up to 100 degrees celsius and remain usable for up to 40 years.

Education Minister Rana Sikandar Hayat briefed the chief minister on the School Meal Programme and Danish Schools. He informed that more than 200,000 empty milk packs are being recycled to manufacture furniture, notebooks and pencils. Currently, 13,197 students are enrolled in 20 Danish schools across the province.

The briefing further stated that the School Meal Programme is being implemented in 8,319 schools across 13 districts, including 4,309 boys' and 4,010 girls' schools, where students are being provided nutritious lunches. Since the launch of the programme, student enrolment has increased by 28 per cent, with an addition of 24,740 students.

Under the programme, 33.7 million milk packs and 12.2 million packets of biscuits have been distributed in schools of Bahawalnagar, Kot Addu, Bhakkar, Layyah, Mianwali, Muzaffargarh, Rahim Yar Khan, Rajanpur, Taunsa, Chiniot, Lodhran and Vehari.



Winning

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Railways Muhammad Hanif Abbasi presents Cheque to Marathon winner during Two-Day Pakistan Tourism Festival, at Spots Complex in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Health Council meets at DC office

Zafar Chishti

TOBA TEK SINGH: Under the health-friendly vision of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif, a meeting of the Health Council was held at the Deputy Commissioner's Office in Toba Tek Singh to review ongoing healthcare reforms and improvements in medical facilities at government hospitals across the district.

The meeting was attended by Member Provincial Assembly (MPA) Chaudhry Amjad Ali Javid, Additional Deputy Commissioner General Zeeshan Labbha Masih, Medical Superintendent Dr. Shahab Alam and other members of the Health Council. The objective of the meeting was to

assess the current state of healthcare services in the district and ensure the provision of better medical facilities to the public. During the meeting, Medical Superintendent Dr. Shahab Alam gave a detailed briefing on

the medical facilities being provided to patients, available resources, staff performance and ongoing improvement initiatives.

On this occasion, MPA Chaudhry Amjad Ali Javid stated that practical steps are

being taken across Punjab to improve government hospitals under the health-friendly vision of Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif and positive results of these measures are also evident in Toba Tek Singh.



Pakistan Fashion Week Goes Digital: Immediate Shopping After High-Street Showcases

News Desk

LAHORE: LAAM Fashion Week (LFW), Pakistan's first runway-to-e-tail fashion platform, presented Day 2 of its inaugural fashion week on 1st February 2026.

Designed as a comprehensive showcase of Pakistan's fashion ecosystem, LFW brings together high-street and prêt-à-porter brands, manufacturing brands who have successfully completed the LFW Ramp Readiness Programme (RRP), luxury fashion houses, couture ateliers, and bridal designers reflecting the full depth, diversity, and scale of Pakistani fashion today.

Indeed, LFW is built on



the belief that craft, creativity, and commerce must coexist. The platform highlights Pakistan's rich artisan heritage while pairing it with a modern, digital-first retail model that enables global access and real-time consumer engagement.

Act 1 of Day 2 opened with an afternoon high-street edit grouped showcase featuring Agha Noor, Panache Apparel, and Urge Pret. This was followed by Act 2, which featured retail runway brands Allure by Izn Hamza, Bin Tayyab, and Pehnawa by Bin Akram.

Act 3 showcased designer collections by Karma, Deepak & Fahad, Sadaf Fawad Khan, and Fahad Hussayn.

Naveed killed in police firing during raid in Layyah's Jamman Shah; Sub-Inspector arrested

Zain Khan Malghani

LAYYAH: A 20-year-old Naveed was killed after allegedly being shot by a police officer during a raid in the Jamman Shah area of Layyah on Sunday night at 7:50. District Police Officer (DPO) Layyah Hassan Javed Bhatti took strict notice of the incident and ordered the immediate arrest of the accused Sub-Inspector Sajjad Bashir.

The victim, identified as Naveed Akram, was critically injured by gunfire and died on the spot. His body was shifted to the District Headquarters Hospital, Layyah, for post-mortem examination. A forensic team collected evidence from the crime scene.

According to initial reports, the incident occurred during a police raid at a neighbour's house. Naveed Akram reportedly began recording the police action on his mobile phone. Despite being warned to stop, he continued filming, after which Sub-Inspector Sajjad Bashir allegedly opened fire in a fit of anger, fatally wounding the youth. Naveed was the only son of his parents.

District Police Officer Hassan Javed Bhatti took strict notice of the incident and ordered the immediate arrest of the accused officer. He confirmed that Sub-Inspector Sajjad Bashir has been taken into custody and assured that no leniency would be shown.

"An FIR 26/26 ps sadar LY. is being registered on the complaint of the victim's heirs. The law is equal for everyone, even for those entrusted to enforce it," the DPO said, adding that the bereaved family would be provided complete justice. Police officials stated that the raid itself and the subsequent use of force are also being investigated for legality. Further legal proceedings are underway.

Mushaail Mullick Remembers Late AJK President's Dedication to Kashmir Cause


City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Deeply saddened to hear of the passing of President Azad Jammu and Kashmir Barrister Sultan. His lifelong commitment to the Kashmir cause, his steady leadership, and his support for the voice of the Kashmiri people will be remembered with respect.

On behalf of us all, we extend our heartfelt condolences to his family, colleagues, and the people of Azad Jammu & Kashmir. We also acknowledge his support and concern for Yasin Saab and for all Kashmiri prisoners.

May Allah grant him Maghfirat, elevate his ranks in Jannah, and give patience and strength to the bereaved. Ameen.

JUI-F Senator Slams KP Govt Over Deteriorating Security, Rising Terrorism

Tariq Khan Yousafzai

TAKHT BHAI: The Provincial Ameer of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Senator, Maulana Atta-ur-Rehman, has expressed serious concern over the deteriorating law and order situation in the province, stating that the writ of the government in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has effectively collapsed and the public has been left at the mercy of terrorists. He said that incidents of terrorism are continuously increasing in various districts of the province, due to which citizens feel highly insecure. According to Maulana Atta-ur-Rehman, ensuring the protection of life and property of the people is the primary responsibility of the state, but under the current circumstances the government appears to have failed in fulfilling this responsibility. He expressed these views while addressing a press conference at Maskan-e-Darveshan, Takht Bhai. On the occasion, Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam District Mardan Ameer Maulana Amanat Shah Haqqani, Maulana Rahim Haqqani, Maulana Israr-ul-Haq, Maulana Taj-ul-Ameen Jabal, Haji Kishwar Khan, Maulana Aaqil Ansari, Maulana Saleem Haleemi, Tehsil Takht Bhai Chairman and Tehsil Ameer Hafiz Muhammad Saeed, member of the Supreme Council Al-Haj Dost Muhammad Darvesh, along with other office-bearers and workers, were also present.



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UN risks 'imminent financial collapse', Guterres warns

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has urged Member States to pay their dues, warning that the organization is in danger of going bankrupt and may run out of money by July.

According to the UN chief, the 193-member Organization faces chronic budget problems because some member states do not pay their mandatory contributions in full, while others do not pay on time, forcing it into hiring freezes and cutbacks.

"Either all member states honour their obligations to pay in full and on time—or member states must fundamentally overhaul our financial rules to prevent an imminent financial collapse," the secretary-general wrote in a letter.

The UN chief's warning also comes as US President Donald Trump's administration has, in recent months, reduced its funding to some UN agencies and has rejected or delayed some mandatory contributions.

Trump has often questioned the UN's relevance and attacked its priorities.

Tensions between the United States, Russia, and China—all permanent members with veto power in the Security Council, the organization's highest decision-making body have left the council paralyzed.

This month, Trump launched his "Board of Peace," which critics say is intended to become a rival to the UN.

Although more than 150 member states have paid their dues, the UN ended 2025 with \$1.6 billion in unpaid contributions—more than double the amount for 2024.

"The current trajectory is untenable. It leaves the organization exposed to structural financial risk," Guterres wrote.

At the same time, the UN is also facing a related problem: it must reimburse member states for unspent funds, Farhan Haq, one of Guterres' spokespersons, said during a press briefing.

The secretary-general also highlighted that problem, writing in the letter, "We are trapped in a Kafkaesque cycle, expected to give back cash that does not exist."

"The practical reality is stark: unless collections drastically improve, we cannot fully execute the 2026 program budget approved in December," Guterres wrote, adding, "Worse still, based on historical trends, regular budget cash could run out by July."

Guterres, who will step down at the end of 2026, this month gave his last annual speech setting out his priorities for the year ahead and said the world was riven with "self-defeating geopolitical divides (and) brazen violations of international law."

He also slammed "wholesale cuts in development and humanitarian aid"—an apparent reference to deep cuts to the budgets of UN agencies made by the United States under the Trump administration's "America First" policies.

How Iran Dismantled Mossad's Hidden Network

The confrontation that reshaped the intelligence and military balance in the Middle East unfolded between June 3 and June 15, 2025, when Israel and the United States launched a coordinated campaign against Iran that combined external strikes with what Tehran later described as a deeply embedded internal operation. It was not merely a clash of aircraft, missiles, and naval deployments. Iranian officials and regional analysts argued that it was a war prepared from within, built on years of covert penetration by Mossad, Israel's world-renowned intelligence service. According to these accounts, networks of cultivated insiders had facilitated the smuggling of drones, communications equipment, and light weapons into Iranian territory.

The aftermath, now firmly in the past, triggered what Tehran called the largest counter-intelligence operation in its modern history, marked by mass arrests, the exposure of alleged cells, the seizure of weapons depots, and the dismantling of clandestine communication networks.

By mid-June, the guns fell silent, but the intelligence war had merely shifted into a deeper and more complex phase. One of the most striking claims to emerge from this period involved the discovery of large numbers of Starlinked satellite-based communication devices, often described in regional reporting as "starlink kits." These systems were designed to bypass Iran's domestic telecommunications infrastructure and link operatives directly to external command centers. Through these channels, real-time instructions could be transmitted—

where to assemble, which facilities to target, how to provoke security forces, and how to frame events for international audiences once clashes occurred.

The method, as it was later described, followed a tightly engineered pattern. Small groups would initiate acts of vandalism or violence in public spaces. When security forces intervened, they would be fired at by sophisticated automatic weapons to trigger confrontations. Images and reports of these clashes would then be rapidly amplified across global media platforms as evidence of state repression. The objective was not simply to destabilize Iran internally, but to construct a moral and political narrative that could justify renewed external pressure or even direct military action.

Iranian authorities claimed that, working with Russian and Chinese technical expertise, they eventually traced the signal pathways behind these systems. Uplinks and downlinks were identified. Devices were seized. The digital bridge between alleged external coordinators and internal operatives was disrupted. As a result, Tehran argued, the momentum of street-level unrest declined, and the information battlefield tilted back in favor of the state.

Overlaying these tactical maneuvers was a deeper ideological framing articulated by Iran's leadership. In speeches delivered by the country's supreme authority, portrayed the confrontation not merely as a geopolitical struggle, but

as a test of spiritual endurance. When the world turns against the Muslim community, he told followers, divine support alone is sufficient. This religious narrative provided a form of resilience that could not be neutralized by satellites, sanctions, or surveillance.

At the strategic level, another current shaped Western and regional calculations: Iran's steadily advancing missile and nuclear capabilities, whether acknowledged, denied, or deliberately left ambiguous. The June 2025 exchange also exposed the limits of Israel's and America's ability to achieve decisive results without risking serious retaliation.

Iran was not an isolated state on the periphery of global politics. It stood at the intersection of major power interests. Russia and China openly opposed a war that could redraw the strategic map of the region. Turkey publicly accused Israel of pushing the United States toward a conflict that would destabilize the entire Middle East. Within NATO, enthusiasm for opening another major front appeared limited.

Meanwhile, Washington faced pressures far beyond the Persian Gulf. From the Caribbean to South America, shifting alliances and growing resistance to U.S. influence demanded diplomatic and strategic attention. The prospect of managing simultaneous crises across multiple theaters introduced caution into decision-making circles, as military assets and political capital were stretched



Qamar Bashir

across competing priorities.

Hovering over all these calculations was the narrow corridor of the Strait of Hormuz. Any disruption there would send shockwaves through global energy markets and supply chains, with consequences reaching far beyond the region.

Iran's post-June and post-January campaign to loosen Mossad's alleged grip—through mass arrests, technological countermeasures, and strategic partnerships—which signaled Iran's determination to contest every layer of the intelligence battlefield, from the streets of its cities to the orbits above its skies.

The United Nations, often dismissed as powerless, remained, in principle, the only forum capable of conferring collective legitimacy on any lasting settlement. Its strength lay not in its bureaucracy, but in the willingness of member states to honor its resolutions and arbitration. If that willingness continued to erode, the world risked sliding from a rules-based order into a raw contest of power.

For now, June's firestorm belonged to history, and January's naval chessboard defined the present. Beneath the visible movements of fleets and leaders, the silent war of spies, signals, and counter-signals continued to shape the future—reminding the world that in the modern age, the most decisive battles are often fought far from the front lines, in the hidden spaces between information, perception, and power.

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 Rasmie. (Courtesy of Asharq Al-Awsat)

Facts about Tirah Operation

A facts-based understanding of the Tirah Operation is essential amid propaganda that distorts its intent by exploiting civilian suffering. Tirah's rugged terrain and strategic location allowed militant groups to entrench themselves and evolve into a protected terror-crime nexus linked to external actors, posing a severe threat to national security and local communities. To counter this, the state relied on precision-focused intelligence-based operations, but the militants' deliberate embedding among civilians created serious ethical constraints. Authorities therefore engaged tribal elders through jirga consultations, and after peaceful efforts to persuade militants to leave failed, the elders themselves proposed temporary, voluntary civilian relocation to protect lives and enable security actions, a community-driven decision formally presented on December 26, 2025.



Abdul Basit Alvi

the PTI provincial government deliberately, through acts of omission and commission, allowed the complex relocation process to descend into avoidable chaos and administrative failure. This manufactured and amplified mismanagement was then theatrically projected in the media and political discourse as a humanitarian tragedy of the state's own making, a narrative carefully framed and edited to serve a pre-existing political narrative of victimhood and to cast aspersions on state institutions. By engaging

monopolies, and their hard-won, malign political influence within the region.

In the single-minded pursuit of these nefarious political and economic objectives, these elements demonstrated a callous and complete indifference to the genuine, acute suffering of the people of Tirah, whose lives were treated as expendable pawns in a larger political game. A matter as profoundly sensitive and vital as national security and counter-terrorism was deliberately and systematically distorted through a sophisticated propaganda apparatus into a fabricated narrative of human tragedy specifically designed to malign the state and its institutions in the eyes of the world. Anti-social media accounts, partisan television commentators, and suspected external informational facilitators continue to this day to spread exaggerated, misleading, and provocatively edited narratives, not out of any authentic humanitarian concern to help the people of Tirah, but primarily to conceal their own demonstrable failures in governance, their alleged involvement in illegal activities.

The verifiable facts, however, remain clear, documented, and increasingly visible to the resilient people of Tirah and to the impartial observers within the nation as a whole. These irrefutable facts categorically expose, dismantle, and condemn the malicious propaganda ecosystem being propagated by a handful of anti-state elements and their unwitting or willing amplifiers. Objective truth, when examined carefully, methodically, and honestly, leaves absolutely no room for reasonable doubt about the legitimate intentions, ethical constraints, and operational necessities behind the Tirah Operation, nor does it leave any ambiguity about the nature and motivations of the political forces that actively seek to undermine it for their own narrow, partisan, and ultimately destructive interests.

'Kashmir Will Become Pakistan' Workers' Convention of the Muslim Conference

In the light of the decision taken by its Core Committee, the All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference decided to organize workers' conventions in phases across Azad Kashmir and in constituencies of Kashmiri migrants residing in Pakistan. This decision was not merely an organizational activity but a powerful political, ideological, and public message. According to this plan, conventions were to be held in three phases: first at the divisional level, second at the district level, and third at the constituency level.

An important link in this series was the grand "Kashmir Will Become Pakistan" Workers' Convention held in Muzaffarabad, the capital of Azad Kashmir. This convention generated a new political debate, renewed spirit, and fresh hope within political circles.

After the successful workers' conventions in Dadyal, Bhimber, Gujranwala, and Rawalpindi, the selection of Muzaffarabad held special significance. The city is not only the political and administrative center of Azad Kashmir but also a custodian of the history of the Kashmir Freedom Movement and the Muslim Conference. In the first week of January, Chairman of the Muslim Conference Youth Wing, Sardar Usman Ali Khan, visited Muzaffarabad and held detailed meetings with senior office-bearers of the Muzaffarabad Division, organizational officials, and former ticket holders. Following these consultations, a final decision was made to hold the workers' convention in Muzaffarabad on January 19.

When President Muslim Conference and former Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan came to the stage to address the gathering, the venue resonated with thunderous slogans of "Kashmir Will Become Pakistan" and "Long Live Pakistan Armed Forces." In his address, he stated that

the State of Jammu and Kashmir and the Muslim Conference are two sides of the same coin, and that the Muslim Conference is a guarantee of dignity for future generations.

He announced that, following the Core Committee's decision, the Muslim Conference will contest elections from all constituencies of Azad Kashmir. He emphasized that "Kashmir Will Become Pakistan" is not merely a slogan but a guarantee of a secure future for South Asia. All sacrifices made in

Kashmir—more than half a million lives—have been solely for accession to Pakistan. No sacrifice has ever been made for any other ideology, he asserted.

Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan further stated that instability in Azad Kashmir is linked to various conspiracies, reflecting India's long-standing desire to create unrest. He said that the concept of an inde-

pendent Kashmir is impractical, contradicts the principles of the partition of India, and could push Kashmiris into a dead end. Weakening the Muslim Conference, he said, has resulted in the marginalization of political workers and parties.

Numerous senior leaders, former ministers, youth leaders, women leaders, lawyers, journalists, and activists addressed the convention, reaffirming their unwavering commitment to the ideology of accession to Pakistan.

Overall, the "Kashmir Will Become Pakistan" Workers' Convention in Muzaffarabad was not only a successful political gathering but also clear proof of the ideological strength, organizational capacity, and popular support of the Muslim Conference. The convention demonstrated that the All Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Conference remains alive in the hearts of the people and is fully prepared to play a decisive role in the upcoming political battles.

The urgent need to protect Pakistan's Wetlands: President Zardari

City Desk

On the occasion of World Wetlands Day, President of Islamic Republic of Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari said "I reaffirm our commitment to the conservation and sustainable management of wetlands."

He said "This day marks the adoption of the Convention on Wetlands, also known as the Ramsar Convention, in 1971. Pakistan is a signatory to this landmark agreement, which promotes the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands and their resources for present and future generations".

The World Wetlands Day 2026 theme, "Wetlands and Traditional Knowledge: Celebrating Cultural Heritage," reminds us that wetlands are not merely ecological systems. They are living cultural landscapes shaped over centuries by local communities. Across Pakistan, traditional knowledge and practices linked to wetlands have supported livelihoods, food security, biodiversity conservation and a balanced relationship with nature.

Healthy wetlands reduce floods, protect coasts, sustain livelihoods and



cut emissions. Neglecting them multiplies climate losses, while restoring them delivers high returns for resilience, the economy and ecology. Pakistan is among the countries least responsible for climate change yet most exposed to its consequences. Our wetlands are frontline climate defenders against floods, droughts, heatwaves and sea-level rise.

Pakistan's diverse wetlands, ranging from riverine floodplains and alpine and glacial lakes to inland wetlands and coastal and mangrove ecosystems, play a critical role in biodiver-

sity conservation, climate change adaptation, water regulation and disaster risk reduction. Across the country, wetlands face mounting pressures: erratic monsoons, glacial melt variability, heatwaves, shrinking flood buffers and climate-amplified pollution. Sindh bears a disproportionate burden due to wetland degradation, historical water stress and sea-level rise.

The Indus Delta and mangrove forests, once among the world's richest, now face salinity intrusion, coastal erosion and loss of fish breeding grounds. Inland wetlands such as Keenjhar, Haleji and Manchar are experiencing reduced freshwater inflows, prolonged droughts and concentrated pollution, affecting fisheries, drinking water and migratory bird routes.

For millions of our citizens, wetlands are part of everyday life. They provide fish for households and markets, grazing for livestock, reeds and vegetation for shelter and fuel, and natural protection for villages during periods of heavy rainfall or water scarcity. When wetlands degrade, families face loss of income, rising food costs, unsafe water and greater exposure to floods and droughts. Protecting these ecosystems is therefore both an environmental responsibility and a matter of public welfare and national resilience.

Wetlands are also cost-effective climate solutions. They absorb floods more effectively, store carbon, especially mangroves, protect coastlines naturally, and reduce the need for costly disaster recovery. Sustainable wetland management, integrating indigenous and community knowledge, contributes directly to Pakistan's climate and biodiversity goals and international environmental commitments.

Pakistan Zindabad.

'IBA Karachi Organized Annual Career Fair 2026'

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: IBA hosted its Annual Career Fair 2026, at the IBA Main Campus. This year's theme, "Fuel Your Future," positioned students as drivers of their own career journeys, encouraging them to identify their strengths, explore diverse career paths, and connect with organizations that help turn ambition into impact.

The Career Fair 2026 witnessed an impressive turnout, with over 200 companies and some seasoned professionals serving as mentors. Representatives from various sectors, including banking & financial institutions, energy, oil & gas, education, research & social sector, food & beverages, information technology, media, consulting services, retail, logistics & distribution, textile, manufacturing, and pharmaceuticals engaged with the diverse pool of talented students at IBA.

In his welcome video message, Executive Director IBA, Dr. S Akbar Zaidi, thanked participating employers for their continued engagement and appreciation of IBA. He highlighted the caliber, professionalism, and potential of IBA students, noting that employers would be excited and encouraged to interact with such bright talent during the IBA Career Fair. Additional remarks



were provided by Syed Atif Murtaza Qaiser, Lecturer, IBA School of Business Studies; Faiza Faisal, Divisional Head & Lead HRBP, National Bank of Pakistan; Syed Danish Ali, Manager Organizational Development & HR,

L&D Projects, Meezan Bank, and Muhammad Noman Ayub, Head of Talent Management, Pak Suzuki Motors.

The Career Fair 2026 featured a range of interactive engagement

activities, including mentorship lounges, where students connected with industry professionals for career guidance, helping them gain deeper insights into their strengths and career preferences.

Redefining Loyalty in a Plural Society

Saba Khan Asifzai

In the contemporary political landscape, a profound and often unsettling transformation is taking place in how the relationship between the citizen and the state is defined. The traditional concept of patriotism, once understood as a shared commitment to the collective welfare and the advancement of constitutional ideals, is increasingly being recalibrated into a demand for absolute, unquestioning allegiance. In this environment, the gray zone of political discourse is rapidly shrinking, as authorities and state institutions increasingly equate the act of questioning with the crime of betrayal. This shift represents more than just a change in rhetoric; it signals a systemic erosion of the pluralistic values that underpin a functioning democracy, where dissent is no longer seen as a vital check on power but as a fundamental threat to the stability of the nation.

The tension between state-mandated conformity and democratic expression has reached a critical juncture, as the very definition of loyalty becomes a contested battlefield. While patriotism is often presented by state actors as a monolithic obligation of silence, political analysts and legal scholars argue that true loyalty to a nation should be measured by an individual's commitment to justice, civic responsibility, and the rule of law. When the mechanisms of accountability—such



as public debate, investigative journalism, and demands for transparency—are interpreted as acts of treachery, the public sphere becomes dangerously constrained. This narrowing of the national identity risks transforming patriotism from an inclusive bond into a tool of exclusion, utilized to marginalize those whose perspectives do not align with the prevailing state narrative.

This ideological friction is perhaps most visible in the sustained pressure faced by the media and civil society. Journalists who attempt to navigate sensitive issues or amplify the voices of marginalized communities frequently find themselves branded with the "anti-state" label. This designation, often left intentionally ambiguous, serves to stifle inquiry without

ever addressing the substance of the reporting. The consequences of this labeling are far-reaching, manifesting in regulatory oversight, the sudden suspension of broadcast licenses, and financial constraints that force media outlets into a defensive posture. Consequently, a culture of self-censorship has taken root, where editors and reporters are compelled to navigate invisible boundaries of permissible coverage, knowing that a single step across an undefined line could result in professional ruin or legal persecution.

Beyond the newsroom, the crackdown on dissent has extended into the streets and the digital realm. Peaceful protests advocating for fundamental rights—ranging from environmental protections to the rights of ethnic minorities

and women—are increasingly framed by state apparatuses as threats to public order. Demonstrators often encounter a heavy-handed security response, where their legitimate grievances are dismissed as foreign-funded conspiracies or attempts to destabilize the country. Simultaneously, the digital landscape, which once promised a democratized space for varied opinions, has come under rigorous monitoring. While the state frequently cites national security and the fight against disinformation as justifications for restrictive digital measures, critics argue that these tools are often deployed to suppress legitimate critique and control the flow of information.

The legal frameworks of the state are also being repurposed to enforce this new standard of loyalty. Although the 1973

Constitution provides a robust blueprint for a pluralistic society, enshrining the freedoms of speech, assembly, and equality, the reality on the ground often tells a different story. Laws originally intended to protect state sovereignty, such as sedition and anti-terrorism provisions, have at times been applied selectively against political opponents, activists, and academics. This selective application creates a chilling effect that permeates all levels of society, discouraging the youth and the intelligentsia from engaging in meaningful political discourse for fear of being caught in the dragnet of "national security" litigation.

Historically, the nation's strength was found in its ability to accommodate a vast array of provincial voices, political ideologies, and cultural identi-

ties. Pluralism was not merely an abstract concept but a lived reality that allowed for a vibrant, if sometimes fractious, national conversation. However, the current trend toward equating loyalty with uniformity threatens to dismantle this resilience. History repeatedly demonstrates that when a state suppresses difference in favor of a forced consensus, it does not achieve stability; rather, it creates a brittle social structure that is less capable of responding to genuine internal and external challenges. By silencing the critics who point out systemic flaws, the state deprives itself of the feedback necessary for growth and reform.

The impact of this restrictive

environment is now visible across multiple spheres of public life. Academic forums, once protected

Pakistan Navy Shaheed Muhammad Shahzaib Mgt-i Laid To Rest With Full Military Honours



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Shaheed Muhammad Shahzaib MGT-I was laid to rest with full military honours in his native village Isa Khel, District Mianwali. The namaaz-e-janaza was attended by officers and personnel of Pakistan Navy, civil and military officials, and family members.

Shaheed Muhammad Shahzaib MGT-I sacrificed his life while defending against a cowardly terrorist attack at Pasni, demonstrating exceptional courage and devotion to duty.

Pakistan Navy pays rich tribute to the supreme sacrifice of the Shaheed and extends heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Neighboring Countries' Hand in Terrorism a Great Shame for Them: Farah Naz Akbar

City Desk



ISLAMABAD: Member of the National Assembly and President of the PML-N Women's Wing, Farah Naz Akbar, expressed these views following the successful completion of operations against terrorists in Balochistan. She stated that the involvement of neighboring countries, Afghanistan and India, in these attacks is highly shameful for them.

She further emphasized that every conspiracy to destabilize Pakistan will be met with a fitting response. Political institutions and the public stand firmly with the Army for the protection of the motherland. She expressed heartfelt sympathy and grief for all those who lost their lives to terrorism and their families, praying that Allah grants the deceased high ranks in Jannah and bestows patience upon the bereaved.

The Kashmiri and Pakistani communities are saddened by the death of Azad Kashmir President

News Desk

BRUSSELS/ISLAMABAD: The death of Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry is a great and irreparable loss to the Kashmiri cause.



Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry effectively represented Kashmiris at the global level. Highlighting the Kashmir issue at international forums Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry's outstanding services will always be remembered. Chairman Kashmir Council EU Ali Raza Syed further said that the political and diplomatic services of Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry will always be remembered. Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry's struggle for the Kashmir cause is an example. The void created by the death of Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry will be felt for a long time. We pay tribute to the services of Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry for Kashmiri. The launch ceremony of Sedrak Gurbahai's book on Kashmiri Vet&C in Mirpur Azad Kashmir was postponed due to the death of Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry.



spaces for the exploration of contentious and complex topics, are facing increasing pressure to avoid subjects deemed sensitive by the state. Civil society organizations, which often fill the gaps in state service delivery, find themselves mired in administrative hurdles and legal pushback if their work is perceived as challenging the status quo. In each of these instances, the citizen is forced to make a difficult calculation: whether to exercise their civic responsibility to improve their country or to remain silent to ensure their personal safety. This climate of fear is the antithesis of the democratic spirit, which requires an informed and vocal citizenry to thrive.

Ultimately, the argument that patriotism and pluralism are mutually exclusive is a false dichotomy. A nation's true power lies in its capacity to protect dissent and encourage a diversity of thought, recognizing that a commitment to the country does not require an endorsement of every government action. Loyalty should be defined by an adherence to the principles of justice, equality, and the protection of the vulnerable, rather than by blind obedience to authority. To reclaim the ideal of an inclusive nation, there must be a move away from the weaponization of loyalty and toward a system that values the voices of all its citizens. Only by embracing the friction of debate and the necessity of critique can a society ensure that patriotism remains a living, breathing practice rather than a static and hollow mandate.

Bull & Bears PSX 100-Share Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index	
Current	Prev. Close
184,174.48	182,338.12
Day's High	Day's Low
186,619.51	182,347.47
Index Value	Change
37,469,160,042	+1836.36
Percentage	Time
+1.01%	30 Jan, 2026 4:30 pm

Europe: FTSE 100 Index	
Index Value	Change
10,223.54	+51.78
Percentage	Time
+0.51%	30 Jan, 4:35 pm GMT

USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average	
Index Value	Change
48,576.11	-495.45
Percentage	Time
-1.01%	30 Jan, 1:01 pm GMT-5

Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average	
Index Value	Change
53,322.85	-52.75
Percentage	Time
-0.099%	30 Jan, 3:45 pm GMT+9

Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	194.89	198.71
Bahrain Dinar	743.5	753.05
Canadian Dollar	206.05	209.61
China Yuan	38.15	40.25
Danish Krone	43.32	43.72
Euro	333.83	338.26
Hong Kong Dollar	35.47	36.35
Indian Rupee	2.82	3.33
Japanese Yen	1.8083	1.9095
Kuwaiti Dinar	907.55	917
Malaysian Ringgit	66.5	69.25
New Zealand \$	168.13	171.08
Norwegians Krone	27.61	27.91
Omani Riyal	728.25	737.77
Qatari Riyal	76.07	79.06
Saudi Riyal	74.85	75.35
Singapore Dollar	220.59	225.58
Swedish Korona	30.1	30.4
Swiss Franc	362.64	367.78
Thai Bhat	8.5	8.85
U.A.E Dirham	76.55	77.35
UK Pound Sterling	385.04	389.51
US Dollar	280.60	282.3

FPCCI Convener Hails PM's Incentive Package as Key to Export-Driven Growth

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Convener Federation of Pakistani Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) Regional Committee on Food, Shahid Imran, Sunday said that the attractive package of incentives rolled out by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif would significantly contribute to achieving export-driven growth and pave the way for sustainable economic development in the country.

Hailing here today the epoch making package he said government's focus on facilitating exporters through tax relief, reduced energy tariffs, easier access to finance and streamlined regulatory procedures would strengthen the confidence of the business community and enhance Pakistan's competitiveness in international markets. He further stated that consistent policy implementation, transparency and public-private collaboration are essential to fully capitalize on these measures. If the incentives are sustained and complemented with infrastructure upgrades and skill development initiatives, Pakistan can witness steady export expansion, industrial growth and long-term economic stability aligned with the goals of sustainable development.

Traders Hail PM's Economic Package as "Game Changer" for Industry

Commerce Desk

HYDERABAD: President of the Hyderabad Chamber of Small Traders & Small Industry (HCSTSI), Muhammad Saleem Memon, has praised the Pro-Growth Economic Package announced by the Prime Minister of Pakistan, calling it a historic and far-reaching initiative for the promotion of industry, trade, and exports.

He stated that in the current economic environment, where industry is facing high production costs, expensive energy, limited financing, and weak export performance, this package will prove to be a true game changer.

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APO-NPO Workshop on Human Capital Management in SMEs Concludes

Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: The four-day International Workshop on Human Capital Management in Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), jointly organized by the National Productivity Organization (NPO), Pakistan, in collaboration with the Asian Productivity Organization (APO), Japan, successfully concluded today at PC Hotel, Karachi.

The Closing Session marked the formal conclusion of the workshop, which brought together policymakers, productivity practitioners, industry representatives, and international participants to deliberate on strategies for strengthening human capital practices in SMEs. During the session, a Vote of Thanks on behalf of the participants was presented by Dr. Anthony Cinco Sales from the Philippines, who expressed appreciation to NPO Pakistan, APO Japan, resource persons, and organizers for the well-structured program and valuable learning opportunities.

Delivering the Closing Remarks on behalf of NPO Pakistan, Mr. Muhammad Alamgir



Chaudhry, Chief Executive Officer, NPO Pakistan, highlighted the importance of effective

human capital management in enhancing SME competitiveness and productivity. He

reaffirmed NPO's commitment to supporting SMEs through capacity-building initiatives, policy support, and continued collaboration with APO.

Following the CEO's remarks, Ms. Sabibzadi Maheen Khan, Member, Board of Directors, NPO Pakistan, presented a Vote of Thanks on behalf of NPO Pakistan, acknowledging the valuable support of APO Japan, the Chief Guest, resource persons, participants, and the organizing team for the successful conduct of the workshop.

The Chief Guest, Mr. Muhammad Rehan Hanif, President, Karachi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCI), in his closing remarks, emphasized the critical role of skilled and motivated human capital in sustaining industrial growth. He appreciated the initiative and stressed the need for closer collaboration between productivity organizations and the private sector to translate learning into practical outcomes.

The session concluded with a Group Photograph of distinguished speakers, participants, and organizers with the chief guest.

Sunday Bazaar

ISLAMABAD: People are buying vegetables at a Sunday weekly bazaar, in the Federal Capital.



Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

TECNO Spark 40 Now Available in Orange Color Across Pakistan

News Desk



LAHORE: TECNO has announced the availability of the Spark 40 in a new Orange color across Pakistan, introduced in response to strong consumer demand for more expressive and vibrant smartphone design options. The latest color addition expands the Spark 40 lineup, offering users a bold new choice that blends modern style with everyday reliability.

The TECNO Spark 40 Orange edition is designed for young, style-conscious users who want a smartphone that reflects their personality while delivering dependable performance. The Orange color enhances the phone's slim

Solar and wind growing fast globally to meet increasing needs of electricity

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Chairperson Board of Industrial Collaboration to Enhance Fashion Exports (BICEFE) Mian Kashif Ashfaq Sunday said solar and wind are now growing fast enough to meet the ever increasing global needs of electricity.

Chairing here today a seminar on "Impact of Renewables on National Economy" he said this marks the beginning of a shift where clean power is keeping pace with demand growth. He said renewables share of global electricity rose to 34.3 percent in the first half of the last year, while coal fell to 33.1 percent and gas maintained its 23-percent share. He said solar and wind farms generated more electricity than coal for the first time on record last year. He said this surge in renewable use marks a milestone in efforts to turn away from fossil fuels, which are responsible for most of the greenhouse gas emissions that are driving climate change. Quoting a report he said solar power generation jumped by a record 31 percent in first half of last

year far outpacing wind, which grew 7.7 percent while coal fell by 0.6 percent while global gas generation inched down by 0.2 percent.

He said Pakistan has emerged one of the leading countries in the world where industrial units are being switched over to solar with fast pace followed by domestic consumers which he added playing key

role in mitigating the looming impact of climate changes. He said government prudent policies are yielding positive impact showing good indicators.

Mian Kashif Ashfaq said there is vast potential for promotion of wind power in Pakistan which needs to be fully patronised and finally integrated with our national grid to provide cheaper power.

Commerce and Industry former President Iftikhar Ali Malik Sunday said Pakistan's marble sector has

Good Governance Push Paves Way for Sustainable Industrial Growth, says Saif Ur Rehman

Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Coordinator to the Federal Tax Ombudsman, Saif Ur Rehman, Sunday said the government's wide-ranging reforms aimed at strengthening good governance are poised to unlock the country's true economic growth potential by expediting the pace of industrialization.

Talking here today to a delegation of traders he said sustained improvements in transparency, accountability, and institutional efficiency are creating a more predictable and business-friendly environment, which is essential for long-term industrial growth. He said reforms in tax administration, regulatory simplification, and digitalization have begun to reduce compliance costs for businesses and restore confidence among investors, both domestic and foreign.

He said better coordination among government institutions is enabling faster decision-making and effective implementation of development policies. This, coupled with a focus on ease of doing business, infrastructure development, and support for small and medium enterprises, is laying the foundation for sustainable industrialization.

He said continued commitment to reforms and good governance would translate into higher productivity, job creation, and inclusive economic growth for the country.



Commerce Desk

LAHORE: SAARC Chamber of

Pakistan Marble Sector Needs Tech Boost and Value Addition, Says Iftikhar Malik

immense potential and value addition supported by new technology is the need of the hour.

Speaking here today to a delegation of marble importers led by CEO 5M Marble and 5M Construction Shaharyar Ali he said the government on priority must strengthen the national marble sector through consultation with international experts and local stakeholders. He

Salvatore Praano during last month visit to Pakistan discussed bilateral cooperation aimed at strengthening Pakistan's marble sector through enhanced skill development, value addition and the adoption of advanced technologies.

Iftikhar Ali Malik emphasised the importance of improving product quality and integrating modern techniques in marble processing. He said government should invite a team of experts from Italy to assess Pakistan's marble industry and provide actionable recommendations.

He said the government must tailor a strategy for long-term cooperation in development of the marble industry to formulate a comprehensive marble industry policy for promoting sustainable growth, he concluded.



Asim Tanveer

LAHORE: Pakistan secured a dominant 111-run victory over Australia in the third T-20 match. Played at Gaddafi Stadium, clinching the three-match series with a 3-0 whitewash.

Chasing a massive target of 208 runs, the Australian team collapsed for just 96 runs. Seven

Australian players failed to reach double figures, while openers Mitchell Marsh and Matthew Short were unable to provide a solid start.

Marcus Stoinis was the top scorer for Australia with 23 runs off 22 balls.

Cameron Green contributed 22 runs off 24 deliveries.

Mohammad Nawaz spear-



Pakistan vs Australia 3rd T-20 Cricket Match

Pakistan Thrashes Australia by 111 Runs to Sweep T-20 Series 3-0



headed the bowling attack, claiming 5 wickets for just 18 runs in his four-Overs Spell. Shaheen Shah Afridi took two wickets, while Abrar Ahmed and Naseem Shah claimed one wicket each.

Earlier, Pakistan set a target of 208 runs, powered by half-centuries from Babar Azam and Sain Ayub.

Pakistani captain Salman Ali Agha won his third consecutive toss and opted to bat first.

Despite some early hiccups, the team posted a formidable total:

Fakhar Zaman: Out for 10 runs (7 balls). Salman Ali Agha: Dismissed for 5 runs.

Sain Ayub: Scored a brilliant 56 off 37 balls (6 fours, 2 sixes). Babar Azam: Remained unbeaten with 50 runs off 36 balls.

Shadab Khan: Played a blistering cameo of 46 runs off just 19 balls (5 sixes, 2 fours). Khawaja Nafay: Contributed a

quick-fire 21 off 12 balls.

Pakistan made three changes for the final match, bringing in Khawaja Nafay, Faheem Ashraf, and Fakhar Zaman in place of Usman Tariq, Usman Khan, and Sahibzada Farhan.

Pakistan had already secured the series by winning the first match by 22 runs and the second by a massive 90 runs. Notably, the win in the first T20 marked Pakistan's first T20 victory against Australia in seven years.

Although Usman Tariq was rested for the third match, he remained a topic of discussion due to an incident in the second T20. After being dismissed by Tariq, Australian all-rounder Cameron Green was seen mimicking Tariq's unique bowling action while walking back to the pavilion, subtly implying a "chucking" (illegal action) allegation.

Tariq, known for his unconventional style, had taken 2 wickets for 16 runs in 2.4 overs during that match.



Pakistan announces squad for ACC Women's Asia Cup Rising Stars

Sports Desk

LAHORE: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Sunday announced the Pakistan Women's A' squad for the upcoming ACC Women's Asia Cup Rising Stars 2026.

The 20-over tournament was scheduled to take place from 13 to 22 February in Bangkok, Thailand.

Pakistan 'A' are placed in Group A alongside India 'A', UAE and Nepal, while the Group B comprises of Bangladesh 'A', Sri Lanka 'A', Malaysia and hosts Thailand. Top two sides from each group will play semi-finals after playing three games each.

Off-spinning all-rounder Umm-e-Hani was set to lead the 15-member Pakistan 'A' squad in the tournament and will be aided by the experience of her fellow capped players including pacer Waheeda Akhtar and batter Shawal Zulfiqar.

Among other players, Pakistan Women's U19 captain Eman Naseer and batter Komal Khan have also received call-ups to Pakistan Women's 'A' after demonstrating quality skills during the recent 3-2 T20 series win over Bangladesh Women's U19.

Gull Rukh, Hafsa Khalid, Huraina Sajad are the other batters in the squad, while Yusra Amir is set to take the wicket-keeping duties.

Left-arm spinners Anousha Nasir and Momina Riasat form a four-pronged spin attack with Hani and all-rounder Noreen Yaqoob. Meanwhile, experienced Waheeda will lead the pace attack comprising Lubna Behram, Neha Sharmin Nadeem and Syeda Masooma Jafri.

In the eight-team tournament, UAE, Nepal, Malaysia and Thailand will field their national women's teams, while the



other four teams are participating with 'A' teams.

A total of 30 players were called up to Hanif Mohammad High Performance Centre for a week-long probables camp from 25 January after which the 15-member squad has been short-listed. The Thailand-bound squad will now take part in a pre-tournament camp at the same venue before departing on 10 February.

Pakistan Women's 'A' squad:

Batters: Eman Naseer (Islamabad),

Gull Rukh (Dera Ghazi Khan), Hafsa Khalid (Karachi), Huraina Sajad (Karachi), Shawaal Zulfiqar (Lahore)

Wicket-keeper: Yusra Amir (Karachi),

Komal Khan (Lahore)

All-rounders: Noreen Yaqoob (Lahore)

and Umm-e-Hani (Faisalabad)

Spinners: Anousha Nasir (Karachi),

Momina Riasat (Abbottabad)

Pacers: Lubna Behram (Hunza),

Neha Sharmin Nadeem (Karachi), Syeda

Masooma Jafri (Karachi), Waheeda

Akhtar (Lahore)

Non-travelling reserves: Zunash Abdul

Sattar (Lahore), Maham Anees (Islamabad),

Amber Kainat (Lahore) and

Ayesha Bilal (Lahore)

Player support Personnel:

Muhammad Masroor (head coach),

Shoaib Khan (batting coach), Naeem

Tayyab (bowling coach), Jaweria Rauf

(fielding coach), Taimoor Mehmood

(strength & conditioning coach), Suraksha Shaker (physiotherapist), Eman

Tufail Arbab (performance analyst) and

Aisha Jalil (team manager)

Schedule of Pakistan 'A' matches: (all

matches at Terdthai Cricket Ground)

Group A

13 February – Pakistan 'A' v Nepal –

9.30am local time

15 February – Pakistan 'A' v India 'A' –

2pm local time

17 February – Pakistan 'A' v UAE – 2pm

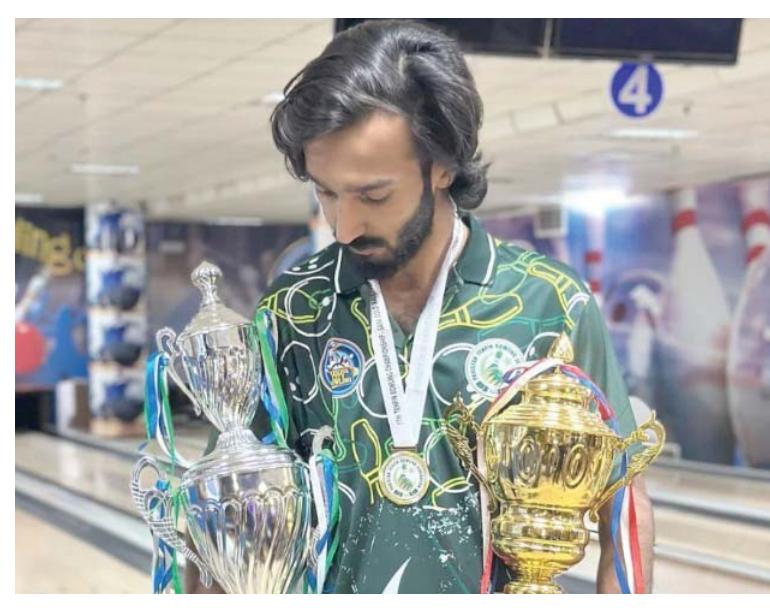
local time

20 February – Semi final 1 and 2 – 9am

and 2pm local time

22 February – Final – 2pm local time

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Schedule of Pakistan 'A' matches: (all

matches at Terdthai Cricket Ground)

Group A

Review visit

LAHORE: PML-N President Nawaz Sharif alongwith DM / FM Ishaq Dar, visited the holy shrine of Sufi saint Hazrat Ali Bin Usman Hajveri (Data Darbar) to review the renovation and expansion of the sacred site.



Photo: Spokesman

CM Bugti rejects talks with terrorists, accuses India of backing insurgents

News Desk

Balochistan Chief Minister (CM) Sarfraz Bugti has said that 145 terrorists were sent to hell in almost 40 hours in Balochistan after the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA) launched "coordinated attacks across 12 towns", reported 24NewsHD TV channel on Sunday.

Addressing a press conference in Quetta Sarfraz Bugti said that 17 security personnel and 31 civilians embraced martyrdom during the attacks carried out across the province.

CM Bugti said the bodies



of 145 terrorists were in the custody of the authorities

women and three children. The slain family belonged to Khuzdar and were Baloch, he added.

Bugti slammed hostile elements for trying to destabilise Pakistan at the behest of India and questioned whether the BLA was a registered political party with which negotiations could be held.

He said the group wanted to impose its ideology through the use of guns and reiterated that the government was not prepared to surrender even for a second.

"We will not surrender...

they [terrorists] can destabilise but cannot take a single inch of our country," CM Bugti said.

Declaring that "our blood is not cheap," the chief minister said the perpetrators would not be allowed to escape and warned that the land would be turned into hell for terrorists.

He said Balochistan would be taken towards peace and maintained that the use of force had never been carried out in the province in the manner claimed, stressing that only small, targeted operations were conducted.

Engr Amir Muqam visits Poran Grid Station Shangla

Bureau Report

PESHAWAR: Federal Minister and President of Pakistan Muslim League (N) Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Engineer Amir Muqam, visited the Poran Grid Station located in District Shangla on Saturday.

During the visit, he conducted a detailed review of the ongoing development work and directed the relevant authorities to further expedite the completion of the project so that the electricity-related problems faced by the public can be reduced.

The Federal Minister said that, in view of the growing electricity needs of the area,



it is essential to complete grid station projects on time.

He issued clear instructions

to the administration that no compromise should be made on the quality of work and that public demands should be addressed on a priority basis.

During the visit, concerned officers briefed the Federal Minister on the progress of the project. He further instructed them to accelerate the pace of work.

The local residents welcomed the Federal Minister's visit and expressed hope that the early completion of the Poran Grid Station project would lead to a significant reduction in load-shedding and other electricity-related issues in the area.

AJK PM Denounces Balochistan Terror Attacks, Vows Retaliation

Abdul Majeed Tahir

ISLAMABAD: Azad Jammu and Kashmir Prime Minister Faisal Mumtaz Rathore has strongly condemned the recent attacks by the terrorists of Fitna-ul-Hindustan in Balochistan and paid tribute to the innocent civilians and law enforcement personnel who were martyred in these cowardly acts.

In his special statement, Prime Minister Faisal Mumtaz Rathore said that terrorism is a scourge that has no connection with any religion, nation or humanity. He said that the enemy elements are making nefarious attempts to harm the peace, stability and unity of Pakistan, however, the sacrifices of the nation and security forces will never allow these conspiracies to succeed. He said that the nation is behind its security forces and appreciates their courage and determination. He



said that the nation is behind its brave Pakistan Army until the last terrorist of Fitna-ul-Hindustan is eliminated.

The Prime Minister of Azad Kashmir said that the terrorist attacks in Balochistan are actually open aggression against the progress and peace of Pakistan, which will be given a befitting reply. He appreciated the professional skills and sacrifices of the law enforcement agencies and said that the entire nation stands by its security forces.

Boost Revenue & Ensure Transparency: Aleem Khan

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Following the directives of Federal Minister for Communications Abdul Aleem Khan the National Highway Authority (NHA) has decided to regulate commercial activities alongside of National Highways across the country. In a strategic move to increase revenue and ensure transparency the NHA has invited bids to outsource Right of Ways (ROW) which will include the collection of NOC fees and annual rentals from hotels, petrol pumps and other entities.

This initiative aims to foster public-private partnerships, creating new employment and business opportunities. The outsourcing process will strictly adhere to "PPRA Rules." Key regions including Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar, Quetta, Hyderabad, Multan, Lasbela, D. G. Khan,



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Nawaz Sharif reviews Data Darbar expansion project

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) President Nawaz Sharif on Sunday visited the holy shrine of Sufi saint Hazrat Ali Bin Usman Hajveri (Data Darbar) to review the renovation and expansion of the sacred site.

The former prime minister said that it is a national responsibility to serve the devotees who visit the shrine.

He said that the provision of maximum facilities for visitors—including security, cleanliness, and ease of access—remains among the government's top priorities.

Nawaz Sharif added that all possible resources are being utilized

to preserve the sanctity, historical heritage, and spiritual environment of Data Darbar.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar was also accompanying Nawaz Sharif during the visit.

PML-N president said that millions of devotees from across the country and abroad visit Data Darbar every year, and the government is committed to providing modern facilities while fully safeguarding the shrine's religious and cultural significance.

Nawaz Sharif and Ishaq Dar also offered Fateha and showered flowers at the shrine. They also prayed for peace, security, prosperity, and stability of the country.

World Bank President Ajay Pal Singh Banga Visits Gurdwara Sri Panja Sahib, Hasan Abdal



Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: World Bank President Ajay Pal Singh Banga visited Gurdwara Sri Panja Sahib in Hasan Abdal. On this occasion, Regional Police Officer Rawalpindi Region Syed Khalid Mahmood Hamdani, Commissioner Rawalpindi Engineer Aamir Khattak, District Police Officer Attock Sardar Moahran Khan, Deputy Commissioner Attock Rao Atif Raza, SP Investigation Attock Zainab Ayub, along with other senior civil and police officers, were also present.

Speaking on the occasion, District

Police Officer Attock Sardar Moahran Khan said that Gurdwara Sri Panja Sahib Hasan Abdal is an important religious site where a large number of local and foreign Sikh pilgrims visit every year. He stated that foolproof security arrangements are made for the pilgrims and that the protection of religious places is a top priority of the Attock Police.

He further said that all religions enjoy complete religious freedom in Pakistan, and the Attock Police continues to take all possible measures to promote interfaith harmony, peace, and tolerance.

Work on Bhati Gate project halted, company owners arrested

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Work on the Bhati Gate project has been halted and the private firm executing the project, SMS Design and Engineering System, has been stopped from further operations. The company's owners, Usman Yaseen and Salman Yaseen, have been arrested, while a court has approved a four-day physical remand of five accused, including safety officials.

According to officials, the company's safety officer, Muhammad Hanzala, has also been taken into

custody on charges of criminal negligence. Investigations have been initiated against the arrested suspects, including Asghar Ali, Ahmed Nawaz, safety officer Muhammad Hanzala, and the company owners Usman Yaseen and Salman Yaseen.

Following notice taken by Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif, the Bhati Gate project site has been declared a secured zone and covered in accordance with modern safety protocols. Authorities have imposed a ban on construction work without mandatory safety measures.

NA Speaker summons Business Advisory Committee meeting

ISLAMABAD: Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq has summoned a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee on Monday at

4:00 p.m. in Parliament House to finalize the agenda for the current session.

The meeting, to be held under the chairmanship of the Speaker, will deliberate on the strategy for the 24th session of the National Assembly. Parliamentary leaders and chief whips of parties represented in the House are expected to attend.

