



Daily The Spokesman

A Leading National Daily



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نے عبد اللہ بن عباس سے سنا جو اس رضی اللہ
عزہ کے غلام ہیں کہ ابوسعید خدری رضی اللہ
عزہ نے بیان کیا کہ نبی کریم صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم
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جب آپ کوئی لڑکی چڑھتے دیکھتے تو آپ کو ناگوار
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President reaffirms swift, decisive response to any threat on 7th anniversary of Operation Swift Retort

President Asif Ali Zardari on Friday paid tribute to the armed forces' courage on the seventh anniversary of Operation Swift Retort, reaffirming that whether from the east or west, any violation of Pakistan's sovereignty would be met with an immediate, decisive and forceful response.



Zakharova urges Kabul and Islamabad to halt military clashes, seek dialogue

Maria Zakharova: We are concerned about the sharp escalation of armed clashes between the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan that involve regular army units, aircraft, and heavy weapons. There are casualties and injuries on both sides, including civilians. We call on our friendly countries, Afghanistan and Pakistan, to refrain from dangerous confrontation and return to the negotiating table.

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Briefing session

RAWALPINDI: Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif is being briefed on the Pakistan-Afghanistan situation by the Military leadership on Friday.



Photo: PID

Operation Ghazab-lil-Haq

PM Shehbaz praises armed forces at GHQ briefing amid Afghan tensions

Naveed Ahmad Khan

RAWALPINDI: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif visited the General Headquarters (GHQ) today, where he received a detailed briefing from military leadership on Pakistan-Afghanistan border developments.

During the visit, the Prime Minister emphasised zero tolerance for the alliance of Fitna

al-Khawarij and the Afghan Taliban regime, stating that their provocations against Pakistan are completely unacceptable.

He lauded the professional capabilities of the Pakistan Armed Forces, led by Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, Chief of Army Staff, and the Chiefs of Defence Forces, for responding decisively to attacks by Taliban forces along the

border.

"Pakistan knows well how to defend itself against any aggression," the prime minister said, highlighting that the entire nation stands shoulder to shoulder with the armed forces to protect the homeland.

Over 274 Afghan Taliban regime personnel and fighters were killed and more than 400 injured during Pakistan's

Operation Ghazab-lil-Haq, according to the military. The operation also destroyed 74 Taliban posts and eliminated 115 tanks and armoured vehicles.

DG ISPR Lieutenant General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry briefed media on the operation, explaining that on the night of February 21 and 22, Pakistani forces targeted hideouts of Fitna

al-Khawarij near the border. He said the Afghan Taliban regime had attempted to exploit these areas to launch attacks.

"Attacks occurred at 53 locations across 15 sectors along the Pak-Afghan border," the DG stated. "All attacks were successfully repelled, and the enemy received a decisive response that was observed globally."

Continued on Page 7

Operation Ghazab-lil-Haq: PAF strikes targets in Laghman

Naveed Ahmad Khan

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's armed forces continued decisive retaliatory operations under Operation Ghazab-lil-Haq, with the Pakistan Air Force (PAF) targeting Afghan Taliban positions in Afghanistan's Laghman province, security sources said on Friday.

The operation was launched in response to unprovoked aggression by the Afghan Taliban regime along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border.

According to security sources, precision strikes destroyed an



arms depot in Laghman, while the Afghan Border Force (ABF)

battalion headquarters and the Nangarhar Brigade were

completely neutralised during the operation.

Sources said Afghan forces suffered heavy losses as Pakistani armed forces delivered a strong and effective response to cross-border hostilities.

Security sources said Pakistani forces also destroyed an Afghan checkpoint near the Mohmand sector as part of continued retaliatory actions against cross-border aggression.

Officials added that Pakistan's armed forces remain determined to respond effectively to threats against national security,

stressing that operations are being conducted in accordance with international law and are limited strictly to Afghan military targets.

Sources maintained that Operation Ghazab-lil-Haq remains ongoing and will continue until all operational objectives are achieved.

They reiterated that Pakistan's armed forces stand united "like a steel wall" in defence of the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity, adding that retaliatory actions are aimed at neutralising hostile capabilities posing threats along the border regions.

PM, Chinese ambassador discuss regional, international issues



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador of China to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif at the Prime Minister House here on Friday and discussed matters of mutual interest.

During the meeting, the Prime Minister reaffirmed the enduring all-weather strategic cooperative partnership between Pakistan and China, characterized by deep mutual trust, ironclad friendship, and shared commitment to mutual support on core interests.

The Prime Minister conveyed his warm greetings and best wishes to Pres-

ident Xi Jinping, Premier Li Qiang, and the Chinese leadership and people, particularly on the joyous occasion of the Chinese New Year.

Ambassador Jiang Zaidong briefed the Prime Minister on recent developments in China-Pakistan relations and conveyed the warm greetings from the Chinese leadership. He reiterated China's firm support for Pakistan's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and socio-economic development.

Both sides exchanged views on regional and international issues of mutual interest, agreeing to maintain close coordination and consultation to contribute to peace, stability, and prosperity in the region and beyond.

Pakistan responded to Afghan Taliban aggression with vigilance, strength: Tarar



City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar on Friday said Pakistan responded with vigilance and strength to unprovoked aggression by the Afghan Taliban.

Speaking to PTV, the minister stated that Pakistan's armed forces had effectively employed their professional capabilities to safeguard the motherland under testing circumstances.

He said the robust response had forced the Afghan Taliban on the back foot, leaving them

in a state of uncertainty and resorting to spreading fake news on social media.

Tarar noted that even an international news channel fell victim to the fabricated reports circulated by the Afghan Taliban, and later compelled to delete its tweet.

Highlighting the retaliatory measures, the minister said Pakistan's security forces destroyed key Taliban ammunition depots and battalion headquarters.

The minister said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif also lauded the timely and courageous action of the armed forces under the leadership of Chief of the Army Staff and Chief of Defence Forces Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, and commended their preparedness and professionalism in safeguarding national security and sovereignty.

Leghari condemns unprovoked Afghan aggression

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Power Sardar Awaiz Ahmed Khan Leghari on Friday strongly condemned unprovoked act of aggression by Afghanistan, warning that Pakistan would never compromise on its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

In a statement issued here, the minister said the late-night attack was a cowardly and blatant act of hostility.

He reaffirmed that under the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, the government remains fully committed to safeguarding national defence and ensuring the secu-

city of the country.

Leghari paid tribute to the armed forces, noting that under the leadership of Field Marshal Asim Munir, armed forces had delivered a timely and effective response to the aggression.

"The entire nation takes pride in the swift and decisive action of our armed forces," he said, adding that hostile designs of the enemy would be thwarted at every front.

The minister emphasized that the people of Pakistan stand shoulder to shoulder with their brave armed forces and reiterated the government's resolve to protect the country's peace and stability at all costs.

Nation stands shoulder to shoulder with armed forces against terrorism: Rana Sanaullah

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Political Affairs Rana Sanaullah Khan told the Senate on Friday that the entire nation stands shoulder to shoulder with Pakistan's armed forces in the fight against terrorism, as the House unanimously adopted a resolution reaffirming national unity against aggression

and militancy.

Responding to Opposition Leader Senator Raja Nasir Abbas during a discussion on the resolution, Sanaullah said the unanimous passage of the resolution by the House of Federation reflected the collective will of the people and endorsed the resolve of the nation.

He said that at critical moments the Pakistani nation had consistently placed full confidence in its

armed forces and stood firmly behind them. Referring to recent cross-border aggression, he said the armed forces had delivered a strong and effective response while exercising restraint.

Sanaullah said Pakistan's armed forces were highly professional and fully capable of responding decisively to any hostile act, but had demonstrated maturity and responsibility by limiting action

to what was necessary.

He warned that elements involved in cross-border activities had previously been given opportunities to behave responsibly, but if aggression continued, they would be dealt with firmly.

The adviser said the government and political leadership stood fully aligned with the military leadership's decisions regarding national security and

counter-terrorism operations.

During the debate, Senator Ali Zafar proposed the formation of a regional mechanism to address the situation.

Sanaullah suggested referring the matter to the Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs for in-camera briefings from the Foreign Office and relevant security institutions before any decision was taken.

AJK PPP Govt touts 'Exemplary Performance' After First 100 Days in Office

Bureau Report

MUZAFFARABAD: The Minister for Information, Auqaf and Religious Affairs of Azad Government of the State of Jammu & Kashmir, Chaudhry Muhammad Rafiq Nayyer, has stated that the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) AJK government, led by Prime Minister Raja Faisal Mumtaz Rathore, has completed its first 100 days in office with exemplary performance and impactful governance initiatives.

In his statement, the Minister said that within a short span of time, the government has taken practical and far-reaching decisions whose positive



effects are being felt across the region. He highlighted that the restoration of political stability, promotion of merit,

prioritization of health and education services, resolution of long-pending issues, and improved service delivery have restored public confidence in the system and reduced uncertainty within the state.

Welfare measures include fixing the minimum monthly wage at Rs. 40,000, regularization of Grade-I employees, upgradation of drivers' pay scales, additional financial relief for lower-grade employees, and issuance of health cards. The government has also approved measures for waiver of electricity arrears, removal of pension disparities, increased stipends and quota for persons with disabili-

ties, and financial compensation along with government employment for the families of those martyred in protest incidents.

Concluding his statement, the Minister affirmed that the government remains committed to fulfilling its promises to the people. A comprehensive monitoring mechanism is being established to ensure implementation of all announced initiatives. He reiterated that the present government is determined to steer Azad Jammu & Kashmir towards development, prosperity, and improved governance, laying a strong foundation for the years ahead.

Mock exercise held at University of Kamalia

Zafar Chishti

TOBA TEK SINGH: Deputy Commissioner Toba Tek Singh Umar Abbas Mela, Assistant Commissioner Erum Shahzadi and ASP Kamalia Ali Ahmed Participate in Mock Exercise at University of Kamalia. According to details, a mock exercise was conducted at the University of Kamalia to deal with emergency situations. Rescue teams, police and other relevant departments actively participated in the drill and demonstrated their preparedness and response capabilities.

Deputy Commissioner Umar Abbas Mela and Assistant Commissioner Erum Shahzadi reviewed the arrangements and appreciated the performance of various departments. ASP Kamalia Ali Ahmed was also present on the occasion. The officers stated that the purpose of the mock exercise was to ensure a timely and effective response in case of any unforeseen incident, so as to minimize loss of life and property. The administration emphasized that better coordination among departments and advance preparedness are the need of the hour to tackle emergencies efficiently.

International order fails to deliver justice to Kashmir and Palestine: Ambassador Masood



Spokesman Report.

ISLAMABAD: Ambassador Masood Khan, Former President of Azad Jammu and Kashmir and former Ambassador of Pakistan to the United States and Permanent Representative to the United Nations, has stated that the post-1945 international system—often described as a liberal rules-based international order—has been fundamentally selective and structurally biased, particularly in its failure to resolve the disputes of Jammu and Kashmir and Palestine.

Addressing an interactive session at the Center for Peace and Security (CIPS) of the National University of Science and Technology (NUST), Ambassador Masood Khan observed that what is being mourned today as the "erosion" of the international order was, in reality, a system that privileged powerful states while denying weaker nations their legitimate rights. He remarked that recent crises—from Gaza to other conflict zones—have exposed the fragility and partial application of international law, prompting a global search for a more equitable framework.

"The struggle for justice requires resilience, clarity of purpose, and unity," Ambassador Masood Khan concluded. "Nations that remain steadfast in their principles ultimately shape the course of history."

Operation Ghazab-ul-Haq is a decisive step toward safeguarding national security: Samia Sajid

Bureau Report.

MUZAFFARABAD: Under the leadership of Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, the Pakistan Armed Forces have elevated the country's prestige globally and possess full capability to confront every threat: Central Chairperson Women's Wing

Full confidence in the leadership of Sardar Atiq Ahmed Khan, President of Muslim Conference; will continue the struggle for Pakistan's security and stability: Former Assembly Candidate Valley-6 *Muzaffarabad.

Samia Sajid, Central Chairperson Women's Wing, former Assembly candidate Valley-6 KPK, and Chairperson of the Pakistan Women Alert Forum, stated in her press release that Pakistan's launch of Operation Ghazab-ul-Haq against the Taliban regime is a timely, courageous decision aligned with the requirements of national security. She said the entire nation pays tribute to its brave Pakistan Armed Forces and stands firmly by their side.

She further said that the prudent leadership, professional competence, and unwavering resolve of Syed Asim Munir have not only enhanced the prestige of the armed forces but once again demonstrated to the world that Pakistan will make no compromise on its sovereignty, ideological frontiers, and the protection of its people.

She added that the Kashmiri nation—especially women—holds the sacrifices, bravery, and sense of duty of the Pakistan Armed Forces in the highest regard and has always stood by its defenders in difficult times and will continue to do so in the future.

We Stand Shoulder to Shoulder with the Armed Forces of Pakistan: Chaudhry Inam



City Desk

RAWALPINDI: Political and social leader Chaudhry Inam Zafar expressed complete solidarity with the Armed Forces of Pakistan, stating that in the current circumstances, the entire nation stands firmly alongside its brave armed forces and will not allow any harm to come to the country's sovereignty and integrity. The enemy must clearly understand that under the leadership of great Commander General Asim Munir, the Armed Forces of Pakistan are fully prepared at all times to give a strong and decisive response to every conspiracy and act of aggression.

In his important statement, he said that in the context of the recent tensions along the Pak-Afghan border and Operation "Ghazab ul Haq," the Armed Forces of Pakistan have demonstrated remarkable courage, professionalism, and a spirit of sacrifice that is truly commendable. He added that the defense of the homeland is in strong hands and every conspiracy of the enemy will be foiled. Chaudhry Inam Zafar further stated that this is the time to rise above political differences and demonstrate national unity and solidarity. He urged the entire nation to pay tribute to the armed forces and boost their morale, emphasizing that the security and sovereignty of the country come first. He concluded by saying that Pakistan is a peaceful country, but if its borders or sovereignty are challenged, the nation and its armed forces will stand united and confront every threat with determination.

Protest

MUZAFFERABAD: Employees of Health Department hold protest in favor of their demands outside press club in the capital of AJK.



Photo: Online

AJK Observes "Surprise Day" Honoring Pakistan's Military Response and Martyrs

Abdul Majeed Tahir

MUZAFFARABAD: On the directions of the Prime Minister of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, a ceremony was held at the Prime Minister's Secretariat to observe "Surprise Day" with devotion and respect, expressing solidarity with the Armed Forces of Pakistan following the downing of Indian aircraft in response to an airspace violation and the arrest of Indian pilot Abhinandan Varthaman. The event also commemorated the success of "Operation Ghazab-ul-Haq" in Afghanistan and paid tribute to the martyrs of intelligence-based operations conducted against terrorist hideouts.

The ceremony was attended by senior party leaders and workers. Addressing the gathering, Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Azad Kashmir Central Deputy Secretary Information and spokesperson to the Prime Minister, Shaukat Javed Mir, said that under the leadership of Chief of Army Staff Asim Munir, Pakistan demonstrated exemplary military strategy and professionalism, achieving success in defense of the homeland and earning distinction in the comity of nations.

Speakers reiterated that the people of Kashmir consider a strong, stable, and democratic Pakistan as their



anchor of hope and solidarity. They affirmed that Pakistan and its Armed Forces remain their "red line." The participants emphasized that under the leadership of Prime Minister Chaudhry Faisal Mumtaz Rathore,

the PPP government in Azad Kashmir has, within a short period, worked to promote stability, unity, and effective governance.

The ceremony concluded with collective prayers for the security and

stability of Pakistan, the success of its Armed Forces, unity of the Muslim Ummah, and a peaceful resolution of the Jammu & Kashmir dispute in accordance with the aspirations of its people.

AJK Leader Praises PAF for Successful 'Operation Ghazab-ul-Haq'

Spokesman Report

RAWALPINDI: President of the All Jammu & Kashmir Muslim Conference and former Prime Minister of Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan, has congratulated the Pakistan Air Force on what he termed the successful execution of "Operation Ghazab-ul-Haq" following "Marka-e-Haq, Bunyan-un-Marsoos."

Speaking on the occasion of "Surprise Day," he stated that the day symbolizes Pakistan's firm and timely response to aggression. He remarked that just as a decisive surprise had



previously been delivered to India, the recent development also carried a clear

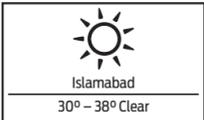
message to elements allegedly issuing threats from Afghan territory.

Sardar Attique Ahmad Khan said that the Pakistan Armed Forces are the pride of the nation and that the entire nation stands shoulder to shoulder with them. He paid tribute to Field Marshal Asim Munir, praising his leadership, courage, and resolve, and stating that his command reflects the professionalism and determination of Pakistan's military leadership.

He reiterated that Pakistan has always promoted peace and brotherhood in the region. However, he added that any act of aggression would be met

with a strong and befitting response. He criticized hostile policies in the region and urged neighboring governments to prioritize regional stability, sovereignty, and development over external influence.

The Muslim Conference leader emphasized that national unity and unwavering support for the armed forces are essential for safeguarding Pakistan's security and regional peace. He concluded by reaffirming solidarity with the Armed Forces of Pakistan and expressing confidence in their readiness to defend the country against any threat.



SERVICES

Namaz Timings

Fajr	5:16 am
Zohr	12:21 pm
Asr	4:22 pm
Maghrib	6:02 pm
Isha	7:25 pm

EMERGENCY

Rescue (Police)	15
Bomb Disposal	15
Fire Services Rawalpindi/ Islamabad	1122 & 16
Emergency Ambulance	1122 & 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
Polyclinic	9218300-09
Shifa International	4603666

DEPARTMENTS

CDA	9221334-43
CDA	9208301-04
Met Office	9250360-6
RDA	5555864
TMA	5770886
Cantonment Board	9270151-3
Islamabad Metropolitan Corporation	9209224
Potohar Town	9209224

UCP assures full solidarity with Pak armed forces

FAISALABAD: Ulama Council Pakistan (UCP) on Friday assured complete solidarity and cooperation with the Pakistan armed forces in the context of operation "Ghazab-lil-Haq", as special prayers were offered across the country during Friday congregations for peace, stability and national security.

Chairman UCP and General Secretary of International Khatam-e-Nabuwat Movement Pakistan Sahibzada Zahid Mahmood Qasmi while addressing the Jumah congregation at Jamia Masjid Gol said that the entire nation stands united with its armed forces and reposes full confidence in their professional capabilities.

He said that armed forces of Pakistan have delivered a strong and effective response to Afghan aggression and demonstrated their preparedness to defend sovereignty of the country.

He urged the Afghan government to abandon external agendas and prevent terrorist elements from using its soil against Pakistan.

He termed the attack on Pakistani check posts as highly regrettable and condemnable act.

He strongly condemned the Afghan aggression and said that any attack on Pakistan constitutes a blatant violation of international law.

He said that no individual or group can be allowed to target security forces' check posts and any attempt to challenge Pakistan's sovereignty would be met with a firm response.

Youm-e-Babul-Islam: A Day to Renew Commitment to Unity and Service, says Sadia Rashid

Spokesman Report

KARACHI: Ms. Sadia Rashid, President of Hamdard Foundation Pakistan (HFP), in her message on 10 Ramadan, Youm-e-Babul-Islam, said that this day holds great significance in the history of the subcontinent. On this day, a young, brave and wise commander, Muhammad bin Qasim, entered the land of Sindh and introduced the region to the golden Islamic teachings, civilisation and culture. The battle fought on 10 Ramadan became a decisive moment between truth and falsehood. The Muslim forces achieved a historic victory and began a new era of peace and prosperity in the region.

Today, enemies use various tactics to weaken the process of nation-building and to undermine national unity. In such circumstances, we must once again under-



stand and adopt the spirit and message of the "Youm-e-Babul-Islam" movement. Shaheed-e-Pakistan, Hakim Mohammed

Said, initiated this movement to raise the nation above linguistic, regional and ethnic prejudices and to make the service and progress of Pakistan our collective mission.

The establishment of Madinat al-Hikmah (City of Knowledge and Wisdom) symbolises this historical awareness. Shaheed Hakim Mohammed Said built this city at a site where the Islamic forces led by Muhammad bin Qasim first camped in Sindh. Many historians acknowledge this association. For this reason, educational institutions affiliated with HFP observe Youm-e-Babul-Islam every year with special ceremonies.

May Almighty Allah bless our beloved Pakistan with peace, stability and prosperity. May Allah protect our armed forces and all those who protect the borders and engaged in defence of the country. Ameen

Security arrangements

ISLAMABAD: Security personnel are stand alert to counter any unexpected situation quickly especially during the Friday prayers of Ramadan-ul-Mubarak as militants issues threats of explosion at Faisal Mosque of Federal Capital.

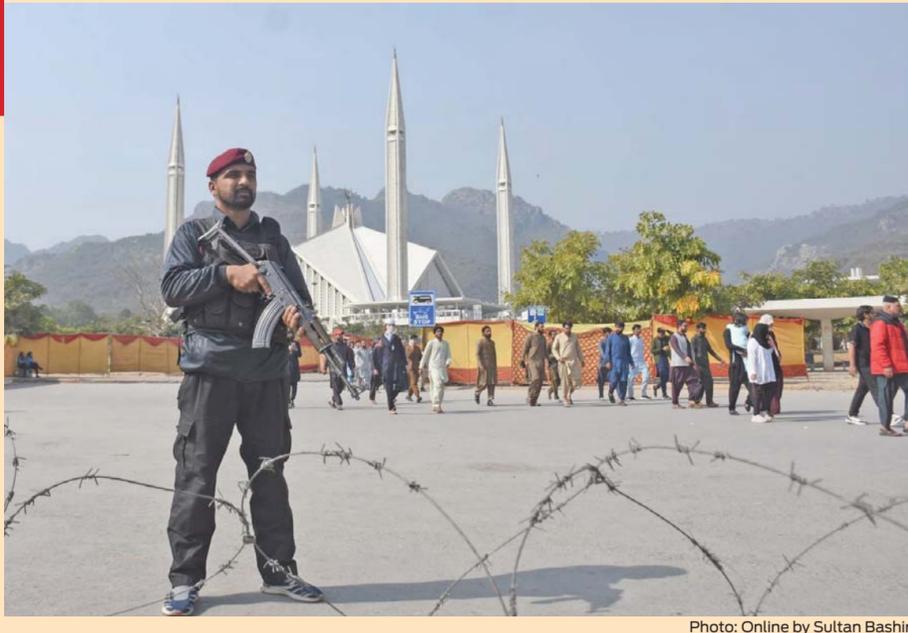


Photo: Online by Sultan Bashir

Verdict Reserved in Triple Murder Case of Umme Rubab Chandio's Father, Grandfather and Uncle

Azad Baloch

DADU: Verdict Reserved in Triple Murder Case of Umme Rubab Chandio's Father, Grandfather and Uncle, The Model Criminal Trial Court in Dadu has reserved its verdict in the triple murder case involving the father, grandfather and uncle of activist Amrabab Chandio. The court has fixed March 30 as the date for the announcement of the decision.

The incident took place eight years ago in Mehar taluka, where three members of Chandio's family were killed. The case names eight accused, including two Members of the Provincial Assembly (MPAs) belonging to the Pakistan Peoples Party.

Those nominated include MPA Sardar Ahmed Chandio, MPA Burhan Khan Chandio, former SHO Kareem Bux Chandio, along with five others.

After the hearing and reservation of the verdict, Umme Rubab Chandio spoke to



private TV reporters outside the court premises. She stated that her three family members were murdered for forming a "Tamandaar Council" in opposition to the feudal system. She expressed hope that the verdict would not be delayed, adding that she has been struggling for justice for the

past eight years as a daughter standing against the injustices inflicted on her family.

"We will come on March 30. It is not possible for the killers to escape. Whatever the court decides will be acceptable to us," she said.

Qureshi's Son Reveals Father's Courageous Prison Life and Forthcoming Memoirs

Quratulain Asim

MULTAN: Former Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi's son, Member of National Assembly Makhdoom Zain Hussain Qureshi, has said that my father has been serving jail for the past three years with great courage and bravery. He spends most of his life thinking about the country's situation and the people of his constituency. He is also writing his memoirs. Insha Allah, after a decade, he will also publish a book containing his memoirs, especially the moments spent in

jail. He expressed these views yesterday in a conversation at the residence of senior journalist Mazhar Javed Sial, Joint Editor of the daily Aftab Multan. On this occasion, Makhdoom Zain Qureshi congratulated Mazhar Javed Sial on the marriage of his child. On this occasion, Sheikh Wajid Shaukat and Qazi Naeem Wajid. Syed Imran Gardezi, Masood Mughal and other friends were present. Makhdoom Zain Hussain Qureshi said that my father Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi spends most of his time in prison in worship and remembers the people



of his constituency through letters and writes about his life as well as the moments spent in prison. Whenever we meet him, he inquires about the well-being of the people of his constituency, the respected friends of the Ghausiya Jamaat in Multan, and friends from all over Sindh. Makhdoom Zain Hussain Qureshi Qureshi further said that Alhamdulillah, my father is getting justice from the courts. Although there are many ways to be released from jail, he will, God willing, enter the political arena through the courts.

Journalist community expresses solidarity with the Pakistan Army

Iram Asim

MULTAN: Under the auspices of Multan Press Club, the journalist community took out a rally in front of the Press Club to express solidarity with the Pakistan Army regarding the Pak-Afghan War, led by the newly elected Senior President of the Press Club, Muhammad Khalid Chaudhry. On this occasion, slogans of Pak Army Zindabad, Afghanistan Murdabad were raised and the courageous role of the Pakistan Army was appreciated on this occasion. Executive members Mehboob Malik, Tariq Ismail, Sharif Joya, Atif Awan, Khawaja Ashraf Siddiqui, Shakeel Chaudhry, Rashid Mushtaq, Kashif Warsi, Yasir Bhatti, Tanveer Chaudhry, Sohail Qureshi, Zahid Gondal, Arif Khan, Ahmar Khan and others participated in the rally.

Industrial and Technical Visit to Punjab Safe Cities Authority Lahore

Tahir Amin Malik

LAHORE: The IEEE Communications Society Lahore Chapter, in technical collaboration with the IEEE ComSoc Student Branch UET Narowal of University of Engineering and Technology Narowal, successfully organized an industrial and technical visit to the Punjab Safe Cities Authority in Lahore. The visit aimed to provide students with practical exposure to modern surveillance technologies, communication infrastructure, and integrated public safety systems.

During the interaction, Kashif Bashir, Chair of IEEE ComSoc Lahore Chapter, discussed future employment prospects in data center operations and emphasized the importance of developing expertise in data center infrastructure and maintenance. Prof. Dr. Yasir also informed participants that approximately 8,000 surveillance cameras are currently operational across Punjab, with plans to expand the network to 100,000 cameras in the near future. This expansion will require a growing workforce of engineers specializing in data centers, power systems, and IT-related disciplines.

The visit was efficiently organized through the dedicated efforts of Kashif Bashir and Muskan Anwar, Chair of IEEE ComSoc UET Narowal, whose continuous support and coordination ensured the successful execution of the event.

NAB Karachi Secures Landmark Recovery of 350 Acres of Prime Land Valued at Rs. 423.5 Billion

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: In a major breakthrough in illegal allotment of state land and administrative corruption, the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) has successfully retrieved 350 acres of high-value government land in Karachi. The recovered property, situated in the prestigious Clifton Block-I and Block-II areas, has a market valuation of approximately Rs. 423.5 billion, representing one of the largest land recoveries in recent history.

The recovery follows a rigorous inquiry and subsequent investigation initiated by NAB against senior officers of the Land Utilization Department (Government of Sindh), the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC), and the Karachi Development Authority (KDA). The investigation focused on the illegal allotment of 350 acres of land reclaimed from the sea-bed. Findings revealed that officials had violated the rules and law and allotted the land to private authorities on meagre amount, causing loss to the national exchequer.

During the formal proceedings of the case, NAB Karachi successfully ensured the cancellation of all illegal allotments. This reclaimed sea-bed land has now been officially restored to the Government of Sindh, a handover that has been formally acknowledged by the Land Utilization Department.

This successful operation was the result of a highly coordinated effort between NAB Karachi and the Board of Revenue, Sindh. By intervening before the land could be sold off or further encumbered, the Bureau effectively blocked a massive fraudulent transaction and protected the national exchequer from a historic financial loss. NAB remains committed to its policy of "Accountability for All" and continues to pursue those involved in the systemic misuse of public resources.

Azma Bokhari says Pakistan capable of strong response to any aggression

LAHORE: Punjab Minister for Information and Culture Azma Bokhari has said that Pakistan is a peaceful and peace-loving country but possesses the full capability to deliver a strong response to any act of aggression.



In a statement issued on Friday, Azma Bokhari said Pakistan's armed forces are unmatched when it comes to responding to any form of aggression or cross-border intrusion. She stated that the Afghan Taliban regime continues to pose challenges to regional peace, adding that Pakistan has repeatedly made sincere efforts to create opportunities for peace and stability in the region.

The minister alleged that terrorist activities were continuously being carried out in Pakistan from Afghan territory and claimed that the Taliban regime had violated the Doha Agreement. She further stated that Pakistan responds to any intrusion or aggression with full force and warned that the consequences for Afghanistan could be severe in the event of continued hostilities.

Azma Bokhari said that Pakistan's army is always ready to safeguard every inch of the country and remains committed to defending national sovereignty. She emphasized that there would be no compromise on Pakistan's national security and defense, adding that the entire nation stands shoulder to shoulder with its armed forces in protecting the country's integrity.

Foolproof security ensured for Friday prayers in Rawalpindi

RAWALPINDI: The Rawalpindi Police made foolproof security arrangements for Friday prayers across the district on the directions of City Police Officer (CPO) Syed Khalid Mahmood Hamdani.

Senior Superintendent of Police (Operations) Malik Tariq Mehboob personally supervised the arrangements in the field, while divisional Superintendents of Police, Sub-Divisional Police Officers, and Station House Officers ensured the effective implementation of the security plan within their respective jurisdictions.

Foolproof security ensured for Friday prayers in Rawalpindi. Police personnel were deployed at all mosques and imambargahs, where field officers checked and briefed the deployed staff. Worshipers were allowed entry only after passing through walkthrough gates and undergoing full body searches. Elite Force, Dolphin Force and police mobiles patrolled their respective areas, while special pickets were inspected and strict checks of suspicious individuals and vehicles were carried out.

SSP Malik Tariq Mehboob said the Rawalpindi Police were fully committed to the protection of the lives and property of citizens, considering it their top responsibility.

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Beyond Government Control: Societal Factors of Edibles Inflation in Ramzan

Ramzan graces Pakistan with its luminous aura of self-purification, dawn-to-dusk fasting that sharpens spiritual focus, taraweeh nights alive with Quranic recitation, streets fragrant with charity distributions, and homes aglow with lanterns where families converge for suhoor dates and iftar feasts of steaming haleem, aromatic nihari, crispy pakoras, sweet sheer khurma, and platters of fresh fruits and vermicelli. This sacred interlude, meant to exalt empathy and restraint, devolves for countless households into a gauntlet of budgetary agony, as prices of indispensable edibles erupt: humble atta for endless rotis sustaining the laborer, sugar for tea and festive halwa, tender mutton and plump chicken for weekend curries, vibrant onions tomatoes chilies lemons for daily sabzis, golden besan and fragrant oil for frying iftar starters, creamy ghee for paratha layers, and plump dates heralding maghrib's mercy. Government deploys its familiar arsenal: pre-holy convocations with traders to decree unyielding price ceilings on these lifelines, sprawling subsidized Ramzan bazaars heralding relief for the faithful, relentless squads of magistrate's police raiding clandestine godowns and bustling mandis, hefty fines levied on transgressors, seized hoards paraded for cameras, and round-the-clock helpines beckoning aggrieved voices. Valiant as these are, inflation rampages unchecked, year upon weary year, transmuted interventions into futile pageantry. Vegetables quadruple or dissolve into ether, meat ascends to elite indulgence, staples morph into phantoms. Macroeconomic tempests – currency tempests import costs energy crunches tax tempests – stir

the pot, but the enduring brewers are societal: a hoarding ethos premeditating scarcity, profiteering malignancy metastasizing through supply veins, consumer frenzies scripted by tradition and terror, civic ethics corroded by complacency, and market architectures rigged against equity. This exhaustive inquiry excavates these human fissures, chronicles recurrent chronicles with provincial portraits, dissects intervention impotence, and blueprints cultural catharsis to reclaim Ramzan's bounty for all.

The escalation ballet is scripted antiquity. Far pre-crescent vigilance, assemblies summon wholesaler barons, haggle affix immutable ceilings on sentinels – live fowl beef cuts onions tubers crimson chilies citrus, besan legumes atta grains sucrose ghee lubricants – and proclaim draconian dominion. Moon sighted, anarchy reigns. Inaugural week veggies apocalypse: tomatoes lemons evaporate quadruple "logistics apocalypse"; onions tubers occulted ether. Carnal kiosks bare "fodder famine"; cereal grinders stutter "mechanical malaise"; saccharine conduits lag "harbor havoc." Vanguard legions descend – metropolis squads unearth tuber bunkers periurban depots, granary inspectors confiscate cereal citadels hinterland hubs, port patrols plunder sucrose silos seaside stacks, frontier phalanxes scour highland hoards high pastures. Confiscations coronet bulletins, ephemeral plunges (hours perchance days), phoenix ascensions eclipse antecedents. Mitigation marts materialize ministe-

rial pomp, vaunting "sanctioned tariffs" fowl verdure drupes, discerning devotees detour ancestral emporia pledging "vital vigor taste testament," buttressing brigands' bastions. Grievance conduits clamor ceaselessly; custodians conjure "contingent conundrums." This operetta recurs Punjab's riotous Ravi realms, Sindh's swarming Sindh sabzi sanctums, KP's kaleidoscopic bazaars, Balochistan's rugged tribal troves – a societal serenade submerging sovereign scores.

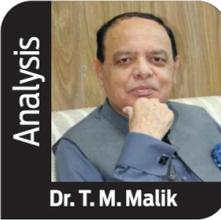
Hoarding incarnates apex affliction, societal stratagem waging Ramzan's diurnal deluge. Astute accumulators orchestrate pre-Sha'ban armadas: agrarian anchors divert tubers shaded sanctuaries, bulb barons bunker bulbs breathable bastilles, crimson cultivators curtail cull "zenith zest," pomace peddlers divert pomes preserved palaces. Cereal crushers curtail cadence "phantom panics"; legume labs throttle; saccharine silos trickle. Vascular vise; furtive forums foretell "famine foretold"; patron paroxysm precipitates. Incursions impale periphery – token troves tendered; sovereigns sprinkle stratagem summit surcharges. Societal scaffolding: sowers synchronize seasons ("Ramzan remuneration redoubles"); haulers hoist "holy haulage"; handlers harvest hafta ("sanctified supplement"). Ramzan's rubric – zakat's zealous zakat, sadaqah's spontaneous succor, amanah's absolute accountability – evanesces; "reap revelation's revenue" redeems, sanctity subverted speculation. Profiteering proliferates pyrami-

dally, predation pyramid piety-taxing. Nocturnal nexus negotiates nomenclatures quota quanta "sacrosanct surcharges." Vanguard vendors ventriloquize "upstream upheavals quotidian," creaming colossal cleavages. Besan bastions blend bulk bulwark; carnals chemically caressed "cottage"; fowl falsely fêted "farm-fresh." Patrons unwittingly unleash: sunset stampeede septuples salad suction; pre-prayer purges pantry plunder. Liturgical legacies – "hospitality hegemony" – herald hedonism: nihari nectar multitudes, pakora pyramids progeny, khurma kettles kin. Unpretentious ape upscale, underwriting "Ramzan renown" usurers, augmenting aggregate appetite. Virtual vitrines vaunt voluptuousness, virulence via vicarious; "iftar impoverished absent nihari" norms necessitate. Plenitude precipitates penury, prophetic perversion.

Arterial ailments, societally subverted, hemorrhage harvest. Husbandmen harmonize husbandry zeniths – crimson culls courted crisis crest; bulbs bedded breathable biding "beatific break." Ingress impeded ingress impasses; sucrose supposedly scarce silos. Adulterant autocracies: atta ashen augmented, ghee grease-gulled, lacteal laced lethal. Rudimentary routes rot rampant; rustic relays relish remunerative radii. Shade economies swell: relabeled rarities "rustic regal," contraband coroneted "crown crop." Arthi archons pharia phalanxes phagocytose passage half, progenitor paltry.

Civic cartilage calcifies cupidity cascade. Custodial conclaves clap coinage; field functionaries feign favor fees. Populace plaint sans persistence – "progeny perish"; conduit constancy

Continued on Page 7



Dr. T. M. Malik

Task force expands action against undocumented foreigners

Authorities have widened enforcement measures against undocumented foreign nationals, with legal proceedings now being initiated not only against individuals residing illegally but also against landlords and business owners accused of facilitating their stay.

The decision was reviewed during a meeting of the special task force on repatriation of illegal nationals held at the Capital Development Authority (CDA) headquarters on Friday. The meeting was chaired by Chief Commissioner Islamabad and CDA Chairman Muhammad Ali Randhawa.

Inspector General of Police (Islamabad) Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi, Deputy Commissioner Irfan Nawaz Memon, and representatives of the Ministry of Interior, NADRA and the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) attended the meeting. District administrations and police officials from Rawalpindi, Attock, Murree and Haripur participated via video link.

Officials briefed the participants on progress made in Islamabad and adjoining districts regarding action against undocumented foreign nationals.

According to the briefing, the repatriation process was continuing and a majority of individuals without legal documentation had opted for voluntary return in the initial phase.

However, authorities indicated that the drive had now moved into a stricter enforcement stage.

The meeting was informed that FIRs were being registered against landlords who allegedly rented residential properties to undocumented individuals.

Legal action is also under way against those providing commercial premises on rent to individuals without valid documentation.

Similarly, cases are being registered against undocumented residents under relevant laws, officials said.

Participants were told that coordination among Islamabad and neighbouring districts had been strengthened to monitor and curb the movement of undocumented foreign nationals.

Authorities said strict surveillance measures were being implemented to prevent re-settlement in adjacent areas.

Randhawa directed officials to ensure that no residential accommodation or employment opportunities were extended to undocumented foreign nationals.

He also instructed that data collected from Islamabad and adjoining districts be integrated into the central dashboard of the Ministry of Interior to enhance oversight and inter-agency coordination.

IG Islamabad Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi emphasized the need for sustained enforcement measures to dismantle informal settlements associated with undocumented residents.

Officials from PTA informed the meeting that the process of blocking SIM cards issued to undocumented foreign nationals was under way as part of the broader enforcement strategy.

Randhawa said the government remained committed to ensuring national security through effective legal measures and added that all relevant institutions were working in coordination to address the issue on a sustained basis.



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

The UN Charter, the New York Conspiracy Case, and the Global Politics of Covert Warfare

The recent case in New York—where Nikhil Gupta pleaded guilty in a U. S. federal court to charges related to a murder-for-hire conspiracy—has brought renewed global attention to questions of state sovereignty, covert operations, and international law. The alleged target was Gurbatwani Singh Pannun, a U. S. citizen. The proceedings took place in New York City, where U. S. prosecutors described the matter as a transnational political assassination plot.

This development followed the killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Canada, which had already heightened tensions between Canada and India. Against this backdrop, a critical question arises: if state sponsorship or direction were to be legally established, would such conduct constitute a violation of the United Nations Charter? And if so, how can states pursue a structured "legal battle" within the framework of international law?

The UN Charter and the Legal Framework:

Article 2(1): Sovereign Equality of States;
 Article 2(1) affirms the sovereign equality of all Member States. Any covert or violent operation conducted within the territory of another state without its consent may be seen as undermining that principle.

Article 2(4): Prohibition on the Use of Force;
 Article 2(4) prohibits the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state. If a cross-border targeted killing or assassination conspiracy

were proven to be state-sponsored, it could fall within the evolving interpretation of "use of force," even if it does not resemble conventional warfare.

Article 2(7): Non-Intervention in Domestic Affairs;

This clause bars intervention in matters essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of states. Targeting political activists or citizens on foreign soil may conflict with the principle of non-intervention.

State Responsibility (ARSIWA);

Under the International Law Commission's Articles on Responsibility of States for Internationally Wrongful Acts (ARSIWA), conduct attributable to state organs—or individuals acting under a state's direction or effective control—may engage state responsibility. In such circumstances, the issue transcends domestic criminal law and enters the domain of international accountability.

Cold War Precedents: CIA-KGB Confrontations;
 The history of covert rivalry between the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the KGB offers instructive precedents.

In 2010, the United States exposed a Russian "sleeping cell" network, arresting several individuals including Anna Chapman. They were prosecuted in U. S. courts and later exchanged in a diplomatic prisoner swap. This episode demonstrated that host states may exercise criminal jurisdiction over covert agents operating on their soil—even when major powers are involved—while leaving room for diplo-

matic resolution.

Throughout the Cold War, CIA and KGB operatives were periodically arrested, tried, and sometimes exchanged. These precedents illustrate that even amid covert confrontation, legal proceedings and diplomatic channels remained functional and central to crisis management.

South Asia and the Kashmir Context;

Pakistan has long alleged that India's external intelligence agency, Research and Analysis Wing (RAW), has been involved in destabilizing activities in the region. The case of Kulbhushan Jadhav has been cited by Islamabad as evidence of such claims.

In the context of the Kashmir dispute, Pakistan maintains that if state-linked covert operations abroad are proven, they raise not only bilateral concerns but also broader questions of regional stability and international legality. However, the international community typically assesses such claims based on verifiable evidence, judicial findings, and transparent investigations rather than political rhetoric.

Policy Priorities and Strategic Options for Pakistan;

1. Evidence-Based Diplomacy:

Pakistan must anchor any international claim in verifiable evidence—digital, financial, and forensic—presented through credible legal channels. Cooperation with the United States, Canada, and European partners through joint investigative mechanisms would enhance legitimacy.

2. Legal Forums:

Where jurisdiction and consent permit, disputes may be pursued before the International Court of Justice (ICJ). Additionally,

Continued on Page 7

Sindh's economic lifeline, Sukkur Barrage demands attention

Last day, Irrigation Minister Jam Khan Shoro and Secretary Irrigation presented a report to the Chief Minister Sindh on the gates and other various works related to the repair of the barrage and the canals related to the barrage. The report stated that 25 gates out of 27 gates of the Sukkur Barrage have been installed. It was informed that the work of the remaining canals, except for the Nara Canal of the left bank, has also been completed. The report stated that the hosting systems of the old gates of the barrage have been removed, and the cutting process of the existing gates has also been completed.

Secretary Irrigation Zarif Khoro also stated in the report that dredging has been completed in the right pocket. Dredging is underway for the unhindered flow of water in the approach channel. The gates of the barrage that were declared complete in the report are those from gate number 15 to gate number 43. On this occasion, Chief Minister Sindh Murad Ali Shah directed the officials to immediately complete the ongoing work on the Nara Canal and submit a report. Meanwhile, dewatering and de-silting work is underway for structural repairs. Emphasizing the strategic importance of the Sukkur Barrage, he said that this barrage is the backbone of the Sindh irrigation system. He emphasized and directed the officials that this is a century-old model of irrigation system for which sustainable and long-term protection work should be done. Considering the importance of the barrage, long-term protection is important.

The above-mentioned report of the previous day and the instructions of the Chief Minister of Sindh show how important the Sukkur Barrage

is. The existence of the Sukkur Barrage plays a major role and a strategically important role in the irrigation system of Sindh and in the agricultural economy of Sindh. After more than a century, the Sukkur Barrage has passed its life time. Now if any defect, any leak, any technical fault occurs, it is also natural, but it is the

responsibility of the person responsible for its maintenance. Therefore, it is very difficult to bring a new barrage at the same place at this time. Even if a program and survey are conducted and feasibility is found, it will definitely take at least 15 years to take practical form in a technical and modern practical form, if not even a 25-year plan. It is the job

of the country's Planning Commission and the Planning and Development Department of the provincial government to think about it. A few days ago, I wrote a series of articles on the Sukkur Barrage, which has various technical, mechanical and He also described the situation of the canals from Civil Side to Sukkur Barrage. It is a matter of happiness that in the above briefing given to the Chief Minister, a report has been given on the overall structural repair status of the Sukkur Barrage and the ongoing work on the canals on the left and right banks. In which a report was also presented on the non-completion of the work on the large canal Nara Canals originating from the left bank. Taking notice of which, the Minister directed to complete the work on time and submit the report. The Chief Minister Sindh has also directed that considering the strategic importance of the Sukkur Barrage, the work should be completed in the best possible way, with quality and on time. The Sukkur Barrage is one of the best irrigation models in the world, along with irrigation.

Continued on Page 7



Rehmatullah Burio



Dr. Raja Zahid Khan

CM Maryam Nawaz Sharif appreciates Pakistan Army for giving befitting response to enemy

Bureau Report

LAHORE: Chief Minister Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif lauded Pakistan Army for giving a brick-for-stone response to the enemy, and termed their decisive action under Operation Ghazab Lil-Haq as the embodiment of entire nation's sentiments. She said, "Whoever casts an evil eye on Pakistan will have



it gouged out, and whoever raises a hand against Pakistan will have it broken." She paid rich tribute to the brave warriors who proved that Pakistan's borders are impenetrable. She highlighted that Operation Ghazab Lil-Haq is a message for the Khawarij that Pakistan's patience has crossed all limits now." Chief Minister Punjab

said that Pakistan's borders are an iron wall, and any mischief that dares to strike will be shattered to pieces. She underscored that they will account for every single drop of our martyrs' blood, and the enemy will now be answered in the only language it understands. She noted that Pakistan was, is, and will always remain invincible.

Spring Festival cherries show trade is not zero-sum game

Agencies

BEIJING: What appears to be a minor change in the fruit aisle actually tells a much larger story. The fall of the price of cherries offers a clear window into how China's approach to globalization works — and how its gains can be increasingly shared across borders.

The driver is supply. Chile, China's largest source of imported cherries, has recorded a bumper harvest, pushing export volumes to record levels. But abundant harvests alone don't explain why the price reduction has traveled so quickly and visibly to consumers. In many countries, lower upstream costs are absorbed by tariffs, logistics inefficiencies or layers of intermediaries.

What makes China stand apart is how sharply trade and logistics costs have fallen. On the trade side, China has steadily reduced tariffs on agricultural imports through expanded free trade arrangements with major producing countries. For example, the upgraded China-Chile Free Trade Agreement that took effect in 2019 placed roughly 98 percent of traded products under zero tariffs. Lower border costs mean that when supply rises, prices are no longer artificially supported. Market signals move faster, and consumers see the results.

Logistics matter just as much. Shipping times for cherries from Chile to



China have been cut from roughly five to six weeks to about 23 days following the opening of Peru's deep-water Chancay Port, a Belt and Road infrastructure project linking the Pacific coast more directly to Asian markets.

For cherries, transit time is the cost story. Less time at sea means less waste and lower risk priced into each shipment, allowing products once sustained by luxury margins to be sold at scale.

These efficiencies are already reshaping production decisions.

Chilean growers have expanded planting, confident that China's market can absorb large volumes with consistent trade rules. Scale is reducing risk rather than amplifying it. For producers, the benefit is not just higher sales, but predictability — a rare asset in agriculture.

China's demand patterns reinforce this stability. Consumption peaks around Spring Festival, when gifting traditions intensify and the red-colored fruit carries symbolic appeal. For

exporters, this is not cultural curiosity; it is a reliable, seasonal demand window that supports planning, investment and long-term contracts.

The result is a textbook case of shared gains. Chinese consumers gain access to high-quality imports at prices once unthinkable. Producers gain a vast, dependable market capable of absorbing surplus without collapse. Trade expands without undermining returns along the supply chain.

In some Western discussions, such price declines are labeled "dumping". But the charge is often political rather than economic. When efficiency gains are politicized, normal cost reductions are reframed as unfairness and supply-chain progress becomes a target rather than an achievement.

China's globalization, in this sense, is neither abstract nor ideological. It is transactional. It works through infrastructure, logistics and market access rather than slogans. Its effects are visible not in communiqués, but in balance sheets and shopping baskets.

At a moment when globalization is increasingly questioned, cherries show what still works. Openness delivers when it reduces friction and allows scale to pass benefits through. China's response to the backlash has not been retreat, but repetition: continuing to open, connect and trade so that gains are shared rather than zero-sum.

The Message of Patience in Seerat-un-Nabi (PBUH) is the Foundation of a Strong Society

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Allama Iqbal Open University organized a meaningful "Ramadan Weekly Seerat Seminar" to embrace the spiritual blessings of the holy month of Ramadan and to promote the teachings of Seerat-un-Nabi (PBUH).

The keynote speaker, Dr. Syed Abdul Rahman emphasized that the golden principles of patience and steadfastness embodied in the blessed life of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) are essential for overcoming the intellectual, social and moral challenges of the modern era. He stated that incorporating these principles into both individual and collective life is crucial for building a strong and resilient society.

The seminar was held at the university's Central Library and was jointly



organized by the Central Library and the Faculty of Arabic and Islamic Studies. The theme of the seminar was "Seerat-un-Nabi (PBUH) and Patience and Perseverance." Students, faculty members and staff attended in large

numbers and listened attentively to the speakers.

In his address Dr. Syed Abdul Rahman highlighted that the life of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) serves as a shining example of patience, tolerance,

forbearance and unwavering determination. Referring to the hardships faced in Taif and the persecution in Makkah, he said that despite severe trials, the Prophet (PBUH) remained steadfast and conveyed to the Ummah that difficulties are temporary, but patience ultimately leads to honor and success.

On the occasion, Librarian Syed Ghulam Kazim Ali announced that weekly lectures covering different aspects of Seerat would continue throughout Ramadan. He also informed participants that future sessions would be streamed live on social media to enable a wider audience to benefit from these scholarly and spiritual gatherings.

The seminar concluded with a collective prayer for the peace and prosperity of the country, unity of the Muslim Ummah, and for being blessed with patience and steadfastness.

Engro Holdings' Annual Results: Reported profits continue to reflect structural changes

Commerce Desk

KARACHI: Engro Holdings reported a consolidated PAT of PKR 107bn (Owner's share: PKR 56bn); EPS PKR 46.20 vs 26.78 last year. However, much of this increase is due to a one-off impairment reversal on thermal assets. Excluding this, Owner's PAT is PKR 29bn — a fairer view of business performance.



On a standalone basis, PAT is PKR 253mn vs PKR 9.9bn last year (EPS PKR 0.21 vs 20.48). The drop is due to the transfer of income-generating investments to DH Partners under the Scheme

of Arrangement, and reduced dividends from Engro Corp (which is retaining cash for the towers acquisition).

The financial results for the period continued to reflect the accounting impacts of three key events: the creation of Engro Holdings, the termination of SPAs related to thermal energy assets, and the consolidation of Deodar Towers. Shareholders are advised that movements in reported EPS and PAT

largely stem from structural changes and a one-time impairment reversal, rather than any shift in the underlying strength of the businesses.

Dividend Update — The Board has not declared a final dividend, prioritizing funding for the towers' transaction. This is among Engro's most important investments, expected to deliver resilient cash-flows and create long-term shareholder value.

Portuguese Ambassador Pays Farewell Visit to Pakistan's National Assembly Speaker



Spokesman Report

ISLAMABAD: On 26th February 2026, Ambassador Frederico Silva made a courtesy call with H. E. Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, at the National Assembly of Pakistan, in Islamabad.

The meeting focused on analyzing the bilateral relations and explore further cooperation venues between Pakistan and Portugal. Both sides also reviewed the current status of the Interparliamentary relations in the framework of the future comprehensive bilateral relations.

Ambassador Frederico Silva presented to the Speaker National Assembly, Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, his farewell compliments as his official tenure in Pakistan is coming to an end.

Ramzan Dastarkhwan organized Tehsil Administration in Hassan Abdal

Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: The Ramzan Dastarkhwan organized by the Tehsil Administration in Hassan Abdal is a powerful example of how public service can reflect the true spirit of Ramzan — compassion, dignity, and collective care.

Providing free Iftar meals daily for commuters, daily wage workers, and underprivileged families not only eases financial pressure but also ensures that no one is left to break their fast alone or without proper food. Such initiatives are especially meaningful in a city that receives travelers and laborers who may not have access to regular meals.

The hands-on supervision by Ahsan Ali appears to have played a key role in the success of the effort. When administrative leadership is visible on the ground — ensuring cleanliness, organization, food quality, and respectful treatment — it builds public trust and encourages community participation.

Beyond the meals themselves, the Dastarkhwan serves several broader social benefits:

- Promotes dignity by offering organized, respectful service
- Strengthens community unity across social classes
- Supports vulnerable groups during a financially demanding month
- Encourages volunteerism and civic responsibility
- For travelers and daily wage earners, this kind of support can make the difference between hardship and relief during Ramzan.

SP Investigation Attock visits checkpoints arrangements

Raza Naqvi

ATTOCK: Investigation Attock Zainab Ayub Conducts Late-Night Surprise Visits to Multiple Checkpoints, Reviews Security Arrangements

According to details, in view of the current national security situation, SP Investigation Attock Zainab Ayub paid a late-night surprise visit to the entry and exit points at Jhari Kas, Picket Kotkay, and Picket Jamshebad (Hazro). During the visit, she conducted a thorough review of the security arrangements.

She inspected the checking process, blockade procedures, monitoring of suspicious individuals, and vehicle search protocols. She issued instructions to the concerned officers to further strengthen the checking system at all entry and exit points.

The SP Investigation also directed all personnel to ensure the use of bulletproof jackets and other protective equipment while on duty and to maintain strict vigilance over any suspicious activity. She emphasized that the protection of life and property of citizens is the police's top priority and that no negligence will be tolerated in the current circumstances.

New "air taxis" debut in central China as nation accelerates low-altitude drive

WUHAN: A silent aircraft with rotors tucked inside its fuselage lifted off in front of an auditorium in downtown Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province, drawing cheers from astonished onlookers who pulled out their phones to capture the spectacle of a machine that looked like it belonged on a sci-fi movie set.

However, this display on Tuesday featuring four distinct electric vertical takeoff and landing (eVTOL) vehicles outside the Hongshan Auditorium was not a film promotion, but the centerpiece of Hubei's provincial meeting where local officials set its economic agenda.

By showcasing homegrown innovations on the first working day after the Spring Festival holiday, Hubei signalled that China's low-altitude economy, now a national strategic priority, is swiftly transforming from blueprint to reality.

The timing of this acceleration is critical. Industry executives and regulators increasingly view 2026 as the make-or-break year for eVTOL commercialization, with multiple manufacturers racing to secure type certification and begin mass production.

"The year 2026 will be the key node for the low-altitude industry to 'cross the chasm,'" said Huang Xiaofei, vice president of strategy at Volant Aerotech, based in east China's Shanghai, in a recent interview. "eVTOL, as the core technology direction for a trillion-yuan market, has moved from concept verification into the commercial sprint phase," he said.

"Start from the Start: Fix Primary Education"

Primary school education is the start of everything. It is the beginning of learning, the base of knowledge, the backbone of society, and the future of every nation. When we empower primary education, we empower children, families, and the whole world.

Primary school is the first step in a child's learning journey. It is where children learn to read, write, think, and understand the world. In these early

years, children develop habits, attitudes, and skills that stay with them for life. A strong beginning makes learning easier and more meaningful in later years.

Primary education is the foundation of all other education. Without a strong base, higher education becomes weak. In primary school, children learn basic subjects like language, mathematics, science, and social studies. They also learn important values such as respect, honesty, teamwork, and responsibility.

These lessons shape their character and guide their behavior throughout life.

Educated children grow into educated adults. When primary education is strong, society becomes strong. People can make better decisions, find better jobs, and contribute positively to their communities. Primary



Dr. Mushtaq Ahmed Rahu

education reduces poverty, improves health, and supports peace and development. It is truly the backbone of a progressive and peaceful society.

Children are the future leaders, teachers, doctors, engineers, and parents. What we teach them today will shape the world

of tomorrow. If we invest in primary education, we invest in a brighter future. Quality primary education helps children dream big and achieve their goals.

- To empower primary education, we must:
 - Provide trained and caring teachers
 - Use simple and effective teaching methods
 - Create safe and friendly school environments
 - Involve parents and communities in

- learning
 - Use technology and creative activities to make learning fun
 - Ensure every child, including girls and children with disabilities, can go to school
- Primary school education is not just a stage of schooling; it is the foundation of life. It is the start, the beginning, the base, the backbone, and the future. By empowering primary education, we empower humanity. Let us work together to give every child a strong beginning and a bright future.

Bull & Bears PSX 100-Share Index Fluctuation

Pakistan: PSX 100-Share Index		
Current	Prev. Close	
168,062.16	168,893.08	
Day's High	Day's Low	
169,379.97	165,811.87	
Index Value	Change	
18,971,818,996	-830.92	
Percentage	Time	
-0.49%	27 Feb, 2026 4:30 pm	
Europe: FTSE 100 Index		
Index Value	Change	
10,910.55	+63.85	
Percentage	Time	
+0.59%	27 Feb, 4:35 pm GMT	
USA: Dow Jones Industrial Average		
Index Value	Change	
48,765.02	-734.18	
Percentage	Time	
-1.48%	27 Feb, 12:52 pm GMT-5	
Asia Pacific: Nikkei Stocks Average		
Index Value	Change	
58,850.27	+96.88	
Percentage	Time	
+0.16%	27 Feb, 3:45 pm GMT+9	
Open Market Forex Rates		
Currency	Buying	Selling
Australian Dollar	197.93	201.25
Bahrain Dinar	742.12	751.62
Canadian Dollar	203.68	207
China Yuan	38	39.05
Danish Krone	43.32	43.72
Euro	330.75	335.28
Hong Kong Dollar	35.35	36.25
Indian Rupee	2.8	3.25
Japanese Yen	1.7822	1.8818
Kuwaiti Dinar	905.78	915.22
Malaysian Ringgit	66.50	68.45
New Zealand \$	166.20	169
Norwegians Krone	27.61	27.91
Omani Riyal	726.85	736.35
Qatari Riyal	76.10	77.80
Saudi Riyal	74.88	75.65
Singapore Dollar	220.05	223.30
Swedish Korona	30.15	30.45
Swiss Franc	360.07	363.85
Thai Bhat	8.52	8.67
U.A.E Dirham	76.35	77.35
UK Pound Sterling	377.90	382.16
US Dollar	280.35	282.15

ECC approves revised low-cost housing scheme and key infrastructure grants

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the Cabinet met today at the Finance Division under the chairmanship of the Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb.

The ECC considered a summary submitted by the Ministry of Housing and Works seeking approval of revised features of the "Mera Ghar Mera Aashiana (MGMA)" - Mortgage Financing for Low-Cost Housing scheme.

After due consideration, the ECC approved the revised features of the scheme, including enhancement of the loan limit up to PKR 10 million, expansion of eligible housing size parameters, introduction of a uniform 5% end-user pricing, scaling targets for housing finance over a four-year horizon, continuation of implementation through the State Bank of Pakistan mechanism, and adjustment of already disbursed loans to the revised 5% rate to ensure uniformity.

The ECC also considered and approved a summary submitted by the Ministry of Interior & Narcotics Control regarding the transfer



of Rs. 7.289 million as a Technical Supplementary Grant (TSG) for the ICT component of the project titled "National Program for Enhancing Command Areas in Barani Areas of Pakistan," aimed at strengthening agricultural productivity in rain-fed regions.

Further, the ECC approved a summary

submitted by the Railways Division for provision of a Technical Supplementary Grant (TSG) amounting to Rs. 6.61 billion for the Thar Coal Rail Connectivity Project as budgetary cover. The project is intended to facilitate transportation of indigenous coal to power plants and industrial sectors, thereby supporting energy

security and reducing reliance on imported fuels.

The meeting was attended by Federal Minister for Investment Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh, who participated virtually, along with federal secretaries and senior officials from the concerned ministries, divisions and regulatory bodies.

Called on

ISLAMABAD: Her Excellency Ms. Ina Lepel, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Pakistan, called on the Federal Minister for Climate Change and Environmental Coordination, Dr. Musadik Malik.



Photo: PID

Kaspersky Uncovers RenEngine Campaign Exploiting Pirated Games and Unlicensed Softwares

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: Kaspersky Threat Research has revealed its analysis of RenEngine, a malware loader that has recently gained public attention. Kaspersky identified RenEngine samples as early as March 2025, with its solutions already protecting users from the threat at that time.

Beyond the cracked games highlighted in recent reports, Kaspersky researchers discovered that attackers created dozens of websites distributing RenEngine through pirated software, including graphics editors like CoreDRAW. This expands the known attack surface beyond the gaming community to anyone seeking unlicensed software.

Kaspersky has recorded incidents in many countries across different regions. The distribution pattern indicates opportunistic attacks rather than targeted operations. When Kaspersky first identified RenEngine, the loader was delivering the Lumma stealer. Current attacks distribute ACR Stealer as the final payload, and Vidar stealer has also been observed in some



infection chains.

Infostealers, or stealers for short, are malware that collect data from a user's device and send it to attackers who then use the gathered information, such as passwords, credit card numbers, cryptocurrency wallet keys, email credentials, and system information, for identity theft, account takeover, financial fraud, or resale on underground marketplaces.

The campaign exploits modified versions of games built on the Ren'Py visual novel engine. When users launch infected installers, a fake loading screen appears while malicious scripts execute in the background. The scripts include sandbox detection capabilities and decrypt a payload that initiates a multi-stage infection chain using HijackLoader, a modular malware delivery tool.

Zindigi and SBP Rawalpindi Mark Milestone with Digitization of Saddar Bazar, Bank Road Cantt, Rawalpindi

Commerce Desk

RAWALPINDI: Zindigi, powered by JS Bank, in collaboration with the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) Rawalpindi, has inaugurated the successful digitization of Saddar Bazar, Bank Road Cantt, one of the city's

most prominent commercial hubs. Achieved under SBP's visionary framework, this milestone marks a major step toward accelerating financial inclusion and advancing Pakistan's journey to a truly cashless economy.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by Brig.

Syed Ali Anjum, Station Commander Rawalpindi; Noman Azhar, Chief Officer Zindigi; Rizwan Khalil Shamsie, Chief Manager SBP; Atif Ishaque, Chief Business Officer Zindigi; and Mohsin Khan, Head of Merchant Channel & Retail Sales. The initiative

also received strong backing from Usman Shaukat, President of the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCDD), and Aamer Rashid, CEO of the Rawalpindi Cantonment Board (RCB). Representatives of trade union bodies were also present, highlighting a



unified commitment among holders to digital transformation.

Fee Relief for Conversion of Physical Shares into Digital Form for Unlisted Companies: SECP

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: The Central Depository Company (CDC), at the request of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP), has announced a comprehensive fee relief package for existing unlisted companies required to convert their physical shares into Book-Entry Form.

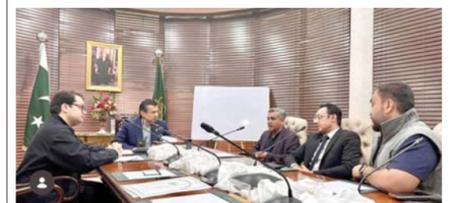
Under the package, the annual fee for companies with paid-up capital up to Rs. 25 million will be waived for the first year, while the security deposit fee, initial

conversion deposit, and security deposit processing fee will be waived for all unlisted companies for the same period.

Unlisted companies with paid-up capital exceeding Rs. 25 million will be required to pay only the applicable annual fee, while security deposit and conversion-related charges will remain waived for the first year.

The relief will also be available to unlisted companies that voluntarily convert their physical shares into Book-Entry Form with CDC.

Data Vault to explore AI Collaboration with Punjab Govt



Commerce Desk

LAHORE: Senior leadership from Data Vault Pakistan, the country's first sovereign AI data center, held a high-level meeting with H. E. Ali Mustafa Dar, the newly appointed Advisor to Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz on Artificial Intelligence and Special Initiatives, to present collaboration proposals aimed at accelerating the province's AI transformation agenda with the office of AI Punjab.

Syed Zeeshan Ali presented a proposal for a partnership to support the company's sovereign AI infrastructure to achieve the provincial government's ambitious plans to position Punjab as a leading AI-enabled hub in South Asia.

Data Vault Pakistan, founded and led by CEO Mehvish Salman Ali, has rapidly positioned itself as a cornerstone of Pakistan's sovereign AI ecosystem. Headquartered in Karachi, the company operates Pakistan's first AI-ready data center equipped with NVIDIA enterprise-grade GPUs, offering GPU-as-a-Service and sovereign cloud capabilities to enterprises, government institutions, and startups.

DIB Pakistan Partners with Hakeem Easy Finance to Digitalize Shariah Process for Personal Finance

Commerce Desk

ISLAMABAD: In a landmark moment in Islamic banking, DIB Pakistan has entered into a strategic partnership with Hakeem Easy Finance by Walee Financial Services (WFS), to digitize its Shariah process for personal finance portfolio. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), signed by the leadership of both institutions, appoints WFS as the digital infrastructure partner for transitioning DIB Pakistan's personal finance sharia operations from a traditional framework to a structured, technology-enabled model.

Muhammad Ali Gulfaraz, CEO of DIB Pakistan, said, "This partnership reflects disciplined modernization in Islamic finance. By embedding technology within a rigorously supervised framework, we are strengthening governance, enhancing transparency, and reinforcing authentic sharia-based principles at scale."

Dubai Islamic Bank is the first bank in the industry that offers Shariah-compliant Personal Finance to customers at the time when they require immediate liquidity for their dire needs such as medical emergencies, education expenses, marriage, and other essential life events.

To date, DIB has successfully served over 50,000 customers, disbursing approximately PKR 10 billion through Shariah-compliant personal finance solutions, ensuring customers have access to funds when they need them most, without compromising their faith-based financial principles.

This reflects DIB's strong commitment to financial inclusion through ethical and responsible financing. Noshad Minhas, CEO of WFS, added, "This collaboration demonstrates the maturity of Islamic Fintech-as-a-Service (IFaaS), enabling institutions to preserve robust governance while benefiting from digital precision and scalable compliance."

UAE Ambassador's Cup Concludes: Gerrys Crowned Champions in Islamabad Football Final

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD: The 14th UAE Ambassador's Cup Ramadan Football Tournament 2026 concluded with an impressive closing ceremony at the UAE Embassy in Islamabad around midnight on Thursday, highlighting the enduring and brotherly ties between Pakistan and the United Arab Emirates. Speaking at the prize distribution ceremony, UAE Ambassador to Pakistan, Salem Mohammed Salem Al Bawab Al Zaabi, emphasized that Pakistan and the UAE share decades of trust, cooperation, and strong people-to-people connections. "The Pakistani community in the UAE and the growing partnership in trade, investment, and culture continue to strengthen this special relationship," he said. He noted that the tournament was more than just a football competition. "It has been a celebration of friendship, teamwork, and the strong bonds that unite



us—especially the historic and brotherly relationship between Pakistan and the UAE.

"The Ambassador highlighted the unifying power of sport, stating that football speaks a universal language and brings people together across cultures. During the holy month of Ramadan—a time of reflection, discipline, and unity—such gatherings hold special significance. "The values we practice in Ramadan—

patience, teamwork, and perseverance—are the same values we see on the field," he added, while thanking the participating teams from diplomatic missions and UAE companies for their enthusiasm and sportsmanship. Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Attaullah Tarar, attended the ceremony as chief guest. He distributed prizes among the players alongside the UAE Ambassador and



President of the Pakistan Football Federation, Syed Mohsen Gilani. Gerrys emerged champions after defeating Qatar Embassy 5-2 in a thrilling final. Khayam Khattak scored a hat-trick, while Saqib Anwar added another goal to secure a commanding victory. Muhammad Abu netted for Qatar Embassy, but his effort was not enough to change the

outcome. In the third-place playoff,

Afghanistan defeated the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) team 4-1. Organized by the UAE Embassy in collaboration with the Pakistan Football Federation, which provided full technical support, the prestigious annual tournament featured 10 teams competing in 22 matches.



The event showcased competitive football while strengthening connections among diverse communities. The ceremony was attended by Member of the National Assembly Syeda Amnah Batool, ambassadors of Morocco, Lebanon, Afghanistan and Libya, the Deputy Head of Mission of Romania, senior Pakistani officials, members of the diplomatic

corps, and media representatives. The annual UAE Ramadan Football Cup aims to promote sportsmanship, cultural exchange, and community engagement during the holy month of Ramadan, bringing together diverse communities in a spirit of friendship, unity, and mutual understanding.

Photo by Sultan Bashir

ICC Men's T-20 Cricket World Cup Super Eight Match

England Beat New Zealand by four wickets to pave the way for Pakistan to reach the semi-final

Asim Tanveer

COLOMBO: T20 World Cup, England beat New Zealand by four wickets to pave the way for Pakistan to reach the semi-finals, how many runs does the victory require? England beat New Zealand by four wickets in a thrilling and unbelievable manner, brightening Pakistan's hopes, putting an obstacle in the way of the semi-finals for New Zealand for the time being. Now the final decision will be made in the Pakistan-Sri Lanka match on Saturday, February 28. Pakistan will need to win by 65 runs or meet the target with 6 overs to spare.

New Zealand won the toss against England to advance to the semi-finals. They batted first. A start of 64 runs in 7 overs was promising a big score but the English bowlers came back. Tim Seifert was dismissed for 35 by Adil Rashid and Finn Allen was dismissed for 29 by Will Jacks. Rachin Ravindra made 11 runs and became the target of Rehan Ahmed.



Rachin Ravindra made 11 and Mark Chapman could make 15 but Glenn Phillips resisted with 39 runs off 28 balls. New Zealand was at one point 97 runs for 2 wickets in 11 overs but then in the last 9 overs they could only make 62 runs and lost 5 wickets. Only 24 runs were scored in the last 3 overs. New Zealand scored 159 runs for 7 wickets in 20 overs. Jofra Archer failed from England by giving away 24 runs in 3 overs. Adil Rashid made 28 and Will Jacks took 2 wickets for 23 runs. Rehan Ahmed took 2 wickets for 28 runs in 3 overs.

In reply, England did not start well. Along with this, Pakistani hopes also suffered a setback when they lost 2 wickets for 2. Phil Salt 2 and Jos Buttler failed as usual for a duck. Captain Harry Brook, who scored a century in the last match against Pakistan, was also caught for 26 runs on a total of 50. The Black Caps got the fourth wicket of Jacob Bethell for 58, who made 21. Sam Curran and Tom Bunton made a partnership of 42 runs for the 5th wicket. In the 15th over, Sam Curran was caught for 24 runs.

England were in trouble

and Pakistan were on the verge of being eliminated from the World Cup. 43 runs off the last 20 balls seemed to be a problem. Tom Bunton was also caught on the boundary line at 117 after scoring 33 runs, so now England was in even more trouble. 43 runs remained off the last 18 balls. When Glenn Phillips conceded 22 runs in the 18th over of the innings, England's victory and Pakistan's hopes brightened. Now 21 runs remained off 12 balls and Will Jacks was on the pitch. Then 5 runs remained in the last over. England achieved the target for 6 wickets in 9.3 overs, winning the match by 4 wickets and stepping into the semi-finals as the number one team in the group in an unbeaten manner. Will Jacks returned with 32 runs off 18 balls and Rehan Ahmed with 19 runs off 7 balls. Both made a partnership of 44 runs off 16 balls.

For New Zealand, Rachin Ravindra took 3 wickets for 19 runs.

Pak vs India: WBO world youth champion carries 17-0 record into Global Fight Night in Bangkok

Sports Desk

LAHORE: Pakistan's unbeaten boxing sensation Usman Wazeer is set to return to the international ring on February 28, 2026, when he takes on India's Baljot Singh at the high-profile Global Fight Night at the World Siam Stadium in Bangkok.

Carrying a flawless professional record of 17 wins from 17 fights, including 12 knockouts, Wazeer will be competing in his 18th professional bout, with his eyes firmly set on extending his unbeaten streak and moving a step closer to a coveted Open World Title shot. "I have already fought two Indian opponents in the past and knocked both out. I am excited and fully prepared for another strong performance."

Despite his young age, Wazeer has already secured multiple prestigious regional and international belts, including WBC Middle East Title, WBA Asia Title, WBC OPBF Silver Title and WBO World Youth Title. In recognition of his sporting achievements and contributions to Pakistan's international image, Wazeer was also awarded the prestigious Tamgha-e-Imtiaz, one of the country's highest civilian honors.

Currently, Wazeer is undergoing an intensive training camp in Karachi under the supervision of former boxer Ali Bakhsh. The camp, according to Wazeer, has significantly sharpened his technical and physical preparation.

Operation Ghazab-lil-Haq

Continued from Page 1

The Pakistan Air Force carried out overnight air strikes targeting installations in Kabul, Kandahar, Paktia, and Nangarhar. Security officials reported destruction of brigade and corps headquarters, ammunition depots, and logistics bases. Taliban sources confirmed explosions in Kabul, Paktia, and Kandahar but denied any casualties. Pakistani forces captured five

Afghan posts in Paktia province, opposite South Waziristan, including positions near Shawal, Angoor Adda, and Zarmalan. The Afghan terminal at Angoor Adda was reportedly destroyed. Heavy exchanges were reported in Bajaur, Tirah, Chitral, Mohmand, Wali Khan, and Kurram sectors, with several Taliban check posts destroyed. Quadcopter drones allegedly used against Pakistani positions were shot down.

Pakistan is a responsible...

Continued from Page 8

The Air Chief underscored that the Pakistan Air Force swiftly recalibrated its Operational Doctrine to meet the dictates of modern warfare, rapidly inducting and operationalizing cutting-edge combat and combat support capabilities, alongside niche technologies in shortest possible time. He added that PAF in record time evolved a unique home-grown Kill Chain through employment of indigenously-developed Unmanned Systems, Electronic Warfare, Space and Cyber assets, resulting in consolidation of coherent multi-domain operational capabilities.

Highlighting the calibrated response of PAF during Marka-e-Haq, the Air Chief said, "when the aggressor once again challenged our sovereignty in the wee hours of May 2025, our response was far more astonishing than what the enemy had expected". He further said that for the first time in history, PAF

conducted full spectrum multi-domain operations that were excellently choreographed and flawlessly executed, decisively overpowering the adversary and bringing down some of its most advanced platforms including multiple Rafale jets, SU-30 MKI, Mirage-2000, Mig-29 and Unmanned Aerial System. He highlighted that PAF also struck bases and ground assets deep into the enemy's territory, besides neutralizing state-of-the-art S-400 Air Defence systems and their Command & Control Centre. In the end Chief of the Air Staff reiterated that Pakistan Air Force would live up to the expectations of its brave and resilient people and would always remain a Symbol of Pride for this great Nation.

Pakistan Air Force, along with the nation, commemorated the 7th anniversary of Operation Swift Retort—a landmark demonstration of resolve, professionalism and calibrated response in modern air warfare.

The UN Charter, the New York Conspiracy Case...

Continued from Page 4

legal arguments may be articulated at the UN General Assembly and the Human Rights Council within established international frameworks.

3. Normative Framing of the Kashmir Issue:

Rather than framing Kashmir solely as a geopolitical rivalry, Pakistan could emphasize international humanitarian law, human rights obligations, and relevant UN resolutions to situate the dispute within established global norms.

4. Strategic Partnerships:

Engagement with major global actors—including China, Türkiye, Gulf states, the European Union, and the United States—should focus on reinforcing the principle of rule of law,

rather than merely labeling adversaries. A norms-based approach carries greater diplomatic weight.

5. Domestic Stability and Institutional Credibility:

Effective international advocacy requires internal political stability, judicial transparency, and economic resilience. A state perceived as institutionally strong commands greater credibility in international legal discourse.

Conclusion: Law, Power, and Global Order;

The New York conspiracy case, alongside developments in Canada, underscores that covert operations remain a feature of international politics. Yet they also demonstrate that legal accountability mechanisms can operate—even when major powers are implicated.

Articles 2(4) and 2(7) of the UN

Charter form part of the normative foundation of the international system. If state sponsorship of extraterritorial violence were conclusively established, it would represent not merely a diplomatic controversy but a legal precedent with global implications.

History—from Cold War intelligence confrontations to contemporary cases—suggests that durable outcomes are achieved not through rhetoric but through law, diplomacy, and sustained engagement. For Pakistan, the strategic path lies in grounding its case in international legal principles, strengthening alliances, and reinforcing domestic institutional credibility.

In global politics, power shapes events—but law shapes legitimacy, and legitimacy endures.

The writer is senior defense analyst

Beyond Government Control: Societal Factors of Edibles...

Continued from Page 4

crumbles counterstrike consternation. Creators coronate "Ramzan revelations" rogue-routed; press parades "pillage," precipitating preemptive purges solidarity spurned. Philanthropy passes purveyors, pavement pities. Taqwa trinity - temperance tenderness trusteeship - transmuted transactional tumult; "Ramzan revenue rapture" ratified.

Macro maelstroms societal synthesis. Pecuniary plunges procurements penalize; energetic encumbrances encumber express; impost impostures impinge imperatives. Ramzan rancor: nuptial necessities nest grains nechet; nomadism nabs nutriment; afflux affluent aliment; influx inflate intake.

Tableaux testify. Mitigation marts meager - "marginless"; busts brief respites rebound rampage. Tribal tabernacles taboo trespass; labyrinths levy "liturgical levy." Elites ephemeralize "ephemera"; indigent incrementally endure.

Mandates melt societal miasma. Probes provisional; penalties pilfered; proclamations parodied. Panacea societal palingsensis.

Pietistic phoenix: Minaret misses malign meanness mortal; mobilization magnify moderation. Patron piousness: Pixel price-probers, populous proscription. Lineal liberation: Laborer ledgers layerless; larder leagues lossless. Phalanx patrols: Parish pantry patrols, proclamation prompt. Stabi-

lizers: Staple stasis seaward, sanctuary subsidized. Sentinel savvy: Sentient sentries, sealed sequences.

Transoceanic tropes: App-arbitrated arcades; agora Argus. Autochthon: Allotment assemblies austere assemblies' glut-govern.

Societal sorcery statutes surpass. Ramzan rives ratiocination - flesh forsworn, fundament feasting. Merchant Maker-minds mammon; purchaser plain pleasures. Vigilance - vilify, void, vouchsafe - vitiates vices. Dominion dawns; demotic endures dawn. Default, Ramzan repasts rari-fied, rations ragged righteous.

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Sindh's economic lifeline, Sukkur Barrage demands attention

Continued from Page 4

If the responsible people of the time realize its importance, then only after the damage to the remaining Sukkur Barrage will the country's political, government and institutional leaders realize its importance. This importance is only for Sindh and for Sindh's irrigation and agricultural system. Not only that, but it also has a very important position in the national agricultural economy. Therefore, it is necessary that the federal government cooperate with the Sindh government to protect a national asset like the Sukkur Barrage and mobi-

lize the Planning Commission to work as soon as possible. Considering the overall strategic importance of the barrage, in addition to carrying out the overall work of technical, mechanical and civil works, attention should be paid to the canals emerging from the Sukkur Barrage along with the life barrage. In this regard, work should be done with the help of our own domestic resources, domestic technical personnel and financial institutions. Otherwise, if more money is needed, financial assistance can be sought by inviting any financial institution in the world. In addition, it is necessary to take whatever

help can be taken from irrigation experts of national or provincial importance, and if necessary, there should be no problem in contacting the company that built the Sukkur Barrage abroad and getting work, staff and technical assistance. Sukkur Barrage It plays an important role in the country's agricultural economy. Therefore, the ongoing work on the Sukkur Barrage should be completed as soon as possible and the concerns raised should be removed. There is no doubt that the irrigation experts of Sindh are also working under the guidance of Provincial Minister Jam Khan Shoro and Secretary Zarif

Khero. Irrigation experts like Sohail Hameed Baloch and Mr Palijo, who are responsible for the Sukkur Barrage Improvement Project, are also performing their responsibilities well. However, if the help of any private sector irrigation expert from Sindh or any province of the country is needed, there should be no problem in hiring them.

The Sindh Minister should also keep the wise minister of the Sindh cabinet, Jam Khan Shoro, under his guidance, facing the national and strategic importance of the Sukkur Barrage, and do better and better work on time and in a quality manner,

thereby satisfying the people of Sindh and not only the entire nation. President of Pakistan Asif Ali Zardari, who is also a resident of Sukkur and a good landowner, is very passionate about agriculture. He believes in the improvement of not only Sindh but also the country's irrigation system and talks about modern agriculture due to the effects of climate change. Therefore, if there is a need for any funds, there is no harm in getting this help. Even now, work is going on on the Sukkur Barrage under the supervision of international experts. In addition, along with the barrage, the related dams on the Indus

River also require a lot of attention.

In addition, due to the weakness of the dams between Sukkur Barrage and Kotri Barrage, even a small amount of water indicates the collapse of the dams. In this way, in addition to the timely and quality completion of the works of Sukkur Barrage, attention is also needed to be paid to the bridges built on the Indus River. The overall irrigation problems of Sindh mentioned above, especially the importance of the Sukkur Barrage, can be given a new lease of life to the life of Sindh. The condition is that those responsible play

their role in a timely and quality manner. Because not only Sindh but also the life of the national agricultural economy depends on the Sukkur Barrage, which is based on the Indus River. Therefore, there is a need to work with special attention to its strategic importance. For this, the Chief Minister of Sindh, along with his team, needs to sit down with the federal government on an emergency basis. In the federation, important party representatives from Madam Shireen Rehman to Barrister Zameer Ghumro are sitting. There are those who can serve better from the House to the federal government.

6 Nation Conference

Warsaw: Federal Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi with Interior Ministers of Poland, Estonia, Latvia, Finland, and Lithuania during the 6-nation conference on illegal immigration and security cooperation on Friday.



Photo: PID

DPM Dar calls for immediate action against Israeli annexation plans at OIC meeting

Spokesman Report

JEDDAH: Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister (DPM/FM), Ishaq Dar on Friday urged the international community and Muslim countries to take decisive collective action to halt Israeli settlement expansion and annexation attempts in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, warning that continued violations were undermining prospects for a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

Addressing the extraordinary open-ended ministerial session of the Organiza-



tion of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Executive Committee here, the DPM said the Palestinian cause remained the central concern of the Muslim Ummah and stressed

that Israel's actions in the Occupied West Bank posed serious challenges to international law, the UN Charter, and the multilateral system. DPM/FM Dar expressed

appreciation to the Republic of the Gambia, Türkiye, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the State of Palestine for convening the timely session to address, what he termed, illegal Israeli measures aimed at accelerating settlement expansion and imposing sovereignty over occupied Palestinian land.

The deputy prime minister noted that despite intensified diplomatic efforts to consolidate a ceasefire and implement the UN Security Council's comprehensive plan to end the Gaza conflict, Israeli ceasefire violations and continued settlement activities were jeopardizing peace efforts. Recalling consultations held on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in September 2025 between leaders and foreign ministers of eight Arab-Islamic countries, including Pakistan, and the President of the United States, Dar said assurances had been given that annexation of the Occupied West Bank would not occur. However, developments on the ground reflected continued expansion of settlements and attempts at de facto annexation in violation of international law.

Amir Muqam strongly condemn unjustified aggression by Afghanistan on border

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs, Gilgit-Baltistan and SAFRON Engineer Amir Muqam strongly condemned the unjustified aggression by Afghanistan on the Pak-Afghan border.

In his message, engineer Amir Muqam paid tribute to the Pakistan Army for giving a befitting reply to the enemy.

There will be no compromise on Pakistan's sovereignty, Federal Minister for

Kashmir Affairs.

Under the leadership of Chief of Defence Forces, Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, the Pakistani Armed Forces are always ready to deal with every challenge.

The minister said that the entire nation stands by the Pakistani Armed Forces.

Afghanistan must be prevented from using its territory against neighboring countries, he added.

Our prayers are for the safety of the soldiers fighting on the war front and for the victory of Pakistan.



Danyal Chaudhry lauds security forces for successful operation against Afghan Taliban

City Desk

RAWALPINDI: Federal Parliamentary Secretary for Information and Broadcasting Barrister Danyal Chaudhry on Friday paid tribute to the security forces for carrying out what he termed a successful operation against Afghan Taliban elements.

In a statement, he described the alleged attack by the Afghan Taliban as a 'grave mistake' and warned that the perpetrators would face serious consequences for what he called aggression.

He strongly condemned the targeting of civilian population, saying the "cowardly enemy" attempted to strike under the cover of darkness and target innocent citizens, terming it open aggression and a violation of international law.

He said such actions could prove dangerous for regional peace and stability and reiterated that Pakistan would not compromise on its sovereignty.

The parliamentary secretary alleged that elements operating under India's patronage were attempting to sabotage



peace in the region. However, he said the armed forces of Pakistan were fully prepared to thwart any hostile designs.

Barrister Danyal Chaudhry said the Pakistan Army had responded in a timely and effective manner, sending

a clear message that any aggression against the country's territory would not be tolerated.

He said Pakistan, as a responsible state, desired peace in the region and remained committed to the complete

eradication of terrorism. He added that the entire nation stood shoulder to shoulder with its armed forces and would not compromise on national defence, sovereignty and territorial integrity under any circumstances.

Pakistan is a responsible country which desires peace with honour-Air Chief

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: "Pakistan is a responsible country which desires peace with honour", said the Air Chief while addressing a ceremony at Air Headquarters to commemorate the 7th anniversary of Operation Swift Retort. Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu, Chief of the Air Staff, Pakistan Air Force, further said that seven years ago, the aggressor challenged sovereignty of Pakistan and gravely miscalculated our resolve and capability, as always based on their narrative of falsehood. He added that the enemy, oblivious of our firm resolve, spirit of sacrifice and unparalleled resilience, attacked in a cowardly manner in the darkness of night. The Air Chief further said that with a measured and well-calibrated broad daylight response, we re-established our deterrence against a numerically greater enemy.

Chief of the Air Staff highlighted that in the light of challenges arising



from complex Global and Regional Environment as well as rapidly changing character of warfare, PAF despite fiscal constraints, embarked upon a comprehensive modernization & indigenization journey starting in March 2021 and vigorously pursued the same for transitioning PAF into Next Generation Air Force.

Continued on Page 7

Defense system downs drones in KP; no casualty: Tarar

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar on Friday said the country's anti-drone defense system successfully intercepted and shot down multiple small drones in Abbottabad, Swabi, and Nowshera.

In a post shared on social media

platform X, the minister said no casualties were reported in the attempted incidents, attributing the acts to terrorist activity, carried out by a group, he identified as Fitna al-Khawarij.

Tarar said the latest terror attempts had once again exposed the direct linkages between Afghan Taliban regime and terrorist operations inside Pakistan.

Syed Imran Shah condemns Afghan border violation

City Desk

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Syed Imran Ahmed Shah has strongly condemned the reported violation of Pakistan's territorial boundaries by Afghanistan, terming the action carried out under the cover of darkness as an act of open aggression and a serious threat to regional peace.

In a statement, the Federal Minister appreciated the professional capabilities and prompt response of the Pakistan Armed Forces for giving an immediate and effective reply to the enemy.

Syed Imran Ahmed Shah emphasized that Pakistan's sovereignty, national dignity, and border security are non-negotiable, adding that no compromise would be made on the



country's territorial integrity.

He reaffirmed that the state would take all necessary measures to safeguard its geographical boundaries and protect national interests. The Minister further stated that the entire nation stands united with its brave armed forces in defending the country.

While reiterating Pakistan's desire for peace in the region, he warned that any act of aggression would be responded to with full strength and determination.

Security forces neutralise drone attacks in three KP districts



News Desk

ISLAMABAD: Pakistani security forces have thwarted attempted drone attacks in Abbottabad, Swabi and Nowshera, successfully shooting down all incoming drones, officials said.

Federal Information Minister Attaullah Tarar stated in a social media post that militants belonging to Fitna al-Khawarij backed by the Afghan Taliban, attempted to carry out attacks using small drones in the three districts.

He said Pakistan's anti-drone systems responded promptly and neutralized all the drones before they could cause major damage. "No loss of

life occurred in any of the three incidents, and the situation is fully under control," the minister said. Tarar further claimed that the incidents once again exposed the direct links between the Afghan Taliban regime and terrorist activities inside Pakistan.

Meanwhile, in Swabi's Pabini village, an explosion occurred outside a Government Girls Higher Secondary School, injuring one female student. According to Swabi police officials, the blast was reportedly caused by explosive material dropped by a drone. Authorities said an investigation into the incident is ongoing.

Security forces remain on high alert following the attempted attacks.