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Banned Joint Awami Action Committee spreading unrest in AJK with Indian funding: Talal Chaudhry

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

Minister of State for Interior Talal Chaudhry has stated that the banned Joint Awami Action Committee (JAAC) is spreading unrest in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK).

He stated that individuals who were planning to smuggle weapons into Kashmir have been arrested. Asghar used to transport weapons forward from border areas, while a man named Majid supplied the arms onward by staying in contact with Zia, and another individual named Nazim was in contact with Ammar Suhail.

He disclosed that India is funding the banned action committee, noting that 37 out of the committee's 38 demands had already been accepted, and added that an individual named Shehzad is originally a resident of Kashmir.

Talal Chaudhry said that audio recordings of miscreants from the banned action committee's core committee were presented before the media.



Bilawal Bhutto Zardari arrives in Multan for 3-day visit

CITY REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan Peoples Party Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari arrived in Multan on Tuesday for a three-day visit, Party supporters gathered at Tank Chowk on Airport Road to welcome him.

From Tank Chowk, Bhutto Zardari is due to go to Gillani House to offer condolences to Senate Chairman Yousuf Raza Gillani over the death of Gillani's cousin. He will then attend a reception at Bahauddin Zakariya University Chowk before heading to Bilawal House, where he will stay.

During his time in Multan, he is scheduled to meet party workers, traders and party office-bearers. He will also take part in a Meet the Press program.

After Multan, the PPP chairman is expected to visit Dera Ghazi Khan and Bahawalpur.



Balochistan announces rewards of up to Rs250m to help track wanted terrorists

News Desk

ISLAMABAD

The Balochistan government has announced cash rewards ranging from Rs500,000 to Rs250 million for individuals providing credible information about highly wanted terrorists,

A reward of Rs250 million has been set for information about notorious terrorist Rehman Gul. The same amount has also been announced for credible information about Bashir Zeb. Rewards worth millions and hundreds of millions of rupees have also been fixed for information about other highly wanted terrorists.

Balochistan Home Affairs Adviser Babar Yousafzai appealed to the public to share reliable information about terrorists with the relevant authorities. He said the identity of anyone providing information would be kept strictly confidential.

Yousafzai said immediate action would be taken on credible and actionable information, while rewards would be paid in accordance with the rules and regulations set by the Balochistan government.



Prime Minister of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Syed Iftikhar Gillani calls on Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif in Islamabad .

Federal govt will continue all-out support for AJK development: PM

PM Shehbaz Sharif pledged continued federal support for AJK's development and reaffirmed Pakistan's diplomatic backing for Kashmiris during a meeting with AJK PM.

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has reaffirmed the federal government's commitment to supporting the development of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), ensuring the welfare of its public, and providing essential infrastructure.

The commitment was reiterated during a meeting with AJK Prime Minister Syed Iftikhar Gilani in Islamabad.

During the meeting, PM Gilani briefed Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on the progress of the recently announced 100-day development program in AJK. He expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister of Pakistan for the federal government's full cooperation and support toward the region's development initiatives, while also thanking him for his recent visit to Azad Kashmir.

PM Shehbaz Sharif emphasized that Pakistan will maintain its unwavering assistance for Kashmir's socio-economic growth. He added that Pakistan will continue to extend moral, political, and diplomatic support to the Kashmiri people until they achieve their right to self-determination.

The high-level meeting was also attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Muhammad Ishaq Dar, Minister for Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan Amir Muqam, and Special Assistant to the PM Senator Rana Sanaullah.

PM urges ministers to avoid spat amid Sanaullah-Naqvi row over provinces

OUR CORRESPONDENT

ISLAMABAD

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday took notice of recent statements by ministers and government representatives amid an intensifying debate over the creation of new provinces, directing members of the federal cabinet to refrain from making political remarks against one another.In a statement issued by the Prime Minister Office (PMO), the premier said the federal government's entire focus was on public welfare projects and that Pakistan was continuing its journey from economic stability towards sustainable growth. "By the grace of Allah, Pakistan has also achieved several important successes at the international level and on the diplomatic front," he said, adding that the federal government had always promoted the politics of development and progress.

Freedom of speech cannot protect those crossing 'red lines', warns Mohsin Naqvi

OUR CORRESPONDENT

ISLAMABAD

Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi has warned that freedom of speech must not become a shield for individuals and organisations crossing the state's red lines, calling on social media platforms to take greater responsibility for harmful online content.

Addressing a seminar organised by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) on Tuesday, Naqvi identified terrorism, hate speech, incitement to violence and sexual exploitation of children as four areas where the state would make no compromises.

Rana Sanaullah slams Mohsin Naqvi over provinces issue, defends right to scrutiny

- Rana Sanaullah criticized Mohsin Naqvi for mishandling the new provinces issue and defended his right to evaluate his performance.

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

Senator Rana Sanaullah, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Political Affairs, launched a sharp critique against Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi, questioning his handling of political affairs while asserting his right as a colleague to evaluate performance.

Speaking to the media, Sanaullah dismissed any notion that Naqvi is immune to political commentary. "Is Mohsin Naqvi Quaid-e-Azam that I shouldn't comment on him? I have never commented on his personal character, nor will I ever. However, discussing his performance as a colleague and a political worker is my absolute



right," Sanaullah stated.

He further asserted that he is not one to be intimidated by threats, saying, "We have no reason to hide our faces, and a person like me does not fear threats."

Addressing the ongoing debate over the creation of new provinces, Sanaullah held Naqvi responsible for complicating the issue. He argued that instead of reacting angrily to his own shortcomings, Naqvi should admit that he mishandled the new provinces matter and turned it into a controversy.

JUI-F moves LHC over 'house arrest' of Maulana Fazl in Lahore

- JUI-F moves LHC over alleged house arrest of Maulana Fazl in Lahore

STAFF REPORTER

LAHORE

The Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-Fazl (JUI-F) has approached the Lahore High Court (LHC) over what it calls the house arrest of party chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman, after police deployed personnel outside his Lahore residence and restricted his movement.

The petition, filed Tuesday by JUI-F worker and lawyer Advocate Abrar Hussain, names the Punjab police chief, the Lahore deputy commissioner and other officials as respondents. It claims police cordoned off Fazl's home in the Chuhng area, effectively placing him under house arrest, and asks the court to order his recovery and to hear the plea urgently.

According to a JUI-F statement, Fazl arrived in Lahore on Monday night and was due to address a lawyers'



session and an all-parties conference (APC) on Tuesday, organised by the LHC Bar Association at its invitation. The party says Punjab Police stopped him from leaving his residence. Police confirmed that personnel were stationed outside the house and that the JUI-F chief had been asked to limit his movement

JUI-F Senator Kamran Murtaza condemned the restrictions. He said Fazl heads a major political party and that preventing him from leaving his home goes against fundamental civil liberties and democratic traditions. "Political differences aside," he added, there is no justification for obstructing any leader's free movement.

The Punjab I inherited was run by Black magic: Maryam Nawaz

- CM Maryam Nawaz claimed the previous Punjab government relied on sorcery while highlightin key education, housing, and transit achievements at an Arid University event.

STAFF REPORTER

LAHORE

Chief Minister of Punjab Maryam Nawaz Sharif launched a scathing attack on the province's previous administration, claiming that the Punjab she took over was being managed through "sorcery and black magic" and governed by occult forces.

Speaking as the chief guest at the Honhaar Scholarship and Laptop Distribution ceremony held at PMAS-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi, the Chief Minister congratulated the student recipients and praised their parents' sacrifices.

"Students' success is a direct result of their parents' hard work and sacrifices. The Honhaar Scholarship will ease educational expenses, while laptops will empower students in digital learning. Investing in youth shapes the nation's future, and providing access to education for every child is our primary responsibility," Maryam Nawaz stated.

Reflecting on her tenure, Maryam Nawaz noted that 1,000 days have passed since she assumed office as



Chief Minister. She shared that knowing time was short, her team initiated work from day one, adding that developmental achievements would not have been possible without public support.

Highlighting administrative initiatives, she remarked that the Suthra Punjab (Clean Punjab) program is progressing successfully and described Punjab as a national trendsetter whose governance models are being adopted by other provinces.

On public transit infrastructure, she announced that 1,100 green electric buses are currently operational across the province—including 80 in Rawalpindi alone—offering a flat fare of just Rs20. She added that the government aims to expand the fleet to 5,000 electric buses over the next two years.

Pakistan's Armed Forces and National Security Institutions Enjoy Full Support of the Nation

Religious Leaders Reaffirm Commitment to National Security, Peace and Elimination of Extremism at Paigham-e-Pakistan Conference

STAFF REPORTER

GUJRANWALA



The Misaq-e-Makkah for the Defence of the Holy Haramain Is a Guarantee of Victory, Unity and Protection for the Entire Muslim Ummah.The Security of Saudi Arabia and the Holy Haramain Is the Top Priority of the Government of Pakistan and the Armed Forces of Pakistan.Attacks on Saudi Arabia by the Houthis and Other Hostile Elements Are Highly Condemnable. The Protection of the Holy Haramain Is an Integral Part of Our Faith.The Participation of Pakistani Astronauts in China's Upcoming Shenzhou-24 Space Mission Is a Historic and Proud Moment for Pakistan.Religious Seminaries, Mosques and Khanqahs Are the Fortresses of the Muslim World and Promote Peace and Security.Religious Seminaries Must Promote Respect for Humanity, Religious Harmony and Paigham-e-Pakistan Through the Pulpit and Mihrab.Fitna al-Khawarij and Fitna al-Hindustan Seek to Undermine Our National Unity by Spreading Unrest and Instability in Pakistan.The Efforts of Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif for the Development of Punjab Are Highly Commendable.The Inclusion of Prime Minister of Pakistan Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif and Field Marshal General Syed Asim Munir among the World's 500 Most Influential Personalities Is a Great Honour for Pakistan.The Entire Nation Stands Shoulder to Shoulder with Its Brave Armed Forces and National Security Institutions for the Security and Protection of Pakistan.Ulema and Religious Scholars Must Play Their Role Through the Pulpit and Mihrab in Raising Awareness for a Drug-Free Punjab and a Drug-Free Pakistan.Addressing the Paigham-e-Pakistan Peace Conference in Gujranwala: Chairman of the Central Ruet-e-Hilal Committee Pakistan and Ambassador of Peace Maulana Syed Muhammad Abdul Khabeer Azad, Commissioner Gujranwala Muhammad Ali, RPO Gujranwala Khurram Shahzad Haider, CPO Gujranwala Sohaib Ashraf, DC Gujranwala Muhammad Naveed, Mufti Fatah Muhammad Rashdi, Allama Shabbir Anjum, Allama Salman Shakir, Pir Usman Noori, Maulana Shah Nawaz Farooqi, Mufti Shafiq Awan, Maulana Arshad Hussain Abidi, Maulana Jawad Mahmood Qasmi, Maulana Imran Arif, Maulana Abdul Malik Mashriqi, Qari Arshad Mahmood Safdar, Maulana Ayub Khan Saaqib, Professor Dr. Abdul Majid, Qari Waseemullah Amin and other religious scholars, spiritual leaders and prominent social personalities.Gujranwala (PR): A Paigham-e-Pakistan Peace Conference was held at Meridian Hotel Gujranwala.

NCCIA Islamabad Recovers Rs1.2 Million in Financial Fraud Case, Returns Money to Victim

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD



The National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency (NCCIA), Islamabad, has successfully recovered the entire amount of Rs1.2 million lost in a financial fraud case and returned it to the complainant. According to an NCCIA press release (PR No. 183/PRB/NCCIA), an inquiry was initiated following a complaint lodged by Rida Maryam, wife of Umair Aziz, regarding financial fraud.During the investigation, effective investigative measures and sustained efforts led to the recovery of the entire defrauded amount of Rs1.2 million, which was subsequently handed back to the complainant. The inquiry was conducted by Inspector Waqar Masih Ghori, while further legal proceedings are underway in accordance with the law.NCCIA Director General Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi said that recovering and returning money looted from citizens remained the agency's top priority.

DIG Islamabad Ali Waseem Holds Open Court, Orders Immediate Resolution of Citizens' Complaints

Citizens Can Directly Approach Open Court Without Any Recommendation or Reference; Daily Sessions Held at DIG Office to Facilitate Public



Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD

DIG Islamabad Holds Open Court, Directs Prompt Redressal of Citizens' ComplaintsAccording to the details, Deputy Inspector General (DIG) Islamabad Ali Waseem held an open court at his office, which was attended by a large number of citizens. He listened to their complaints and concerns in detail and issued on-the-spot directions to the concerned officers for their prompt resolution.DIG Islamabad Ali Waseem stated that the timely resolution of citizens' issues on merit is a top priority of Islamabad Police. He added that citizens can attend the open court directly and present their complaints without any recommendation or reference.An open court is held daily at the DIG Office to facilitate citizens and ensure the timely redressal of their grievances.

Islamabad Police Signs MoU with Chughtai Lab to Provide Discounted Medical Facilities to Police Personnel



Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD

MOU signed for provision of better health facilities to cops According to the details, following the special directions of Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad, Captain (Retd.) Muhammad Sohail Chaudhry, efforts are ongoing to provide the best facilities and discounted medical services to Islamabad Police officers and their families. In this regard, an Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed between Islamabad Police and the private organization Chughtai Lab. On behalf of Islamabad Police the agreement was signed by Inspector General of Police (IGP) Islamabad, Captain (Retd.) Muhammad Sohail Chaudhryand Chughtai Lab Officer. Under the agreement, Islamabad Police officers and their families will receive discount on lab tests. Moreover, Islamabad Police officers and their families can avail of this facility at all laboratories of the organization IG Islamabad, Captain (Retd.) Muhammad Sohail Chaudhry, said that, the best medical facilities are being provided to the serving officers of Islamabad Police.

MANGLA DAM HOUSING AUTHORITY

INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Deputy Director Building Control, Mangla Dam Housing Authority, on behalf of the Employer, invites sealed Financial Proposal from eligible firms/contractors for the Hiring of Machinery on an Hourly Rate Basis.

Interested firms/contractors registered with Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) in relevant category with registration in FY 2026-27 and having endorsement in C&W/PP&H Govt. AJ&K, are eligible to submit their bids under the Single Stage-One Envelope Bidding Procedure in accordance with Rule 36(a), of the AJ&K Public Procurement Rules, 2017.

Terms and Conditions:

1. The procurement shall be governed by applicable AJK PPRA Rules.
2. Complete bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.
3. Proposal must reach the office of the undersigned on **11-12-2026** at **11:00 AM** and shall be opened on the same date at **11:30 AM** in the presence of bidders or their authorized representatives.
4. Financial proposal must include complete machinery wise rates.
5. The bidders must submit Bid Security amounting **Rs. 500,000/-** in favor of Deputy Director Building Control, Mangla Dam Housing Authority Mirpur, from any schedule bank having its branches in Azad Jammu & Kashmir. The bid security of un-successful bidders will be released after the verification as per procedure laid down in the bidding documents.
6. The Procuring Agency reserves the right to reject any or all bids at any time prior to acceptance, in accordance with Rule 33 of the AJ&K Public Procurement Rules, 2017.

Note: This Notice is also available on following websites:
i) **https://ajkppra.gov.pk/**

Deputy Director Building Control
Mangla Dam Housing Authority

AJK-MR-58-D-11-26

Hazara University Scholar Kainat Shad Successfully Completes MS Degree

Successfully Defends Research Thesis on Digital Human Resource Practices and Employee Engagement in Pakistan's Banking Sector; Research Supervised by Dr. Attaullah, with Prof. Dr. Abdul Majid Serving as External Examiner

Staff Reporter

MANSEHRA



Kainat Shad, a scholar of the Department of Management Sciences, Hazara University Mansehra, has successfully completed her MS degree.The scholar successfully defended her thesis yesterday on the topic *"Impact of Digital Human Resource Practices on Employee Engagement: Moderating Role of Technology Acceptance in the Banking Sector of Pakistan.Kainat Shad completed her research under the supervision of Lecturer, Department of Management Sciences, Dr. Attaullah, while Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Haripur, Prof. Dr. Abdul Majid, acted as the external examiner.During the public defense, scholar Kainat Shad responded to various questions from the participants and shared her experiences gained during the completion of the research thesis.It is worth mentioning that in her research thesis, Kainat Shad has examined the possibilities of enhancing employee efficiency through modern practices and improving their practical involvement for the development of the institution, which can prove helpful in shaping modern management strategies in the context of increasing use of digital technology in the banking sector.On the occasion of the public defense, professors, faculty members and other scholars of the Department of Management Sciences were also presentFrom Fakhare Alam khan

Pakistan Receives 54,983 Tonnes of Romanian Wheat at Port Qasim

Five shipments raise total Romanian wheat imports to 273,603 tonnes, strengthening food security

STAFF REPORTER

KARACHI





A bulk carrier, MV Alex, has arrived at Port Qasim carrying 54,983 metric tonnes of Romanian wheat for Punjab, taking Pakistan's total imports of Romanian wheat to 273,603 metric tonnes through five shipments.The consignments are being imported through the Trading Corporation of Pakistan (TCP) to help meet wheat supply requirements in Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh.Earlier, on November 21, the MV Zhong Chang arrived at Karachi Port carrying approximately 50,000 metric tonnes of Romanian wheat for Punjab. According to the Karachi Port Trust (KPT), the vessel docked at berths 13 and 14.Before the arrival of MV Alex, four TCP shipments carrying more than 200,000 metric tonnes of Romanian wheat had reached Pakistan. Two consignments were allocated to Punjab, one to Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and one to Sindh. The MV Alex brought the third consignment for Punjab.Romanian Ambassador to Pakistan Dr Dan Stoenescu said Romania's role as a wheat supplier demonstrated the practical benefits of bilateral trade.He said sourcing wheat from Romanian growers and exporters had expanded Pakistan's supplier options at a time when international markets were facing pressure. For Romania, the five shipments also provided a foundation for developing long-term trade relations with Pakistani buyers.The Ambassador highlighted the significance of a recently signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between KPT and the Port of Constan?a, which could help establish new maritime trade corridors between the two countries.He added that the consignments had increased wheat availability in Pakistan, contributing to food security and efforts to keep wheat prices affordable for consumers.The Russia-Ukraine war has further highlighted the importance of diversifying wheat supply sources. Pakistan's Economic Survey 2021-22 reported that Russia and Ukraine had jointly accounted for more than three-quarters of the country's wheat imports in the preceding year.The disruption caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine pushed international wheat prices higher, increasing Pakistan's import costs and underscoring the need for alternative suppliers.Romania is among the significant wheat exporters in the international market.

IG Punjab Abdul Kareem Chairs Police Executive Board Meeting, Reviews Key Reforms and Development Projects

Focus on Improving Police Station Response, Strengthening Supervision, Police Welfare and Service Structure; IG Directs Timely Completion of Development Schemes and Regular Board Meetings

CRIME REPORTER

LAHORE



Inspector General of Police Punjab Abdul Kareem chaired a meeting of the Police Executive Board at the Central Police Office. Additional IGs, MD Safe Cities Authority, heads of various departments and field units, DIGs, AIGs and other senior officers attended the meeting The meeting reviewed measures to ensure prompt response by police stations, effective supervision, enforcement of law and provision of facilities to citizens. Administrative and policy matters relating to the probation period of police employees, service rules and proposed amendments to laws were also discussed Matters relating to police welfare, service structure and other administrative affairs were discussed. Progress on the construction and upgradation of police stations and check posts, as well as various development schemes, was also reviewed in view of the expansion of residential areas. Heads of various units presented their practical proposals and observations on the matters included in the agenda IG Punjab Abdul Kareem directed supervisory officers to ensure effective handling of administrative affairs and completion of development projects within the stipulated timelines. He further directed that the proposals discussed during the meeting be refined and upgraded before being presented at the next meeting IG Punjab Abdul Kareem directed that Police Executive Board meetings be held regularly to ensure effective decision-making on key policy matters Additional IG Investigation, Additional IG CCD, Additional IG PHP, Commandant PC, Additional IG Riot Management Police, Commandant SPU, DIG Tele and Transport, DIG CTD Headquarters, DIG Special Branch, SSP Traffic Headquarters, RPO Rawalpindi, CPO Rawalpindi, CPO Multan, DPO Murree and other officers attended the meeting through

Arid Agriculture University Continues Students Week 2026 with Flower, Art and Agri-Tech Exhibitions

■ Punjab HEC Chairman Prof. Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan inaugurates exhibitions; experts highlight AI's role in education, healthcare, agriculture and community development

STAFF REPORTER

RAWALPINDI



Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi continued its Students Week 2026 activities with the inauguration of Flower and Plant Expo, Art and Craft Exhibition, and Agri-Tech Exhibition by Punjab Higher Education Commission Chairman Prof Dr Iqrar Ahmad Khan (Sitara-e-Imtiaz).The exhibitions showcased modern agricultural technologies, sustainable farming practices, plants, flowers and creative artwork prepared by students. A large number of students participated and showed keen interest.The University Institute of Information Technology also organised a technical seminar titled "Role of Artificial Intelligence in Improving Quality of Life in Our Communities." Pakistan Science Foundation Chairman Prof Dr Muhammad Akmal attended as chief guest, while former Vice Chancellor of Skills University Islamabad Prof Dr Saud Altaf was the guest of honour.Speakers from FAST Islamabad, LUMS and other institutions highlighted the potential of artificial intelligence in education, healthcare, agriculture and public services, stressing the importance of research, innovation and responsible use of AI for sustainable community development.

Pakistan's Military Leadership Earns Prestigious International Recognition

■ Chairman Senate Congratulates Field Marshal Asim Munir on Becoming 21st Member of Malaysia's Armed Forces Staff College Hall of Fame

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD

: Chairman Senate Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani has extended heartfelt congratulations to Chief of Defence Forces and Chief of Army Staff Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir on his induction as the 21st member of the prestigious Hall of Fame of Malaysia's Armed Forces Staff College (MTAT), terming it a moment of immense pride for the entire nation.The Chairman Senate said the distinguished international recognition was a testament to the Field Marshal's exemplary leadership, strategic vision and commitment to national service. It also reflected the professional excellence of Pakistan's Armed Forces and their contributions to regional and international peace and security."International recognition of Pakistan's military leadership not only brings honour to the nation but also reinforces Pakistan's standing as a respected and responsible member of the international community," the Chairman Senate said.Welcoming the reaffirmation of defence and security cooperation during the Field Marshal's visit to Malaysia, Syed Yousuf Raza Gilani said the longstanding friendship between the two brotherly countries, rooted in mutual trust, respect and shared aspirations.

Pakistan, Bangladesh Parliamentary Friendship Groups Pledge to Strengthen Bilateral Relations

■ Dr. Shazia Sobia Aslam Somroo and Bangladeshi delegation discuss parliamentary diplomacy, trade, education, climate change and enhanced regional cooperation

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD



The Pakistan–Bangladesh Parliamentary Friendship Group (PFG), under the convenership of Dr. Shazia Sobia Aslam Somroo, MNA, held a meeting with the visiting Bangladeshi Parliamentary Delegation, led by Mr. Naseer Rahman, Chairperson of the Bangladesh–Pakistan Parliamentary Friendship Group.Welcoming the delegation, Dr. Shazia Sobia Aslam Somroo underscored the importance Pakistan attaches to its relations with Bangladesh, rooted in shared history, cultural affinity and enduring people-to-people ties. She highlighted the role of parliamentary diplomacy in strengthening bilateral relations through institutional engagement, legislative exchanges and capacity-building initiatives.Mr. Naseer Rahman reciprocated the sentiments and emphasised the importance of advancing bilateral cooperation through mutual respect, constructive dialogue, enhanced connectivity and a shared commitment to the welfare of the peoples of both countries.The discussions focused on parliamentary cooperation, trade, education, climate change, health, digital governance, women's empowerment, child rights and cultural exchanges, including opportunities under the Pakistan–Bangladesh Knowledge Corridor.Both sides underscored the importance of sustained parliamentary engagement through regular virtual interactions and reciprocal visits to advance cooperation in areas of mutual interest.The meeting was attended by the Federal Minister Mr. Muhammad Mueen Wattoo and MNAs Ms. Zahra Wadood Fatemi, Ms. Shaista Pervaiz, Ms. Romina Khurshid Alam, Mr. Dawar Khan Kundi, Ms. Naeema Kishwer Khan, Mr. Faisal Amin Khan, Mr. Sher Ali Arbab, Ms. Huma Akhtar Chughtai, Ms. Mussarat Rafique Mahesar, Ms. Tamkeen Niazi and Mr. Awais Haider Jakhar.The meeting concluded with a reaffirmation of the shared resolve to further strengthen parliamentary friendship and bilateral cooperation in the spirit of mutual respect, regional peace, stability and prosperity.

International Online HSE Conference to Be Held on December 11

NEWS DESK

KARACHI



The Pakistan Safety Council will organise an International Online HSE Conference on December 11, 2026, featuring renowned experts and industry professionals from Pakistan, the UK, USA, Canada, Malaysia, France, UAE and Saudi Arabia.The conference, titled "Redefining HSE: Innovation, Leadership and Sustainability for a Safer Future," will focus on modern approaches to occupational health and safety, effective leadership and sustainable development.The event will feature expert talks, panel discussions and the exchange of international best practices to address emerging safety challenges. Pakistan Safety Council Founder and CEO Ali Raza Memon will lead the initiative, which aims to strengthen international cooperation and professional networking within the global HSE community.HSE professionals, engineers, safety officers, managers, trainers, students and industry representatives have been invited to participate.

Syed Zeeshan Ali Calls on MD Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal, Discusses Institutional Affairs and Welfare Initiatives

■ Detailed discussion on upcoming Board meeting and organizational performance; Zeeshan Ali appreciates Senator Capt. Shaheen Khalid Butt's efforts to strengthen welfare services



STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

Syed Zeeshan Ali, Member of the Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal Board representing Gilgit-Baltistan, Islamabad and Azad Jammu and Kashmir, former Deputy Mayor of Islamabad, and President of the Pakistan Chess Federation, called on Managing Director Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal Senator Capt. Shaheen Khalid Butt at his office.The Managing Director warmly welcomed Syed Zeeshan Ali and held a detailed discussion with him regarding the forthcoming Board meeting, the Board's functions, and matters relating to the effective functioning of the institution.During the meeting, Syed Zeeshan Ali appreciated the Managing Director's outstanding leadership qualities and commended his efforts to transform Pakistan Bait-ul-Mal into a more active, effective, and people-oriented institution. He also lauded the ongoing initiatives aimed at strengthening the institution's welfare services and providing assistance to deserving and underprivileged individuals.

Al Sadat Group, Kuickpay Join Hands to Digitise Real Estate Payments

■ Partnership to facilitate online booking and instalment payments for Lakeshore City and Seventeen Villas; digital payment facility to go live for Seventeen Villas from November 25



STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

Al Sadat Group has signed a partnership with Kuickpay Technologies to digitise booking and instalment payments for its projects, Lakeshore City and Seventeen Villas.Mr. Syed Sadat Hussain Shah, Chairman, Al Sadat Group, and Mr. Omer Afzal, Director Business Development, Kuickpay Technologies, signed the agreement at a ceremony in Islamabad.Customers can now pay their dues through mobile banking, internet banking and Kuickpay's network of more than 300,000 payment points across Pakistan. Each payment is confirmed in real time and reconciled automatically, so customers no longer need to send receipts or screenshots.Lakeshore City is already live on Kuickpay. Digital payments for Seventeen Villas will begin on 25 November.Speaking at the ceremony, Mr. Syed Sadat Hussain Shah said, "Buying a home is one of the biggest commitments a family makes, and paying for it should be simple, safe and transparent. With Kuickpay, our customers can pay from anywhere, in Pakistan or abroad, and receive confirmation instantly."Mr. Omer Afzal said, "We are pleased to bring digital collections to Pakistan's real estate sector and to give Al Sadat Group's customers a faster, more secure way to pay."Seventeen Villas is an approved gated community of 3.5 to 5.5 Marla villas beyond Thalian Interchange (M-2), next to the Rawalpindi Ring Road, with bank financing and instalment plans. Lakeshore City is a lakeside development near Khanpur Dam.

NCCIA Islamabad Arrests Man for Alleged Impersonation, Blackmailing and Harassment of Women

■ Accused allegedly lured women through fake job advertisements, posed as a UK national and used secretly recorded videos to blackmail victims; DG NCCIA reiterates zero-tolerance policy against cybercrime

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD



NCCIA Islamabad Arrests Accused Involved in Impersonation, Blackmailing and Harassment of WomenThe National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency Islamabad has arrested an accused involved in online impersonation, blackmailing and harassment.According to details, NCCIA CCRC Islamabad received a complaint regarding online harassment and blackmail through personal pictures/videos. During the course of enquiry, accused Irfan Siddique was apprehended, and his digital device was seized for technical analysis. The analysis revealed his alleged involvement in a systematic pattern of blackmailing, harassing and extorting multiple females through social media. The accused allegedly lured victims through fake job advertisements, impersonated a UK national using a fabricated identity card, and induced them into physical relationships on false promises of marriage. He subsequently recorded their videos, both in person and through video calls, and exploited the recordings to blackmail and extort money from them. It is also worth mentioning that the accused has also been using AI generated pictures with high profile personalities of the state for his vicious motives. A case has been registered against the accused. The investigation of the case has been entrusted to Inspector Waqar Masih Ghauri. Further investigation is underway to identify additional victims and establish the full extent of the accused's activities.On this occasion, Director General NCCIA Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi said that a zero tolerance policy is being followed against those who blackmail and harass women and citizens. Operations against elements involved in cybercrimes will continue.He appealed to the citizens not to remain silent in case of blackmailing or harassment and immediately inform NCCIA.He further said that citizens should report any cybercrime, threat, or suspicious online activity on the Cyber INFO App, call the helpline 1799, or report to the nearest circle, so that timely action can be taken to prevent any untoward incident.

Over 13 Million Passengers Benefit from CDA's Eco-Friendly Transport Service in Three Months

■ Islamabad's Metro and EV Feeder Buses Carry Over 150,000 Passengers Daily Across 21 Routes at a Flat Rs. 50 Fare

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD



Approximately over 13 million citizens benefited from the Capital Development Authority (CDA)'s eco-friendly mass transit service during the past 3 months. On a daily basis, the number of citizens benefiting from the Islamabad transport service has exceeded about 150,000.Overall, under the Islamabad Metro and eco-friendly feeder bus services, 210 buses are operated daily on 21 different routes across Islamabad. A fare of only Rs. 50 per passenger is charged for travelling in the eco-friendly and comfortable bus service.In this regard, over 1,068,000 passengers travelled on the Orange Line bus service during the past 3 months. Similarly, over 1,071,000 passengers availed travel facilities on the Blue Line bus service. While under the EV feeder buses, 160 buses are plying on various highways on different routes across Islamabad, through which over 6,091,000 passengers travelled during the past 3 months.To improve the coverage of the metro and electric bus service, the Command and Control Centre and Depot Zero Point Islamabad are fully operational. Under this system, round-the-clock monitoring is continuing through a modern and digital dashboard and 36 charging units at CDA's new electric bus depot are also fully operational.Chairman CDA Sohail Ashraf said that CDA is working day and night to provide reliable, affordable and accessible public transport in Islamabad. He further said that all resources are being utilised to provide the best travel facilities to citizens.

Trump orders federal executions to be expedited

■ **Trump took aim at the move during an event at the Department of Justice in which multiple relatives of victims spoke in opposition to Newsom's decision.**



Web DESK

WASHNGATION

US President Donald Trump ordered that federal executions be expedited at an event condemning California Governor Gavin Newsom's decision to commute all death sentences in his state.

Newsom, who is widely expected to make a run for the White House in 2028, announced the decision to change the sentences of the state's more than 500 death row inmates to life in prison earlier this month.

Trump took aim at the move during an event at the Department of Justice in which multiple relatives of victims spoke in opposition to Newsom's decision.

"Among those death row inmates he granted clemency were more than 110 child killers, more than 100 rapists who murdered their victims, and numerous serial killers," Trump said.

It is "one of the most shocking acts of injustice our country has ever seen. I couldn't believe it," Trump said.



Ambassador of Sweden to Pakistan, H.E. Alexandra Berg von Linde, called on Minister of State / Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Digital Media, Fahd Haroon, at his office today.

Pakistani astronaut Zeeshan joins Shenzhou-24 crew heading for China's Tiangong space station

■ **Muhammad Zeeshan Ali named as part of crew on what will be the first joint space flight by Chinese and foreign astronauts: Zeeshan will spend one week in space: Liftoff scheduled for tomorrow**

Web Desk

ISLAMABD

CMSA said that during the mission, the crew will conduct around 90 experiments.

According to the CMSA, the Pakistani astronaut will serve as a payload specialist during the mission and return aboard the Shenzhou-23 spacecraft, which docked with the Tiangong space station in May.

The Chinese space agency said the mission's objectives included conducting an orbital rotation with the crew of the earlier Shenzhou-23 mission, carrying out routine operations and maintenance of the Chinese space station, and continuing space science research, including



experiments involving space payloads.

Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal congratulated Zeeshan and said the joint mission marked "the trust and iron brotherhood between Pakistan and China".

Congrats! Pakistani astronaut Zeeshan Ali selected to be one of three crew of Shenzhou-24, first ever international astronaut to be part of a manned space mission and he will be first ever visitor to Chinese Space Station marking the trust and iron brotherhood between Pakistan and China. Lift off takes place tomorrow. I want to honour both of our astronauts, Muhammad Zeeshan Ali and Khurram Daud selected for final training. They were chosen from among Pakistan's finest pilots and scientists. They trained in centrifuges and simulators, in emergency drills and in a new language. Both performed exceptionally well in training. Though Zeeshan Ali will fly tomorrow both have already made Pakistan proud.

Earlier in April, astronauts Muhammad Zeeshan Ali and Khurram Daud were chosen to start training in China. Meanwhile, Zhu Yangzhu, the third member of the Shenzhou-23 crew, will remain aboard Tiangong for another six months – along with the two Chinese Shenzhou-24 astronauts – and is on track to complete China's first-ever year-long stay in orbit.

The year-long stay will help verify the human body's ability to adapt to long-term deep-space environments, accumulating key data for future crewed lunar landings and even Mars exploration.

Beijing plans to land Chinese astronauts on the moon before 2030, with a crew of three, two of whom are expected to set foot on the lunar surface, Wang Xiang, deputy chief designer of the crewed space programme and chief designer of the lunar exploration programme, said in October.

Sheikh Hasina seeks to return to Bangladesh on December 16 on state carrier

■ **Sheikh Hasina plans to return to Bangladesh from India on December 16, despite facing a death sentence and possible arrest over her alleged role in the deadly 2024 uprising.**

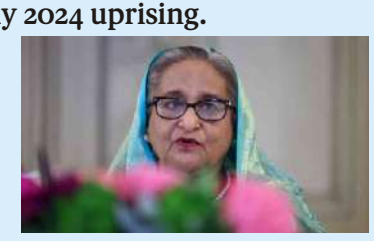
Web Desk

NEW DELHI

Ousted Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina plans to return home from more than two years of exile in India on December 16, the anniversary of the end of her ountry's 1971 liberation war with Pakistan, her spokesperson told Reuters on Tuesday.

It is the first time Hasina has set a specific date for her return, potentially raising political and legal tensions in a country where her party is banned and where violence has risen since she sought a new passport and other documents earlier this month.

In addition to seeking the paperwork, cancelled months after she fled to Delhi following a deadly uprising against her, Hasina has urged the Bangladeshi government



to arrange her return on flag carrier Biman Bangladesh Airlines.

"Since Sheikh Hasina was flown to India on a Bangladesh aircraft on August 5th, 2024, she now calls upon the government to arrange for her air transport from Delhi back to Dhaka," the spokesperson, Syed Mozammel Ali, said in a statement.

"Having exiled her contrary to the Constitution under such circumstances, it is now the responsibility of the government to make possible her return to Bangladesh on Victory Day on December 16th."

Trump to meet NATO chief Mark Rutte on Wednesday, White House says

■ **Trump will meet NATO chief Mark Rutte in Florida on Wednesday amid tensions over Ukraine peace talks and concerns among European allies following Trump's recent meetings with Putin and Xi.**

Web Desk

RIYADH

US President Donald Trump will meet NATO chief Mark Rutte on Wednesday in Florida, the White House said on Monday, with the meeting coming after the Republican leader met Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese leader Xi Jinping last week in Asia.

The White House said Trump and Rutte will meet late in the afternoon on Wednesday in Palm Beach, Florida.

Trump, who has been critical of America's Western allies, cast



both Putin and Xi as his "friend" when he met them last week at a summit.

Trump's meeting with Putin triggered a backlash among both European allies and Trump's Democratic opponents at home.

Rutte, who has repeatedly tried to soothe tensions within NATO and keep Trump onside, said it was normal for major ?nuclear powers to meet.

Rutte's meeting with Trump also comes as Europe has pushed to be included in US-backed talks to end Russia's war in Ukraine.

Trump has often criticized Washington's Western and democratic allies over issues like NATO spending, trade tariffs and what he casts as their inadequate support for Washington during the US-Israeli war on Iran.

Trump was open to security guarantees for Ukraine based on the NATO alliance's Article 5 mutual defense agreement, and that Russia had grown "comfortable" with that, US special envoy and Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner said last week as he sought to reassure allies.

Zelenskiy says intelligence shows Russia planning new strikes on Ukraine

Web Desk

Ukrain

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskiy said that intelligence showed Russia planned new strikes on Ukraine, and he urged the United States and other countries to take note as supplies of air defence systems depended on their decisions.Russian forces have been subjecting Kyiv and other cities to virtually continuous air attacks since September. An attack on a central district of the capital on Monday injured five, while a strike on a town in the surrounding region killed 11 on Sunday.

"Our intelligence has information



about preparations by the Russians for new strikes," Zelenskiy said in his nightly video address, without giving a time frame for any new attacks.Zelenskiy has long called for increased supplies of air defence weapons and said that ensuring a ready supply meant denying Moscow the opportunity of "showing contempt for diplomacy and human life".

14 countries 'acknowledge' ICJ ruling on Rohingya 'genocide'



Web Desk

UK

The UK and 13 other countries "acknowledged" the top UN court's ruling that Myanmar perpetrated genocide against its Rohingya minority as London announced new sanctions.

The foreign ministers of Australia, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Iceland, Latvia, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, The Gambia and the United Kingdom said Myanmar had "violated its obligations under the Genocide Convention".

"We underscore that the Court's judgment is binding upon Myanmar and call on Myanmar to comply fully with its obligations under international law, including the Court's decision," they said in a joint statement.

Saudi strikes on vehicles in Yemen left 25 dead or missing

■ **The Iran-backed fighters, who control swathes of Yemen, are battling a Saudi-led coalition that supports Yemen's internationally recognised government.**

Web Desk

Yemen

Houthi-affiliated news agency Saba said Tuesday that a Saudi strike on buses and trucks had left 25 people dead or missing in Yemen's southwest.

The Iran-backed fighters, who control swathes of Yemen, are battling a Saudi-led coalition that supports Yemen's internationally recognised government.

"The toll from the Saudi enemy planes' targeting of buses and trucks in Wadi Mabaq, Lahj Governorate, has risen to 25 martyrs or missing, and six wounded," reported the Houthi-run Saba news agency, adding that the continued presence of Saudi aircraft over the area was hindering rescue efforts.



On Monday, the Houthi's military spokesperson Yahya Saree had reported the attack -- without providing casualty figures -- and vowed it would not go "unanswered."

Separate strikes on Monday killed 17 people and destroyed several buildings in the neighbouring coast province of Hodeida, the Houthis' telecommunications ministry said.

Yemen, which has been embroiled in more than a decade of civil war, was sucked into the wider US-Iran conflict in July when a truce between the Houthis and the Saudi-backed government unravelled.

Since then, the fighting has left more than 1,600 people dead and over 300,000 displaced in the country, the poorest on the Arabian Peninsula, according to the latest UN toll.

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Provinces denied Rs1.8tr profits

The federal government did not transfer Rs1.8 trillion in profits of four oil and gas sector companies to the provinces in breach of the Constitution, and also promoted two out of every three Grade-22 officers from Punjab, revealed proceedings of a Senate panel working to enforce the Constitution.

Out of the 53 bureaucrats holding the highest Grade-22, as many as 35 belonged to Punjab, 10 to Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa (K-P), only six to Sindh, and one each from



Balochistan and Gilgit-Baltistan (G-B), revealed details shared by the Establishment Division on Monday.

The two glaring findings that the federal government shared with the subcommittee of the Senate Functional Committee on Devolution pointed towards deprivations that caused resentment among the smaller federating units against the Centre. PPP Senator Zamir Hussain Ghumro chaired the meeting to review the implementation of constitutional Article 172(3), which deals with equal ownership of the oil and gas sector, and Article 38(g), which ensures the due share of the provinces in federal government jobs.

Since 2011, only four companies - Pakistan Petroleum Limited (PPL), Oil and Gas Development Company (OGDCL), Mari Petroleum and Pakistan Oil Fields Limited (POL) - earned Rs3.6 trillion in profits after the 18th amendment, and not a single penny has been paid to the provinces against their Rs1.8 trillion share, said Ghumro. According to these details, the federal government did not transfer half of the shares, which came to Rs978 billion in the case of OGDCL, Rs462 billion of PPL, Rs225 billion of Mari and Rs144 billion of POL.

Article 172(3) ensures joint and equal ownership and sharing of resources, which has not been implemented in letter and spirit, said the chairman, while emphasising that the provinces are constitutionally entitled to an equal share in revenues generated from oil and gas resources produced within their territories. Expressing serious concern over the non-implementation of Article 172(3), Senator Ghumro termed the situation a violation of the Constitution and stated that the continued deprivation of provinces of their legitimate financial share is unacceptable.

The continued revelations made in various meetings of the committee highlight the reasons fuelling resentment among provinces like Balochistan and Sindh and also show the dominance of Punjab-origin bureaucrats in the federal government. The federal government has also spent Rs8.5 trillion on provincial matters since 2011, including Rs3.5 trillion on the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP), despite these matters relating to provinces.

Ghumro directed the Petroleum Division to share a framework for transferring half of the total profits of the oil and gas sector companies with the provinces. The total amount may exceed Rs6 trillion when the details of other companies are received, said the chairman of the committee. He directed the Petroleum Division to place the framework before the federal cabinet for approval on an urgent basis and share the relevant summary with the subcommittee. He warned that failure to comply with constitutional requirements could lead to referral of the matter to the auditing authorities of Pakistan for further examination.

"All the chief ministers of the provinces and the federal ministers for finance and petroleum shall be called in the meeting if the matter remains unresolved," according to the decision by the subcommittee.

The committee asked the Auditor General to comply with Article 172(3) while auditing the profits of the oil and gas corporations.

The Establishment Division shared details of provincial shares in federal government jobs, which showed that Punjab and K-P had higher than constitutional shares at the expense of Sindh and Balochistan.

Article 38(g) of the Constitution states: "Ensure that the shares of the provinces in all federal services, including autonomous bodies and corporations established by, or under the control of, the federal government shall be secured and any omission in the allocation of the shares of the provinces in the past shall be rectified."

According to the formula, in the case of direct recruitment, 7.5% of positions will be filled on merit. As much as 50% will be the share of Punjab, including Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT), 19% for Sindh, 11.5% for K-P, 6% for Balochistan, 1% for G-B, 3% for erstwhile Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) and 2% for Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK).

PAF Leading the Revival of Pakistan's Squash Glory



By: Izmi Herlani



The skies of Pakistan are not merely an expanse of airspace; they are the embodiment of our sovereignty, the symbol of our freedom and the very expression of our national honour. Guarding this sacred trust stands Pakistan Air Force, ever vigilant, ever ready and unwavering in its resolve to defend the motherland. Forged in the spirit of courage and sacrifice, PAF's legacy is written in moments of extraordinary valour, where the defence of the nation has always stood above everything else. Its commitment, however, does not end at the edge of the skies. For an institution that has always believed in serving Pakistan beyond the call of duty, nation-building remains an equally compelling mission. Whether through education, human development, institutional excellence or the promotion of sports, PAF continues to invest in the nation's greatest asset — its people. It recognises that a strong nation is built not only by safeguarding its borders but also by nurturing its talent, empowering its youth and creating opportunities for future generations to excel. It is this broader vision of national service that has brought PAF to the forefront of efforts to revive one of Pakistan's most cherished sporting legacies — Squash, a sport that once placed the country's name at the pinnacle of the sporting world and now awaits a new generation of champions to reclaim that glory.For Pakistan, Squash is much more than a sport; it is a legacy of extraordinary talent, unmatched determination and international glory. For decades, Pakistani players dominated the global squash arena, producing champions whose names became synonymous with excellence. From Hashim Khan and Roshan Khan to the legendary Jahangir Khan and Jansher Khan, Pakistan commanded respect on the world's most prestigious courts. Their achievements were not merely individual triumphs; they were a source of national pride and a powerful expression of Pakistan's sporting identity. Today, as the country seeks to reclaim that lost distinction, Pakistan Air Force has emerged as a driving force behind the revival of this once-dominant sport.The decline of Pakistan squash over the years has been a matter of national concern. Yet, the potential has never disappeared. Young Pakistanis continue to possess the natural ability, passion and competitive spirit required to excel. What they need is an enabling environment, professional guidance, quality facilities and, above all, institutional commitment. This is precisely where PAF has stepped forward, transforming the challenge of revival into a focused and purposeful national endeavour. Under the dynamic patronage of Air Chief Marshal Zaheer Ahmed Baber Sidhu, Pakistan Air Force has reinvigorated its commitment to the promotion of squash. Recognising that restoring Pakistan's international standing requires more than occasional tournaments or short-term interventions, the Air Chief has championed a sustained approach centred on talent identification, grassroots development, modern infrastructure and meaningful international exposure. His patronage has provided fresh momentum to the sport, reinforcing the belief that Pakistan can once again produce champions capable of competing and winning at the highest level.PAF's contribution, however, extends far beyond providing organisational or financial support. It is about creating an ecosystem in which talent can be identified early, nurtured systematically and developed into international-standard athletes. Through its association with the Pakistan Squash Federation, PAF is helping strengthen the institutional foundations of the sport, while providing young players access to professional facilities, structured training and competitive opportunities. The emphasis is firmly on building a sustainable pipeline of talent rather than relying solely on established names or past achievements. The Mushaf Squash Complex in Islamabad stands as a prominent symbol of this commitment. More than a sporting facility, it has become a focal point for national and international squash activities, offering an environment conducive to training, competition and the development of future champions. Its growing role in hosting prestigious international events is helping restore Pakistan's visibility on the global squash calendar while giving local players an opportunity to test their skills against world-class opposition on home ground.The recently concluded 23rd Asian Team Squash Championship-2026, held at Mushaf Squash Complex from 03 to 07 November under the patronage of Pakistan Air Force, provided a significant demonstration of this renewed momentum. Bringing together leading men's and women's teams from across Asia, the championship offered an excellent platform for international sporting engagement. More importantly, Pakistan's triumph in the men's team event, defeating Korea 2-0 in the final, marked a memorable milestone. The victory saw Pakistan reclaim the prestigious Asian men's team title after a decade, sending a powerful message that the country's squash resurgence is gathering pace. While Hong Kong China secured the women's title, the championship as a whole reflected Pakistan's growing capacity to organise high-calibre international sporting events. This achievement should be viewed not as an isolated success but as an encouraging outcome of sustained institutional support and a renewed national focus. It demonstrated that when young athletes are provided with the right facilities, competitive exposure and professional backing, they can rise to the occasion and deliver results. The triumph also offered a timely reminder that Pakistan's historic squash pedigree remains a valuable foundation upon which a new generation of champions can be built.Building on this momentum, the CAS International Squash Championship-2026 has commenced at Mushaf Squash Complex, Islamabad, from 24 to 28 November. Featuring 24 players from eight countries, including 16 international competitors and eight Pakistani players, the championship will further strengthen Pakistan's engagement with the international squash community. Participation from Egypt, Malaysia, France, Switzerland, Canada, Belgium and Hong Kong China will provide an important competitive dimension. For Pakistani players, competing against international opponents at home represents an invaluable opportunity to assess their capabilities, gain experience and raise their performance standards. Such championships serve a purpose far greater than determining winners and runners-up. They expose emerging players to different playing styles, international standards and the psychological demands of high-pressure competition. They also create opportunities for coaches, officials and administrators to exchange expertise and strengthen professional linkages. Most importantly, they inspire aspiring youngsters who can see international squash unfolding in their own country and begin to believe that the same stage is within their reach.The Air Chief's patronage is particularly significant because the revival of a sport requires vision, consistency and the willingness to invest in the future. By placing institutional weight behind squash development, he has helped create an environment in which young talent receives attention and opportunities that might otherwise remain beyond reach. This commitment also reinforces PAF's longstanding philosophy of promoting excellence, discipline and healthy competition, values that are deeply embedded in the institution's own professional culture. Pakistan once ruled the squash world. There is no reason why it cannot aspire to do so again. The journey may demand patience, perseverance and sustained investment, but the foundations of revival are increasingly visible. The Asian team triumph has rekindled hope, while the ongoing CAS International Squash Championship offers another opportunity to consolidate progress.Ultimately, the true measure of this revival will not be the trophies lifted today but the champions we inspire and produce tomorrow. Every young player who steps onto the court with a dream, every emerging talent given an opportunity to rise and every victory that rekindles the nation's pride will bring Pakistan a step closer to reclaiming its lost glory. Through the dedicated efforts of Pakistan Air Force and Pakistan Squash Federation, squash is once again finding its purpose, momentum and place in the national sporting landscape. The ambition is far greater than winning championships; it is about igniting a passion in the next generation, transforming raw talent into world-class champions and restoring Pakistan's rightful standing in international squash. The dream is to see our green flag rise once again on the world's highest squash podiums, as it did in the golden years of Pakistan's dominance. For Pakistan, squash is not simply a glorious chapter of the past; it is a legacy that beckons a new generation to rise, a national pride waiting to be rekindled and a glory that must be reclaimed.



Dr. Ghulam Nabi Fai

From Hormuz to Kashmir: The Case for Courageous Diplomacy

The world breathed a collective sigh of relief when a potentially catastrophic confrontation in the Gulf was paused at the eleventh hour. Hundreds of millions across Iran and neighboring states were spared the horrors of imminent conflict, and billions of dollars' worth of infrastructure and human livelihood were saved—at least for now—by a two-week ceasefire between the United States and Iran. Announced just minutes before the deadline on April 7, President Donald J. Trump's decision to suspend military action—following consultations with Pakistan's leadership and conditional upon the safe reopening of the Strait of Hormuz—demonstrated a critical truth: even at the brink of war, diplomacy can prevail over destruction. President Trump mentioned on Truth Social "Based on conversations with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Field Marshal Asim Munir, of Pakistan, and wherein they requested that I hold off the destructive force being sent tonight to Iran, and subject to the Islamic Republic of Iran agreeing to the COMPLETE, IMMEDIATE, and SAFE OPENING of the Strait of Hormuz, I agree to suspend the bombing and attack of Iran for a period of two weeks."This moment offers a lesson that extends far beyond the Gulf. It underscores a principle too often ignored in global conflicts—that enduring solutions are not forged through military might, but through meaningful negotiation. Nowhere is this lesson more urgently needed than in Kashmir. For nearly eight decades, the Kashmir dispute has remained one of the most dangerous unresolved conflicts in the world. It is not merely a territorial disagreement; it is a persistent flashpoint between two nuclear-armed states—India and Pakistan—whose tensions have repeatedly brought South Asia to the edge of catastrophe.Despite its gravity, Kashmir has largely been relegated to the margins of international diplomacy. This neglect stands in stark contrast to earlier periods when global leaders recognized its urgency. In 1996, Senator Jesse Helms, then Chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, advocated for American mediation on Kashmir with the same determination that had been applied to peace efforts in the Middle East. That sense of urgency appears to have faded, even as the risks have grown.

President Trump himself acknowledged the explosive potential of the Kashmir conflict. As early as 2016, he offered to mediate between India and Pakistan—a proposal he reiterated multiple times. Following heightened tensions in 2025 that brought both countries dangerously close to nuclear confrontation, the diplomatic engagement of President Trump helped secure a ceasefire on May 10, 2025. That moment could have been a turning point. Calls were made for structured dialogue, including a proposal by Marco Rubio, Secretary of State for the National Security Advisors of both countries to meet at a neutral venue to discuss all issues. Yet, in the months that followed, no meaningful progress materialized. The opportunity for sustained engagement slipped away, leaving the underlying conflict unresolved.

The international community once spoke with clarity on Kashmir. United Nations Security Council Resolution 47, adopted on April 21, 1948, established that the future of the territory should be determined through a free and impartial plebiscite under UN auspices.



Karachi, 24 November 2026 — Sindh Governor Syed Muhammad Nehal Hashmi presents a souvenir to Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan, who attended the FoodAg Pakistan 2026 inaugural ceremony and gala dinner as Chief Guest at Governor House, Karachi.

Petroleum dealers threaten nationwide shutdown over fuel pricing mechanism

■ **Dealers said that daily adjustments in petroleum prices were putting increasing financial pressure on petrol pump owners**

Special Correspondent

ISLAMABAD

The Pakistan Petroleum Dealers Association (PPDA) has threatened to shut petrol pumps nationwide if the government fails to introduce a 30-day petroleum pricing mechanism, warning that frequent price revisions are depleting dealers' working capital.

Addressing a joint press conference at the Karachi Press Club on Monday, association representatives gave the government 15 days to resolve the issue.

They said daily adjustments in petroleum prices were putting increasing financial pressure on petrol pump owners, warning that a depletion of working capital could disrupt fuel supplies and potentially trigger a law-and-order situation.



The association demanded an immediate increase in dealers' profit margins to 8% and claimed that refineries had reduced petrol and diesel supplies, with one refinery reportedly suspending diesel supplies altogether.

The representatives said petroleum dealers collectively contribute Rs5.74 billion to the national exchequer daily, adding that the government had previously promised to increase their margins and should fulfil its commitment.

PPDA Chairperson Malik Khuda Bakhsh said frequent petroleum price adjustments had become unbearable for dealers, warning that continued financial strain could force petrol pumps to close.

He urged the government to introduce a 30-day pricing cycle, arguing that refineries and oil marketing companies already operate under such a mechanism and dealers should also be given the same facility.

Bakhsh said the association supported the government's digitalisation and deregulation initiatives and was willing to cooperate with the proposed reforms. However, he stressed that dealers must be consulted before petroleum prices are deregulated.

He also called for the PPDA to be included in the petroleum policymaking process, recalling that an earlier meeting with the petroleum minister had resulted in an understanding that dealers would be consulted during policy formulation.

State Bank finalizes guidelines for AI use in financial services sector

■ **He said that after the approval of the guidelines, these will be implemented without any delay.**

Business Reporter

KARACHI



State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) Deputy Governor Salimullah has said that the State Bank is finalizing guidelines aimed at ensuring the responsible use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the financial services sector,

Talking with the media on Tuesday, Deputy Governor Salimullah said that artificial Intelligence (AI) is the best way to provide better banking facilities to consumers.

Salimullah said that the State Bank of Pakistan finalized all the guidelines regarding artificial intelligence. He said measures were also finalized to tackle any situation that may occur during the use of artificial intelligence.

He said that after the approval of the guidelines, these will be implemented without any delay.

The Deputy Governor of the SBP said that these guidelines are designed to foster trust, transparency, and accountability in AI-driven financial services, while safeguarding consumer rights and interests.

Share prices surge at Pakistan Stock Exchange

■ **Trading volume was recorded at 14,037,327 shares, indicating continued activity in the market.**

Staff Reporter

KARACHI



Buying interest was observed at the Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX), with the benchmark KSE-100 Index gaining over 1,200 points during the opening minutes of trading on Tuesday as petroleum prices continued to slide, which boosted investors' optimism,

At 10:20 am, the index was hovering at 178,749.89 points, up 1,276.04 points or 0.71%. During the trading session, the index touched an intraday high of 179,077.52 points, while its lowest level stood at 178,630.64 points.

Trading volume was recorded at 14,037,327 shares, indicating continued activity in the market.

Key sectors saw buying, including automobile assemblers, commercial banks, fertilizer, oil and gas exploration companies, OMCs and power generation. Index-heavy stocks, including HUBCO, ARL, MARI, OGDC, PPL, POL, HBL, MEBL, MCB and UBL, traded in the green.

Pakistan Stock Exchange witnessed a mixed and largely range-bound session, as selective buying in some sectors supported the benchmark while declines across several other indices, negative market breadth and lower ready-market turnover reflected continued investor caution.

The benchmark KSE-100 Index edged up by 91.29 points, or 0.05%, to close at 177,473.86 points.



Stocks climb as Huang's stunning return to Nvidia lifts optimism

Business Reporter

ISLAMABAD

Shares in AI chip behemoth Nvidia rocketed 30 percent higher after the shock reinstatement of its CEO Jensen Huang, which sparked a recovery across markets after a technology-led rout last week.

Major indices dived between seven and 10 percent last week but investors were galvanised on the news of Huang's return, less than two weeks after he resigned over an alleged Chinese spy scandal and an affair with an employee. "Jensen Huang is the AI comeback kid," said Susannah Streeter, chief investment strategist at Wealth Club. But "that doesn't mean the volatility is over", she said. "The company is still under scrutiny from investigators, from the FBI to Capitol Hill, over the spy scandal that brought him down."

"We've had the Fed put, the Trump put, now we have the Jensen put to backstop the market when sell-offs get brutal," commented Kathleen Brooks, research director at XTB, adding that "Nvidia's directors cannot see a future for the company without him".

Crude oil prices drop to three-month low

■ **Better supply has weighed on prices, though analysts ?said the market remained fragile.**

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD

Crude oil prices eased on Tuesday, hovering near a three-month low amid concerns over rising crude supply and a potential market surplus, while risk to shipping through the Strait of Hormuz persisted.

Brent crude futures fell 40 cents, or 0.45%, to $88.97 a barrel after posting their lowest close since August 31 on Monday.

US West Texas Intermediate crude futures slipped 23 cents, or 0.29%, to $79.94 a barrel, after hitting their lowest level since August 26 earlier in the session. Prices drew support from shipping risk in the Strait of Hormuz. ?Iran's Revolutionary Guards navy said three "violating" oil tankers caught fire after hitting naval mines in the strait on Monday, Iran's Press TV reported.

The United States is investigating whether Iran was involved in cyberattacks on as many as 50 energy tankers, the Wall Street Journal reported, citing US officials and others familiar with the matter.

Better supply has weighed on prices, though analysts said the market remained fragile.



"Despite some improvement in inventories and product availability, the ?oil market remains under severe strain," said Daniel Hynes, senior commodity strategist at ANZ, in a client note.

"Oil prices, time spreads, refining margins and investor positioning increasingly suggest the market expects conditions to normalise. Yet logistics remain constrained, and inventory buffers are thin. The oil system therefore appears to be moving from acute scarcity towards persistent vulnerability, rather than returning to normal," Hynes said.

Supply is also recovering in Libya. The country's Sharara oil pipeline has reopened, and oil has begun to flow into storage tanks at the Akakus facility in Zawiya, the chairperson of the National Oil Corporation told Reuters on Monday.

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Power distribution companies top corruption risk ranking among public institutions: report

■ **A government report ranks power distribution companies highest in corruption risk, followed by FBR and CDA, while no institution falls into the very high or extremely high risk category.**

Commerce Reporter

KARACHI



The federal government has released a national assessment report on corruption risks, ranking power distribution companies (DISCOs) as the institutions facing the highest corruption risks, followed by the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) in second place and the Capital Development Authority (CDA) in third.According to the report, no institution was placed in the very high or extremely high-risk category. However, power distribution companies emerged as the highest-risk institutions, with a score of 61.1, making them the only entities falling within the high-risk category.

The assessment identified 56 institutional typologies, 10 cross-cutting governance typologies and 18 regulatory typologies to evaluate corruption risks across different institutions.

The report further ranked the 10 institutions with the highest corruption risk scores. The FBR secured second position with 54.4 points, followed by the CDA in third place with 49.5 points. The Pakistan Agricultural Storage and Services Corporation (PASSCO) ranked fourth with 47.1 points, while the National Highway Authority (NHA) secured fifth position with a score of 43.4. Similarly, Pakistan Railways ranked sixth with 41.1 points, followed by the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) in seventh place with 40.1 points.

Jam Kamal invites global investors to explore Pakistan's Agri-Food potential at FoodAg 2026

■ **The ceremony was attended by Sindh Governor Syed Muhammad Nehal Hashmi, Coordinator to PM for Industry and Commerce Rana Ihsan Afzal Khan, members of parliament, foreign diplomats and business delegates as well as leadership of REAP, FPCCI, KCCI, LCCI and other trade and industrial associations and chambers.**

News Desk

ISLAMABAD

:Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan, emphasizing the country's potential as a major player in the global agri-food market, invited international investors and business communities to explore investment opportunities in Pakistan's agriculture and food sectors, particularly in processing, packaging, branding and livestock.

The Federal Commerce Minister was addressing the inaugural ceremony of the fourth edition of International Food and Agro Exhibition (FoodAg) Pakistan 2026, organized by the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) at Sindh Governor House late Monday night.

The ceremony was attended by Sindh Governor Syed Muhammad Nihal Hashmi, Coordinator to PM for Industry and Commerce Rana Ihsan Afzal Khan, members of parliament, foreign diplomats and business delegates as well as leadership of REAP, FPCCI, KCCI, LCCI and other trade and industrial associations and chambers.

The Federal Commerce Minister, at the occasion, welcomed international delegates and visitors and conveyed the special regards of the Prime Minister of



Pakistan. Highlighting Pakistan's rich agricultural heritage, the federal minister observed that the region had sustained agricultural production for nearly 4,000 years, owing to the Indus River and the ancient Indus Civilization. He noted that the global agricultural landscape was continuously evolving, with changing market dynamics, emerging ideas and new requirements shaping international trade. He emphasized the importance of incorporating global experiences, suggestions and innovations into Pakistan's trade exhibitions.Jam Kamal highlighted that FoodAg provides an important platform for connecting international buyers with Pakistani producers, particularly small-scale businesses that otherwise face difficulties in accessing international markets. He stressed that smaller businesses, including those operating in smaller cities, should have the same opportunities to connect with international buyers as businesses in major commercial centres.Emphasizing the growing importance of sustainability and regulatory compliance in international trade, he noted that global buyers increasingly require detailed information about every stage of production, while new laws and regulations were becoming essential considerations for exporters.

Australia players allegedly plotted ball-tampering in 2018 Dubai Test against Pakistan

● An investigation report alleges that then-captain Tim Paine and coach Justin Langer I ntervened to prevent players from using mints to manipulate the ball's condition

SPORTS DESK

Dubai



Fresh allegations have resurfaced over Australia's ball-tampering controversy, with a new investigation claiming that players discussed using mints to alter the ball during a 2018 Test against Pakistan in Dubai.

An investigation by sports broadcaster Gerard Whateley, published by SEN, alleges that then-captain Tim Paine and coach Justin Langer intervened to prevent players from using mints to manipulate the ball's condition during the first Test in October 2018.

According to the report, the discussion took place as Australia struggled to generate movement from the ball during Pakistan's first innings. A player allegedly asked teammates who had the mints and who would be responsible for working on the ball.

A new member of the squad reportedly reacted angrily to the suggestion, questioning whether the team was about to repeat the misconduct that had brought it under scrutiny earlier that year.

Despite the objection, a substitute fielder was allegedly sent to the dressing room to retrieve mints. Paine, however, recognised what was happening and signalled the player to return without bringing them onto the field.

Langer reportedly confronted the players after the day's proceedings, expressing his anger over the alleged plan. The investigation claims the former coach used a Baggy Green cap to demonstrate his frustration, wiping it against his backside to convey how he believed the players were damaging Australian cricket's reputation.

Following the Cape Town sandpaper scandal, Australia had reportedly prohibited players from carrying sweets onto the field. Paine had also assured support staff that ball tampering using mints would not be allowed under his captaincy.

Whateley reportedly claimed the Dubai incident was the last occasion Australian players attempted to manipulate the ball during a match.

The investigation also highlighted tensions within the Australian dressing room following the Cape Town scandal, with Mitchell Marsh reportedly confronting David Warner at the team hotel and urging him to accept responsibility rather than leave Cameron Bancroft to bear the blame.

The report suggests players were divided over whether the entire squad should take collective responsibility for the incident, exposing disagreements within the team.

The renewed allegations have brought the 2018 controversy back into the spotlight. Bancroft was caught on camera using sandpaper to alter the ball during the third Test against South Africa in Cape Town, triggering suspensions for Bancroft, Warner and then-captain Steve Smith.Bancroft has recently claimed that the entire team knew about the plan, while Usman Khawaja has also questioned the extent of players' knowledge in his memoir.

Australia's current captain Pat Cummins has repeatedly denied knowing about the sandpaper plan, while Josh Hazlewood has defended him amid renewed scrutiny.

The latest allegations, which remain claims reported in Whateley's investigation, have reignited debate over one of Australian cricket's most damaging scandals.



Multan Sultans sign Australia's Lance Morris as direct signing for PSL 12

SPORTS DESK

Islamabad

Multan Sultans have secured Australian fast bowler Lance Morris as their direct signing for the 12th edition of the Pakistan Super League (PSL).

Morris, who has represented Australia in international cricket, brings extensive T20 experience to the squad, having previously played for the Melbourne Stars, Perth Scorchers, and Western Australia.

Expressing his excitement over the move, Lance Morris stated that he had previously thought about becoming a part of the Multan Sultans setup.

Welcoming the pacer, Multan Sultans CEO Gohar Shah hailed Morris as one of the fastest bowlers in the world, noting that his inclusion will give the franchise an ideal team combination. Shah asserted that Morris will be the quickest bowler in PSL 12.

Highlighting the franchise's player-centric approach, Shah added that Multan Sultans focus closely on every individual player and take great care of them.

He noted that while fans thoroughly enjoyed watching Nahid Rana's pace in PSL 11, they are in for a treat watching Lance Morris bowl in the upcoming season.

'Issues and disputes' put India's Olympic bid under scrutiny

■ "There is a massive governance flaw that has not been addressed," sports writer Sharda Ugra told AFP.



SPORTS DESK

India

India must urgently resolve internal disputes dogging its Olympic association to strengthen its chances of hosting the 2036 Games, experts warn, as the country's bid comes under scrutiny on Thursday.

The International Olympic Committee this month expressed disappointment over "extremely regrettable" schisms within the IOA, warning they were damaging the reputation of the Olympic movement in India.

India is among seven countries interested in hosting the 2036 Olympics alongside Germany, Hungary, Qatar, South Africa, South Korea and Turkey.

The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and other stakeholders will present their case to the IOC's Future Host Commission in Switzerland on Thursday.

India's delegation is expected to include IOA president P.T. Usha, IOC member Nita Ambani and government representatives including officials from Gujarat, the state where proposed host city Ahmedabad is located and the home state of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"There is a massive governance flaw that has not been addressed," sports writer Sharda Ugra told AFP.

"I think setting the house in order has to start -- they don't even accept that the house is a problem."

- 'Not going away' -

IOA executive council elections are scheduled for December 5 but controversy erupted after Usha was initially excluded from the contest for a second term as president, amid allegations of fraud in the nomination process.

The former sprinter, who became the first woman to lead the IOA in 2022, later entered the presidential race after being nominated by another national federation.

Usha, 62, a member of parliament's upper house, alleged that a "big fraud" had been carried out.

"Winning and losing is normal but results have to be fair," she told The Tribune newspaper.

Ugra said the problems could not be concealed by a polished presentation.

"No matter what you show in your PowerPoint presentation and in your video (to the IOC), this is not going away," she said.

The IOA faced major governance and constitutional disputes in 2022 over a failure to comply with India's sports development code. Judicial intervention was needed to overhaul its constitution and electoral framework, but similar problems have resurfaced ahead of next month's elections.

The sports ministry declined to comment.

Cricket's saliva ban to stay despite Indian captain's call to overturn rule

● ICC has no immediate plans to relax rule, which is treated in same way as any other unfair method of changing ball's condition

SPECIAL DESK

ISLAMABAD

The International Cricket Council has no plans to reverse the ban on applying saliva to shine the ball, despite India skipper Shubman Gill's call to allow the practice again. Gill said the ban should be revoked to help bowlers get reverse swing, after India's high-scoring opening Test in Wellington against New Zealand ended in a draw.

However, AFP understands that the ICC has no immediate plans to relax the rule, which is treated in the same way as any other unfair method of changing the ball's condition.



Saliva can materially alter the ball when mixed with sweets, chewing gum and mints and the practice is incredibly hard to monitor and regulate.

The ICC temporarily barred the practice of applying saliva as a precautionary measure during the pandemic in 2020 and two years later made it permanent.

The use of saliva to shine one side of the old ball and keep the other rough helps fast bowlers get the leather ball to swing late.

"I don't understand why we haven't been allowed to shine the ball yet -- we are way past Covid times," Gill said after the draw.

"There was a rule that you can't put saliva on the ball to make it shine. It's been seven-eight years and I still don't understand why they are not allowing it.

"I think this is also a big factor (in bowlers struggling to get wickets)."

Babar Azam makes history in ILT20 debut in Sharjah

■ Pakistan batting icon shines with record-breaking debut in ILT20, smashing 86 off 51 balls

SPORTS DESK

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan batting icon Babar Azam made an immediate impact on his ILT20 debut, smashing 86 off 51 balls to guide Desert Vipers to a six-wicket victory over Sharjah Warriors at Sharjah Cricket Stadium The Pakistan batter, who was signed by the Vipers for his base price of $80,000 at the Season 5 auction, was named Player of the Match after producing an innings that included 13 fours and two sixes.

His 13 boundaries set a record for the most fours in an innings in ILT20 history, with the league confirming the achievement. Babar reached the milestone in his first appearance in the UAE competition.

In the first innings, Sharjah Warriors opener Paul Walter had matched Alishan Sharafu's 2024 record of 11 fours in an innings in ILT20. However, Babar broke the record few hours later.



The atmosphere inside Sharjah Cricket Stadium also reflected his popularity. Despite playing at the home ground of Sharjah Warriors, Babar received loud support from spectators, with fans heard chanting his name during both the innings.

The two sixes were another significant part of his performance. They marked the first time Babar had cleared the boundary in 12 matches, ending a lengthy run without a maximum.

His previous six had come during the third Test of Pakistan's tour of England, played from September 9 to 13. Since then, he had accumulated 338 runs for Pakistan and his domestic side, Oil and Gas Development Company Limited Cricket Team, without hitting a six.

Babar came close to scoring a century on his ILT20 debut but fell for 86. He was dismissed by Adam Milne after mistiming a delivery, with Walter completing the catch.

Desert Vipers had plenty of work to do after Sharjah Warriors were bowled out for 166 in their 20 overs. The hosts had looked set for a competitive total, but the Vipers' bowlers pulled things back before their batters took control of the chase.

Babar completed his fifty off just 31 balls in the 10th over. He and Clarke then put on 82 runs for the third wicket, taking the Vipers close to the target. They reached 167 for four in 17.3 overs to seal the win with 15 balls to spare.

Pakistan down South Korea to keep final hopes alive

■ Hannan Shahid strikes twice in 3-2 victory at Sultan Azlan Shah Cup in Ipoh

SPORTS DESK

KARACHI

Pakistan kept their Sultan Azlan Shah Cup final hopes alive with a hard-fought 3-2 victory over South Korea on Tuesday.Hannan Shahid hit a fine brace to help his side register their third win in four matches at the tournament in Ipoh, Malaysia.

Rana Waheed Ashraf was also on target for Pakistan while Chun Semin and Lee Minhyeok scored for South Korea in an encounter that went down to the final minute.

Pakistan made an ideal start to the contest, taking the lead in the fifth minute when Rana Waheed scored a field goal to give the Abu Mahmood-led side an early advantage. South Korea failed to find an equaliser in the opening quarter as Pakistan took a 1-0 lead into the first break.Hannan doubled Pakistan's advantage in the 23rd minute with another field goal, putting Herman Kruis's side in a commanding position heading into halftime.

South Korea reduced the deficit five minutes into the third quarter when Chun scored a field goal to bring his side back into contention.

Pakistan maintained their slender advantage until the end of the third quarter, setting up a tense final 15 minutes.



Hannan struck again in the 53rd minute, restoring Pakistan's two-goal cushion with his second field goal of the match.

Pakistan suffered a setback a minute later when Sufyan Khan received a yellow card, leaving them a player short during the closing stages of the encounter.

South Korea reduced the margin once again in the 60th minute when Lee converted a penalty corner, but Pakistan held on to secure three crucial points.

All three of Pakistan's goals came from field play, while South Korea scored one field goal and one from a penalty corner. Pakistan remained ahead throughout the contest despite South Korea twice reducing the deficit to a single goal.

The victory took Pakistan's points tally to nine from four matches and kept them in contention for a place in the final of the 32nd edition of the invitational tournament.

Pakistan will face hosts Malaysia in their final round-robin fixture on Thursday with a place in the title decider at stake.

A fourth victory would take Pakistan to 12 points, although their qualification prospects could also depend on the results of other league matches.

Daily The Spokesman

Wednesday
November 25,2026



Islamabad, November 24, 2026: Federal Minister for Law and Justice Senator Azam Nazeer Tarar welcomes Mr. Omer Kerkez, President of the Court of Cassation of the Republic of Türkiye, and his delegation upon their arrival for a meeting at the Ministry of Law and Justice.

Pakistan, Turkiye agree To strengthen educational cooperation and academic linkages

■ Minister of State Wajiha Qamar met Turkish Ambassador Irfan Neziroglu and a Yasar University delegation to strengthen Pakistan-Türkiye higher education ties, research, and exchanges.

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD



Minister of State for Federal Education and Professional Training Ms. Wajiha Qamar underscored the importance of strengthening educational cooperation between Pakistan and Türkiye through institutional partnerships, academic exchanges and joint research initiatives.

She expressed these views during a meeting with Ambassador of Türkiye to Pakistan. Irfan Neziroglu, who called on her at the Ministry along with Education Counsellor Mr. Mehmet Toyran and a high-level delegation from Yasar University, Izmir,Türkiye.

Pakistan, Türkiye agree to strengthen educational cooperation, academic linkagesThe delegation comprised Prof. Dr. Aylin Güney, Vice Rector (International Relations); Prof. Dr. Yigit Kazançoglu, Vice Rector (Business); and Mr. M. Hasan Atasoy from the International Office.

During the meeting, matters pertaining to bilateral educational cooperation, student and faculty exchange programmes, joint research and institutional linkages between Pakistani and Turkish universities were discussed.

Bangladesh's parliamentary speaker arrives in Pakistan on historic visit

● Bangladesh's Speaker Hafizuddin Ahmed Bir Bikram arrives in Pakistan with a high-level delegation, marking the first visit by a Bangladeshi parliamentary speaker to the country.

SPECIAL REPORTER

ISLAMABAD



Bangladesh's Speaker Hafizuddin Ahmed Bir Bikram has arrived in Pakistan with a high-level parliamentary delegation on a visit extended at the special invitation of National Assembly Speaker Sardar Ayaz Sadiq.

Sardar Ayaz Sadiq warmly welcomed his Bangladeshi counterpart and the accompanying delegation upon their arrival. Dr Shazia Sobia Aslam Soomro, Convener of the Pakistan-Bangladesh Parliamentary Friendship Group, was also present on the occasion.

Speaking during the reception, the National Assembly speaker said the visit would mark the beginning of a new chapter in parliamentary relations between the two brotherly countries. He described the Bangladeshi speaker's visit as a historic milestone, noting that it was the first time a speaker of Bangladesh's parliament had visited Pakistan.

Ayaz Sadiq said the arrival of the Bangladeshi speaker and the high-level delegation was a matter of great pleasure. He noted that Pakistan and Bangladesh shared historical, cultural and fraternal bonds, adding that stronger parliamentary engagement would help further consolidate bilateral relations.

He said exchanges of parliamentary delegations would allow both countries to benefit from each other's legislative experiences and best practices, while high-level interactions could create new opportunities for mutual cooperation.

In response, Hafizuddin Ahmed Bir Bikram thanked Ayaz Sadiq for the warm welcome, describing his visit to Pakistan as a source of pleasure and honour. He said his arrival had also brought back fond memories of the past.



PM congratulates CDF Munir on induction into Malaysia's Hall of Fame

■ PM Shehbaz praised the Field Marshal's leadership capabilities during Marka-e-Haq and his unwavering commitment to the defense of the homeland

STAFF REPORTER

KARACHI

Syed Asim Munir on his induction into the Hall of Fame of Malaysia's National Defence Studies Centre.

In his congratulatory message, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif stated that Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir's inclusion in the Hall of Fame reflects the longstanding friendship between Pakistan and Malaysia.

He praised the Field Marshal's leadership capabilities during Marka-e-Haq and his unwavering commitment to the defense of the homeland, adding that his services in promoting peace and elevating Pakistan's stature on the global stage are highly commendable.

PM Shehbaz further remarked that this honor is also a recognition of the courage, dedication, and sacrifices of the brave soldiers and officers of Pakistan's armed forces.

He emphasized that the armed forces safeguard the country, while the nation's steadfastness and unwavering support remain its greatest strength.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif also prayed for Pakistan's continued progress, prosperity, and guidance, asking Allah Almighty to bless the collective efforts aimed at serving the country and the nation.

Oman's 56th National Day Celebrated with Grandeur in Islamabad

■ Pakistani Ministers, Diplomats and Business Leaders Attend Reception Hosted by Omani Ambassador Fahad Al Kharusi; Both Countries Reaffirm Commitment to Strengthen Bilateral Ties

MUZAFFAR AHMED BHATTI

ISLAMABAD



: Sultanate of Oman's 56th National Day was marked in Islamabad with a grand reception on 23 Nov 2026 at Serena Hotels hosted by H.E Fahad bin Sulaiman bin Khalaf Al Kharusi , the Ambassador. It was attended by a large number of Pakistani officials including ministers, parliamentarians, ambassadors, defense attaches, business community and media representatives. Chief Guest was Minister of State for National Food Security & Research, Malik Rasheed Ahmad Khan, who along with Ambassador Al Kharusi cut the celebratory cake to mark the occasion. Federal Minister for Water Resources Mr. Mian Muhammad Mueen Wattoo, Parliamentary Secretary MNA Farah Naz Akbar were also present. Ambassador in his welcome address stressed the need of safe navigation in the international waters. He emphasized maritime security is vital in maintaining the supply chains and for the welfare of the people. Minister Malik Rasheed Ahmad Khan spoke highly about the development of the Sultanate of Oman under the leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik. He said Pakistan looks this development with appreciation and is keen to foster cooperation with the neighboring country that has a strategic importance in the region. Minister recalled the high level visits from both sides and expressed hope that the momentum will be sustained to upgrade the present level of bilateral trade and economic relations. He counted the number of Pakistani workers in Oman as 366 thousand and expressed gratitude to the government of the Sultante for providing opportunities of employment to the countrymen. Ambassador Al Kharusi said:"As the 20th of November marks the auspicious occasion of the National Day of the Sultanate of Oman, it is my profound pleasure to celebrate it and commemorate this milestone year marking 55 great years of cordial diplomatic relations between both brotherly countries - Oman and Pakistan."He highlighted the deep-rooted and remarkable ties between the two nations, with tremendous potential and vast opportunities for further collaboration across trade, economy. culture and tourism."The relations between Oman and Pakistan are excellent, close, warm, brotherly, cordial and firmly rooted."The reception - organised in the colours of Oman - white, red, green - with traditional Omani hospitality, featured:National anthems of Pakistan and Oman, Cake cutting ceremony, Omani dates, coffee, cultural display, Networking of diplomats from Arab, African, Asian and European missions.Guests congratulated Ambassador Al Kharusi and the Omani people, and reaffirmed Pakistan's desire to take the brotherly partnership to new heights in trade, investment, energy and people-to-people contacts.

Kayani emphasizes devolution of power, resources to address public issues

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD



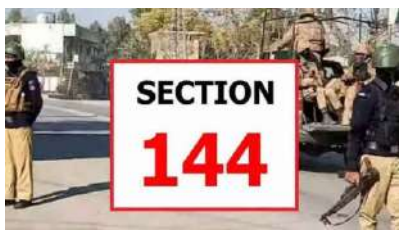
Minister of State for Finance and Railways, Bilal Azhar Kayani, on Monday emphasized the need for devolution of power and resources to bring public services closer to the people and ensure effective resolution of their problems.

Speaking to a private television channel, he said that the country's growing population had made it increasingly difficult to address public issues under the existing governance structure.

He stressed that the creation of smaller provinces would promote development of that specific region, improve administrative efficiency and help address the challenges faced by local.

Kayani described the establishment of new provinces as an important issue directly linked to public welfare and service delivery.

Section 144 imposed in Lahore for three days amid security concerns



WEB DESK

LAHORE

The Lahore district administration has imposed Section 144 across the city for three days in view of the prevailing law and order situation, prohibiting public gatherings, rallies, demonstrations and protests from November 24 to 26.

Deputy Commissioner Lahore Captain (retd) Muhammad Ali Ijaz issued the orders for the enforcement of Section 144, under which gatherings of five or more people at public places have been prohibited. The restrictions also ban public meetings, processions, rallies, sit-ins and demonstrations across the city.

According to the official notification, the decision was taken in light of reports from law enforcement agencies and intelligence agencies, which highlighted potential threats from terrorist organisations and hostile intelligence agencies. The notification stated that public meetings, processions, rallies, sit-ins and other gatherings could become potential targets of terrorist activities. It further noted that the possibility of an untoward incident or terrorist attack during public gatherings could not be ruled out.

The district administration said certain elements could carry out activities that might disrupt public order, while also posing risks to human lives, public property and important installations.

Under the deputy commissioner's orders, gatherings of five or more people have been prohibited on roads, highways.

Constitutional procedure must be followed for creation of new provinces: PA speaker

■ Speaker Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan stressed following Article 239 to create new provinces, stating a referendum cannot replace assembly approval.

Staff Reporter

LAHORE



Speaker of the Punjab Assembly Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan has declared that a clear constitutional mechanism exists for creating new provinces, emphasizing that passing a resolution by a two-thirds majority in the relevant provincial assembly is an imperative legal requirement that cannot be bypassed by a referendum.

Highlighting the role of youth, Speaker Malik Muhammad Ahmad Khan noted that student unions serve as a vital medium for fostering leadership among young people. He added that universities can utilize student unions to train a generation capable of assuming leadership roles across various fields, reinforcing that open debate on governance models and administrative restructuring is a healthy practice. Regarding the creation of new provinces, he outlined the framework provided in the Constitution of Pakistan.

Under Article 239, Clauses 1 and 2, any constitutional amendment requires a two-thirds majority in Parliament. Furthermore, Clause 4 explicitly mandates that altering the boundaries of any province requires a two-thirds majority vote from the concerned provincial assembly.

"Approving the division of Punjab by a two-thirds majority in the Punjab Assembly is a strict constitutional requirement," the Speaker affirmed, adding that while public referendums hold democratic weight, a referendum cannot act as a substitute for the mechanism outlined under Article 239(4).

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