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Islamabad, Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif meets the newly arrived Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, H.E. Dr. Rajeh Tami Albugamy, who called on him at the Prime Minister's House.

## PM Shehbaz vows to safeguard Saudi sovereignty, security

■ PM Shehbaz Sharif reaffirms Pakistan's support for Saudi Arabia's security and territorial integrity, condemns Houthi attacks and pledges stronger bilateral cooperation.

STAFF REPORTER
ISLAMABAD

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Friday appreciating the remarkable progress in Pakistan-Saudi Arabia relations in recent years, reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to further strengthening existing institutional mechanisms to deepen and broaden bilateral cooperation across various sectors.The prime minister, in a meeting with newly appointed Saudi Ambassador Dr. Rajeh Tami Albugamy, who called on him here, reaffirmed that Pakistan stood shoulder to shoulder with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in safeguarding its sovereignty, security and territorial integrity.

He strongly condemned the recent escalation in Houthi attacks against Saudi Arabia, which had resulted in the loss of precious lives and injuries to scores of innocent people, including Pakistani nationals.

He underlined that Pakistan and Saudi Arabia had always stood by each other and that the Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement and the Makkah Joint Defence Alliance marked historic milestones in their longstanding fraternal relations and reflected their shared commitment to regional peace and security.

Welcoming the ambassador to Pakistan, the prime minister congratulated him on assuming his new responsibilities and wished him success in his diplomatic assignment.

He thanked the Saudi leadership for its longstanding economic and financial support to Pakistan.

Prime Minister Shehbaz also wished the ambassador every success in his assignment and assured him of Pakistan's full support and cooperation in further strengthening the longstanding fraternal ties between the two countries.

## Pakistan warns India of befitting response to any aggression, recalls May 2025

■ Pakistan condemns Houthi attacks on Saudi Arabia, backs its right to self-defence and warns India against mistaking restraint for weakness, citing May 2025.

Staff Reporter
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan has condemned Houthi rebel attacks on Saudi Arabia, reaffirmed its support for the Kingdom's right to self-defence and warned India against mistaking Islamabad's commitment to peace for weakness, urging New Delhi to remember the May 2025 military confrontation.

Addressing his weekly briefing for journalists in Islamabad, Foreign Office Spokesperson Sajjad Haider Khan said Houthi attacks posed a threat to regional stability. He said Pakistan, along with the R4 countries — Saudi Arabia, Türkiye and Egypt — had



condemned the attacks on Saudi Arabia, including the strike on Riyadh airport, on October 11.

According to the spokesperson, the four countries reaffirmed their solidarity with Saudi Arabia and continued support for the Kingdom's legitimate right to defend its territory and citizens.

They also called for an immediate and unconditional halt to the attacks.

Rejecting Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's threatening statement about possible military action against Pakistan, the spokesperson described his remarks as provocative.

He said Singh's statement reflected India's alleged mindset of supremacy and could pose risks to peace and stability in South Asia.

A day earlier, Singh had said that any future "act of terrorism" originating from Pakistan would invite a stronger response than before. He had also said India's commitment to peace should not be mistaken for weakness and that the country was prepared to deal with security challenges.

Responding to the statement, the Foreign Office spokesperson said Pakistan was fully prepared to protect its sovereignty and territorial integrity and would effectively respond to any aggression.

He advised India to learn from the military confrontation with Pakistan in May 2025, saying Islamabad had demonstrated its capability and determination to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity on that occasion.

Sajjad Haider Khan urged India not to mistake Pakistan's restraint and peaceful approach for weakness. He called on New Delhi to abandon its aggressive conduct and dangerous rhetoric and play a responsible role in achieving lasting peace in the region..

## Ishaq Dar orders strict monitoring of supply chains, prices



CITY REPORTER
ISLAMABAD

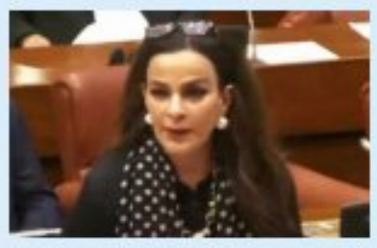
Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Mohammad Ishaq Dar on Friday chaired a meeting of the Cabinet Committee which reviewed the stock position, supply arrangements and prices of essential commodities,

The deputy prime minister was apprised that adequate stocks were available to meet domestic demand, with no shortages anticipated with the prices stabilising.

He directed all concerned to monitor supply chains and commodity prices to facilitate domestic consumers, in line with the prime minister's directives.

He stressed that strict action would be taken against hoarding, artificial shortages and overpricing of essential commodities.

Ministers for national food security and research and climate change, Special Assistant to the PM Tariq Bajwa, the Secretary, Commerce, and senior representatives from relevant federal and provincial ministries and departments attended the meeting..



## Governor's rule in KP: PPP made efforts to resolve issue through dialogue: Sherry Rehman

Staff Reporter
ISLAMABAD

In the context of emergency and governor's rule in KP, Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Senator Sherry Rehman has said her party made efforts to resolve issues through dialogue and also persuaded the government to engage in negotiations.

Speaking in the House, Senator Sherry Rehman said that the Constitution introduced by Zulfikar Ali Bhutto had kept the country united, adding that Pakistan must not be allowed to experience similar challenges again.She emphasised that terrorism remained a red line for the PPP. Rehman said the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) was behind several major incidents.



## ATC postpones verdict in Aleema Khan's November 26 protest case again

Staff Reporter
RAWALPINDI

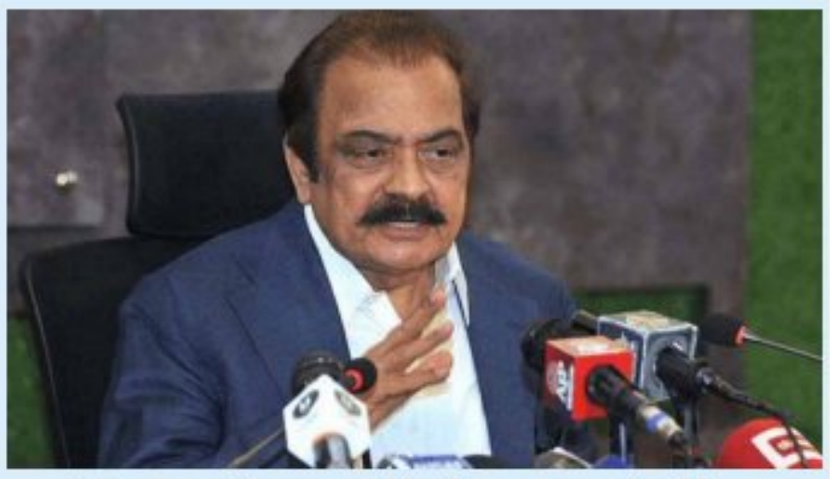
The Anti-Terrorism Court (ATC) in Rawalpindi has once again postponed its reserved verdict in the case registered against Aleema Khan over the November 26 protest, fixing October 26 as the new date for the decision.

During the proceedings, the court deferred the announcement of the verdict without further proceedings.

Aleema Khan's lawyer, Faisal Malik, appeared before the court.

The court had previously reserved its verdict on September 22. The decision has now been postponed for the fourth time.

The verdict was reserved by ATC Judge Amjad Ali Shah.



## Rana Sanaullah says talks with PTI possible if it adopts constitutional, legal approach

NEWS DESK
ISLAMABAD

Prime Minister's Adviser on Political Affairs Rana Sanaullah has said the government may consider negotiations with Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) if the party agrees to play a constructive role within constitutional and legal parameters.

Speaking on a private television programme, Rana Sanaullah said the opposition's approach was causing harm to the party itself. He said that during Imran Khan's tenure as prime minister, he had not even contacted the opposition leader by telephone, whereas Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif shook hands and spoke with the opposition leader when he arrived in the National Assembly.

Rana Sanaullah expresses regret over detention of Imran Khan's sisters

Rana Sanaullah expressed regret over the detention of Imran Khan's sisters, saying the government was also saddened by the situation. However, he said everyone knew what they had been saying regarding the long march.

He alleged that Imran Khan's sisters had made statements about storming the Governor House, adding that their detention had become necessary to maintain control of the situation.

The prime minister's adviser said the nature of statements made by PTI's social media network was also well known. He maintained that if the party had agreed to play its role through constitutional and legal means, there would have been no need for an interim arrangement. However, he said the possibility of reconsidering the matter remained open.Rana Sanaullah warns of security threats

## PTI asks PHC to form larger bench for swift hearing against Governor's rule

■ Party chairman Barrister Gohar says there are no grounds for imposing governor's rule or an emergency: Calls for release of three detained MNAs: Urges to compensate bereaved families of Peshawar school tragedy

STAFF REPORTER
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) has asked the Peshawar High Court to form a larger bench and deliver an early decision in a case challenging the imposition of the Governor's rule and a state of emergency in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa,

Speaking to journalists at Parliament House in Islamabad on Friday, PTI chairman Barrister Gohar Ali Khan said there were no grounds for imposing governor's rule or declaring an emergency. He urged the high court to form a larger bench to examine the matter and issue a decision without delay.

Responding to questions from journalists, Gohar said production orders had been issued for three




members of the National Assembly. He called for the orders authorising their detention to be withdrawn and for the lawmakers to be brought back.

Criticising the government's actions, he said the members of the National Assembly should not have been arrested in the first place.

In response to another question, the PTI chairman stressed the need for reforms in schools, colleges, universities and hospitals. He expressed deep sorrow over the deaths and injuries of children, saying the families of those killed should receive fair compensation.

Gohar also called for immediate measures to ensure proper medical treatment for the injured children. He said he had yet to receive any information about the arrangements being made for their care. He emphasised the need for urgent action to support the injured children and provide relief to their families.

It is worth mentioning here that two days ago, on October 14, Barrister Gohar challenged the imposition of an emergency and governor's rule in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) in the Peshawar High Court.

The petition was filed through Advocate Ali Zaman, contesting the measures introduced following the imposition of an emergency in the province.

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# SHC dismisses plea against suspension of Tando Jam University finance director

SPECIAL REPORTER
KARACHI



The Sindh High Court (SHC) has dismissed a petition challenging the suspension and the issuance of a show-cause notice to the Director of Finance at the Agriculture University, Tando Jam, declaring it non-maintainable,
The court on Friday ruled in its verdict that suspension during an inquiry is an interim and precautionary measure.
The court observed that the purpose of a show-cause notice is to provide an officer the opportunity to present their stance before a final decision is reached.
Constitutional jurisdiction is discretionary, and generally, the court does not intervene in ongoing proceedings at the stage of a show-cause notice, the court stated.
The Chief Minister of Sindh, as the appointing and competent authority under the law, possesses the mandate to initiate proceedings in accordance with the rules, the court remarked.
The directed that the competent authority should objectively review the inquiry report and the petitioner's response, and subsequently issue a clear order in accordance with the law.
The petitioner retains the right to seek legal recourse against any final adverse order, the court added.
Advocate Saulat Rizvi appeared in court on behalf of the university.
The petitioner, Fida Shah, alleged that he was targeted due to his objections regarding illegal payments amounting to Rs70 million authorized by the Vice-Chancellor.




Following a slightly change the weather, a vendor displays desi eggs in the basket of his bicycle by the roadside to attract customers in the provincial capital.

# Security forces bust terror network linked with Fitna al-Hindustan: CM aide

- Additional Chief Secretary says Shohab Rasheed, once part of BLA after getting online training from their network, surrenders to forces, another terrorist Niazullah Jatoi held from Quetta

SPECIAL REPORTER
QUETTA



Security forces have achieved significant successes against terrorist networks operating in Balochistan, with the assistance of Shahab Rashid, who reportedly surrendered to the authorities after becoming involved with a terrorist network linked to the Balochistan Liberation Army (BLA), officials said. According to a report by 24NewsHD TV Channel, the development came to light during a press conference addressed by Shahid Rind, Assistant to the Chief Minister of Balochistan for Media, and the Additional Chief Secretary Home.During the press conference in Quetta, Shahid Rind said that an intelligence-based operation had exposed a terrorist network allegedly linked to what the authorities described as 'Fitna-al-Hind'. The operation revealed details about the online radicalization and recruitment of individuals by a terrorist organization, as well as the network's alleged facilitation activities.According to the officials, the investigation established that Shahab Rashid had been radicalized through online contacts and subsequently recruited by a terrorist organization. The officials said that the case highlighted the role of online platforms in establishing links with individuals, influencing them and involving them in activities associated with terrorist networks.The officials further stated that Shahab Rashid had established online contact with 'Fitna-al-Hindustan' in 2021 and subsequently provided facilitation to the network. However, after becoming involved with the organization, he reportedly realized his mistake and surrendered to the authorities.The surrender and subsequent disclosures by Shahab Rashid helped investigators uncover further information about the network's alleged activities in Balochistan. Officials said that his assistance proved significant in identifying elements involved in facilitating terrorist activities and tracing the supply of weapons and ammunition intended for acts of terrorism.Arms Supply Network UncoveredThe officials disclosed that the investigation had also led to the exposure of a network allegedly involved in supplying arms and ammunition for terrorist activities. The discovery is being viewed by the authorities as an important development in efforts to identify not only individuals directly involved in terrorist operations but also those allegedly providing logistical support and material assistance.The supply of weapons and ammunition is a key concern for law enforcement agencies investigating terrorist networks, as such resources can facilitate attacks and sustain the operational capabilities of armed groups. According to the officials, information obtained with Shahab Rashid's assistance helped uncover elements associated with this alleged supply network.

# Naseerabad Completes 78 Development Projects Ahead of Schedule

- Projects under Phase I and II of the Balochistan Special Development Initiative aim to improve infrastructure, provide basic amenities and promote public welfare.

SPECIAL REPORTER
Naseerabad / Balochistan



A total of 78 development projects were approved in Naseerabad district under Phase I and Phase II of the Balochistan Special Development Initiative (BSDI), all of which were completed before the stipulated time. These projects were launched for public welfare, provision of basic amenities and improvement of infrastructure. The District Coordination Committee played a key role in monitoring these projects, which included FC Balochistan (North), civil administration and elected representatives. The completion of these projects has directly provided facilities to the local population, while paving the way for development, prosperity and improvement in the standard of living in Naseerabad district.

# FBR amends income tax dispute rules

- The Federal Board of Revenue has issued a notification vide SRO 1827(I)/ 2026 amending Rule 231C of the Income Tax Rules 2002.

SPECIAL REPORTER
ISLAMABAD




The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) on Friday amended the rules governing the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanism for income tax disputes, reported 24NewsHD TV channel.
The Federal Board of Revenue has issued a notification vide SRO 1827(I)/2026 amending Rule 231C of the Income Tax Rules 2002.
Under the revised Rule 231C, the FBR has specified the fees payable to committee chairpersons and members based on the amount involved in a tax dispute, while also establishing requirements for handling conflicts of interest and returning advance payments.
According to the new FBR notification, an aggrieved taxpayer seeking resolution of an income tax dispute must submit a written application to the Board to initiate the process.
The application must include the taxpayer representative's name, Computerised National Identity Card (CNIC) number, phone number, residential or business address, and email address.
The amended procedure also requires the taxpayer's representative to propose the names of three retired judges for consideration for the dispute resolution committee.
The revised rules establish separate remuneration rates for committee chairpersons and members, depending on the amount involved in the tax dispute.
For disputes involving amounts of up to Rs50 million, the committee chairperson will receive Rs300,000, while each committee member will be paid Rs150,000.
For disputes exceeding Rs50 million, the chairperson's remuneration has been fixed at Rs500,000, while each member will receive Rs250,000.
The notification also provides for committee members to receive travel expenses and daily allowances equivalent to those admissible to government officers in Grade 21 and Grade 22.
The amended rules specify that committee members will not be entitled to remuneration if the committee fails to function or is dissolved.
In such circumstances, any advance payments received by the members must be returned within 15 days.
The FBR has also introduced a requirement for committee members to disclose any conflict of interest that may arise during the dispute resolution process.

# Two arrested as NCCIA raids illegal call centre in Lahore

SPECIAL REPORTER
ISLAMABAD



The National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency (NCCIA) has raided an illegal call centre in Lahore and arrested its owner and an employee over defrauding American nationals,
According to details, the illegal call center was established in Hafeez Centre and was involved in defrauding American nationals.
The owner and an employee of the call centre were identified as Irshad Ahmad Butt and Aurangzeb.
After receiving credible information, a team of NCCIA under the supervision of Additional Director Atif Amir raided the call center.
The accused presented themselves as representatives of insurance companies and obtained debt and credit card details of American nationals.
The NCCIA team also impounded the latest laptops and three mobile phones from the possession of the accused.
Important information about online fraud was obtained during the detailed examination of electronic devices,



Customers browse and purchase electronic items from vendors at a Friday bazaar.

# FIR registered after deadly school roof collapse in Peshawar

SPECIAL REPORTER
ISLAMABAD



Police have registered a case after more than 30 people including children and a female teacher, lost their lives in roof collapse of a private school in Peshawar's Dir Colony.
The case has been registered at the Agha Mir Jani Shah Police Station against the owners and building contractor. According to the FIR, the school building was allegedly constructed using substandard materials and was in a deteriorated and unsuitable condition. The report stated that complaints had previously been raised about the poor condition of the building's walls and roofs, but the school administration and owners allegedly failed to address the concerns despite complaints from students.
The FIR stated that the roofs of a nursery classroom on the school's second floor and rooms on the ground floor collapsed, causing casualties and property damage.
According to the case details, the school was built on a 16-marla plot owned by Waheed and Javed. The land was reportedly leased in 2024, after which the school building was constructed.

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# A Thesis on TRUMPOLOGY: Power, Instinct, and the Global Political Arena



OPINION by TA'ZEEM HEJAZI

Morning does not always arrive with light. At times, it arrives with a question so vast that it unsettles the architecture of thought itself. What is this phenomenon that refuses to fit within the neat compartments of political science, that bends the language of leadership, that disrupts the grammar of governance? This inquiry is not casual, nor rhetorical. It is an attempt to define, examine, and interpret a living case study in contemporary power. This is Trumpology — the study of a political method where instinct overtakes ideology, perception rivals reality, and disruption transforms into a governing principle.There exists a Divine echo older than empires and more enduring than theories: "And they plan, and Allah plans.And Allah is the best of planners." (Qur'an 8:30). Between the visible strategies of human actors and the unseen orchestration of destiny unfolds a theatre where power performs its most revealing acts. Trumpology must be situated within this theatre — not as praise, not as condemnation — but as observation of a phenomenon that belongs unmistakably to our age. It is not merely about one figure; it is about a profound shift in the very mechanics of influence.Traditional political frameworks, whether articulated in the lecture halls of Europe or the analytical traditions of South Asia, rely on ideological consistency. Leaders are expected to stand upon defined principles — liberalism, conservatism, nationalism — each offering continuity and predictability. Yet Trumpology disrupts this expectation. The method does not operate from rigid ideological anchors. Instead, it reflects fluid instinct, adaptive positioning, and situational recalibration. Decisions emerge from opportunity rather than doctrine. Contradictions are not liabilities; they are absorbed into a broader narrative of immediacy. The guiding question shifts from what is philosophically correct to what is strategically effective in the moment. This reorientation challenges the foundational assumptions of political theory and demands a new lens of analysis — one that treats leadership as behavioral strategy rather than ideological commitment.In this framework, attention becomes the central currency. Trumpology recognizes that in the modern media environment, visibility is power. Norm-breaking statements are not accidental; they are instruments designed to fracture routine discourse and command focus. Language is simplified, repeated, and reinforced until it embeds itself within collective consciousness. Opponents are not merely debated; they are transformed into characters within an ongoing narrative, a continuous theatre where conflict sustains engagement. The media, often positioned as an adversary, becomes simultaneously an amplifier, its outrage feeding the very visibility it seeks to critique. In this dynamic, the boundaries between communication, performance, and strategy dissolve, giving rise to a new form of political engagement.A Western reflection holds that falsehood travels swiftly while truth struggles to keep pace. Trumpology extends this observation into a more complex terrain. It is not merely the speed of information that matters; it is the persistence of repetition. A claim, reiterated with confidence and frequency, acquires psychological legitimacy. It occupies space in public consciousness, not because it is universally accepted, but because it is continuously encountered. In this sense, perception does not replace reality; it competes with it, challenging the traditional hierarchy where facts alone define truth.The habits underlying this method reveal a structured pattern. Communication bypasses conventional institutional filters, speaking directly to audiences in a manner that feels immediate and unmediated. Emotional resonance takes precedence over empirical detail, shaping responses that are felt before they are analyzed. The world is framed in binaries — loyalty and betrayal, strength and weakness, victory and defeat. Such framing simplifies complexity, making political engagement accessible while simultaneously intensifying polarization. This is not accidental; it is a deliberate construction of an ecosystem where belief is reinforced through emotional alignment.Critics often describe this approach as shamelessness, yet Trumpology invites a more nuanced interpretation.



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 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. This was not a symbolic gesture. The resolution was negotiated with the explicit consent of both India and Pakistan, embedding it with legal and moral weight. It laid out a framework grounded in demilitarization, neutrality, and the unimpeded expression of the will of the Kashmiri people.

Even India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, publicly affirmed this principle, stating that India would accept the outcome of such a plebiscite—even if it went against its own interests. Over time, however, this commitment has faded into diplomatic obscurity.

Dr. Syed Nazir Gilani, an eminent jurist and President, Jammu and Kashmir Council for Human Rights (JKCHR) has said that UN Security Council Resolution 47 remains a cornerstone in the international legal framework governing the Jammu and Kashmir dispute. The resolution is significant for formalizing the plebiscite machinery under international auspices. It mandated the appointment of a Plebiscite Administrator, nominated by the United Nations, who would oversee the process to ensure that the expression of the popular will was free, impartial, and unencumbered.

Dr. Gilani added that this provision transformed the Kashmir issue from a bilateral or internal matter into a question of international responsibility, embedding safeguards against manipulation. The insistence on demilitarization, neutrality of administration, and freedom from fear or pressure created a legal and procedural architecture designed to guarantee that the vote would reflect genuine consent.

The persistence of the Kashmir dispute has exacted a heavy toll—not only on the people of Kashmir but also on India and Pakistan themselves. It has fueled militarization, strained economic development, and entrenched hostility between two nations that share deep historical, cultural, and geographical ties.

For India, aspirations of global leadership are undermined by the existence of a long-standing unresolved dispute. For Pakistan, the conflict continues to remain source of uncertainty. For both, it represents a continuing source of instability and missed opportunity. History offers warnings that remain relevant today. During the UN Security Council debates in 1948, British representative Philip Noel-Baker described Kashmir as "the greatest and the gravest single issue in international affairs." Decades later, that assessment still resonates.

Trump may visit Pakistan for Iran peace dealThe question is no longer whether Kashmir requires resolution—it clearly does—but whether the international community has the will to act.

The recent de-escalation in the Gulf shows that even the most volatile crises can be managed when leaders choose restraint over escalation. It demonstrates that diplomacy, when pursued with urgency and sincerity, can avert disaster. Why should Kashmir be any different?

The path forward requires courage—political, moral, and diplomatic. It demands that global powers, including the United States, re-engage with the issue not as distant observers but as facilitators of dialogue. It calls for India and Pakistan to move beyond entrenched positions and for Kashmiri voices to be meaningfully included in any process. Peace in Kashmir is not an unattainable ideal. It is a deferred responsibility.

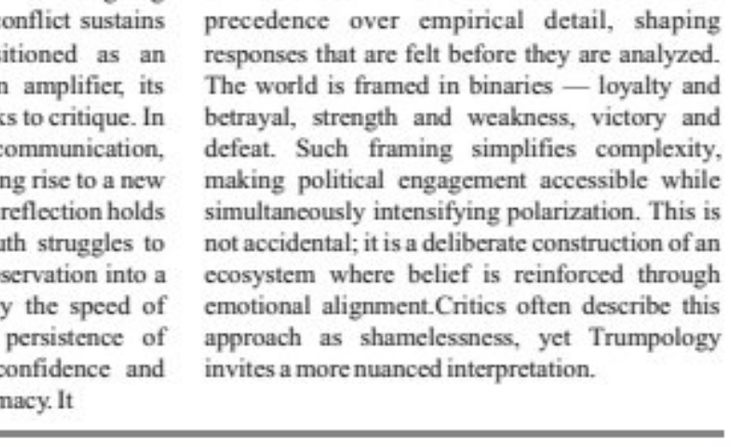


( By Fatima Tayyab Singhanvi )

## War or Peace Global Leadership Face to Face

On the horizon of global politics, there emerge moments that transcend ordinary diplomatic disagreements and instead evolve into profound collisions of civilizational narratives, ethical principles, and the mechanics of power politics. The recent Iran-related crisis has unfolded as precisely such an extraordinary episode, wherein the President of the world's most powerful nation, Donald Trump, appears firmly positioned with his characteristic assertive and confrontational strategic posture, while on the other side stands Pope Leo XIV of the Vatican, embodying a moral discourse that insists upon peace, reconciliation, and dialogue over the logic of war. This confrontation is not merely an exchange between two influential figures; rather, it reflects a deeper tension between power and morality, state interests and universal values, as well as militaristic strategy and religious ethics.

The escalating tensions surrounding Iran must be understood within a broader geo-political framework, one in which the intricate dynamics of the Middle East intersect with global power interests and ideological divisions. The United States, long accustomed to sustaining its global hegemony through both military and diplomatic instruments, continues to perceive the projection of force as an effective means of securing strategic objectives. President Trump's rhetoric is emblematic of this worldview, wherein national security, strategic dominance, and immediate results are prioritized even at the potential decay. Drawing upon the teachings of the Gospel, he articulates a vision in which the essence of religion lies in the upliftment of humanity and the cultivation of mutual harmony, rather than its instrumentalization as a tool for power. His assertion that



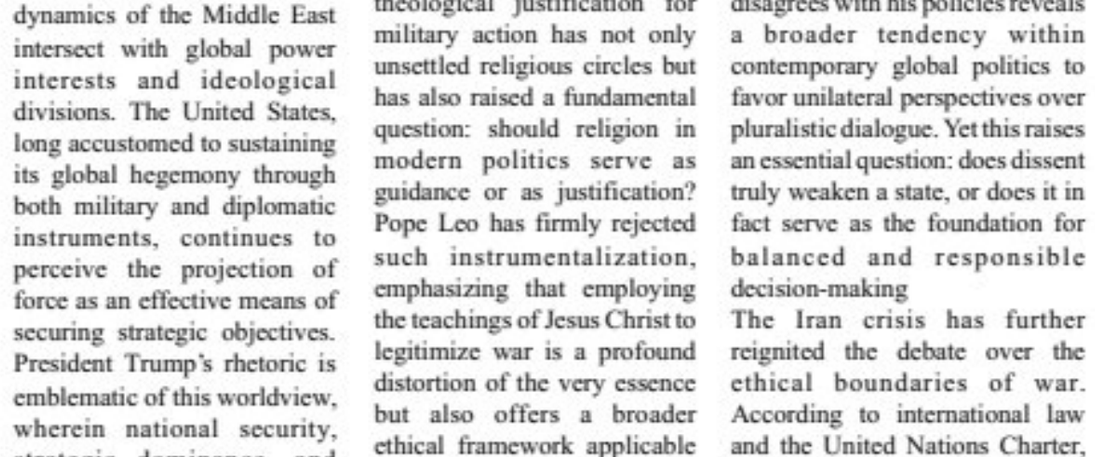
"we are not politicians, but messengers of peace" underscores the Vatican's self-perception as not merely a religious institution, but a moral authority capable of awakening the global conscience.

A particularly critical dimension of this discourse lies in the attempt to invoke religion in support of militaristic narratives. The effort by President Trump and certain associates to provide theological justification for military action has not only unsettled religious circles but has also raised a fundamental question: should religion in modern politics serve as guidance or as justification? Pope Leo has firmly rejected such instrumentalization, emphasizing that employing the teachings of Jesus Christ to legitimize war is a profound distortion of the very essence but also offers a broader ethical framework applicable across religious traditions.

of faith. This stance resonates not only within the Christian religious leadership. Historically, the Vatican has played a mediating role in several international conflicts; however, in an increasingly polarized and interest-driven global order, the effectiveness of moral voices has become a complex and contested question. Nevertheless, Pope Leo's consistent and unequivocal positioning demonstrates that ethical principles continue to retain relevance in global discourse, even if their immediate political acceptance remains limited.

On the other hand, the American leadership's criticism of the Pope, dismissing his statements as detrimental to foreign policy, reflects a mindset in which dissent is equated with weakness. President Trump's assertion that he disapproves of a Pope who disagrees with his policies reveals a broader tendency within contemporary global politics to favor unilateral perspectives over pluralistic dialogue. Yet this raises an essential question: does dissent truly weaken a state, or does it in fact serve as the foundation for balanced and responsible decision-making

The Iran crisis has further reignited the debate over the ethical boundaries of war. According to international law and the United Nations Charter, war is recognized only as a last resort; however, in practical geopolitics.



Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb with World Bank Group President Ajay Banga at a dinner hosted by the Prime Minister of Thailand on the sidelines of the World Bank Group–IMF Annual Meetings 2026 in Bangkok. The event provided an opportunity for informal interaction alongside ongoing high-level engagements at the Annual Meetings.

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# FBR extends tax returns deadline until Oct 31

■ The move is aimed at facilitating taxpayers who were unable to submit their returns within the previously stipulated deadline due to various reasons.




Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD

The Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) has extended the deadline for filing income tax returns for Tax Year 2026 by another 15 days, allowing taxpayers to submit their returns until October 31, 2026.

According to sources, the decision was made in response to requests from business organisations and tax bar associations seeking additional time for taxpayers to complete the filing process. An official notification has also been issued in this regard.

This is the second extension granted by the FBR for filing income tax returns for the current tax year. The move is aimed at facilitating taxpayers who were unable to submit their returns within the previously stipulated deadline due to various reasons.

The extension follows repeated demands from business representatives and tax professionals for additional time to complete the filing process.

The FBR has advised taxpayers to submit their income tax returns before the revised deadline of October 31 to avoid last-minute difficulties and ensure timely compliance with tax regulations.




: Federal Minister for Board of Investment Qaiser Ahmed Sheikh attends the Malaysia–Pakistan Business Engagement 2026 as Guest of Honour at the High Commission of Malaysia in Islamabad on October 16, 2026. Officials and participants present a bouquet to the minister during the event, which aims to strengthen trade, investment and business linkages between Pakistan and Malaysia.

# Euro gets much-needed reprieve as AI wobbles rock the dollar

■ The dollar headed for its first weekly decline in five weeks as AI investment concerns and falling US Treasury yields lifted the euro and weakened demand for the US currency.

Web Desk

SINGAPORE



The dollar headed for its first weekly fall in five weeks on Friday, lifting the euro from a 17-month low as wobbles in AI investment and drop in US yields put the brakes on recent gains.

AI stocks have cratered ?this week and the stress spread to parts of the credit market as investors who have crowded in ?to bets all along the AI supply chain worry that data centre operators might not manage to be profitable in time to pay their debts.

The result, so far, has been a flight to Treasuries, where the US 10-year yield is set for its largest weekly fall in more than a ?year, and to sell a dollar which has been propelled, in part, thanks to the AI boom boosting ?the economy.

Moves in the Asia morning were slight, leaving the dollar down 0.2% this week at ?158.13 yen and shedding about 0.1% to $1.1210 per euro . The reversal has come not a moment too soon for the ?common currency, which over the previous five weeks had dropped more than 3% on the dollar on jitters about France's growing debt ?pile and a winter energy squeeze.

With the market positioned long in dollars, more AI wobbles could unwind that and push the dollar down further.

"The reaction function of the dollar to a serious repricing of the AI capex boom should be unambiguously dollar bearish," said Spectra Markets president Brent Donnelly.

"If the market is pricing rising odds of peak AI capex, the USD is a sell. The entire US economy ?is a one-legged stool balanced on the AI trade."

The dollar index , which measures the US currency against six major peers, was at 102.07, ?set for ?a 0.14% drop in the week.

Sterling was steady at $1.3270 for a weekly rise of 0.3%, helped by data showing Britain's economy unexpectedly grew 0.1% in August. The New Zealand dollar looked likely to scratch out a weekly gain of 0.1% at $0.5621.

The Australian dollar was flat at $0.6921 and an outlier in heading for a fall of 0.8% on the dollar this week, after a ?surprisingly soft jobs report on ?Thursday had markets paring ?back expectations for another rise in interest rates.

# World Bank chief outlines jobs-led development agenda

■ "The future of development will depend on bringing public finance, private investment, philanthropy, and technology together around what each country needs.

Web Desk

ASHLAND




World Bank President Ajay Banga laid out a vision on Friday for how his multilateral development giant should operate, focusing primarily on creating jobs, expanding economic opportunity and connecting private capital to developing nations that need investment.

Since taking over the World Bank in 2023, the former Mastercard CEO has sketched an ambitious plan to fight poverty by addressing an estimated shortfall in the developing world of 800 million jobs.

Addressing the plenary session of the World Bank's Annual Meetings in Bangkok on Friday, Banga said the current economic climate of tightening fiscal space, rising debt and global conflicts had made the work challenging -- but not impossible.

"Those are the twin challenges we have been working to address: making scarce resources go further, while helping countries create jobs at scale. They must be addressed together," he said in prepared remarks shared with AFP.

"The future of development will depend on bringing public finance, private investment, philanthropy, and technology together around what each country needs. The partnership -- and mix -- should evolve as countries do."

Last month, the World Bank announced that it had mobilised a record $112 billion in private capital for developing countries, an increase of more than 60 percent that brought such funding almost on par with the Bank's own lending.

Rights groups and critics have argued that Banga's focus on mobilizing more private capital allows for private companies to use public finances to de-risk their investments, shifting an unfair balance of costs onto governments and the Bank while keeping the profits.

In an interview with AFP last month, Banga said the private capital should be seen as augmenting, not replacing, development financing and that it is needed to address the developing world's vast financial needs.

On Friday, he identified it as a "challenge" to increase private capital investment in low-income countries that most need developing financing.

He said the Bank's strategy to focus on micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) aimed to fill the gaps.

He also spoke of the Bank's new initiative to focus on "small AI" -- bespoke artificial intelligence-enabled applications that do not rely on the most advanced and expensive version of the technology but can provide solutions for people in the developing world.

"Practical, or 'small', AI can help a farmer improve yields, a teacher tailor instruction, a health worker make better-informed decisions, or an entrepreneur reach new customers," he said.Banga said that the Bank's development model needed to "evolve" to meet the challenges of the projected jobs gap.

# Pakistan's Ahad Cheema to chair World Bank, IMF Boards in 2027

● The Boards of Governors of the WBG and the IMF are the highest decision-making bodies of these two major international financial institutions.

NEWS DESK

ISLAMABAD



Pakistan has been nominated to chair the World Bank Group and International Monetary Fund (IMF) Boards of Governors in 2027, the Ministry of Economic Affairs said on Friday, marking the country's first such appointment since 1953,

In a statement, the ministry said "Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Governor WBG for Pakistan Ahad Khan Cheema has been formally announced as the incoming Chair of the Boards of Governors of the World Bank Group (WBG) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for 2027."

The announcement, made during the Plenary Session of the 2026 WBG-IMF Annual Meetings in Bangkok, marks a historic milestone, as Pakistan returns to the chairmanship for the first time since 1953.

"The forthcoming chairmanship provides Pakistan an important opportunity to contribute to global economic and development deliberations and facilitate constructive dialogue among member countries at a critical juncture for the multilateral system," read the statement.

The Boards of Governors of the WBG and the IMF are the highest decision-making bodies of these two major international financial institutions. They represent the member countries and determine the broad direction of the organisations.

Following the plenary, Ahad Cheema, Pakistan's Governor to the WBG, received a briefing from the WBG Corporate Secretariat on the responsibilities of the chairmanship. He also met Aradhana Kumar-Capoor, Vice President and Corporate Secretary of the WBG, to discuss institutional support and coordination during Pakistan's term.

The minister also met Carlos Carvallo Spalding, Governor of the Central Bank of Paraguay and the outgoing chair. He congratulated Spalding on the successful completion of his tenure and commended his stewardship of the chairmanship. The two exchanged views on the responsibilities of the office and priorities for the year ahead, providing an opportunity to benefit from the outgoing chair's experience and insights.

# Aurangzeb, World Bank chief discuss support to Pakistan

■ Finance Minister, OPEC Fund president take up M-6 Motorway financing:
Also meets Alibaba delegation, discusses digital economy

News Desk

ISLAMABAD



Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Mohammad Aurangzeb held a meeting with the World Bank President Ajay Banga on the sidelines of the World Bank Group-IMF Annual Meetings 2026 in Bangkok,

The meeting was held at the dinner hosted by Thailand's Prime Minister, during which Senator Aurangzeb discussed Pakistan's overall economic situation with the World Bank President.

During the meeting, Aurangzeb said that the World Bank is fully supporting Pakistan in its economic reforms.

Earlier, Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb held a series of high-level engagements with international investors, a sovereign credit rating agency, multilateral financial institutions, development partners and government counterparts on the sidelines of the IMF-World Bank Annual Meetings in Bangkok, highlighting Pakistan's macroeconomic stabilization, structural reform agenda and commitment to sustainable, export-led growth.

Aurangzeb, OPEC Fund chief discuss M-6 Motorway project

Senator Aurangzeb met with President of the OPEC Fund for International Development Dr Abdulhamid Alkhalifa on the sidelines of the World Bank Group–IMF Annual Meetings 2026 in Bangkok, Thailand, and discussed financing for key infrastructure projects, including the M-6 motorway.

During the meeting, the finance minister highlighted Pakistan's economic stabilization, progress under the IMF programme and renewed access to international capital markets.

He also appreciated the OPEC Fund's willingness to expand trade and project financing support for Pakistan.

The discussions focused on financing for the M-6 motorway project, including the approved first tranche, the pending loan agreement and subsequent tranches. The ML-1 railway modernization and power transmission infrastructure were also identified as key priorities.

Both sides emphasized expediting approvals and strengthening coordination to ensure timely implementation of the projects. They also exchanged views on regional peace and stability.

The finance minister thanked Dr Alkhalifa for inviting him to visit the OPEC Fund, where the project agreement could potentially be signed during the visit.

Senator Aurangzeb on Thursday met with the leadership of Alibaba International Digital Commerce (AIDC) and reviewed cooperation on Pakistan's digital economy.

Scanned with CamScanner

# Govt decides to 'appoint' Syed Haider Shah as Pakistan's UN representative

■ He also served as deputy head of mission in New Delhi from 2016 to 2020, including as acting high commissioner between April 2019 and October 2020.



Web Desk

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan has decided to appoint Syed Haider Shah as its new permanent representative to the United Nations in New York, replacing Asim Iftikhar Ahmad,

According to sources, Haider Shah, who is currently Pakistan's ambassador to the Netherlands, is expected to take up the key diplomatic role following Asim Iftikhar Ahmad's appointment as Pakistan's 34th foreign secretary.

Haider Shah has extensive experience in diplomacy and international affairs. Before his current posting in the Netherlands, he served as Pakistan's ambassador to Nepal from November 2020 to October 2022.

He also served as deputy head of mission in New Delhi from 2016 to 2020, including as acting high commissioner between April 2019 and October 2020.

He began his previous assignment in the Netherlands in March 2025 and also serves as Pakistan's permanent representative to the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in The Hague.

Haider Shah previously worked at Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Islamabad as additional secretary for United Nations and Organisation of Islamic Cooperation affairs from November 2022 to February 2025.

His diplomatic career includes an earlier posting at Pakistan's permanent mission to the United Nations in New York from 2002 to 2006, where he dealt with the Sixth Committee of the UN General Assembly. He also took part in negotiations on several Security Council and General Assembly resolutions.

From 2008 to 2013, Haider Shah served as a legal officer at the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate in New York.

He has also held positions dealing with Afghanistan, the United Nations and regional affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. His experience includes serving as director of the foreign minister's office from July 2014 to August 2015 and director for Afghanistan from July 2013 to April 2014.

Syed Haider Shah holds a Master of Laws degree from Harvard Law School, which he obtained in 1998, and a Bachelor of Laws degree from Khyber Law College at the University of Peshawar, awarded in 1993.

# UN Security Council slams 'escalatory' Houthi attacks on Saudi Arabia

■ Houthis launch deadly attack on presidential palace in Yemen's Aden



WEB DESK

NEW YORK

The UN Security Council issued a joint statement condemning the "escalatory" attacks by Iran-backed Houthi rebels on Saudi Arabia, including "reckless strikes" on Riyadh's airport.

The Saudi capital's international airport has been targeted by strikes 20 times since the beginning of the month, with an attack last weekend killing 13 people and wounding more than 300.

In a joint statement shared by the Security Council's president, Greece's Evangelos Sekeris, the 15-member UN body "condemned in the strongest terms continued and escalatory Houthi attacks against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia," as well as "continued Houthi attacks and threats against commercial shipping in the Red Sea and Bab al-Mandab (Strait)."

The statement also "affirmed the inherent right of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of self-defence in accordance with international law." Since the airport attack, the Saudi coalition reported Thursday it had intercepted a missile in the region of Medina, one of the holiest cities in Islam. The Houthis, who have repeatedly said they would spare Islam's holy sites, denied being behind the attack.

The Houthis launched a deadly missile attack Thursday on the presidential palace in the Yemeni government's interim capital of Aden, hitting command centres located inside the compound used by government forces and the Saudi-led military coalition that supports them.

Yemeni health minister Qasim Buhaibeh said the attack left five people dead and 16 injured "among those working to guard the site and civilian employees."

Yemen's civil war -- in which Saudi Arabia has led a military coalition supporting the government since 2015 -- reignited in September after the collapse of a years-long truce.



# Ukraine runs out of Patriot interceptor missiles amid Zelensky-Trump tensions

■ Ukraine reportedly runs out of Patriot interceptor missiles as Zelensky-Trump tensions deepen over Russian refinery strikes, US military support, and Starshield disruptions.

Web DESK

KYIV

Ukraine has run out of missiles for its US-made Patriot air defense systems, leaving the country more vulnerable to Russian ballistic missile attacks, CNN claimed on Thursday citing a source familiar with the situation.

The development comes amid escalating tensions between US President Donald Trump and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky over Kyiv's attacks on Russian energy infrastructure, Washington's reported diesel deal with Moscow, and continued military support for Ukraine.

Zelensky has criticized the US agreement involving Russian President Vladimir Putin and vowed that Ukraine will continue striking Russian oil refineries. Washington, meanwhile, has pressed Kyiv to halt attacks on Russian fuel facilities.

For months, Zelensky has warned that Ukraine faces a critical shortage of Patriot interceptor missiles. These weapons are among the few systems capable of intercepting Russian ballistic missiles, but they are expensive and in limited supply worldwide. Other countries have also been seeking to replenish their stocks amid rising security concerns and the war involving Iran.

A source familiar with Ukraine's air defense situation said that a large proportion of Russian ballistic missiles fired in a recent attack were not intercepted because Ukraine lacked sufficient interceptors.

Russian ballistic missiles struck three power plants in Kyiv and targeted energy infrastructure in Kharkiv during an overnight assault extending into Wednesday morning. Four people were killed and 25 injured in Kyiv, according to the reported toll.

Ukraine's Air Force previously said it intercepted four Russian ballistic missiles during the attack, suggesting that the country had only a limited number of Patriot interceptors available.The current shortage is not believed to be the first time Ukraine has exhausted its supply. Zelensky has repeatedly appealed to international partners for additional air defense ammunition.

# Philippines hits back at Chinese envoy over 'thinly veiled threat' of force

WEB DESK

New Delhi



The Philippines has chided China's ambassador for what it interpreted as a "thinly veiled threat" of force, after Beijing's envoy said his country would prevail in a confrontation between them.

The Philippine foreign ministry said ambassador Jing Quan's remarks to journalists on Thursday were a "poor choice of words" and unhelpful given their complicated bilateral ties.

Jing had said China "may easily win" but would not use force as "we love peace".

The ambassador was asked for his reaction to the Philippine defence secretary calling China a regional "troublemaker".

Their comments were the latest heated exchange between China and US defence ally the Philippines, which have repeatedly sparred over disputed features in the South ?China Sea.

Asked on Friday about the ambassador's remarks, Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr said it "sounds very much like a threat" deserving of a discussion with the envoy.

# India closes down New Delhi park ahead of 'cockroach' movement rally

■ The Election Commission of India, which oversees voting in the world's most populous nation, has denied any wrongdoing

WEB DESK

INDIA

Authorities closed a central New Delhi park Friday before a fresh protest seeking the removal of India's election chief over a voter-roll revision that critics say has disenfranchised millions.

Organised by the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP), the campaign has become the focal point of opposition anger over allegations that the revised rolls favour Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ruling party.

The Election Commission of India, which oversees voting in the world's most populous nation, has denied any wrongdoing.



CJP founder Abhijeet Dipke urged supporters to rally at the capital's Central Park after two of his colleagues were detained for breaching security barricades at Jantar Mantar, where they had gone to wave the national flag.

Earlier this week, police removed authorisation for Jantar Mantar as a designated protest site.

On Friday, thousands of security personnel were deployed in parts of the city, with yellow-coloured metal barricades put up at key intersections.

Dipke said he was undeterred despite the possibility of being arrested ahead of Friday's protest.

"Why are you so afraid of cockroaches?" Dipke said.

Delhi's municipal authorities said they were closing the Central Park for two days for "administrative" reasons.Delhi Police have barred public gatherings around Connaught Place citing concerns about public order and safety.

# The Houthis' varied arsenal used to strike Saudi Arabia

■ The Houthis possess a large range of ballistic missiles and drones, which they are using to also hit targets in the Bab al-Mandeb Strait at the entrance to the Red Sea

WEB DESK

Saudi Arabia

Yemen's Houthis have built up a missile and drone arsenal that allows them varied and sustained strike capabilities, as Saudi Arabia and the Yemeni government it sponsors are finding out.

Since early September, the Houthis have hit key oil infrastructure and airports across Saudi Arabia — notably Riyadh's airport, which has been targeted 20 times.

They have also, unsuccessfully, targeted the cities of Madina and Makkah.

The trigger for their return to hostilities, after a four-year truce, was a Saudi bombardment of the airport at Sanaa, Yemen's capital, in July, to prevent a Houthi delegation from landing there.

Since then, there have been "tit-for-tat" military strikes, said April Longley Alley, a specialist on Yemen at the Washington Institute think tank.

"The Houthis framed this campaign as blockade for blockade, airport for airport, escalation for escalation," she said.

The Houthis possess a large range of ballistic missiles and drones, which they are using to also hit targets in the Bab al-Mandeb Strait at the entrance to the Red Sea. The group's missile stocks partly come from arsenals seized when it took Yemen's capital Sanaa in 2014, as well as "whole systems smuggled in, or self-manufactured systems built from parts that were themselves smuggled into Yemen, primarily via the Arabian Sea", explained Niranjan BS, a strategic weapons analyst at Jane's, the open-source intelligence company.

According to the International Institute for Strategic Studies' Military Balance database, the Houthis have several types



of medium-range missiles, several of them derived from Iranian models, such as the Kheibar Shekan.

They also have short-range missiles, such as the Asef anti-ship missile derived from Iran's Khalij Fars class of missile, noted the Wilson Centre think tank.

In addition, the Houthis also have a range of cruise missiles from Iran's family of Quds missiles, of which the version 4 is believed to have a range of 2,000 kilometres, according to the Wilson Centre.

They also have a range of drones, both air and maritime, at least some of which were derived from Iranian models.

The Waeid-1 and Waeid-2 aerial drones, for example, are "local copies of the Iranian Shahed-131 and Shahed-136 one-way attack UAVs (unmanned aerial vehicles) respectively," the analyst Niranjan BS said.

"Iran has provided critical military assistance to the Houthis, particularly with the delivery of missiles and unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) systems," the Middle East Institute said in a report."Missile and UAV parts are designed and manufactured in Iran and smuggled into Yemen via small boats, container ships, or over the Oman-Yemen border, where they are assembled," it said.

Scanned with CamScanner

# Phoebe Bridgers Fan Photo Row: Singer Defends Privacy on TikTok

■ The indie singer says posting a picture without consent crosses a line, and many fans agree with her.

WEB DESK

ISLAMABAD



A Phoebe Bridgers fan photo has stirred a big debate online this week. The picture was taken without her consent and shared on social media, where it quickly spread. The singer did not stay quiet about it.

Bridgers is known for staying away from social media. This time, she made an exception. She went to TikTok and left a direct comment under the post.

"Hey I hate this!" she wrote. In another comment, she added that it sucks the photo was posted at all. Her message was short, but it made her feelings clear.

The 32-year-old musician is best ed known for her song Punisher. She is currently busy with The Lost Tour Even with a packed schedule, she felt the need to speak up.

She did not stop at the comments. Bridgers also brought up the issue during one of her live shows. She told the crowd that some fan behavior can feel more like invading her space than showing love. Her point was simple. Admiring an artist is fine, but treating her like public property is not. A quick, polite request for a picture is very different from secretly taking one.

Many social media users sided with her. Some pointed out that the photo appeared to be taken in a private place, which made it feel even worse. One user said that meeting a popular artist means people will want pictures, but certain spots should be off limits.

# Actor Muneeb Butt urges couples to keep marital issues off social dedia

■ During the interview, the actor also reflected on his personal life, expressing gratitude for his marriage and family.

SHOWBIZ DESK

ISLAMABAD



- Actor Muneeb Butt has urged couples to keep their marital issues private, saying that airing personal disputes on social media often invites public criticism rather than helping resolve conflicts.

Speaking during an interview with Vasay Chaudhry, the actor stressed that relationship problems should be handled privately and respectfully instead of being exposed to public scrutiny.

"You should always keep your marital issues private and in between four walls," Muneeb said, adding that making personal matters public allows people to comment on and criticise relationships for entertainment.

He maintained that social media is not the solution to domestic disagreements, advising couples to involve their families and parents in resolving conflicts through respectful communication.

"House stuff should stay inside the house. Social media doesn't solve these things. You should sit your family together, parents together, and resolve the issue respectfully," he added.

Muneeb's remarks received positive reactions from social media users, with several praising his emphasis on privacy, maturity and healthy communication. Some described his comments as "very mature" and a "sensible statement", while others agreed that publicly discussing relationship problems could further complicate difficult situations.

During the interview, the actor also reflected on his personal life, expressing gratitude for his marriage and family.

"All grace to Allah for the way my life has worked out. I fell in love, got married, and we started a family. MashaAllah, I have three daughters," he said.

He further highlighted the importance of maintaining a positive outlook and being grateful for life's blessings, noting that constant complaints can prevent people from appreciating what they have.

Muneeb Butt married actress Aiman Khan in 2018. The couple have three daughters.



# Netflix cuts about 6pc of jobs in biggest layoff since 2022

■ In the photos, Alizeh kept it casual yet eye-catching, wearing a fitted orange short-sleeved V-neck T-shirt paired with light-wash denim bottoms.

WEB DESK

KARACHI

Netflix (NFLX.O) is laying off 6% of its workforce, or roughly 1,000 employees, in its biggest cuts since ?2022, according to an internal memo seen by Reuters, as the streaming pioneer ?faces tough competition for viewers from legacy rivals and YouTube.

The bulk of the job cuts would be in Netflix's product, tech, legal and human-resources teams, the email Co-CEOs Greg Peters and Ted Sarandos sent to ?employees on Wednesday showed."Our mission — to entertain the world — is ambitious, and delivering on ?it requires us to be disciplined about where we prioritize our people ?and resources," they said in the memo.

"Our business is strong and growing, and we remain ?on track to deliver our full-year forecast."

Netflix shares, down around 25% so far this year, rose ?0.7% on Wednesday. The company had about 16,000 employees at the end of last year.

This year, the streaming giant has faced doubts about its ability to sustain the growth that disrupted the US media industry by putting ?pressure on cable TV businesses.

Engagement, or the amount of time users spend on Netflix, has ?become a key concern for investors as platforms such as YouTube and TikTok attract viewers with free-to-watch, ?user-generated content ?that gives them a cost advantage over Netflix.

A failed pursuit of Warner Bros Discovery's streaming and studio assets earlier this year deepened doubts about Netflix's strategy. Paramount completed its $110-billion Warner Bros acquisition earlier this month to form Skydance (SKYD.N).

"They haven't been able to find like another line ?of major revenue," said ?Ross Benes, senior ?analyst at eMarketer, adding the company remains reliant on a subscription business that could be approaching a ceiling.

"Eventually, because they've kind of nearing a ?ceiling with that, they'll need another revenue stream to diversify, and that's ?where it's ?been more of a struggle."

Netflix has been trying to expand beyond its subscription business by investing in an ad tier, live programming and gaming.



# Pakistani actress Sukaina Khan ties the knot in US

■ Areeba Habib Impresses Fans With Elegant Festive Style Statement

SHOWBIZ DESK

LAHORE

Pakistani actress Sukaina Khan has tied the knot in a traditional wedding ceremony held in the United States, marking the beginning of a new chapter in her life. The actress wore a red-and-gold bridal lehenga for the occasion, while her husband appeared in a white sherwani.

Pictures from the wedding have been circulating on social media, drawing attention from fans who praised Sukaina's bridal look, makeup and overall appearance.

Reports following the ceremony suggest that the actress is considering a temporary break from the entertainment industry to focus on her married life.

Fans and fellow showbiz personalities have congratulated the couple and extended their best wishes as they begin this new chapter together..

# Hareem Farooq takes credit for introducing Hania Aamir in entertainment industry

■ Praising Hania's talent, Hareem said she had always believed the young actress was destined to move forward and achieve great success

WEB DESK

ISLAMABAD



Pakistani actress and filmmaker Hareem Farooq has revealed that she recognised Hania Aamir's acting potential early on and played a key role in giving the actress her first opportunity in the entertainment industry.

During a recent interview, the host asked Hareem whether she had introduced Hania Aamir to showbiz.

Responding confidently, Hareem said she deserved credit for introducing the rising star to the industry.

Hareem also addressed questions about her experience as a film producer, explaining that people often ask whether she is producing a film for the first time, although that is not the case.

Praising Hania's talent, Hareem said she had always believed the young actress was destined to move forward and achieve great success. Also Read: Hania Aamir begins boxing training under world champion Usman Wazeer

Hania made her acting debut in the 2016 Pakistani comedy film 'Janaan', while she was still studying at university. Hareem served as a co-producer on the film and also appeared in a brief role.

Before entering the film industry, Hania had already gained considerable attention during her college years through her videos, which helped her build an online following.

Her performance in 'Janaan' earned her a nomination for best supporting actress at the Lux Style Awards.

Over the years, Hania has established herself as one of Pakistan's prominent entertainment stars, appearing in films and television dramas such as 'Na Maloom Afraad 2', 'Phir Wohi Mohabbat'and 'Parwaaz Hai Junoon'.

In 2025, she expanded her film career internationally by appearing in the Indian Punjabi comedy 'Sardaar Ji 3'.

# Faisal Qureshi speaks out on India's attempt to ban Pakistani dramas



WEB DESK

KARACHI

Renowned Pakistani actor Faisal Qureshi has weighed in on the Indian government's reported attempts to ban Pakistani dramas, suggesting that the growing popularity of Pakistani television content has become a source of concern for Indian authorities.

Speaking on a podcast, the actor said Pakistani dramas have helped Indian audiences discover a more relatable side of Pakistan, allowing them to see that Pakistanis are ordinary, educated people whose lives and experiences are not so different from their own.

According to Faisal, this growing cultural connection may be one of the reasons behind efforts to restrict Pakistani dramas in India.

The actor also highlighted the continued popularity of Pakistani television among Indian viewers, noting that audiences across the border remain deeply interested in some of Pakistan's most celebrated serials.

He added that even recently released Pakistani dramas have been receiving a positive response from Indian audiences.

Discussing the impact of the reported ban, Faisal claimed that Indian viewers began turning to VPNs to continue watching Pakistani content despite the restrictions.



Pakistani cinema is set to bring together three familiar faces as Shaan Shahid, Sadia Khan and Mikaal Zulfiqar are named in the cast of the upcoming film "Pashmeena", produced by Shazad Rafique.

Scanned with CamScanner

# England cricket team arrives in Pakistan for ODI tri-series

● The tri-series will begin on October 18, with Pakistan taking on Sri Lanka in the opening match at Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium



Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD

England's One-Day International (ODI) squad landed in Islamabad on Friday morning ahead of the upcoming tri-nation series, starting on October 18, The England cricket team landed at Islamabad International Airport, where officials of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) warmly welcomed the visiting players and team management.

The ODI tri-nation series, featuring Pakistan, England and Sri Lanka, is scheduled to begin on October 18. SQUADS Pakistan: Shaheen Shah Afridi (c), Abrar Ahmed, Salman Ali Agha, Arafat Minhas, Babar Azam, Faheem Ashraf, Fakhar Zaman, Muhammad Ghazi Ghori (wk), Haris Rauf, Hasan Nawaz, Naseem Shah, Razaullah, Saad Baig (wk), Saim Ayub, Shadab Khan and Sufiyan Moqim

England: Harry Brook (c), Gus Atkinson, Sonny Baker, Tom Banton, James Coles, Jordan Cox, Mason Crane, Henry Crocombe, Sam Curran, Liam Dawson, Ben Duckett, Will Jacks, Jamie Overton, Adil Rashid, Joe Root, Josh Tongue.

# Saudi organisers say 2027 Asian Cup 'on schedule' after attacks

● The 2027 Asian Cup is supposed to kick off on January 7 in the Saudi cities of Jeddah, Riyadh and Al Khobar.

Sports Desk

JADAH

Preparations for the 2027 AFC Asian Cup remain on schedule despite growing security concerns following attacks by Yemen's Houthi group on Saudi Arabia, tournament organisers have said, amid speculation that the continent's premier football competition could be postponed.The tournament is scheduled to begin on January 7, 2027, with matches set to be held in the Saudi cities of Riyadh, Jeddah and Al Khobar. However, the recent escalation in regional hostilities has raised questions about whether the competition can proceed according to its original timetable.The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) has acknowledged that postponement



remains a possibility if circumstances require a change to the schedule. AFC President Sheikh Salman bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa said on Wednesday that officials were monitoring developments and could wait until the end of November before making a final decision."We could move back a year to 2028 if we need to," Sheikh Salman said, while emphasising that there was no immediate urgency to decide the tournament's fate. He added that the situation was being monitored and preparations remained on schedule.The local organising committee has also reaffirmed its commitment to delivering the tournament as planned, saying that preparations were continuing in coordination with the AFC and other relevant stakeholders."Preparations remain on schedule for the tournament," the committee said in a statement. "This work continues in close coordination with the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) and other relevant stakeholders."The committee said it remained committed to keeping preparations on track and ensuring that the necessary resources were available to host a competition that reflected Saudi Arabia's ambitions and standards as a host nation.At the same time, organisers acknowledged the need to monitor developments affecting the tournament and ensure that appropriate conditions were in place for its successful delivery.Saudi Arabia has faced sustained attacks in recent days amid an escalation in its conflict with the Iran-backed Houthi group. The deteriorating security situation has already affected sporting activities in the country, with several events, including domestic football matches, postponed.The developments have intensified uncertainty surrounding the Asian Cup, which is one of the most prominent sporting events on the Asian football calendar and attracts national teams, supporters and international attention.Despite the concerns, Saudi organisers have not announced any change to the tournament schedule. Their latest statements indicate that preparations are continuing while authorities and football officials assess the evolving situation.

# Asian Tour golf finale in Saudi Arabia postponed

■ The tournament was originally scheduled to take place from November 18-21 in Riyadh and no alternative date has been announced.

SPORTS Desk

ISLAMABAD

The Saudi International, the final event of the Asian Tour golf season, was postponed on Thursday following several deadly attacks on the kingdom by Yemen's Houthis.

The tournament was originally scheduled to take place from November 18-21 in Riyadh and no alternative date has been announced.

"The Asian Tour remains in direct contact with its players and members regarding the schedule and next steps," read a joint statement from Saudi Golf and the Asian Tour, saying the competition was postponed due to "logistical challenges".

The tournament, which was part of the European Tour from 2019-21, is backed by Saudi Arabia's Private Investment Fund (PIF).

The PIF poured an estimated $5 billion into breakaway golf circuit LIV before abruptly pulling the plug earlier this year.

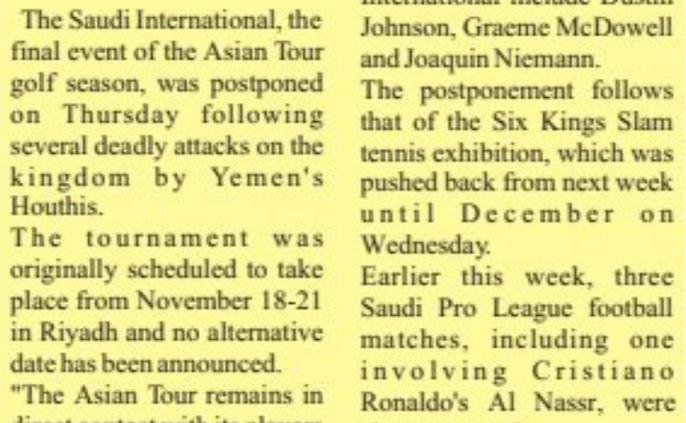
Former winners of the Saudi International include Dustin Johnson, Graeme McDowell and Joaquin Niemann.

The postponement follows that of the Six Kings Slam tennis exhibition, which was pushed back from next week until December on Wednesday.

Earlier this week, three Saudi Pro League football matches, including one involving Cristiano Ronaldo's Al Nassr, were also postponed.

A violent battle between a Saudi-led coalition and Yemen's Houthis has erupted in recent days, with missile strikes on airports and energy facilities across the kingdom.

The Formula One Saudi Arabian Grand Prix slated for April in Jeddah was cancelled after the outbreak of the United States and Israel's war with Iran in late February.




# Wu, Mdlulwa advance to Islamabad W-15 semi-finals

■ Yodpetch rallies to beat Dekkers 6-2, 5-7, 6-3

WEB DESK

ISLAMABAD

China's Ru Xi Wu delivered an impressive performance to defeat Gloria Levinsky of the Czech Republic 6-0, 6-3 and secure her place in the women's singles semi-finals at the W-15 Islamabad Junaid Family Foundation World Tennis Women's Championships 2026.The international tournament's second leg is currently underway at the Pakistan Tennis Federation (PTF) Tennis Complex in Islamabad, where players from different countries are competing for places in the next stages of the singles and doubles events.Wu dominated the opening set against Levinsky, winning it 6-0 without allowing her opponent to claim a game. She maintained her momentum in the second set, securing a 6-3 victory to complete a straight-sets win and advance to the last four of the women's singles competition.South Africa's Wozuko Mdlulwa also secured a convincing victory in her quarter-final match, defeating Germany's Anastasiya Kuparev 6-1, 6-1. Mdlulwa controlled the match throughout both sets, displaying consistent play to book her place in the semi-finals.France's Astrid Cirotte advanced to the next round after overcoming Russia's Ksenia Laskutova 6-2, 6-4. Cirotte took control of the opening set and continued to maintain her advantage in the second, completing a straight-




sets victory to remain in contention for the singles title.Thailand's Kamonwan Yodpetch completed the women's singles semi-final line-up after defeating the Netherlands' Florentine Dekkers in a closely contested three-set encounter. Yodpetch won the first set 6-2, but Dekkers fought back to claim the second 7-5. The Thai player responded strongly in the deciding set, winning it 6-3 to secure her place in the last four.With these results, Ru Xi Wu of China, Wozuko Mdlulwa of South Africa, Astrid Cirotte of France and Kamonwan Yodpetch of Thailand have advanced to the women's singles semi-finals.Women's Doubles Quarter-FinalsThe women's doubles quarter-finals also produced a series of competitive.

matches, with several international partnerships securing their places in the semi-final stage.France's Astrid Cirotte and Mexico's Sabastiani Leon defeated Japan's Suzuna Oigawa and South Korea's Jeong Moon 6-2, 7-6(6). After taking the opening set comfortably, Cirotte and Leon faced a tougher challenge in the second set but held their nerve in the tie-break to complete the victory.South African sisters Wozuko and Warona Mdlulwa also progressed in the doubles competition, defeating the Russian pair of Lilia Piskun and Sofiia Suslova 6-2, 6-1. The sisters produced a strong performance across both sets, maintaining their advantage to secure a convincing quarter-final win.Thailand's Kamonwan Yodpetch and China's Ru Xi Wu advanced after defeating Hong Kong's Kei Yau Cheung and Uzbekistan's Sabrina Olimjanova 6-1, 6-2. The international pairing demonstrated effective coordination and consistency, controlling the match to secure their place in the next round.Germany's Anastasiya Kuparev and Uzbekistan's Sevil Yuldasheva completed the women's.



# Pakistan ODI squad begins preparations for tri-series

SPORTS REPORTER

RAWALPINDI

The 16-member Pakistan squad led by Shaheen Shah Afridi commenced its preparations for the upcoming One-Day International tri-nation series on Thursday, 15 October at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium. Pakistan are set to face Sri Lanka on 18 and England on 20 October in Rawalpindi, while in Lahore, they will be up against England on 25 and Sri Lanka on 27 October.

The squad hit the ground running with an intensive three-hour training session from 4pm to 7pm PKT under the supervision of the coaches including head coach Mike Hesson, batting coach Mike Smith, bowling coach Shaun Tait and fielding coach Mansoor Amjad.

With a busy 50-over cricket season looming on the horizon the training session included skill work and practice for all 16 members as each member got a chance to bat as well.

While the pacers Shaheen, Haris Rauf, Razaullah, Faheem Ashraf and Naseem Shah hit their straps under the watchful eye of former Australia pace ace Tait, the spin bowling attack including Shadab Khan, Abrar Ahmed, Arafat Minhas and Sufyan Moqim all had their work cut out as they bowled long spells in the nets.



# Serbian tennis player hit with 24-year ban for match-fixing

Web Desk

ISLAMABAD

A Serbian tennis player has been banned from the sport for 24 years for overseeing a "corrupt network" of match-fixing, it was announced .

Stefan Milicevic, 29, fixed six matches — including five in which he played — and attempted to fix a further six between 2022 and 2024, the International Tennis Integrity Agency (ITIA) said.

"Milicevic was also charged with recruiting or attempting to recruit multiple professional players as part of a corrupt network during the same period, resulting in a number of other players fixing matches," the ITIA said in a statement

Milicevic, whose highest ATP ranking was a lowly 1,338, did not engage or co-operate with the investigation, according to the ITIA, and was also fined $70,000 (62,400 euros).

The ITIA added: "While suspended, Milicevic is not allowed to play in, coach at, or attend any events organised or sanctioned by World Tennis, WTA, ATP, the Grand Slams, or any national association." His suspension will officially end on October 8, 2050.

**TENDER NOTICE**

The Executive Engineer Buildings CW, PP&H Department District Kech (Turbat) invites sealed percentage tender based on Composite schedule of rates 2026, Government of Balochistan (G.O.B) amended up to-date from interested Government Contractors/Firm who renewal for the year 2027, for the work listed below: - **Earnest Money 2% and Time limit 12 Months The Tender Fee Rs: 1000/- Deposited in shape of Green Chall in Head of account (02716)**

| S.No | Name of Work | E/Cost |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | CONSTRUCTION OF GRAVEYARD BOUNDARY WALL AT MAZARI KAHN TURBAT DISTRICT KECH **TSE-2627101209613** | 9,941,258 |

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules – 2014 amended up to date. **Eligibility of Bidders:** Assignments of One Similar Nature and Complexity Turnover of at least 500,000 PKR in 3 Subsequent Previous Years Presence in Active Taxpayer List The bidding firm must not be currently blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan Submission of the required Bidding document Fee Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is required Registration with Pakistan Engineering Council C-6 **Procedure Of Procurement:** Single Stage One Envelope Bidding Procedure **Bid Security:** The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of **Bank Guarantee, Deposit at Call** of 2 % specified above in the name of the under-signed from a scheduled bank. **Tender Documents:** The bidding documents can be obtained from the office of the under-signed **1,000 PKR Issuance of tender Documents:** From the date of publication of NIT to **2nd November** 2026 during office hours on working days **Last Date of bid submission:** The Tenders must be submitted at the latest by **2nd November,2026** till **12:00 PM. Tender opening:** All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the undersigned at **01:00 PM Address:** Office of Executive Engineer-Building CWPP&H Department Turbat.

**Phone no:** 0852413280
**Email:** executiveengineer21kech@gmail.com

**Executive Engineer Buildings CW, PP&H Department District, Kech**

**DPRQ/PRQ No.1924/16-10-2026**

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# Anmol alias Pinky acquitted in two more cases, court orders release

WEB DESK

ISLAMABAD

A Karachi court has acquitted alleged drug dealer Anmol, alias Pinky, in two more cases and ordered her release.

The Additional District and Sessions Court approved her acquittal pleas in cases involving drugs and alleged facilitation.

The prosecution failed to present sufficient evidence against Anmol in the two cases, prompting the court to acquit her on the grounds of lack of evidence.

In its order, the court directed that she be released immediately if she was not required in any other case.

With the latest decisions, Anmol has now been acquitted in five cases.

# Maryam Nawaz says Punjab enters AI era as KP remains in 'stone age'

● Maryam Nawaz highlights Punjab's AI initiatives, 3,000 electric buses and education reforms, while criticising PTI's governance in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa during a Sahiwal event.

PUBLIC NEWS

SAHIWAL

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz has criticised the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) government in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, claiming Punjab is entering the era of artificial intelligence (AI) while the province remains in the "Stone Age."

Addressing a laptop distribution ceremony for students in Sahiwal, Maryam Nawaz said those who claimed to have politically educated the public had instead destroyed people's lives. She maintained that nobody had ended PTI's government, alleging that the party had brought its own government to an end.

Maryam Nawaz said it was the first long march that ended with the fall of its own government. She questioned how one province could launch an attack against another province or the federal government, adding that the protest had ultimately undermined PTI's own government.

She said people in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa would now see what development meant, while emphasising that she had entered public service with a commitment to serving people.



The chief minister credited former prime minister Nawaz Sharif with building an extensive motorway network across the country. She said officials who had recently arrived from Karachi had praised Punjab's government departments for their focus on public service, adding that visitors from other provinces appreciated Punjab's performance.

Maryam Nawaz announced that 3,000 electric buses would operate across Punjab and said the service fare remained Rs20. She added that electric buses would be introduced in all tehsils of the province.

She said her government had involved young people in nearly every development project. The chief minister added that instalments for electric scooters provided to students had been set at Rs3,000 to ensure the payments did not become a financial burden.

Highlighting the province's technological initiatives, Maryam Nawaz said AI laboratories were being established in Punjab, describing the province as entering the AI era while contrasting its progress with conditions in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

She also discussed reforms in higher education, saying that when she assumed office, around 80 per cent of universities had no vice chancellors. She claimed that vice chancellors had now been appointed on merit at every university and stressed that she did not accept recommendations or favouritism, even from her own family.

The chief minister said the Punjab government was taking public services directly to citizens rather than waiting for them to approach government offices. She added that her mission was to ensure every resident received essential facilities at their doorstep, including medicines delivered directly to their homes.

# All 52 new buses reach Peshawar as BRT fleet expands to 296

● Peshawar BRT has received all 52 new buses, increasing its fleet to 296 and supporting improved services and potential new routes.

SPECIAL REPORTER

PESHAWAR

The final batch of 27 new buses purchased for the Peshawar Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service arrived at the Chamkani depot on Friday morning, completing the delivery of all 52 buses acquired for the project.

According to TransPeshawar, 25 new buses had arrived in Peshawar last month, while the arrival of another 27 has now completed the delivery of the entire fleet.

Officials said the addition of the new buses has increased the total number of buses in the Peshawar BRT fleet to 296.



The expanded fleet is expected to improve travel facilities for passengers and make the existing service more efficient.

TransPeshawar said the arrival of the buses would also facilitate the launch of new BRT routes, helping meet the growing transportation needs of passengers.

Meanwhile, TransPeshawar has described videos and claims circulating on social media regarding the movement of the new buses as misleading.

According to the authority, the movement of the buses was portrayed on social media as if they were being transferred out of Peshawar, whereas they were actually being transported to the city.

TransPeshawar said the arrival of all 52 new buses had clarified the facts behind the claims circulating on social media.

Officials described the completion of the delivery as an important step towards improving BRT services, expanding the bus fleet and facilitating the introduction of new routes in the future..



# Pakistan, other Delegates walk out of Israeli president's CICA summit speech

WEB DESK

NEW YORK

Representatives from more than 10 countries, including Pakistan and Turkey, walked out of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) summit in Azerbaijan as Israeli President Isaac Herzog began his speech,

Iran's deputy legal affairs minister called for Israel to be expelled from CICA following Herzog's speech in Baku.

Kazem Gharibabadi was quoted as saying by Iran's IRIB news that "sustainable security" in Asia was not achieved through "threats and pressure, but through mutual respect, trust-building and equal cooperation among independent states".

"If the international community does not stop America and Israel today, their aggression will spread to all independent countries. The most important source of insecurity and instability in Asia, especially in West Asia, is the Zionist (Israeli) regime; it is time for this regime to be expelled from the CICA mechanism," he warned.

As Isaac Herzog began his speech around Thursday noon at the summit, representatives of more than 10 countries, including Pakistan and Turkey, walked out of the gathering hall.

A similar walkout was seen at September's UN General Assembly high-level week in New York during a speech by Benjamin Netanyahu, Israel's prime minister.

Thursday's one-day summit, hosted by Azerbaijan as the current CICA chair, is bringing together representatives of member states, observer countries, and partner international organizations.

Discussions are set to focus on regional cooperation, connectivity, digitalization, and sustainable development under Azerbaijan's chairmanship of the group.

The summit is expected to adopt a Baku declaration and a statement on cooperation in occupational safety and health, as well as announce Laos' accession as a new member.

# PHC to take up PTI petitions against emergency, governor's rule in KP on October 20

■ The petitions name the Federation of Pakistan, the president, the prime minister the KP governor and other relevant authorities as respondents

Staff Reporter

PESHAWAR

The Peshawar High Court (PHC) will hear petitions challenging the imposition of an emergency and governor's rule in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on October 20.

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) Chairman Barrister Gohar Khan and Advocate Salman Khan have filed separate petitions seeking to overturn the measures.

The petitions name the Federation of Pakistan, the president, the prime minister, the KP governor and other relevant authorities as respondents.

In its petition filed through lawyer Ali Zaman, the PTI has asked the PHC to declare the imposition of emergency and governor's rule unconstitutional and set aside the decisions.



The party argued that using terrorism as a justification to curtail the authority of an elected provincial government amounted to discriminatory treatment. It maintained that political differences could not serve as grounds for stripping the provincial administration of its powers.

The petition also questioned why governor's rule had not been imposed in Balochistan despite terrorist attacks and loss of life, or in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa during the period from 2007 to 2015. The PTI argued that the decision targeting the current provincial government was discriminatory.While expressing support for counterterrorism operations and efforts to restore peace, the party alleged that claims of inadequate action against militancy were being used to exert political pressure on its government.The petition further stated that the PTI had secured a two-thirds majority in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in the 2024 general elections.

It argued that the imposition of governor's rule must comply with the constitutional requirements and procedures set out in Article 234. It also called for the emergency proclamation to be scrutinised under Article 232 and the applicable parliamentary requirements.

# LHC rejects petition against 10-day basant 2027

■ The Lahore High Court dismissed a petition against 10-day Basant 2027 celebrations, citing the absence of an official notification, and directed the petitioner to refile it.

WEB DESK

LAHORE

The Lahore High Court has dismissed a petition challenging the 10-day celebration of Basant in 2027, terming it unnecessary in the absence of an official notification.



Justice Shahram Sarwar Chaudhry heard the petition and asked the petitioner whether he had an official notification confirming the 10-day Basant celebrations. The judge questioned how the petition could be heard without such a notification.

The court observed that no order could be issued solely on the basis of documents available on a website.

It further remarked that, without an official notification, it could not determine whether the proposed Basant celebrations violated fundamental human rights. The judge asked the petitioner to provide the notification so the government could be questioned on the matter.

The court also expressed surprise that the registrar's office had not raised an objection to the petition and asked the petitioner's counsel why a fine should not




Islamabad, Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif meets the newly arrived Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, H.E. Dr. Rajeh Tami Albugamy, who called on him at the Prime Minister's House.

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