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Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif meeting a delegation of Jamaat Islami at Prime Minister's House

Govt, JI form committee to recommend more relief for people: Minister

■ The chief minister further said that under the leadership of Field Marshal Asim Munir, Pakistan defeated an enemy seven times stronger than it. "Terrorists cannot impose their ideology on us," he added.

STAFF REPORTER
ISLAMABAD

Federal Minister for Planning Ahsan Iqbal announced that the government and Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) agreed to form expert committees to recommend measures for reducing the petroleum levy and easing the public burden, Speaking at a press conference in Islamabad alongside Prime Minister's Adviser Rana Sanaullah, Iqbal said Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Jamaat-e-Islami chief



Hafiz Naeemur Rehman had agreed to set up the committee. He said the committee would have one member each from the government and Jamaat-e-Islami and would finalise proposals to provide relief to the people. The minister added that the government was also working to end the petroleum levy in phases and would consider increasing the relief currently being provided on petrol. Iqbal said thousands of people were already benefiting from the prime minister's fuel relief scheme. He added that the government wanted to help people but warned that decisions taken only to gain popularity could create serious economic problems later. Explaining the situation, Iqbal said rising tensions in the region had created a global crisis, while the closure of the Strait of Hormuz had affected oil supplies. He said countries around the world were facing an emergency and trying to secure resources for their future.Rana Sanaullah said the ongoing war in the region had affected the entire world.

He said the government was trying to provide maximum relief to deserving people and appreciated Jamaat-e-Islami's focus on helping ordinary citizens. Sanaullah said Pakistan was the only country making serious efforts to end the war and that the international community was also hopeful about these efforts.

National Assembly passes resolution expressing solidarity with Kashmiris on Black Day

■ The National Assembly passed a resolution backing Kashmiris on Black Day, while MQM raised Karachi load shedding and the anti-rape bill went to committee.

Staff Reporter
ISLAMABAD

The National Assembly has passed a resolution expressing solidarity with the Kashmiri people on October 27, observed as Black Day. The resolution was presented by Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs Amir Muqam and Kashmir Committee Chairman Qasim Noon.

The National Assembly session was held under the chair of Deputy Speaker Syed Ghulam Mustafa Shah. MQM-Pakistan member Syed Amin ul Haq moved a calling attention notice on the severe load shedding in Karachi, saying K-Electric is among the companies viewed with hatred by the public and is operating like a



mafia.

Aminul Haq said K-Electric is earning billions of rupees through overbilling. "After earning so much, what has it done for Karachi's generation?" he asked. He said load shedding is carried out even at night and questioned what K-Electric is doing for Karachi.

Responding to the calling attention notice, Parliamentary Secretary Amir Talal Khan said the load shedding has to be carried out out of compulsion. He said it sometimes increases because of repair work, and that under NEPRA rules there should be no load shedding at night. "If anything of this sort is happening, we will certainly look into it," he said, adding that there is no load shedding on industrial feeders.

The Deputy Speaker referred the matter to the Standing Committee on Energy.

Speaking separately, Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs and Gilgit-Baltistan Amir Muqam said India has been oppressing the Kashmiri people for nearly 80 years and thousands have been martyred so far. He said around 7,000 Kashmiris were killed in prison, but the Kashmiris remain firm on their stance and have not moved back an inch.

Amir Muqam said India has illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir, adding that thousands of members of civil society and students attended a solidarity event with Kashmiris in Islamabad today.

PTI member Shandana Gulzar introduced the Anti-Rape (Investigation and Trial) Bill 2024 in the National Assembly for approval.

The Law Minister opposed the bill, saying a system already exists within the National Police Bureau and that a track-and-trace system is in place for all rape-related cases. The bill was referred to the standing committee for further deliberation.



Dr Tariq calls for peaceful, just resolution of Kashmir issue under UN resolutions

Staff Reporter
ISLAMABAD

Minister for Parliamentary Affairs Dr Tariq Fazal Chaudhry has called for a peaceful and just resolution of the Kashmir issue in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions and the aspirations of the Kashmiri people.In a social media post, he described October 27, 1947, as a black day in the history of the Kashmiri people, saying the entry of Indian forces into Occupied Jammu and Kashmir marked the beginning of an illegal occupation.

He said the day reminded the world of the sacrifices made by the Kashmiri people, their struggle for freedom and their determination to secure the right to self-determination.



NCCIA officer included in JIT probing Mir Raza Ali Khan case

Staff Reporter
ISLAMABAD

An officer of the National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency (NCCIA) has been included in the joint investigation team (JIT) formed to investigate the Mir Raza Ali Khan case.

Deputy Director Shehzad Akbar has been nominated as a member of the JIT. The NCCIAhas sent a letter to the Sindh Home Department in this regard.

The agency will provide digital evidence and technical assistance to the investigation team. The inquiry will also examine mobile phone data, social media records and cryptocurrency transactions.

The NCCIA will assist the JIT in the technical investigation of the Mir Raza Ali Khan case.



CPEC connected Pakistan-China economies, information corridor to unite people: Tarar

■ The minister described Pakistan-China friendship as a valuable legacy passed down through generations

WEB DESK
ISLAMABAD

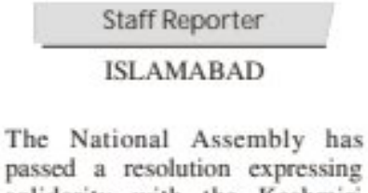
Federal Minister for Information and Broadcasting Attaullah Tarar has said that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has connected the economies of Pakistan and China, while the newly launched China-Pakistan Information Corridor will strengthen mutual understanding and trust between the two nations.

Addressing the inauguration ceremony of the China-Pakistan Information Corridor in Islamabad, Tarar emphasised the growing importance of digital communication, media cooperation and information sharing in the modern era. He said that in the digital age, connectivity was a source of strength and control over narratives was essential for national sovereignty. Nations that fail to tell their own stories risk having others shape their narratives, he added.

The minister described Pakistan-China friendship as a valuable legacy passed down through generations, stressing the responsibility to preserve and promote these ties among younger generations.

He said effective use of media, information exchange and digital platforms was increasingly important for further strengthening relations between the two countries.

Bilawal says only Sindh's people can decide province's future



CITY REPORTER
KARACHI

Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said Tuesday that only the people of Sindh could decide the province's future, adding that its people and elected representatives had already made their position clear.

Speaking to the media in Karachi, Bilawal expressed concern over the country's economic situation, saying inflation and unemployment were placing a heavy burden on the public.

He said the federal government was working to reduce inflation, while the Sindh government was also taking measures to ease the economic difficulties faced by residents.

Bilawal welcomed the reopening of Spencer Eye Hospital in Karachi under a public-private partnership, saying the facility would provide free treatment for eye diseases.He praised the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC) for taking practical steps to deliver public services, saying local governments that actively worked to facilitate citizens were uncommon.

The PPP chairman said expensive medical treatment created serious difficulties for many families and stressed that governments had a responsibility to make healthcare more accessible.

He added that improving healthcare facilities and reducing the financial burden on citizens remained important priorities for the Sindh government.

'No one is above the law': Maryam Nawaz warns influential offenders in Punjab

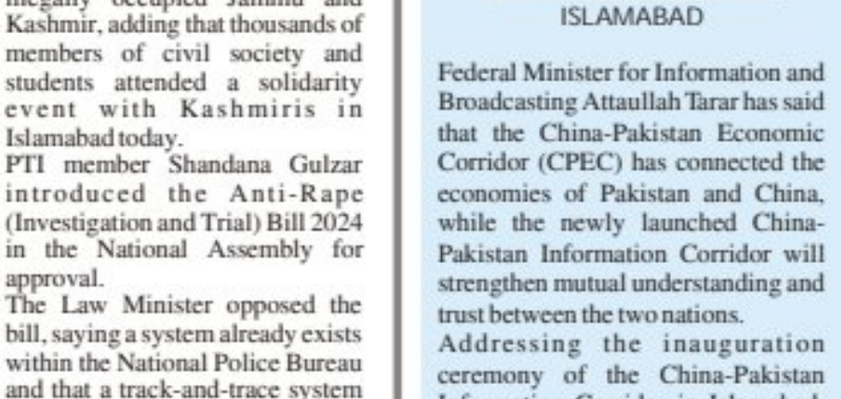
■ The chief minister reiterated that accountability would apply even to members of her own political party, adding that Punjab's government stood with victims of injustice

STAFF REPORTER
MANDI BAHAUDDIN

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz Sharif has warned that no one, regardless of wealth or influence, will be allowed to escape accountability for committing crimes, stressing that the era of political recommendations and preferential treatment in the province is over.

Addressing a ceremony at the University of Rasul in Mandi Bahauddin, where laptops and Honhaar Scholarship cheques were distributed among students, the chief minister said the law would take action against anyone who used their power or wealth to harm ordinary citizens.

She particularly warned those



involved in violence against women and children, urging them to abandon criminal activities or face legal consequences.

Maryam said she intended to meet the chief justice of the Lahore High Court to discuss cases in which accused individuals secured bail shortly after being arrested. She cited an incident involving an alleged assault at a petrol pump, where the suspect reportedly obtained bail the following day.

The chief minister reiterated that accountability would apply even to members of her own political party, adding that Punjab's government stood with victims of injustice.

'Merit Is the Only Key' to Scholarships and Laptops

Speaking about educational initiatives, Maryam said laptops and Honhaar Scholarships were being distributed strictly on merit, without favouritism or political interference.

She announced that students would continue to benefit from laptops, electric buses, Chromebooks and scholarship programmes designed to support their education and development.

She also referred to incidents involving violence against women and children, including the death of an orphan child in a car-related incident in Multan, saying such cases remained deeply troubling to her.

Scanned with CamScanner

IHC orders implementation of laws against online harassment, blackmailing

SPECIAL REPORTER
ISLAMABAD



The Islamabad High Court (IHC) has directed relevant authorities to ensure the implementation of laws against online harassment, blackmailing and the unauthorised sharing of private content,

Justice Arbab Muhammad Tahir in a written order, directed the PTA, PEMRA and National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency (NCCIA) to report on the implementation of relevant laws and measures to address complaints.

The court also directed the Ministry of IT and other relevant departments to hold a meeting to identify legal, administrative and technical hurdles and propose measures to address them. The authorities were asked to identify areas requiring coordination among institutions.

According to the PTA report, the blocking rate for unlawful content varied across social media platforms, standing at 48.42 pc on X, 78.57 pc on Facebook, 79.52 pc on Instagram, 87.34 pc on YouTube and 88.68 pc on TikTok.

Social media companies had been asked to fulfil registration requirements and appoint local officers to address complaints, but no positive response had been received.

The court need to examine whether relevant authorities were exercising their legal powers and how effectively the PTA, PEMRA and NCCIA were coordinating to prevent the misuse of digital platforms.



Commander of the Kuwait Naval Force, Rear Admiral Saif Al-Hamlan called on Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif

"SAY NO TO CORRUPTION"
GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY
(RECRUITMENT SECTION)
URAAN PAKISTAN

JOIN PUBLIC SERVICE - BALOCHISTAN QUOTA

سرکاری ملازمت اختیار کریں — بلوچستان کوٹہ
سرکاری خدمت د هوادیت — بلوچستان د کوټې

Your Land. Your Future. Your Pakistan.

آپ کی سرزمین، آپ کا مستقبل، آپ کا پاکستان۔
ستاسو ځمکه، ستاسو راتلونکی، ستاسو پاکستان

Applications are invited for the following regular posts of BALOCHISTAN QUOTA to be filled in National Highway Authority (NHA) as per details given below:

S#.	Positions Available	BPS	No. of Vacancies	Age Limit	Prescribed Qualification	Experience
1.	Deputy Director (Engineer)	18	01	40	B. Sc (Civil)	07 Years in relevant field
				40 (Relaxable by 03 years)	M. Sc (Civil)	04 Years in relevant field
				40 (Relaxable by 05 years)	Ph. D (Civil)	02 Years in relevant field
2.	Assistant Director (Afforestation)	17	01	35	BS (4 Years) or equivalent in the field of Forestry from a University/Institute recognized by HEC	Nil
3.	Assistant Director (Engineer)	17	06 (01 Woman)	35	M. Sc/MS in relevant subject BSc/BS in Civil Engineering from HEC recognized University with 1st Class	Nil
4.	Assistant Director (Accounts/ Finance)	17	01	35	B. Com	Nil
5.	Inspector	16	02	35	03 Years Diploma in Civil from the Board of Technical Education's recognized Institute	10-Years in Construction of Bridges/ Highways
6.	Inspector (Afforestation)	16	01	35	BS (4 Years) or equivalent in the field of Forestry from a University/Institute recognized by HEC	05 years in relevant field
7.	Assistant Private Secretary (APS)	16	01	28	Graduate 100/50 w.p.m Shorthand/ Typing	Nil
8.	Computer Operator	16	02	28	Graduate	03-Years in Computer Operation
9.	Office Assistant	15	03 (01 Woman)	25	Graduate	Nil
10.	Accounts Assistant	14	01	25	B. Com	03 years in relevant field
11.	Stenotypist	14	02	25	Intermediate with minimum speed of 80/40 w.p.m in shorthand/ typing respectively	Nil
12.	Lab. Technical	11	01	25	F. Sc / Diploma in Civil	03 years in relevant field
13.	LDC	11	02	25	Matric with typing speed of 30 w.p.m	Nil
14.	Patwari	5	01	25	Matric with Patwar/ Tapedar Course	Nil
15.	Driver	4	04	30	Primary pass and holding a valid Driving License and well versed in traffic rules	Nil

Terms and Conditions:
1. Applications can be submitted at the respective District Employment Cell as well as through the National Job Portal (njp.gov.pk) using the dedicated tab created for this recruitment exercise.
2. The Recruitment for BPS 1-16 will be done through a Walk-in Interview process in major districts of Baluchistan, which will be communicated at a later date (No written/screening test).
3. For posts in BPS-17 and BPS-18, the tests and interviews will be conducted as per applicable rules and regulations.
4. As per Federal Government instructions, the upper age relaxation of 05 Years (for Balochistan province) in addition to the general age relaxation of 05 Years will be admissible in the case of the aforementioned posts.
5. Selected candidates can be posted anywhere in Pakistan on a requirement basis.
6. Incomplete applications, advance copies, and those received after the due date will not be entertained.
7. Applicant shall present his/her original documents along with set of attested copies of degree/certificates issued by HEC/Recognized Board/Universities/ Institutes as well as CNIC and Domicile Certificate, at the time of interview. In case any information furnished by the applicant is found fake or bogus, his or her candidature shall stand cancelled, and legal action shall be taken against such a candidate, during any stage of recruitment, and also after employment.
8. Serving Government employees shall apply through proper channel.
9. The competent authority reserves the right to postpone the recruitment process, increase or decrease the number of advertised posts at any stage without assigning any reason.
10. The interested candidates shall apply online through the National Job Portal (NJP) at **https://njp.gov.pk within Fifteen (15) days** of publication of this Advertisement. Direct Applications to National Highway Authority/Ministry of Communications shall not be entertained.
11. No TA/DA will be admissible for appearing in the test/interview.
12. NHA is an equal opportunity organization. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

NASAR HAYAT
DIRECTOR (RECRUITMENT)
National Highway Authority
27-Mauve Area, Sector G-9/1, Islamabad, Tel: 051-9032847

PID(I)3822/26

محفوظ شاہراہیں محفوظ پاکستان

Engro Fertilizers, Mari Energies sign MoU to improve farm productivity, support communities

SPECIAL REPORTER
ISLAMABAD

Mari Energies Limited and Engro Fertilizers Limited have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to help farmers improve crop yields and incomes through better access to quality agricultural inputs and balanced nutrient use, alongside community development initiatives.

The collaboration will combine Mari Energies' experience in community development across its areas of operation with Engro Fertilizers' agricultural expertise. It establishes a framework for the companies to jointly plan, implement and review programmes for farmers and local communities.

Agricultural initiatives will focus on improving access to quality inputs and promoting informed nutrient management practices to support farm productivity and livelihoods.

The partnership will also cover education, science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) learning, vocational training, youth employability, healthcare, and environmental sustainability. Sports, cultural and leadership programmes are also included in its scope.

Faheem Haider, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Mari Energies Limited, said the agreement would build on the company's existing community development work.

"Supporting the communities around our areas of operation has long been a priority for Mari Energies. This partnership with Engro Fertilizers allows us to build on that commitment by combining our community development experience with their agricultural expertise," he said.

"Together, we aim to help farmers improve productivity and income through quality inputs and balanced nutrient use, while creating greater opportunities for communities through education, youth employability, healthcare and sports."

Naqvi inspects work on Kashmir Chowk Underpass project in Islamabad

SPECIAL REPORTER
ISLAMABAD



Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi visited the Kashmir Chowk Underpass Project early Tuesday morning and reviewed the ongoing construction work,

During his visit, Mohsin Naqvi reviewed the project's progress and pace. The construction of the project started 17 days ago.

The Interior Minister expressed his complete satisfaction with the pace of development work.

Mohsin Naqvi said that "I am pleased to see the walls and lanterns of the project". The minister expressed the hope that if the construction work continues at the same pace, then it will be completed in less than 30 days.

Earlier, on October 21, 2026, Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi said the Kashmir Chowk underpass will be opened to traffic soon.

Speaking to the media in the federal capital, Naqvi said work was underway to improve traffic flow, renovate parks and expand the coverage of the Safe City project in Islamabad.

He said the Kashmir Chowk underpass would be among the projects completed in the shortest possible time and would soon be opened to traffic.

All trees affected by the project had been relocated, he added, while various measures were also being taken to improve traffic flow across the city.

Spain university delegation holds talks with HEC chairman in Islamabad

SPECIAL REPORTER
ISLAMABAD



A delegation from IE University, Spain, visited HEC Pakistan and called on the Chairman of the Higher Education Commission (HEC), Prof Dr Niaz Ahmad Akhtar, to explore academic collaboration and expand international higher education opportunities for talented Pakistani students,

Ms Andrea Rodriguez Velez presented IE University's academic programmes, global outlook, and internationalisation initiatives, highlighting opportunities for cooperation with HEC to facilitate Pakistani students' enrolment in undergraduate and postgraduate programmes across various disciplines.

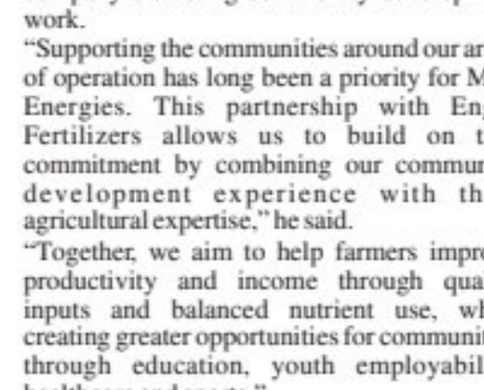
Chairman of HEC appreciated IE University's contributions to higher education and highlighted HEC's international scholarship programmes.

He also encouraged the delegation to engage with leading Pakistani institutions, including NUST and FAST-NUCES, to identify promising candidates and strengthen academic collaboration.

حکومت بلوچستان کے پنشنرز کیلئے خوشخبری۔

حکومت بلوچستان کے تمام پنشنرز کو خوشخبری دی جاتی ہے کہ جن معزز پنشنرز نے نادرا اپلیکیشن پاک آئی ڈی (PAK ID) سے پروف آف لائف کی تصدیق کی ہے انکی ریسٹوریشن اور 85 سال کی انکریز آپکے پنشن میں سسٹم کے ذریعے آٹومیٹک ہوجائینگی۔

لہذا جن پنشنرز نے پاک آئی ڈی سے پروف آف لائف تصدیق نہیں کی ہے ان سے درخواست ہے کہ جلد از جلد اپنی تصدیق کرائیں، کسی بھی مشکل کی صورت میں نادرا کے قریبی دفتر سے اپنی تصدیق کرائیں۔



Office of the Accountant General Balochistan

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$750m borrowed for pensions, PPP

The government has approved taking $750 million, or Rs209 billion, in foreign loans for finalising a framework to reduce pension liabilities, improving engagement with employees to bring them into the scheme and encouraging private partnership for public infrastructure projects.

The stated objectives of the two loans, which are being negotiated with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), suggest that none of these goals requires foreign lending, only the political will to expand the scope of the contributory pension scheme to all employees, including the armed forces.

The sources said the loans were taken for budget support, as the government of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif remains unable to enhance foreign exchange reserves on the back of non-debt-creating inflows, and revenues remain lower than budget requirements due to growing expenses.

A concept clearance committee, headed by Deputy Chairman Planning Commission Ahsan Iqbal, recently approved finalising these loans with the ADB, according to officials privy to the meeting proceedings.

After the formal minutes of the committee were issued this month, the government would now finalise the procedural details with the Manila-based lender.



The officials said a $500 million loan, or Rs139 billion, will be taken in the name of pension reforms and another $250 million, or Rs70 billion, for "promoting sustainable public-private partnerships programme".

It is not the first time that the government is taking non-project policy loans for purposes that only require the political will to take tough decisions. Billions of dollars have also been taken in the name of tax reforms. Yet last week the government discussed the idea of setting up a new tax agency at the level of the prime minister, but the plan was shelved.

According to the central bank, Pakistan's total debt and liabilities have increased to nearly Rs100 trillion as of June this year, including Rs86.7 trillion worth of public debt. The public debt is equal to 68.3% of the size of the nation's economy, far higher than the sustainable limit prescribed under the Fiscal Responsibility and Debt Limitation Act.

Due to mounting debt, Pakistan's gross financing requirements are estimated at over 20% of the size of the economy, according to the finance ministry's annual borrowing plan.

The documents showed the $500 million programme aims to strengthen fiscal sustainability, governance, administration and service delivery of the federal pension system by reducing legacy pension liabilities, operationalising a Defined Contribution pension scheme and "improving employee engagement".

The Planning Commission had inquired about the status of past loans taken for pension reforms, which the finance ministry promised to provide later.

Iqbal directed that tangible outcomes achieved under the previous pension reforms project should be linked with the objectives of the new programme. He desired that fiscal stabilisation achieved through borrowed budgetary support may also enhance the size of Public Sector Development Programme funding to ensure sustainable economic growth and employment generation.

The concept clearance committee directed the Finance Division to submit a report to the Planning Commission on specific outcomes achieved under the erstwhile pension reforms project implemented in the past.

The finance ministry informed the committee that pension expenditure and long-term liabilities continue to rise, reducing fiscal space for priority public spending in health, education, infrastructure, climate resilience and social protection.

However, the budget support loan would further reduce the space for spending on the social sector due to the consequent increase in the cost of interest payments.

The concept clearance committee also approved a $250 million loan for promoting a sustainable public-private partnerships (PPP) programme in Pakistan, yet another objective that cannot be met with foreign lending.

The committee was informed that the objective of the $250 million loan was to strengthen the governance framework and enabling environment for PPP at the federal level by strengthening legal and institutional frameworks for public investment management and public financial management (PFM).



By: Abdul Wahid

Saim, Farhan Shine Bright In Pakistan's Series Win

Pakistan Clinches T20I Series with Commanding Final Win

Pakistan's cricket team clinched the three-match T20I series against West Indies 1-2 after securing a 13-run victory in the third and final match. This win was not just decisive but also a clear message of Pakistan's intent, form, and readiness ahead of the Asia Cup.

Strategic Changes Pay Off in Florida Showdown

The final match was played in Lauderhill, Florida, where captain Agha Salman won the toss and opted to bat first. Two changes were made to the playing XI — Haris replaced Shaheen Shah Afridi, while Khushdil Shah came in for Fakhar Zaman. Both changes proved effective, contributing to an improved overall team performance.

Saim and Farhan Light Up the Powerplay

Pakistan's innings began confidently, with young openers Saim Ayub and Sahibzada Farhan taking charge. They kept pressure on the West Indian bowlers from the start, entertaining the crowd with their strokeplay. Saim scored 66 while Farhan contributed 74, providing a solid foundation for the team. iddle Order Cameos Push Pakistan to 189

In the middle order, Hasan Nawaz, Khushdil Shah, and Faheem Ashraf chipped in with brief but impactful cameos, pushing the total to a competitive 189. Faheem's 10 runs off just 3 balls in the final overs proved to be a critical boost for Pakistan.

http://Australia's Tim David Fined for Showing Dissent During 5th T20I Against West Indies

West Indies Fight Back but Fall Short In response, West Indies fought back valiantly. Their key batters Alick Athanaze and Sherfane Rutherford showed resilience — Athanaze scored 60 and Rutherford added 51. At one stage, it looked like West Indies might take control, but Pakistan's spinners turned the tide with clever bowling.

Spinners Turn the Game in Pakistan's Favor

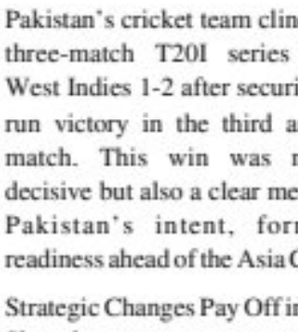
The spin attack was tight and tactical, slowing the run rate and building pressure. The injury-forced retirement of Roston Chase also hurt the West Indian momentum.

Death Overs Show Pakistan's Bowling Maturity

In the death overs, Pakistan's bowlers showed remarkable composure and confidence. Their unity, discipline, and strategic execution reflected the maturity of a well-prepared unit. Boost in Morale as Asia Cup Nears his victory has lifted team morale significantly. The selection changes were successful, the youngsters stepped up with responsibility, and the team's fitness levels appeared strong — all indicators that Pakistan is well-prepared for the Asia Cup.

ODI Series in Trinidad: The Next Big Test The team now heads to Trinidad for a three-match ODI series — crucial not only for Asia Cup preparations but also as part of the roadmap to the World Cup.

A New Chapter Fueled by Youth and Unity Cricket fans are viewing this win as a new chapter for the team — one driven by youthful energy, a positive mindset, and balanced leadership. If Pakistan can carry this spirit and discipline into the Asia Cup, they will surely emerge as one of the strongest contenders in the tournament.



By: Abdul Wahid

A Simple Non-invasive Breath Test-May Differentiate Between Diabetes Types

Institute of Allied Health Sciences, Wah Medical College - 05.08.2025

Pakistan is currently facing a major public health challenge with diabetes. According to the International Diabetes Federation (IDF), an estimated 34.5 million people in Pakistan are living with diabetesmaking it the third most affected country in the world. A large proportion of these individuals are either undiagnosed or misdiagnosed, resulting in delayed or inappropriate treatment and increasing the risk of serious health complications, such as kidney disease, heart attacks, and nerve damage.

A common issue in diabetes care is distinguishing between Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes. Inaccurate classification can lead to unsuitable treatment plansfor example, delaying necessary insulin therapy or prescribing ineffective oral medications. Such errors can negatively impact patients' health, quality of life, and long-term outcomes.

To address this, a team of Pakistani researchers has developed a new, non-invasive diagnostic method that can accurately differentiate between Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes. The method uses a simple reliable Glucose Breath Test, combined with Mass Spectrometry (MS), to analyze specific metabolic markers found in exhaled breath.

The project was led by **Dr. Shahid Aziz**, Assistant Professor at the Institute of Allied Health Sciences, Wah Medical College.

"This breath-based test offers a faster, simpler, and pain-free way to help doctors determine the correct type of diabetes," said Dr. Aziz. *"It is especially valuable in clinical settings for effective and early diagnosis of diabetes types".*

This breakthrough was made possible through a multidisciplinary collaboration. Clinical support was provided by **Dr. Wajahat Sultan Baig**, Assistant Professor, and **Prof. Dr. Muzamil Jamil**, Head of the Department of Medicine at POF Hospital, Wah Medical College.

"In our clinical experience, it is often difficult to determine diabetes type early on. This tool can provide clarity and support more accurate treatment decisions from day one," said Dr. Wajahat.

Prof. Dr. Muzamil Jamil added: *"This research opens a new chapter in diabetes diagnosis. A breath-based test is not only convenient for patients but also represents a significant step forward in accurate diagnosis and timely treatment."*

Academic institutional and administrative leadership was provided by **Dr. Ghulam Mustafa**, Director of the Institute of Allied Health Sciences, Wah Medical College.

"This project reflects our commitment to high-impact research that improves clinical outcomes and addresses emergent healthcare challenges in Pakistan," said Dr. Mustafa.

Compared to standard blood testssuch as HbA1c, fasting glucose, and antibody teststhis breath-based method has demonstrated higher accuracy in distinguishing the two types of diabetes during clinical evaluation. It is also more comfortable for patients, as it does not require blood samples or fasting.

The development of this test will be major step towards diagnosis and management of diabetes. It is imperative to mention that, further clinical studies are currently underway to validate its usage in hospitals and clinics across different regions of Pakistan.



By: Tahir Rashid

China May Jeopardize Dollar's Authority

China may jeopardize dollar's authority. It was sensed for almost a decade that China would challenge the dominance of the US dollar, and the economic experts believe that the time has come for this.

Here arises an important question will the rule of dollar, in international trade will be over in a couple of years, and will the era of the Yuan and other local currencies prevail?

The paper currency is like the paper flowers, whether it may be dollars that don't have their own smell, but all their magnificence is indebted. When its loaned structure would tremble, it would take a few hours to demolish the entire paper palace. The major portion of the dollar's grandeur is artificial. It is ruling the world based on the impact, it has made over the years, rather than its reality. Whenever this impact vanishes, it would fall on earth.

If one country produces something and another country is buying it, neither the US has anything to do with this give and take, nor does the product go to US markets, but the payment is made for this interchange in dollars. Secondly, every country, including Pakistan, has to retain billions of dollars in the national exchequer to maintain credibility in the international market, which enhances the value of the dollar and in this way, it gains worth globally.

Let's suppose that the world is not penurious of dollars and each country trades in its local currency, then what will happen to the international economy? If this kind of situation arises, then most countries will not have any need to keep a dollar pile, then it would be difficult for US currency to stand on its own feet.

However, it is extremely difficult to challenge dollar because American power and above all global financial system is standing behind it and the devaluation of dollar means the collapse of the entire international system.

In the past, some small countries dared to oppose trade in dollars but they faced the dire consequences. The real crime of Saddam Hussain was that he tried to disassociate oil trade with the dollars.

Now robust state like China can confront the supremacy of the dollar as she is so strong financially and militarily that it can bear the upshot.

Back in 2009, China had fielded Yaun in front of dollar on an experimental basis and initially she began trade with institutions have now associated with it. The story does not finish here but BRICS countries are seriously mulling over introducing new currency in front of dollar, which have 36 per cent of world GDP.

China is also working speedily on the policy to get rid of dollar for her reserves. Now she is showing keen interest in gold in place of dollar and now days she is buying gold, which is itself extraordinary move.



During the last three years, China has bought 300 tons of gold, which has increased its gold reserves to 2300 tons. In the future , the assessment of China's reserves would be carried out in gold and Yuan instead of dollar.

China is the world's largest buyer of oil from Saudi Arabia, and for a long time, she is making payment for it in dollars, but now this trade is not done in dollars completely, but Yuan is also used for the purpose. With the passage of time, the influence of Yuan will increase and the dependency on dollars will be reduced.

Now the time will tell that the kingship of the dollar will remain intact or not but it is surely said that such threats have emerged that will finish its rule one day.

It was sensed for almost a decade that China would challenge the dominance of the US dollar, and the economic experts believe that the time has come for this.

Here arises an important question would the rule of dollar, in international trade will be over in a couple of years, and will the era of the Yuan and other local currencies prevail?

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Now robust state like China can confront the supremacy of the dollar as she is so strong financially and militarily that it can bear the upshot.

Back in 2009, China had fielded Yaun in front of dollar on an experimental basis and initially she began trade with 10 ASEAN countries resulting in Yaun seeking momentum, and at present, it has made its worth in a befitting manner.

Some decades ago, 71 per cent of international foreign reserves consisted of dollar, which has now shrunk to 58 per cent.

Now Russia and China are not dependent on dollar in international market as 90 per cent share of their bilateral trade is linked with local currencies. Similarly, almost 36 countries are carrying out their trade with China in Yuan instead of the dollar. Likewise, China and Russia have evolved a new payment system opposing Swift and more than 100 countries, and some 1500 financial institutions have now associated with it. The story does not finish here but BRICS countries are seriously mulling over introducing new currency in front of dollar, which have 36 per cent of world GDP.

China is also working speedily on the policy to get rid of dollar for her reserves. Now she is showing keen interest in gold in place of dollar and now days she is buying gold, which is itself extraordinary move.

Scanned with CamScanner

FBR offices to remain open on Saturday to collect Duty and taxes

■ The move also provides taxpayers and businesses with an additional opportunity to complete pending tax payments and other tax-related transactions before the end of the month.



Web DESK

ISLAMABAD

All offices of the Federal Board of Revenue and its field formations will remain open on Saturday, October 31, 2026, for the collection of duty and taxes, According to the FBR's latest notice, the relevant Large Taxpayer Offices (LTOs), Corporate Tax Offices (CTOs) and Regional Tax Offices (RTOs) will observe October 31. 2026 as a normal working day. The move also provides taxpayers and businesses with an additional opportunity to complete pending tax payments and other tax-related transactions before the end of the month.

Guidance will be provided to taxpayers regarding any technical glitches. The Federal Board of Revenue directed all chief commissioners to ensure routine operations on October 31, 2026, and facilitate taxpayers. As per the notification issued on Tuesday, tax relief meant reduction in the amount of tax. The notification stated that a shopkeeper, who would connect his cash counter to the FBR, would get the relief.

It further stated that the relief would be granted only on the exact price of the machine and the expenditures incurred on its installation.



DOHA, October 27, 2026: Federal Minister for Commerce Jam Kamal Khan meets Qatar's Minister of Municipality to discuss strengthening bilateral cooperation in agriculture, food security and trade.

Crude oil prices fall on Iran peace hopes

■ Crude oil prices fell on Tuesday as diplomatic efforts to resolve the US-Israeli war on Iran eased concerns over potential supply disruptions, although fresh attacks on Saudi Arabia kept prices near six-month highs.

Web Desk

ISLAMABAD

Crude oil prices fell on Tuesday as diplomatic efforts to resolve the US-Israeli war on Iran eased concerns over potential supply disruptions, although fresh attacks on Saudi Arabia kept prices near six-month highs.

Currently, Brent crude futures is down, 1.17%, at $114.64 per barrel. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures is down by $1.04, or 1.02%, to $100.72 per barrel.

Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Pakistan held talks with Iranian officials in Tehran on Monday to reduce regional tensions. Saudi Arabia said the visit aimed to establish open channels for negotiations and prevent a renewed military escalation, according to CNBC.



Iranian state media reported that the four countries agreed to continue discussions to strengthen cooperation on peace and security.

The diplomatic engagement offered some relief to oil markets by reducing fears of prolonged disruptions to energy supplies. However, the prospect of an immediate return to stability remained uncertain following renewed attacks by Iran-aligned Houthi forces on Saudi Arabia, limiting the decline in prices.

Security risks have also intensified around the Strait of Hormuz and surrounding waterways. October has recorded the highest number of attacks on commercial shipping in the area, according to data compiled by a Washington-based think tank that has monitored maritime security incidents since 2017.

The conflict has placed the Strait of Hormuz at the center of global energy market concerns. Before the war began in February, the strategic waterway handled around one-fifth of the world's energy supplies, making disruptions in the region a significant risk for global oil and fuel markets.

Pakistan launches initiative to boost pharma industry's global compliance, Export readiness



Web Desk

ASHLAND

:The National Productivity Organization (NPO), in collaboration with industry bodies, on Monday launched a technical initiative to strengthen pharmaceutical and nutraceutical manufacturers' compliance with international standards and improve access to regulated export markets.

The initiative, conducted under the Ministry of Industries and Production in collaboration with the Pakistan Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association (PPMA) and the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (RCCI), runs from Oct. 20 to 30 under the Asian Productivity Organization's Technical Expert Service (TES) programme.

It focuses on Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), Pharmaceutical Inspection Co-operation Scheme (PIC/S) principles and United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) requirements to help Pakistani companies meet international regulatory expectations.

International technical expert Chuan Yao of Singapore, who has more than 30 years of pharmaceutical industry experience, is providing technical guidance, company-level assessments and capacity building to identify compliance gaps and recommend practical improvements.

The programme covers manufacturing processes, quality assurance and control, documentation, validation, data integrity, regulatory affairs and inspection readiness.

Its findings are also expected to support the development of a model FDA compliance framework for wider adoption across the sector.

Addressing an industry dissemination seminar at RCCI on Oct. 26, Additional Secretary for Industries and Production Asif Saeed Khan Lughmani emphasized the need to strengthen regulatory compliance and quality standards to improve the industry's competitiveness and expand access to international markets.

He highlighted government-industry collaboration as essential to sustainable industrial growth and export development.

RCCI President Nosherwan Khalil stressed the importance of technical capacity building and industry cooperation in helping pharmaceutical companies meet international regulatory requirements.NPO Chief Executive Officer Muhammad Alamgir Chaudhry reaffirmed the organization's commitment to improving productivity, quality and industrial competitiveness through specialized technical assistance and international cooperation.

Oil eases on Middle East diplomacy hopes, Saudi attacks keep supply worries alive

● Oil prices dipped on hopes of Middle East peace talks easing supply fears, but attacks on Saudi Arabia and shipping threats near the Strait of Hormuz kept Brent near six-month highs.

Web Desk

KARACHI

Oil prices edged lower on Tuesday as the potential for a ?resolution in the US-Israeli war on Iran kept supply fears at bay, but Brent stayed close to six-month highs as attacks on Saudi Arabia lowered hopes of immediate stability in the region.

Brent crude ?futures were down 66 cents, or 0.57%, at $115.15 a barrel as of 0000 ?GMT, while US West Texas Intermediate crude was down 44 cents, ?or 0.43%, at $101.32.

Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Pakistan held talks with Iranian officials ?in Tehran on Monday aimed at easing tensions in the Middle East. Saudi Arabia said ?the visit sought to establish open negotiating channels to "prevent the return of military escalation". The four countries agreed to continue talks with a view to strengthening cooperation in peace and security, Iranian state media reported.



Hopes of resolution in the conflict erased some fears of ?supply disruption, lowering risks and pressuring oil prices.

However, losses were limited as scope for peace looked ?fragile, ?with renewed attacks by Iran-aligned Houthis on key producer Saudi Arabia.

October has been the worst month for attacks on commercial shipping in the Strait of Hormuz and nearby waterways, according to data compiled by a Washington-based think tank that has tracked maritime security incidents worldwide ?since 2017.

The war ?has rippled across ?the Middle East, placing the Strait of Hormuz at the center of the turmoil. The narrow waterway carried around a ?fifth of the world's energy supplies before the conflict erupted in ?February.

Last ?week, Brent prices surged to more than $117 a barrel, the highest level since April, after a wave of Iranian attacks on tankers around the strait. Brent prices touched $117 on Monday ?as ?well.

Elsewhere, Russian refiners are raising diesel production in October ?after the government granted export quotas following the Kremlin's supply agreement with the US, two industry sources ?close to the matter said.

Yen slips ahead of central bank bonanza, dollar firms on tech rebound

■ The minister said that, as the world moves from the digital era into the intelligent era, artificial intelligence is itself moving into the physical world

Web Desk

SHANGHAI/SINGAPORE

The Japanese yen eased against the US dollar on Tuesday, further eroding last week's safe-haven gains, underpinned by a risk-on mood and weaker euro ahead of key central bank meetings this week that will influence the global rates outlook.

The yen was 0.16% weaker at 157.73 per dollar, inching further away from the one-month high it touched last week ahead of the Bank of Japan policy decision later this week. The yen had lost ground on Monday too.

The BOJ is set to keep interest rates steady at 1.25% in a two-day meeting concluding on Friday, ?but signal its readiness to continue raising borrowing costs on mounting price pressures.

A key gauge of Japan's service-sector inflation rose 3.7% ?in September from a year earlier, data showed on Tuesday, a sign of increasing price pressures that ?will likely keep the central bank on track for further interest rate hikes.



"We expect the BOJ will conclude that the underlying rate of ?consumer price inflation is at a level generally consistent with the 2% price stability target," analysts at MUFG said in a note.

However, simply ?touching the target once is not enough, the analysts said, adding that the BOJ will now shift from a focus on the downside risks to inflation to a stance of monitoring risks in both directions.

The yen was among the best-performing major currencies last week, as AI jitters in the equity market spurred a ?haven rush into the currency.

Markets price slightly better-than-even odds of a December BOJ hike, so there is plenty of room for a ?rebound in the yen should Governor Ueda strike a hawkish note, said Ebury analysts in a note.

"We still favour another hike at the last meeting of ?the ?year, though whether the BOJ will be prepared to commit to that just yet is unclear."

Apart from the BOJ, four other major central banks will announce policy decisions this week. The BOJ's meeting follows that of the Fed, which is seen skipping a hike at its two-day meeting concluding on Wednesday.

The video player is currently playing an ad. You can skip the ad in 5 sec with a mouse or keyboard

The European Central Bank is also set to keep rates unchanged at 2.5% on Thursday. New Zealand's and Canada's central ?banks are expected to raise rates ?this week.

Scanned with CamScanner

Trump predicts economy to help Republicans in midterms

- Donald Trump campaigns in Mississippi, touting economic growth and falling oil prices as Republicans face mounting voter concerns ahead of crucial midterm elections.



Web Desk

CORINTH, Mississippi

US President Donald Trump campaigned in deeply Republican Mississippi, predicting victory for a Republican Senate candidate ?based on what he deemed to be a booming US economy, while also repeating his claim that oil prices would soon ?plummet.

Trump, a Republican, has been on a campaign blitz through normally safe Republican states ahead of the November 3 vote, with party strategists telling Reuters they are on edge about races from Alaska to South Carolina, in part because of voter discontent over how Trump's tariffs and the Iran war have fueled inflation.

Sounding hoarse from his recent series of ?campaign rallies, Trump remarked, "God didn't make your vocal cords to do a rally every day."

Trump is expected to visit Texas, Ohio, South Carolina, ?Florida and Iowa in the final days of the campaign, with voter concerns over affordability likely to weigh on Republicans, pollsters say.

Trump acknowledged the war in Iran has pushed up oil prices, but said it was a small price to pay to stop Iran ?from acquiring a nuclear weapon.

"I thought the price of oil was going to go much, much higher," Trump said.

"It's worked out fine and it'll be over soon," Trump said about the war.All 435 seats in the US House of Representatives and 35 of the 100 Senate seats are on the ballot, with public opinion polls suggesting the Democrats will regain control of the House and have a chance to retake the Senate.

A Republican victory would preserve Republican control of Congress, which Trump ?has enjoyed since returning to the White House after the 2024 election, while a Democratic victory could impede the president and trigger congressional investigations ?into his administration.

In Mississippi, an unexpectedly competitive US Senate race has given Democrats a rare opening ahead of next week's congressional elections.

Democrats last won a Senate seat ?in Mississippi ?in 1982. Trump carried the state by nearly 23 percentage points in 2024, and he won the northeastern Mississippi county he was set to visit on Monday by 68 percentage points.

But several election analysts no longer regard US Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith's reelection as a sure bet. The Trump-endorsed Republican faces Democrat Scott Colom, a district attorney from the Columbus area, and independent Ty Pinkins, a military veteran and attorney who previously ran statewide as a ?Democrat.

Israel election: What happens after polls close?



WEB DESK

JERUSALEM

Israel holds a parliamentary election on Tuesday, its first since the Hamas attack on October 7, 2023 that shook the country and plunged the Middle ?East into turmoil.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's hold on power is at stake, with centrist rivals promising to usher in a new era, but it might take time before clear results are known. WHEN WILL WE KNOW WHO WON

It is likely this will be known within a few hours of ?polls closing, but it could take days or even weeks to become clear.

Voting starts ?at 7 a.m. (0500 GMT) and ends at 10 p.m. (2000 GMT), when Israeli ?TV channels will air exit polls giving the first indications of the outcome. The election ?results will then start coming in.

A clear picture may emerge quickly but if no party ?or group of parties has a clear parliamentary majority, it could take much longer.

The final tally is expected by October 30 and official election results are formally published a week after the election, on November ?4.

WHY IS IT SO COMPLICATED?

Elections to the 120-seat Knesset are meant to be held every four years but early electins have been frequent.

The Knesset seats are allocated by proportional representation to national ?party ?lists, with parties needing to pass a threshold of 3.25% of the national vote to secure seats.

About a dozen parties are widely thought to have a chance of crossing the threshold, so the final tally and seat allocation will take time.

After ?the final tally is ?in, President Isaac Herzog ?will consult party leaders on whom they want as prime minister and then tap the candidate he believes has the best chance of forming a government. That nominee has up to 42 days to form ?a government.

No single party in Israel has ever won an outright majority, so governments are formed by a coalition of parties, and negotiations on forming a government often take weeks. Every Knesset seat counts and small parties can have a big impact by becoming kingmakers.



Saudi-led coalition says it intercepted Houthi missiles, drones attacking kingdom

- The Houthis launched three ballistic missiles towards Saudi Arabia's Eastern Region, and four drones towards the country's Southern Region

Web DESK

SAUDIA ARABIA

The Saudi-led coalition fighting Yemen's Houthis said on Tuesday that it had shot down three missiles and four drones fired by the group toward the Kingdom's eastern and southern regions.

"Air defences intercepted and destroyed three ballistic missiles launched by the terrorist Houthi militia toward the Eastern Province," coalition spokesman Turki Al-Malki wrote on X.

The Saudi-led coalition earlier said that four drones launched by Houthis towards Saudi Arabia's southern region have been intercepted and destroyed.

Reports said that the fight for Yemen's third-largest city Taiz, is entering a "make or break" stage, according to Al Jazeera.

"The battle for Jabal Sabr is pretty much make or break in order to capture Taiz," analysts said, referring to a strategic mountain nearby, adding that the fight is, "partially about symbolism but more than anything it's about simple geography. It's crucial for maintaining control over the city."

Explosions have been heard in Yemen's Houthi-controlled capital Sanaa and along the Red Sea coast.

Residents in western Sanaa report at least four explosions, but what has been hit remains unclear.

A woman, reportedly living near a Houthi base, says a loud blast shattered windows in her home and nearby houses.

In the port city of Mokha, recently seized by the Houthis, a resident claims a rocket struck a four-storey residential building, and that at least 10 other houses and a hospital have been damaged.

The United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations Centre (UKMTO) has reported that a vessel is on fire off the coast of Iraq, without specifying the cause of the incident or the status of the crew."UKMTO has received multiple third-party reports of a vessel on fire, 63 nautical miles southeast of Al-Faw, Iraq," it says. "Crew status, damage assessment, and environmental impact are unknown at time of report."

Pakistan pushes for UN Security Council veto reform to end its paralysis

WEB DESK

UN



Pakistan told the UN General Assembly that reform of the Security Council must tackle the veto power, held by the five permanent members — US, Russia, China, France and UK — to end the 15-member body's institutional paralysis and make it more effective and equitable.

"The misuse of the veto undermines the Security Council's effectiveness and the credibility of the UN, while giving the permanent five unmatched influence throughout the UN system," Pakistani delegate Gul Qaiser Sarwani told the 193-member Assembly where representatives reiterated calls to restructure the Council to make it more responsive to its primary role of maintaining international peace and security, as they debated use of the veto.The General Assembly convened in line with resolution 76/262, adopted in April 2022, which mandates it to hold a session within 10 working days of a veto being cast in the Security Council.With the campaign of India, Brazil, Germany and Japan for permanent seats on the Council in mind, Sarwani, a counsellor and political coordinator in the Pakistan Mission to the UN.

UN says Israel kept committing genocide in Gaza after truce

- UN commission accuses Israel of continuing genocidal acts in Gaza after ceasefire, while Israel rejects the findings as a misinformation campaign.

WEB DESK

GENEVA

Israel continued to commit genocide in Gaza after last October's US-brokered ceasefire in the enclave, a UN commission said in a report published that Israel dismissed as part of a "misinformation campaign".

The report by the UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including ?East Jerusalem, and Israel examined violations against Palestinian children since the start of the war between Israel and Hamas on October 7, 2023 up to September this year.



It said Israeli authorities had kept committing "genocidal acts with the genocidal intent to destroy, in whole ?or in part, the Palestinians in Gaza", and that the situation had also continued to deteriorate ?in the occupied West Bank.

Another report by the commission in September last year found ?that Israel had committed genocide in Gaza and that top Israeli officials including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu incited these ?acts — accusations that Israel called scandalous.

The Israeli mission in Geneva said the latest report was part of a ?misinformation campaign to demonize the State of Israel.

"The attempt to destroy the Jewish state ... continues today through efforts by actors such as the UN Commission of Inquiry to undermine Israel's legitimacy and deny its fundamental right to exist and defend itself," Ambassador ?Daniel Meron said in a statement.

The commission found that Israeli forces continued ?using heavy munitions, drones, quadcopters, artillery and sniper fire in densely populated areas during the ceasefire in Gaza.

It said the "Yellow ?Line" which ?was presented as a temporary ceasefire demarcation, was encroaching increasingly into Gaza, and becoming a de facto border, which the report said reflected Israel's expanding territorial control of Gaza.

Russia, Ukraine begin localised ceasefire to allow for humanitarian operation in Oleshky

- U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio warned Asian leaders Wednesday that Iran's demand to control and collect tolls in the Strait of Hormuz would threaten the world's economy.

WEB DESK

MASCOW

Russia and Ukraine have started a localised ceasefire to allow for a humanitarian operation to begin in the Russian-occupied town of Oleshky, both sides said on Tuesday.

Russia's defence ministry said on Telegram it stopped shelling in the direction of the Ukrainian city of Kherson from 4 a.m. Moscow time (0100 GMT) to prepare for the humanitarian operation in Oleshky, just across the Dnipro River from Kherson.

Dmytro Lubinets, Ukraine's parliament commissioner for human rights, confirmed in a Facebook post the ceasefire has started at the same time.

"As head of the Ukrainian negotiating team, I confirm that the Ukrainian side is honoring its commitments," he wrote.

Russia and Ukraine have agreed to a localised ceasefire around the Russian-occupied town of Oleshky in southern Ukraine, an arrangement that will enable aid deliveries and allow evacuations from a frontline town suffering acute shortages of food and medicine.

Oleshky lies on the ?eastern bank of the Dnipro in Ukraine's southern region of Kherson, opposite the city of Kherson, which is held by Ukrainian forces.

Russian troops seized Oleshky during the first days of their February 2022 invasion and have controlled it ?ever since. The White House said last week that US first lady Melania Trump helped to secure the Oleshky ceasefire.

Elsewhere in Ukraine, a Russian missile attack on ?the Ukrainian capital Kyiv on Monday killed at least one person and injured 10, including students at a dormitory, with the attacks also killing ?and injuring people in the cities of Kharkiv and Pavlohrad.

New explosions were heard on Tuesday morning in Kyiv, a Reuters witness said.

Scanned with CamScanner

Traditional charm meets glam', Ayeza Khan slays black ensemble

■ Ayeza Khan's latest look from Sana Safinaz's Muzlin Winter Collection blends classic charm with contemporary flair, leaving fans in awe of her fashion sense.

WEB DESK

KARACHI



Ayeza Khan's latest look from Sana Safinaz's Muzlin Winter Collection blends classic charm with contemporary flair, leaving fans in awe of her fashion sense.

Taking to Instagram, the star shared a video flaunting a sleek black three-piece outfit, perfectly blending timeless elegance with contemporary flair.

In her caption, Ayeza highlighted the outfit's sophistication: "@amalofficialpk Mehar-Nooré Collection – where black meets timeless embroidery and effortless grace." The ensemble features a deep black dyed slub shirt adorned with intricate multi-tonal floral embroidery across the front and sleeves.

Designed with a flared silhouette, wide sleeves and a delicate scalloped hem, the shirt exudes effortless charm.

It is paired with matching black dyed slub trousers and a coordinating dupatta, completing a look that modern style with classic elegance.

Fans quickly flocked to the post, praising Ayeza Khan's chic styling and her effortless ability to carry bold yet graceful fashion statements.

With this appearance, she once again proves why she is considered a style icon in Pakistan's entertainment and fashion scene.

Early 2026 has already proven to be a landmark year for Ayeza. After gracing the cover of Hello! Pakistan, where she was celebrated as a woman at her "strongest," she has continued to dominate both fashion and television headlines.

Fiza Ali fires back at Nadia Khan and Nida Yasir over Ramadan show criticism

SHOWBIZ DESK

MUMBAI



Pakistani TV host Fiza Ali has strongly responded to criticism from senior anchors Nadia Khan and Nida Yasir regarding her Ramadan transmission, calling their comments hypocritical.

Fiza defended her show, highlighting that Nida Yasir frequently discusses bold and private matters of celebrities on her programs, yet singled out Fiza's Ramadan content.

She also referenced a past incident involving Nadia Khan and actress Noor Bukhari, alleging that Nadia interfered in Bukhari's marriage for a viral moment.

Fiza stressed that she would never exploit anyone's personal life, emphasizing the importance of protecting marriages over chasing social media attention.

Fiza also addressed the alleged leaked audio involving Dr. Nabiha, clarifying that the clip circulating online was from last year's Ramadan show and was never planted for publicity. She explained that her emotional reaction on air stemmed from genuinely empathizing with Dr. Nabiha's marital struggles.

"People need to understand, I had no idea Dr. Nabiha would share these personal details," Fiza said. "No segment was planned to create a viral moment, and there is no proof of a 'leak.'" She reiterated her support for women facing difficult marriages and insisted, "My work is about helping, not exploiting, others."

Addressing Nida Yasir specifically, Fiza said, "You often discuss private and romantic details of celebrities like Iqbal Hussain, Jamal Shah, and Faryal Gohar on your show.

Criticizing Ramadan transmission while doing this yourself is unfair. At least have the decency to clear your own record before commenting on mine."

Responding to accusations of chasing virality, Fiza explained that her content naturally goes viral throughout the year. "I don't need to stage stunts or use controversial tactics just for attention," she said, urging colleagues to respect the sanctity of Ramadan.

Fiza also addressed the alleged leaked audio involving Dr. Nabiha, clarifying that the clip circulating online was from last year's Ramadan show and was never planted for publicity. She explained that her emotional reaction on air stemmed from genuinely empathizing with Dr. Nabiha's marital struggles.



Ramadan row: Sonya Hussyn slams disrespect and TRP-driven sensationalism

■ In a strongly worded Instagram story, she urged members of the entertainment industry to reflect on their conduct, especially during a time meant for spiritual growth and humility.

WEB DESK

KARACHI

Pakistani actress Sonya Hussyn has spoken out against the rising disrespect in Ramadan transmissions, condemning the use of foul language and offensive remarks against senior artists during the holy month.

In a strongly worded Instagram story, she urged members of the entertainment industry to reflect on their conduct, especially during a time meant for spiritual growth and humility.

Expressing disappointment over recent social media exchanges, Sonya questioned why some artists were behaving "so disgracefully" online, particularly in Ramadan. She emphasised that using inappropriate language against senior figures is deeply troubling, while also noting that seniors, too, should pause and reflect before making public statements.

The actress also addressed the growing debate around hosting Ramadan transmissions, describing it as a rare privilege and a "saadat" (blessing) granted to only a few. She revealed that although she has been offered such opportunities multiple times, she does not consider herself knowledgeable enough to shoulder that responsibility.

Criticizing the industry's increasing reliance on sensational, TRP-driven content, Sonya warned that while such programming may temporarily boost ratings, it ultimately lowers society's intellectual and moral standards. She reminded fellow artists that public recognition comes with responsibility, adding that humility is what truly justifies fame.

Her comments come amid heated online discussions following Fazila Qazi's viral remarks, in which she criticized the commercialization of Ramadan transmissions, asking, "Where is PEMRA? What kind of things are being said in Ramadan transmissions… we cross all limits for ratings!"

Fans have since been divided, with some supporting Fazila's and Sonya's call for more respect and sensitivity during the sacred month, while others argue that the critiques are unfair.



Hiba Bukhari reveals her age after old video resurfaces

SHOWBIZ DESK

LAHORE

Renowned Pakistani actress Hiba Bukhari revealed her age after an old video clip resurfaced online, confirming that she was the young girl featured in the viral footage.

The clip, which resurfaced on social media, was from a PTV musical night and showed a young girl whose striking resemblance to Hiba Bukhari sparked widespread debate online. Many social media users were curious to know whether it was actually the actress or merely someone who looked like her.

Hiba Bukhari addressed the matter during her recent appearance on a private TV channel show. She confirmed that she was present in the viral clip and revealed that she was studying in either seventh or eighth grade at the time. According to the actress, the footage dates back to around 2011.She explained that she had attended the musical event with her family, as someone in her family had connections within PTV's technical department.

Nora Fatehi shares Ramazan fasting update with fans

■ Nora Fatehi shares Ramazan update after completing seven fasts, admits feeling tired today, cancels rehearsals to rest and asks fans about their energy while staying positive.



WEB DESK

MUMBAI

Moroccan-origin Canadian actress and dancer Nora Fatehi has released a video message regarding observing fasts during the holy month of Ramazan.

Nora Fatehi shared a video on social media platform Instagram in which she updated her fans about her health and her experience of fasting in Ramazan.

In her video message, she said that she is currently addressing her followers after completing seven days and seven fasts of Ramazan, adding that her week had gone very well overall.

However, the actress and dancer admitted that the current day had been slightly difficult.

She revealed that when she woke up, she felt extremely tired.

Due to the exhaustion, she cancelled all her rehearsals and scheduled commitments for the day and chose to stay at home to rest.

"Today my energy felt a little low. I'm very excited to know how you all are feeling. Are you still going strong? How is your energy and what are you doing?" she asked her followers.

Super influenza: Symptoms, treatment, and prevention

■ Super influenza spreads more aggressively through coughing

HEALTH DESK

ISLAMABAD



As flu cases surge worldwide, health experts are warning about super influenza, a more aggressive form of the flu that spreads rapidly and causes severe complications.

Doctors say early recognition and proper care are critical to reducing hospitalisations and deaths.

What is super influenza?

Super influenza is not a single new virus but a severe strain or mutation of influenza viruses that leads to more intense symptoms and faster deterioration in patients.

Unlike seasonal flu, super influenza overwhelms the immune system quickly, particularly in children, elderly people, and those with weak immunity.

Health officials say crowded cities, poor ventilation, and delayed treatment increase its spread and severity.

How super influenza is different from seasonal flu

Super influenza spreads more aggressively through coughing, sneezing, and close contact.

Patients often report sudden high fever, extreme body pain, chest tightness, and prolonged weakness.

Doctors warn that super influenza can lead to pneumonia, respiratory failure, heart inflammation, and secondary bacterial infections. Hospital admissions are significantly higher compared to routine influenza cases.

Common symptoms to watch out for

Early symptoms may resemble normal flu but worsen rapidly.

Key signs include:

Persistenthigh fever

Severe muscle and joint pain Shortness of breath Continuous dry or productive cough

Extreme fatigue lasting several weeks

In children and older adults, symptoms may escalate without warning. Who is most at risk?

Certain groups face a higher risk of severe illness. These include: People over 60 years of age Children under five Pregnant women Patients with diabetes, asthma, or heart disease Individuals with weak immune systems. Doctors stress that these groups should seek medical help immediately if symptoms appear.

Comeback ho toh aisa! Aiman Khan steals the spotlight at LAAM Fashion Week

Scanned with CamScanner

Grand Balochistan T20 League Kicks Off in Quetta with Thrilling Matches

● Turbat Strikers Beat Loralai Sunrisers by 3 Wickets; Pishin Warriors Defeat Command and Staff College by 38 Runs

Sports Desk

QUETTA

The Grand Balochistan T20 Cricket League continued with exciting cricketing action at Chagai Stadium, Quetta Cantt, on October 27, 2026, as teams showcased their talent and competitive spirit in two thrilling matches.The opening match of the league featured an exciting contest between the Turbat Strikers and the Loralai Sunrisers. Both teams competed with determination, keeping spectators engaged throughout the match. After a closely fought encounter, the Turbat Strikers emerged victorious by three wickets, securing an important win in the tournament.The victory marked an encouraging start for the Turbat Strikers, who demonstrated resilience and determination under pressure to achieve their target and finish the match in their favour. The Loralai Sunrisers also put up a competitive performance, making the opening fixture an engaging contest.In the second match of the day, the Pishin Warriors delivered an impressive all-round performance against the Command and Staff College, Quetta. The Warriors displayed strong cricketing skills and effective teamwork to secure a convincing 38-run victory.The Pishin Warriors maintained their advantage through a determined team effort, outplaying their opponents to register a significant win in the league. The Command and Staff College side attempted to challenge the opposition but ultimately fell short of the required target.The two matches added excitement to the ongoing Grand Balochistan T20 Cricket League, providing cricket enthusiasts with an opportunity to witness competitive T20 action in Quetta.The tournament aims to provide a platform for participating teams to demonstrate their abilities, promote sporting talent and encourage greater interest in cricket across Balochistan.With the league matches continuing, cricket fans can look forward to more competitive encounters as teams seek to strengthen their positions in the tournament and make their mark in the Grand Balochistan T20 Cricket League.



14-member Pakistan squad unveiled for ICC Women's Emerging Nations Trophy

● Wicketkeeper-batter Muneeba Ali to lead Pakistan team in tournament, which begins in UAE on Nov 12

Sports Desk

ISLAMABAD

Muneeba Ali will lead Pakistan in the upcoming ICC Women's Emerging Nations Trophy 2026 as Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) announced a 14-member squad on Tuesday for the tournament which is set to be staged in Ajman, United Arab Emirates (UAE) from 12 to 25 November,

Batter Ayesha Zafar has been named vice-captain, while Eman Naseer, Eyman Fatima, Sadaf Shamas, Saira Jabeen and Shawaal Zulfiqar are the batters named in the squad. Gull Feroza, who was named best wicketkeeper-batter in the recently concluded National Women's T20 Tournament, is also part of the team.

Left-arm spinner Nashra Sundhu will lead the bowling attack with Momina Riasat, Tuba Hassan and Umm-e-Hani forming the spin bowling quartet. Tasmia Rubab and Waheeda Akhtar are the frontline pace options in the squad.

Pakistan women's team most recently won the Bronze Medal in the Asian Games in Japan. 12 players have retained their place in the squad from Pakistan's last assignment, while Sadaf and Waheeda have been recalled. Pakistan will also be without regular captain Fatima Sana as she will be in Australia to feature in her maiden Women's Big Bash League season.

The 30-match tournament comprises of 10 teams divided into two groups. Pakistan are in Group B alongside Bangladesh, Thailand, Netherlands and Zimbabwe. Group A consists of Sri Lanka, Ireland, Scotland Papua New Guinea and hosts United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Following single-league round-robin stage, three teams from each group will progress to the Super Six stage, where they will play three matches each. The top two teams of the Super Six stage will play the final on Wednesday, 25 November.

Pakistan squad will assemble in Lahore on 6 November and will undergo a pre-tournament training camp on 7, 8 and 9 November before departing for UAE.

14-member squad

Muneeba Ali Siddiqui (captain, wk), Ayesha Zafar (vice-captain), Eman Naseer, Eyman Fatima, Gull Feroza (wk), Momina Riasat, Nashra Sundhu, Sadaf Shamas, Saira Jabeen, Shawaal Zulfiqar, Tasmia Rubab, Tuba Hassan, Umm-e-Hani, WaheedaAkhtar

Player support personnel

Wahab Riaz (mentor), Ayesha Ashar (team manager), Abdur Rehman (spin bowling coach), Umaid Asif (fast bowling coach), Abdul Majeed (fielding coach), Imran Farhat (batting coach), Waleed Ahmed (performance analyst), Moeen (strength & conditioning coach) and Dur Samand (physiotherapist)



Sameen Rana reunites with Harry Brook, recalls Qalandars' PSL triumph

SPORTS DESK

ISLAMABAD

England's white-ball captain Harry Brook reunited with Lahore Qalandars as he met the Pakistan Super League (PSL) franchise's owner Sameen Rana here on the sidelines of their ODI tri-series against the host nation and Sri Lanka, underway until October 31.

The meeting took place at a local hotel here, during which Qalandars' Rana presented Brook with commemorative souvenirs and recalled the England captain's pivotal role in their maiden title victory in 2022.

Although Brook did not feature in PSL since then, the right-handed batter has taken the world cricket by storm and eventually appointed as the England white-ball captain.

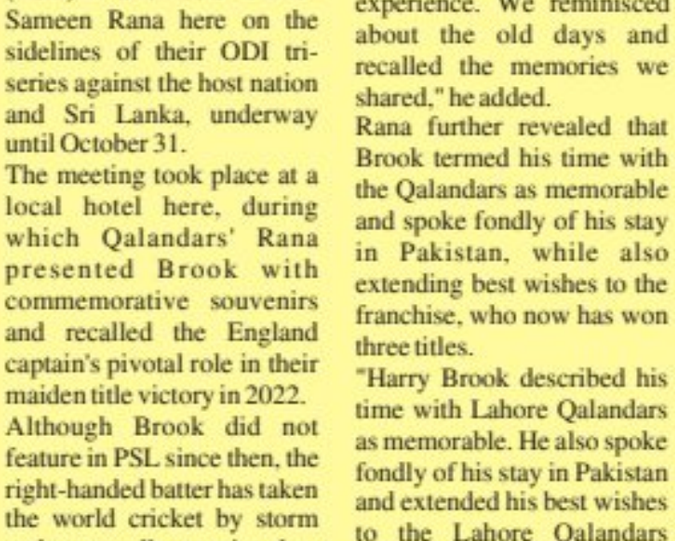
Rana, while sharing the details of his meeting with Brook, said that he reminisced the memories with the England captain and described the reunion as a pleasant experience. "Four years ago, we signed a talented cricketer like Harry Brook, and he played an important role in our first historic success," Rana stated.

"Meeting a champion player like Harry Brook after four years was a wonderful experience. We reminisced about the old days and recalled the memories we shared," he added.

Rana further revealed that Brook termed his time with the Qalandars as memorable and spoke fondly of his stay in Pakistan, while also extending best wishes to the franchise, who now has won three titles.

"Harry Brook described his time with Lahore Qalandars as memorable. He also spoke fondly of his stay in Pakistan and extended his best wishes to the Lahore Qalandars family," Rana added.

The meeting came a week after Brook had credited his maiden PSL stint with the Qalandars for helping him develop a better understanding of playing conditions in Pakistan when asked about his dominant record against the Green Shirts across formats.



England forward Kane crowned Ballon d'Or winner, Putellas wins women's award

■ Kane is the first Englishman to win the prestigious award in 25 years, after Michael Owen won it in 2001

WEB DESK

ISLAMABAD

Harry Kane completed his long quest for football's highest individual honour on , winning the Ballon d'Or after a record-breaking season that cemented his status as one of the game's greatest goalscorers.

Kane is the first Englishman to win the prestigious award in 25 years, after Michael Owen won it in 2001.

"Wow, wow, wow!" Kane said after taking the stage. "I am almost speechless. Being here in London made it extra special, and a good omen for me tonight. Thank you to everyone who voted for me. I can imagine it was tough this year.

"Some world-class players in the room tonight. Congratulations to all the winners and nominees tonight, and an impressive showing of determination and hard work can really achieve."

Spain midfielder Alexia Putellas won the Ballon d'Or Feminin for the third time.

Kane's move to Bayern in 2023 brought the team trophies that had long eluded him. In 2025-26, he coupled that success with goalscoring numbers that made him the leading Ballon d'Or candidate.

The England captain produced the most prolific campaign of his life, scoring 61 goals in 51 games for Bayern across all competitions as the German giants completed a domestic league and cup double.

By the end of the season, Kane had established himself as Europe's leading goalscorer, turning every competition into a showcase of his finishing ability.His influence stretched far beyond club football. As England embarked on another attempt to end decades of hurt at the World Cup, Kane once again emerged as the team's driving force.

He scored six goals during the tournament and led England to the semi-finals, combining his clinical finishing with the leadership and composure that have defined his international career. In many ways, the award represents the culmination of a remarkable journey. Few players have experienced a career arc quite like Kane's.

Once struggling to establish himself at Tottenham Hotspur as a youngster, being sent out on numerous loans, he developed into one of the most complete centre forwards of his generation, capable of scoring every type of goal while also functioning as a playmaker. The Ballon d'Or has often rewarded players whose success was built on flair and spectacle, but Kane's triumph is a tribute to consistency, intelligence and productivity on an exceptional scale.Week after week, he delivered. Match after match, he decided contests. There were no prolonged slumps and few quiet nights.His numbers were almost impossible to ignore.

Kane finished the campaign with 73 goals for club and country, a total rarely seen in the modern era. More importantly, those goals arrived in moments of genuine significance, helping Bayern collect trophies and driving England deep into the biggest tournament in the sport.

The competition for this year's award was fierce.

Kylian Mbappe broke World Cup scoring records. Lamine Yamal helped Spain to World Cup glory.





Arshad needs a fresh start

Web Desk

KARACHI

Pakistan's senior javelin coach Fayyaz Hussain Bukhari has said that Olympic champion Arshad Nadeem needs modern training, proper injury management and a renewed focus on athletics to return to his form.

Bukhari, who played a key role in Arshad's early development, said the seasoned athlete possessed exceptional natural talent but had struggled to maintain consistent performances because of a series of injuries.

Talking exclusively to Daily Express Bukhari expressed disappointment over Arshad's recent results but said he remained confident the athlete could win further honours for Pakistan with the right preparation and guidance.

"Arshad is blessed with extraordinary talent," said Bukhari, who serve as WAPDA coach.

"His injuries have affected his performance, but with the right attention and training in line with modern requirements, he can overcome these difficulties and return to winning ways."

Born on January 2, 1997, in a village in Mian Channu, in Punjab province's Khanewal district, Arshad initially played cricket, football and kabaddi.

"His height, strength and natural athletic ability made him well suited to sporting competition, Bukhari said.



Sri Lanka's Pathum Nissanka ruled out of Pakistan Test series

Web Desk

LAHORE

Sri Lanka batter Pathum Nissanka will miss the upcoming two-match Test series against Pakistan as he continues to recover from a left hamstring injury.

The Sri Lanka Cricket Selection Committee has named Lahiru Udara as Nissanka's replacement for the series, according to the team update.

Udara is already in Pakistan as a member of Sri Lanka's ODI squad, making him available to join the Test team.

Nissanka's absence comes as Sri Lanka prepare for the two-Test contest against Pakistan. His ongoing recovery from the hamstring injury has prevented him from being included in the squad for the upcoming matches.

TENDER NOTICE

TSE-2627101214613 Note: In All Procurements of GOB Whether Through Electronic or Manual Bid Submission, It is Mandatory For All Bidders to Get Registered At Electronic Public Procurement System of BPPRA GOB. The Executive Engineer (Building) Distrct Musakhail invites bids from Eligible Bidders for execution of following works for the Year 2026 based on Composite schedule rates 2023 on Percentage Rates

Tender Fee 1500 PKR and bid Security 3%

S.No	Name of Work/s	E/Cost
1	Repair and Construction of Room in AC House Musa Khai	9,652,770

Procurements shall be made under the Balochistan Public Procurement Rules – 2014. **Eligibility of Bidders:** Presence in Active Tax Payer List The bidding firm must not be blacklisted by any procuring agency of Pakistan Balochistan Revenue Authority Registration is recured The bidder must have completed 3 Assignment of similar nature of work Turn over of at least 6,756,939 PKR Amount in3 subsequent previous years showing financial capacity of the firm The Bidder Must Have Completed 3 similar assignment of work Minimum Amounting to Rs 3.2 million each In Last two Years from the date of bid opening For manual bid submissions where the business owner is unable to be present, the individual submitting the bid must hold a valid Power of Attorney executed via a notarized affidavit from the owner "for this specific bid The Bidder Must Submit 3% of Bid Security in Shape of CDR or Bank Guranttee The Bidder Must Submit Rs 1500 in Account of Executive Engineer Building C02706 **Procedure Of Procurement:** Single Stage Two Envelope Bidding Procedure **Bid Security:** The bids must accompany Bid Security in the form of Bank Gurantee,Deposit at Call of 3 % 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 1,500 PKR **Issuance of tender Documents:** From the date of publication of NIT to 09 November, 2026during office hours on working days **Last Date of bid submission:** The Tenders must be submitted latest by 09 November, 2026till 11:00 AM. **Tender opening:** All tenders will be opened on same day at the office of the under-signed at 12:00 PM

Address: Communication and works department, musakhail

Phone no: 0334242481Fax no:Email: bashirahmedsdo@gmail.com

Executive Engineer (Building) CWPP&H Department District Musakhail

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ISPR releases special song to express solidarity with Kashmiris on Black Day

WEB DESK

ISLAMABAD

The Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) has released a special song to express solidarity with the people of Indian-occupied Jammu and Kashmir on October 27, observed as Kashmir Black Day.

The song pays tribute to the resilience, courage and sacrifices of the Kashmiri people, highlighting their continued struggle for freedom and their hopes for a peaceful future.Featuring emotionally evocative lyrics and an inspiring musical composition, the song portrays the determination of the Kashmiri people in the face of adversity. The song seeks to honour the steadfastness of the people of occupied Kashmir and convey a message of hope and perseverance in their pursuit of freedom. It also features prominent figures associated with the Kashmiri freedom movement, including Syed Ali Geelani, Mirwaiz Umar Farooq and Burhan Wani, presenting them as notable personalities in the struggle.

The production further references the capture of Indian Air Force pilot Abhinandan and missile-firing incidents to convey a message about Pakistan's defence preparedness and resolve.

Pakistan, Kuwait Navies Pledge to Strengthen Bilateral Defence Cooperation

- Kuwait Naval Force Commander Meets Naval Chief Admiral Naveed Ashraf in Islamabad; Discussions Focus on Maritime Security, Training and Capacity Building





WEB DESK

ISLAMABAD

: Commander Kuwait Naval Force, Major General (Navy) Saif Abdulhadi Alhamlan, called on Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Naveed Ashraf, at Naval Headquarters, Islamabad.Upon arrival, the distinguished guest was received by the Chief of the Naval Staff and a smartly turned-out contingent of Pakistan Navy presented Guard of Honour. The dignitary was also introduced to the Principal Staff Officers at Naval Headquarters.During the meeting, matters of mutual professional interest, regional maritime security environment and avenues for strengthening bilateral naval cooperation were discussed. Both sides underscored the importance of sustained engagement and explored opportunities to further enhance collaboration in professional training, capacity building and defence cooperation.The two naval leaders reaffirmed their resolve to further strengthen the longstanding defence relationship between Pakistan and Kuwait, with particular emphasis on expanding the scope of naval cooperation and promoting closer institutional linkages between the two navies. The Commander Kuwait Naval Force was also briefed on Pakistan Navy's contributions and initiatives for regional maritime security.Pakistan and Kuwait enjoy longstanding brotherly relations, underpinned by shared interests, mutual trust and close cooperation across diverse fields. The visit of the Commander Kuwait Naval Force reflects the enduring commitment of both countries to strengthening bilateral defence ties and is expected to impart further impetus to naval cooperation, contributing to regional maritime security and stability.

Punjab invites Indian Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann to visit Pakistan

- Arora said Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz also welcomed the Indian leader and would be pleased to receive him in Pakistan.

SPECIAL REPORTER

LAHORE

Punjab Minister for Minority Affairs and Chairman of the Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee, Sardar Ramesh Singh Arora, has invited Indian Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and members of the Indian Punjab Assembly to visit Pakistan, Arora said Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz also welcomed the Indian leader and would be pleased to receive him in Pakistan.

Describing Pakistan as a land of peace, beauty and interfaith harmony, Arora said Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs and Christians



enjoyed equal citizenship rights in the country.

He invited Bhagwant Mann and members of the Indian Punjab Assembly to visit Kartarpur Sahib and other holy places of different religions in Pakistan.

He also offered them an opportunity to witness religious freedom and interfaith harmony in the country.

Arora said Pakistan's Constitution guaranteed equal rights to all citizens, adding that the country wanted to promote peace, tolerance and harmony among people of different faiths.

Earlier, Bhagwant Mann had confirmed receiving an invitation to attend the international Punjabi conference scheduled to be held in Lahore on November 27.

He said the conference organisers had invited him to visit Lahore and offered to host him.

Mann said people on both sides shared the same culture and that poets and other personalities would also visit Lahore.

He added that he personally wanted to visit the city.



DPM Dar reaffirms Pakistan's unshakeable support for Kashmiris' self-determination right

SPECIAL REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar on Tuesday calling the resolve of 250 million Pakistanis for the Kashmir cause unshakable, pledged that Pakistan would continue its relentless moral, political and diplomatic support on all global forums until the people of Jammu and Kashmir achieve their right to self-determination.

The deputy prime minister, addressing the participants of a solidarity walk held in connection with the Kashmir Black Day, denounced India for launching an unprovoked and illegal occupation of Jammu and Kashmir on this day in 1947, violating international law and UN Security Council commitments.The Day is observed annually by Pakistan and Kashmiris worldwide to mark the day Indian troops first landed in Srinagar in 1947.

"Every year, the world is reminded of the illegal step India took on October 27, 1947. India's actions remain condemned across the globe, and freedom for Kashmir remains the heartbeat of every Pakistani," Dar said.

Held at Constitution Avenue here, the rally started from the Foreign Office and culminated at D-Chowk. The event was attended by federal ministers, parliamentarians, leaders of the All Parties Hurriyat Conference, civil society activists and students from different educational institutions of the federal capital.

Highlighting Pakistan's proactive diplomatic engagement, the deputy prime minister underscored that the government, under Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, had revived the Kashmir cause on international platforms.

He highlighted the reactivation of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) Contact Group on Jammu and Kashmir, and said that its meetings were now consistently convened alongside major international summits, including the recent 81st session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) High-Level Week in New York. Deputy Prime Minister Dar strongly condemned the unilateral actions taken by the Indian government on August 5, 2019, which revoked the special status of IIOJK, terming the move a blatant violation of international law.

Lahore tops global pollution rankings as AQI hits 285

- Lahore topped global pollution rankings as AQI reached 285, while Shahdara recorded 500. Rising pollution poses serious health risks, especially for children, elderly people and patients.

Staff Reporter

LAHORE

Air pollution in Lahore has worsened, pushing the city to the top of the global list of the most polluted cities, while air quality levels in several areas have reached alarming levels.According to Swiss air quality monitoring organisation IQAir, Lahore recorded an Air Quality Index (AQI) of 238, placing it first in the global pollution ranking.

Meanwhile, a report by the Punjab Air Quality Index recorded the city's AQI at 285 at 6am, up significantly from 229 at the same time a day earlier.



According to IQAir's global ranking, India's capital New Delhi was the second most polluted city, with an AQI of 214, followed by Hanoi in Vietnam at 188 and Baghdad in Iraq at 169. Karachi ranked fifth, with an AQI of 166. The Punjab Air Quality Index report showed that pollution levels varied considerably across Lahore, with some localities recording extremely high readings.

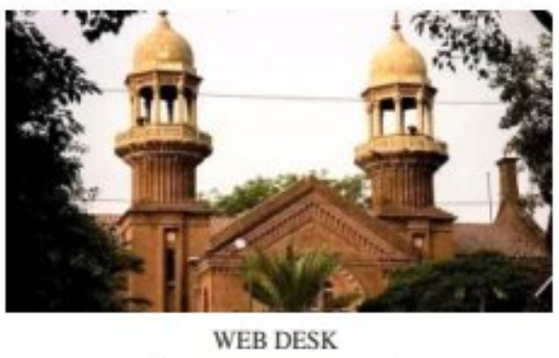
Shahdara reported an AQI of 500, indicating an exceptionally severe level of pollution. The AQI stood at 366 near the Wagah border, 335 along Multan Road and 306 on Barki Road.

The readings indicate that residents in several parts of the city are facing particularly poor air quality, increasing concerns over the potential health effects of prolonged exposure to polluted air.

Air pollution can cause eye irritation, coughing and breathing difficulties, particularly when people remain outdoors for extended periods. Children, older adults and those with existing respiratory or cardiovascular conditions are considered especially vulnerable to its effects.

Lahore High Court restores upgradation of paramedics

- The court also ordered the return of the amount deducted from paramedics and that all financial and service benefits be given to them.



WEB DESK

LAHORE

Providing a big relief to lady health visitors, laboratory and pharmacy technicians, the Lahore High Court (LHC) on Tuesday declared the order given by the health department to withdraw the upgradation of paramedics null and void, reported 24NewsHD TV channel.

The court also ordered the return of the amount deducted from paramedics and that all financial and service benefits be given to them.

In a 28-page verdict, authored by Justice Shireen Imran, it was said that the withdrawal of upgradations after several years constituted a violation of legal principles, and that the health department's order to take back the benefits it had given to paramedics without legal justification was not correct.

The LHC said it had not been proved that the petitioners either committed a fraud or concealed the facts.

The high court said it was not right to object to an upgradation to BS-16 without first upgraded to BS-14.



Islamabad: Ambassador of Saudi Arabia Dr. Rajeh Tami Albugamy called on Speaker National Assembly Sardar Ayaz Sadiq at Parliament House.

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