Simultaneously Publishing for Quetta, Karachi,Faisalabad

Daily People's Version Quetta

# Public

A.B.C Certified

Member APNS

Tuesday
October 6, 2026
Pages: 8 | Rs:20
Vol:28 | Issu:280

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## Bilawal Bhutto questions calls for new provinces, stresses better governance

■ Bilawal Bhutto has questioned calls for new provinces, urging greater focus on governance and development while highlighting Thar's progress and opposing divisive politics in Sindh.

Staff Reporter

KARACHI



Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has questioned the reasoning behind demands for creating new provinces, arguing that the focus should instead be on improving governance and development.

Bilawal made the remarks while speaking at the inauguration ceremony of Phase III of the Thar Coal Block II expansion project.

Addressing the gathering, he said the progress achieved in Thar was being noticed across the country, adding that the region had made significant strides in development. He said Pakistan should learn from Thar's experience and focus on achieving similar progress in other parts of the country, including Islamabad.

He remarked that if Islamabad had failed to deliver, it should instead be placed in the hands of people from Tharparkar. Bilawal said the objective should be to bring the same kind of development seen in Thar to Islamabad and other parts of the country. The PPP chairman also criticized what he described as politics based on hatred and division in Karachi. He said efforts to promote such politics in Sindh would not succeed and expressed his determination to work toward ending divisive politics.Bilawal also pointed to the academic achievements of students from Thar, saying that children from the region have increasingly secured top positions in the MDCAT examination. He said these accomplishments should be recognized and celebrated rather than being overshadowed by political divisions.

## Khawaja Asif puts eight questions to PTI over terrorism policy

■ Defence Minister Khawaja Asif posed eight questions to PTI over its counterterrorism policy Afghan attacks, security forces, illegal economies and allegations of corruption in KP.

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD



Defence Minister Khawaja Asif has sought answers from Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) to eight questions regarding its stance and policies on terrorism and security in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.In a statement posted on X, Asif said PTI had repeatedly claimed that it was not allowed to formulate a policy against terrorism. He said the claim prompted him to raise eight basic questions with the party.

Asif asked who had prevented PTI from formulating a counterterrorism policy when it had governed Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for 13 years and had also been in power at the federal level. He also questioned which policy had stopped the party from implementing the National Action Plan and convening Apex Committee meetings.

He asked what policy was needed to call terrorists terrorists, condemn terrorists coming from Afghanistan and openly stand with the armed forces against attacks on the military and civilians.

The defence minister also questioned why the KP government had not openly condemned recent drone attacks from Afghanistan in Kohat and asked what policy had prevented it from doing so. Asif further asked how many times the KP government had protested or condemned, by naming the Afghan regime, alleged cross-border violations, firing on Pakistani security posts and troops, infiltration and direct or indirect support to terrorists.Addressing KP Chief Minister Sohail Afridi, Asif asked what practical steps had been taken over the past 13 years to eliminate illegal economic activities allegedly supporting terrorism in the province, including extortion, smuggling and the trade in non-customs-paid vehicles. His sixth question concerned security forces fighting terrorism. Asif asked how many times Afridi had visited security personnel at their posts to express solidarity and how often he had visited victims of terrorism in KP to offer support to affected families.Asif also questioned why the KP government, according to him, confused the state's narrative against terrorism through different tactics and why it did not refer to and condemn militants as "Khawarij."



## Iran commander says US forces have 'fled' 1,000km from Iran's borders

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD

A top Iranian military commander has said that the United States has withdrawn its forces more than 1,000 kilometres from Iran's borders, describing the pullback as a direct result of Iran's authority and the power of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) Ground Force,

Rear Admiral Ali Fadavi, a top IRGC commander, said Iranian forces have forced the US military to pull back some 1,000km (621 miles) from Iran's borders. "The Americans fled and moved more than 1,000km away from our borders. This was not their choice; it was due to the authority of the Islamic Republic and the authority of the IRGC Ground Force," Fadavi said in a televised interview, according to Iran's Press TV.



## UN secretary general set to arrive in Pakistan Today

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres scheduled to arrive in Pakistan on Tuesday morning.

During his visit, he will have meetings in Islamabad with senior government officials, including with Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif, as well as Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Mohammad Ishaq Dar. He will also meet with President Asif Ali Zardari.

The Secretary-General was last in Pakistan in 2022, when he visited regions impacted by the devastating floods. This time, he will again visit the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), where he will see firsthand the progress Pakistan has made in strengthening its preparedness and resilience since the floods.



## Attached orders Imran Khan's appearance in Judicial Complex attack case

■ IPP President addresses workers' convention in Faisalabad where he acknowledges sacrifices of security forces

WEB DESK

LAHORE

An anti-terrorism court in Islamabad has ordered that PTI founder Imran Khan be produced at the next hearing in the Judicial Complex attack case, either physically or through video link, while taking action against several other PTI leaders in the case.

ATC Judge Tahir Abbas Supra heard the case registered against Imran Khan and other PTI leaders in connection with the Judicial Complex attack.

The judge directed authorities to ensure Imran Khan's appearance before the court at the next hearing, either in person or through video link.

The court also declared former federal ministers Farah Habib, Hammad Azhar, Murad Saeed and Shibli Faraz proclaimed offenders and sought details of their properties.

Meanwhile, the court issued non-bailable arrest warrants for former Punjab Assembly deputy speaker Wasiq Qayyum and PTI MPA Hassan Khan Niazi.

The court adjourned further proceedings in the case until November 5.

The case against the PTI leaders was registered at Ramna Police Station in Islamabad..

## Security forces kill three terrorists in DI Khan operation



CITY REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

Security forces have killed three terrorists during an intelligence-based operation in Dera Ismail Khan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, according to security sources.

The operation was carried out on the basis of intelligence regarding the presence of militants in the area, the sources said.

The sources identified the targeted individuals as members of Fitna al-Khawarij and said the operation was conducted as part of ongoing efforts under the Azm-e-Istehkam vision to counter militant activity in the province.

According to the sources, security operations have contributed to efforts to disrupt militant networks in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

Security forces remain committed to eliminating terrorism from the province, the sources said, adding that operations against militants will continue.

Earlier, security forces killed eight India-sponsored terrorists during an intelligence-based operation conducted in Dera Ismail Khan district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, security sources said on Sunday.

## CM Sohail Afridi says 'T20 match' to begin from Oct 8

■ Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Sohail Afridi told party workers that their "T20 match" would begin on October 8, urging them not to exhaust themselves as their struggle was a long one.

STAFF REPORTER

KARAK



Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Sohail Afridi on Monday resumed PTI's march, addressing supporters at Jail Chowk in Karak before his convoy's planned departure for Kohat.

The opposition has proceeded with the march despite warnings from the federal government, which has vowed to prevent gatherings in Islamabad. The protest is aimed at demanding the release of PTI founder and former prime minister Imran Khan.

PTI decided to launch the march after weekend talks with the federal government failed to bridge their differences. The talks broke down over several issues, particularly the federal government's counterterrorism policy.

Addressing supporters, Afridi again criticised the Centre's counterterrorism policy and questioned past military operations and drone attacks.

The KP chief minister also responded to Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi's remarks a day earlier, when Naqvi described him as "immature".

Referring to Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz's remarks about the terrorism threat to Punjab, Afridi said: "Suppose, I say that [my province] does not have a threat from India, but from the other three provinces, will you consider me mature?"

He added that if speaking about one's province and its people was considered immature, then he had demonstrated this "immaturity" the previous day, was still doing so and would continue to do so.

Afridi contended that "wrong policies drafted behind closed doors were impacting all institutions".

Expressing his patriotism for Pakistan, the PTI leader said, "We also chant Pakistan zindabad, we stand up for the national anthem as well." However, he warned that future generations might not do the same because of attempts to "divide Pakistan and spread hatred".

Scanned with CamScanner

# Police carry out combing and search operations in Islamabad, Rawalpindi

- A police official said Islamabad Police were using all available resources to maintain peace and ensure citizens' security.



SPECIAL REPORTER
ISLAMABAD

Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Police and Rawalpindi Police on Monday conducted joint combing and search operations in different areas of the twin cities to take action against criminals and suspicious elements and ensure the safety of citizens,

These operations were being conducted under the directions of IGP Islamabad Capt (retd) Muhammad Sohail Chaudhry as part of efforts to maintain law and order and protect the lives and property of citizens.

Islamabad Police patrol units and special squads remained active across the federal capital, while checking was being carried out on major roads, entry and exit points, and sensitive locations.

During the search operations, police checked suspicious persons, vehicles, and motorcycles, while taking legal action against criminal and law-breaking elements.

A police official said Islamabad Police were using all available resources to maintain peace and ensure citizens' security.

Citizens were requested to cooperate with police during checking and the verification of identity documents and other records.




Governor Balochistan Jaffar Khan Mandokhel addressing at Pak-Iran joint Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

# Balochistan Archery Association elections held at Ayub Stadium Quetta

- Muhammad Shahzad Tareen elected president, Samiullah Sadiq general secretary and Gul Muhammad finance secretary unopposed



Sami Ulaah Sadiq
Secretary General



Gul Muhammad
Finance Secretary



Muhammad
Hezad Tareen



SPECIAL REPORTER
QUETTA

The election of Balochistan Archery Association was held on Thursday, October 01, 2026 at 05:00 PM at Ayub Stadium Quetta under the supervision of the Election Commission Committee. The election was held in accordance with the Government of Balochistan Sports Policy 2008. The presidents, general secretaries, finance secretaries and other members of the registered districts of Balochistan including Quetta, Pishin, Mastung, Chaman, Harnai, Qila Saifullah, Daki, Khuzdar and Kohlu participated. The real panel of the panel was Muhammad Shahzad Tareen for the post of president, Samiullah Sadiq for the post of general secretary and Gul Muhammad for the post of finance secretary. No panel came in the competition against them nor did any candidate submit papers against them individually. Thus, all the district officials unanimously elected Muhammad Shahzad Tareen for the post of president, Samiullah Sadiq for the post of general secretary and Gul Muhammad Finas for the post of secretary for a period of 04 years unopposed through show of hands.

Balochistan Archery Association President-elect Muhammad Shahzad Tareen while addressing said that archery is an interesting and international sport in which boys and girls players of Balochistan are interested and they have immense talent. Events will be organized in every district at the government level and under the supervision of the provincial association and all players will be provided equal opportunities on the basis of merit and performance. Coaching courses will be conducted by National of International Qualified Coaches for coaches of all districts. We will work under the sports policy on an equal basis in all districts. Finally, Balochistan Archery Association President-elect Muhammad Shahzad Tareen, General Secretary Samiullah Sadiq and Finance Secretary Muhammad Gul sincerely thanked the participants and media from all districts for expressing their complete trust in us.

# NCCIA establishes special units to counter fake news, anti-state propaganda

- NCCIA has set up special units against fake news and anti-state propaganda, while cyber patrol teams will monitor online activity nationwide.

SPECIAL REPORTER
ISLAMABAD

The National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency (NCCIA) has established special units to tackle fake news and anti-state propaganda, while cyber patrolling units have been activated across all regions to monitor cyberspace.

An NCCIA spokesperson said Director General Syed Ali Nasir Rizvi recently completed a five-day visit to the agency's circles across Punjab. During the tour, he inspected reporting centres, police stations and offices and met more than 500 complainants.

Rizvi directed officials to make the complaint registration and verification process more accessible to citizens and ensure that available resources are used to provide timely relief.



The NCCIA director general said the agency had adopted a zero-tolerance approach towards fake news and anti-state propaganda, adding that merit and transparency would remain a priority.

During his visit, Rizvi reviewed pending cybercrime complaints, the performance of investigation branches, complaint cells and FIR sections, as well as record management and other administrative matters.

# LHC orders FIA chief to submit detailed report of all pending inquiries on Oct 22

- Chief Justice Aliya Neelum expresses dissatisfaction with FIA DG Dr Usman Anwar's report: Orders him to appear in person on next hearing again in contempt case against former DG

SPECIAL REPORTER
LAHORE

The Lahore High Court (LHC) on Monday ordered the Director General of the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) Dr Usman Anwar to submit a detailed report on all pending applications and inquiries by October 22.

Chief Justice Aliya Neelum issued the order while hearing a contempt of court petition filed by citizen Muhammad Ismail against a former FIA director.

The chief justice expressed dissatisfaction with the report already submitted by the FIA and directed the director general to appear in person and present a complete report at the next hearing.

Dr Usman Anwar appeared before the court in person during Monday's hearing. FIA Director Captain (retired) Ali Zia and other officials also attended the proceedings along with Deputy Attorney General Rafiqat Ali Dogar.

The FIA director general submitted a list of officials responsible for failing to implement court orders. He also provided details of officers appointed after November 14, 2024.During the hearing, Chief Justice Aliya Neelum indicated that contempt notices could be issued against the relevant FIA officials for failing to comply with court orders.



The petitioner had filed a contempt petition in 2024 against the then FIA director general.

The chief justice also asked when the National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency (NCCIA) was established and from when the court order had remained pending. The court was told that the agency had already been established before the relevant court order was approved.

Responding to questions from the court, Dr Usman Anwar explained the status of the pending inquiry. He said the matter had remained pending with the FIA director in Faisalabad and that the complainant had not appeared before the inquiry officer.

# Court indicts cocaine queen Pinky in drugs case

- The police produced the accused in the court through a video link.

SPECIAL REPORTER
KARACHI

A court in Karachi on Monday indicted cocaine queen Anmol alias Pinky in a drugs case filed against her in Gizri police station, The police produced the accused in the court through a video link.

During today's hearing, the court asked the accused whether all the allegations levelled against her are correct or wrong. The accused dismissed all the allegations against her. Later, the court issued notices to the witnesses and summoned them on the next date of hearing.



On September 26, 2026, drug dealer Anmol alias Pinky and her alleged accomplice Sameer were indicted in a narcotics case registered in 2021.

This followed Pinky's acquittal in three other narcotics cases over the summer. She remains in jail, facing several other cases.



Punjab Minister for Labour and Manpower Muhammad Mansha Ullah Butt and MPA Chaudhry Faisal Ikram inaugurate a day-care center at Government Murray College.

# Judicial commission to visit crime scene before recording investigation officer's statement

- Judicial commission probing Mir Raza's death will visit the incident scene before recording the investigating officer's statement and has sought journalists' briefing on suspicious vehicles.

SPECIAL REPORTER
KARACHI

The judicial commission investigating the death of young businessman Mir Raza has decided to visit the crime scene before recording the statement of the investigation officer.

The commission directed the Sindh government's focal person to make arrangements for the visit and instructed investigation officer DSP Siraj Lashari and Mir Raza's family members to reach the scene.

According to the judicial commission, examining the crime scene will be important for formulating recommendations in its report. The statements of DSP Siraj Lashari and CPLC representative Kashif will be recorded on October 7.



The commission has also sought a briefing from journalists on October 6 regarding suspicious vehicles involved in the case.

According to the commission, investigative journalists have done notable work regarding the suspicious vehicles in the case, while police have done very little work on this aspect.

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# Dr. Fai Urges World Powers to Act for Peace and Stability in Kashmir and Palestine



Dr. Ghulam Nabi Fai

The International Institute of Advanced Islamic Studies (IAIS) Malaysia, in collaboration with the Malaysian Consultative Council of Islamic Organizations (MAPIM) and the Peace, Dialogue and Xenophobia Studies Centre (PEDIXS), IIUM, hosted a Special Lecture on September 29, 2026 at the IAIS Boardroom featuring Dr. Ghulam Nabi Fai, Chairman of the World Forum for Peace and Justice.

Mr. Arief Arman research fellow at FEDIXM-IIUM was the master of ceremony who greeted the guests and welcomed them to the conference.

YB Dr. Maszlee Malik, Chairman IAIS as the host also welcomed the guests and said that people in Malysia have always been concerned with both Palestine and Kashmir conflicts. Although, Palestine has generated lot of interest, particularly within the past one year but Malaysian also know the situation in Kashmir, although not extensively. So, today's conference provides us an opportunity to listen to our guest speaker who is the expert on the subject.

Mohd Azmi Abdul Hamid, Prescient, Malaysia Consultative Council of Islamic Organizations (MAPIM) said wherever people are denied their freedom, dignity and right to determine their own future, the international community must not remain indifferent. Kashmir and Palestine are different historical and political context. They cannot be reduced to identical situations. But they share a fundamental human question: can there be a genuine peace when the right and aspirations of an entire people remain unresolved?

Prescient MAPIM added that our message is simple but profound. Let the people live with dignity. Let children grow up without fear. Let families live without displacement. Our message is for justice. Our message is for freedom. Our message is for the peaceful resolution of Palestine and Kashmir through international law, dialogue and respect for the right of people.

The representative of PEDIXS-IIUM said that both Palestine and Kashmir have posed greater threat to the international peace and security. As Muslim we should be concerned with any situation of pain and suffering irrespective of whether the victims or Muslims, Jews, Christians, Hindus or else. Addressing a highly engaged audience of academics, advocates, officials from various embassies and members of civil society, Dr. Fai examined the historical and contemporary dimensions of the conflicts in Kashmir and Palestine, emphasizing that their unresolved status continues to have consequences not only for the people directly affected but also for regional and international peace and security.

only for the people directly affected but also for regional and international peace and security.

Dr. Fai noted that the United Nations Security Council has been seized of both questions since 1948. In April 1948, the Council adopted a series of resolutions concerning Palestine, including Resolutions 43, 46 and 48, while Resolution 47, adopted on April 21, 1948, addressed the India-Pakistan question and called for measures including the restoration of peace and order and a plebiscite in Jammu and Kashmir. The UN Security Council's official records confirm that both questions were before the Council during the same historic period.

Dr. Fai argued that the continuing inability to achieve durable political settlements in both Kashmir and Palestine demonstrates the serious consequences of leaving long-standing international disputes unresolved. He stressed that the people of the affected territories have endured decades of conflict, uncertainty and human suffering, while the wider regions remain exposed to recurring tensions and instability.

He emphasized that the credibility of the international system depends upon the consistent application of international law and the principles of the United Nations Charter. "International law cannot be meaningful if it is applied selectively," he said, urging the international community to work toward peaceful and just solutions acceptable to all parties concerned.



By: Shabana Mehmood

# Ap Ki Izzat

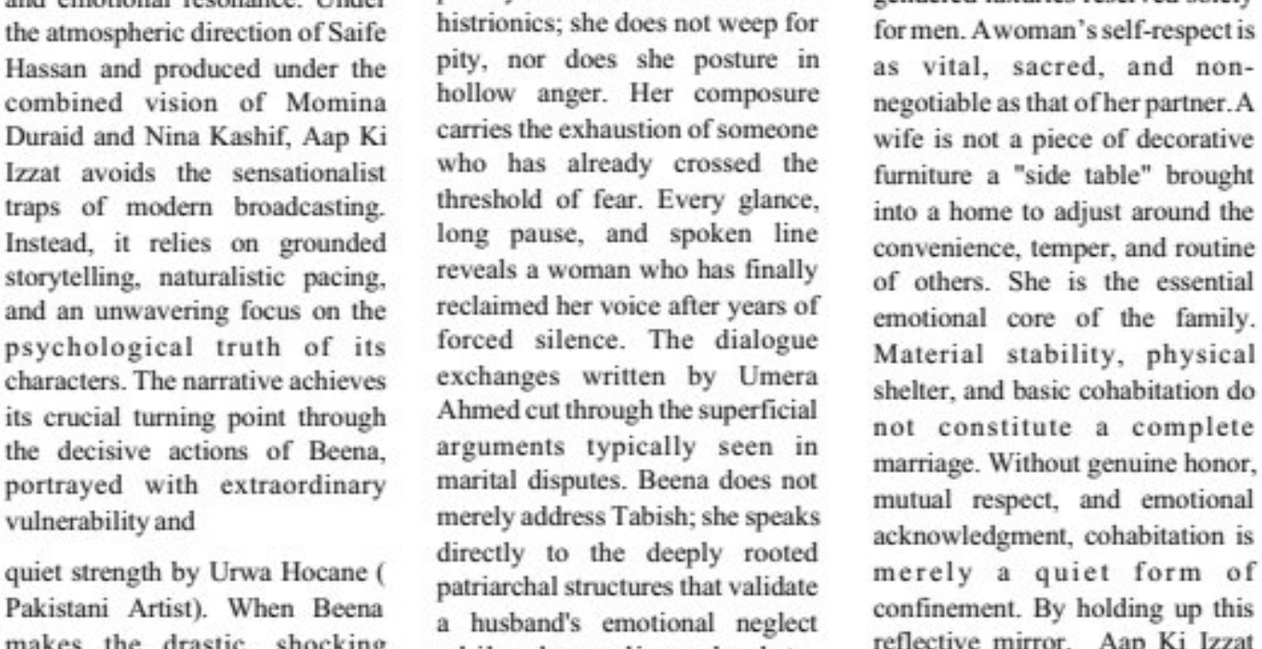
The unique brilliance of Pakistani television drama has historically resided in its courageous proximity to raw human experience. Unlike narratives that escape into hyper-stylized opulence or manufactured melodrama, Pakistani television at its finest functions as a precise mirror to society. It captures the understated, lived realities of domestic lives, the quiet friction of unsaid expectations, and the subtle, ongoing negotiations of personal dignity within traditional family structures. Aap

Ki Izzat stands as a poignant continuation of this rich artistic legacy. Written by the acclaimed author and screenwriter Umera Ahmed, the series carries her signature intellectual depth and moral nuance. Umera Ahmed has long possessed an extraordinary ability to dismantle complex social hypocrisies, weaving narratives where every dialogue carries thematic weight and emotional resonance. Under the atmospheric direction of Saife Hassan and produced under the combined vision of Momina Duraid and Nina Kashif, Aap Ki Izzat avoids the sensationalist traps of modern broadcasting. Instead, it relies on grounded storytelling, naturalistic pacing, and an unwavering focus on the psychological truth of its characters. The narrative achieves its crucial turning point through the decisive actions of Beena, portrayed with extraordinary vulnerability and

quiet strength by Urwa Hocane ( Pakistani Artist). When Beena makes the drastic, shocking choice to run away with another man, the story shifts from a conventional family drama into a outburst. Beena's flight is not born out of lighthearted romance or reckless impulse, it is an act of sheer desperation. It represents the breaking point of an individual who has been systematically stripped of agency, self-respect, and identity. By making this choice, Beena forces the world around her and the audience to confront a uncomfortable truth when a home ceases to offer emotional safety and basic human dignity, it stops being a sanctuary and becomes a cage. The emotional peak of the series unfolds during the jail confrontation between Beena and her husband,

Tabish. Stripped of domestic distractions, societal pretenses, and peripheral noise, the stark setting of the interrogation room serves as an ideological trial. This scene stands out as a masterclass in screenwriting and acting. Urwah Hocane delivers a career-defining performance. Her portrayal of Beena is devoid of histrionics; she does not weep for pity, nor does she posture in hollow anger. Her composure carries the exhaustion of someone who has already crossed the threshold of fear. Every glance, long pause, and spoken line reveals a woman who has finally reclaimed her voice after years of forced silence. The dialogue exchanges written by Umera Ahmed cut through the superficial arguments typically seen in marital disputes. Beena does not merely address Tabish; she speaks directly to the deeply rooted patriarchal structures that validate a husband's emotional neglect while demanding absolute, subservient loyalty from a wife. Through this dialogue, the series delivers a profound philosophical message about the intrinsic worth of a woman within both marriage and the broader social structure. Wife as an "Ornament, she is the Foundation of a family, house, She should not be the secondary priority . She deserves to be treated as equal partner & Requires honor & dignity by her partner. Don't Valued her only for utility, she is Core emotional pillar. For generations, women have been subtly coached to view marriage as an exercise in endurance. Society honors female endurance as the ultimate virtue, expecting wives to swallow indifference, disrespect, and emotional neglect under the guise of duty, compromise, and patience. Aap Ki Izzat directly challenges this long-standing myth. The central thesis of the narrative is crystal clear, equality of Honor, respect, dignity, and personal honor are not

gendered luxuries reserved solely for men. A woman's self-respect is as vital, sacred, and non-negotiable as that of her partner. A wife is not a piece of decorative furniture a "side table" brought into a home to adjust around the convenience, temper, and routine of others. She is the essential emotional core of the family. Material stability, physical shelter, and basic cohabitation do not constitute a complete marriage. Without genuine honor, mutual respect, and emotional acknowledgment, cohabitation is merely a quiet form of confinement. By holding up this reflective mirror, Aap Ki Izzat transcends standard television entertainment. It leaves viewers with a lasting, vital realization.



A teacher performs her duties at a government school as the world observes World Teachers' Day, highlighting the vital role of teachers in education and the development of society.



By: Farwa Ishtiaq

# If You're a Teacher, You Know You Can Never Truly Rest

There is a common idea that teachers have an easy routine because their working hours are limited and they get holidays during the year. From the outside, teaching may look like a profession that leaves plenty of time for rest. But anyone who has spent time in a classroom knows that teaching rarely ends when the school bell rings.A teacher may leave the school building at two or three in the afternoon, but the work often follows them home.There are notebooks to check, lesson plans to prepare, tests to design, assignments to review and messages from colleagues or parents to answer. Sometimes there is a meeting to prepare for, an activity to organize or a student whose progress needs special attention. Even when all the physical work is finished, the teacher's mind often remains in the classroom.A teacher remembers the student who looked unusually quiet that day. They think about the child who could not understand a concept despite several explanations. They wonder whether they were too strict with one student or too lenient with another. They think about the child who has stopped participating in class and ask themselves what might be happening behind that silence. This is one of the less visible parts of teaching. Teachers do not only teach subjects. They constantly observe, understand, guide and respond. The classroom itself demands continuous attention. A teacher may begin the day with a carefully prepared lesson, only to discover that students have different levels

of understanding. One child may understand immediately. Another may need a simple example. Someone else may need the concept explained in Urdu. Another student may need encouragement before they are willing to answer. A good teacher adjusts. This constant adjustment can be mentally exhausting. Teachers make dozens of decisions every day. They decide how to explain a topic, how to manage a classroom, how to handle conflict, how to encourage a weak student and how to maintain discipline without discouraging children. Then there are the responsibilities beyond academics.Teachers are often expected to monitor discipline, cleanliness, uniforms, attendance, manners, communication skills and participation in school activities. They may supervise assemblies, prepare displays, organize events, attend meetings and take responsibility for different school duties. The list rarely seems to end.Technology has added another layer to this workload. Teachers now receive messages through WhatsApp groups, emails and other digital platforms. A message sent after school hours can easily become another task. A parent may ask about homework. A colleague may need information. Management may share instructions for the next morning. The teacher is physically at home, but mentally still connected to school.Even holidays do not always provide complete rest. Teachers may use their breaks to prepare for the next term, organize teaching material, complete records or think about ways to improve their lessons. Many teachers also use their free time to attend training sessions, learn new teaching methods or prepare activities for their students. This does not mean teachers dislike their profession. In fact, the opposite is often true.Many teachers work beyond their limits because they care deeply about their students. They want the quiet child to gain confidence. They want the struggling student to finally understand a difficult concept. They want their students to become responsible, respectful and capable human beings. That emotional investment makes teaching different from simply completing a list of tasks. A teacher can finish checking fifty notebooks, but one student's disappointing result may stay in their mind for hours. A teacher can complete a lesson successfully, yet remember the child who did not participate. A teacher can receive appreciation from dozens of students, but still worry about the one student who seems to be falling behind. This is why teachers need rest just as much as their students do.Unfortunately, teachers sometimes feel guilty about resting. There is always another notebook to check, another lesson to prepare and another responsibility waiting. Some teachers feel that if they are not constantly doing something related to school, they are somehow failing to perform their duties. But rest does not mean a lack of commitment. A tired teacher cannot give the same patience, creativity and attention as a rested teacher.Teaching requires emotional control and mental energy. When teachers are exhausted, even ordinary classroom challenges can become difficult. Schools and families also have a role to play in creating healthier expectations.Teachers need reasonable working hours. They need time to prepare lessons and check work without carrying every task into their personal lives. Communication outside school hours should be limited to matters that genuinely require immediate attention. Administrative responsibilities should be managed carefully so that teachers can focus on teaching. Parents also need to understand that a teacher's responsibility has limits. Teachers can guide a child, communicate with parents and support academic development, but they cannot be available twenty-four hours a day.Respecting a teacher's personal time is also a form of respect for the profession. Teachers, meanwhile, need to learn that setting boundaries does not make them careless. Sometimes the notebook can wait until tomorrow. Sometimes a message does not need an immediate reply. Sometimes sitting quietly with family, taking a walk, reading a book or simply doing nothing is exactly what the mind needs.A teacher is a human being before being a teacher. They have families, responsibilities, emotions, personal struggles and dreams of their own. They also become tired.

They sometimes need silence. They sometimes need a day when nobody asks them about lesson plans, homework, results or discipline. The irony is that teachers spend years teaching children the importance of balance, yet they often struggle to create that balance in their own lives. Perhaps it is time to change that.The quality of education does not depend only on curriculum, technology or examination results. It also depends on the people standing in front of the classroom. If we want teachers to inspire, guide and educate children with patience, we must also create conditions in which teachers can breathe, recover and return to their classrooms with renewed energy. Because behind every lesson is a person. Behind every checked notebook is a tired hand. Behind every encouraging word is a teacher who may have had a difficult day of their own, and behind the classroom door is someone who deserves to go home and simply be themselves.If you are a teacher, you know that you can never truly stop caring. Even after you leave the classroom, your students remain somewhere in your thoughts. But caring does not mean carrying everything all the time.Sometimes, a teacher also needs permission to put the red pen down, close the notebook, silence the school notifications and rest. Tomorrow, the bell will ring again and the teacher will be there.

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# Oil rises after Houthis claim attack on Saudi Aramco facilities

■ Brent crude futures were up 81 cents, or 0.79pc, at $103.06 a barrel. US West Texas Intermediate crude futures rose 46 cents, or 0.50pc, to $91.57 a barrel.




Web DESK

ISLAMABAD

International oil prices rose after Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthi rebels said they had attacked facilities operated by Saudi Aramco, the kingdom's state oil company.

Reuters reported on October 4 that the Houthis said they launched ballistic missiles and drones at Aramco facilities in Riyadh, the Saudi capital, and in the Khurais area.

Concern that output could be disrupted in Saudi Arabia, one of the Middle East's major crude exporters, helped lift prices.

As of 10:02 pm GMT, Brent crude futures were up 81 cents, or 0.79%, at $103.06 a barrel. U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude futures rose 46 cents, or 0.50%, to $91.57 a barrel.

Khurais, which the Houthis identified as a target, is one of Saudi Arabia's main oil-producing areas.

It was not immediately clear whether the attack caused any actual damage to facilities or disrupted crude production.




A heavy machinery operator uses a road roller to level a newly constructed road during ongoing development work at Latifabad Unit No. 09.

# Iranian currency plunges further as dollar reaches 2.688 million rials

■ Iran's rial has fallen to a record low of nearly 2.69 million per dollar, prompting the central bank to inject up to $2 billion.

Web Desk

ISLAMABAD



Iran's rial has fallen to a new record low against the US dollar, with the greenback trading at around 2.688 million rials in the country's free market, amid mounting economic pressure.

According to Reuters, the dollar was trading at about 2.688 million rials, compared with 2.632 million rials a day earlier. Another currency-tracking platform put the dollar's value at around 2.695 million rials.

In an effort to support the weakening currency, Iran's central bank has announced plans to inject up to $2 billion into the market. Iranian state television reported that state-owned banks had begun selling dollars to support the rial.

The latest decline comes as Iran faces intensified economic pressure from US sanctions, restrictions affecting oil exports and heightened regional tensions.

Reuters reported that the rial has lost more than half of its value over the past year. The currency also crossed the 2.5 million-rial mark against the dollar last week, setting a new record low at the time.

Rising inflation has further increased pressure on Iranian households. Citizens are increasingly turning to US dollars, other foreign currencies and gold to protect their savings from the falling value of the rial.

According to Reuters, Iran's inflation rate has exceeded 70%, making it increasingly difficult for ordinary citizens to meet the rising costs of food, housing and other essential goods.

Mehdi Darabi, an adviser to the governor of Iran's central bank on foreign exchange affairs, attributed part of the latest pressure on the rial to statements by US officials predicting a possible collapse of the Iranian economy.

Speaking to state television, Darabi said such statements were increasing pressure in the currency market and claimed that Iran's adversaries were using them to influence the exchange rate.

# Mideast oil exports exceed pre-Iran war levels

● Middle East oil exports, excluding Iran, surpassed their pre-war levels last week, despite attacks on ships in the Strait of Hormuz, according to data from the maritime tracking firm Kpler.

Web Desk

TEHRAN



Middle East oil exports, excluding Iran, surpassed their pre-war levels last week, despite attacks on ships in the Strait of Hormuz, according to data from the maritime tracking firm Kpler.

For the first time since the US and Israel launched their offensive against Iran at the end of February, the weekly average of shipments rose for several days above the pre-conflict average of 18 million barrels per day.

Crude oil exports reached pre-war levels in September, with at least 16.5 million barrels leaving the region excluding Iran, Kpler said on Wednesday.

"Forty percent now bypass Hormuz, and most crude crossing the strait changes tankers offshore," Kpler said, adding that most of the oil flowed through Saudi and United Arab Emirates pipelines.

These figures include flows via the Red Sea, a route increasingly used to bypass the blockade Iran is attempting to impose on Hormuz -- where around a fifth of the world's petroleum supplies crossed before the conflict.

Iran still claims control over the strait, and ships without its authorisation risk coming under attack, but more and more are making it out, and alternative routes meant to bypass the waterway are operating at full capacity.

Despite the rebound, experts stressed that the situation was far from normal, and Iran remains deprived of a large share of its own exports by a US counterblockade of its ports.

Saudi Arabia is benefiting from the reactivation of its East–West pipeline, which links the kingdom's main oil fields in the east to its Yanbu terminal on the Red Sea, allowing it to bypass Hormuz.

Shut down on September 11 after being hit by strikes launched from Iraq, the pipeline resumed operations on September 22, Amena Bakr, an analyst at Kpler said last week.

The United Arab Emirates is also able to bypass Hormuz thanks to its pipeline linking Abu Dhabi's fields to Fujairah, a terminal just outside the strait on the Gulf of Oman.

# Pakistan seafood exports record 74% growth in 1Q

■ Junaid Anwar Chaudhry said that measures will be adopted to expand the seafood export market to the European Union (EU).

Web Desk

ISLAMABAD



Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry has said that Pakistan's fisheries and seafood sector has recorded significant growth in exports during the first quarter of fiscal year 2026-27, with both export value and volume increasing by nearly 75 percent.

According to the minister, the value of Pakistan's seafood exports rose from US$71.19 million to US$125.4 million during the first quarter, registering an impressive 74.4 percent increase. At the same time, the volume of seafood exports increased from 35,294 metric tons to 61,679 metric tons, reflecting a 74.8 percent rise.

The minister said the latest export figures demonstrate the growing contribution of the fisheries and seafood sector to Pakistan's international trade. He emphasized that continued efforts are required to strengthen the sector, improve production and processing standards, and open new markets for Pakistani seafood products.

Focus on European Union market

Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry said the government would take measures to further expand Pakistan's seafood export market, particularly in the European Union.He stressed the importance of meeting international quality, safety and processing requirements to increase the presence of Pakistani seafood products in highly competitive global markets. According to him, greater access to international markets would create additional opportunities for fishermen, seafood processors, exporters and other stakeholders associated with the fisheries sector.

ZThe minister also urged fishermen to adopt modern and state-of-the-art practices so that Pakistani seafood could compete more effectively with products from other seafood-exporting countries.

He said modernization of fishing methods, improved handling and better post-harvest practices would be important for maintaining product quality and increasing the value of exports.

Pakistani seafood attracts attention in Russia

Meanwhile, Pakistan's seafood industry is also expanding its presence in international markets, with Pakistani seafood products receiving growing interest in the Russian market.

As part of efforts to explore new destinations for Pakistani seafood, Pakistan is participating in a seafood exhibition in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Asim Abrar, CEO of Seagreen Enterprises (Private) Limited, is leading Pakistan's participation in the exhibition in collaboration with the Pakistan Trade Mission in Russia.Abrar said the response from Russian buyers, business representatives and visitors at the exhibition has been highly encouraging. He said the interest shown by Russian buyers demonstrates the considerable potential for Pakistani seafood products in the Russian market and could provide opportunities.

# Punjab links garbage tax clearance with property transactions

■ Property owners must clear both property tax and sanitation fees before receiving NOC for transaction: Excise Department to collect monthly sanitation fee under Suthra Punjab Programme: More than five million properties across Punjab expected to contribute to govt's tax collection target

Web Desk

ISLAMABAD

The Punjab government has made payment of the garbage tax compulsory for property transactions from this month, in a move aimed at improving recovery of the sanitation fee,

According to the excise department's officials, an NOC for the purchase or sale of a property will not be issued until both property tax and sanitation fees have been paid. Previously, the NOC process was limited to checking clearance of property tax.

Officials said the Excise, Taxation and Narcotics Control Department had decided to ensure payment of the sanitation fee after being given responsibility for collecting the garbage tax under the Suthra Punjab Programme.

The new system is aimed at linking the recovery of the two taxes and ensuring that all outstanding payments are collected before a property transaction is completed.

More than Rs82 billion is expected to be collected from over five million properties across Punjab, including Lahore. The target for garbage tax collection during the current financial year is Rs40 billion, while more than Rs42 billion is expected through property tax.

The monthly sanitation fee varies according to the size and type of property. Urban residential properties of up to five marlas are charged Rs300 a month, while properties between five and 10 marlas pay Rs500. The fee rises to Rs1,000 for properties between 10 and 20 marlas, Rs2,000 for those between 20 and 40 marlas and Rs5,000 for properties larger than 40 marlas.




For commercial properties, the monthly fee is Rs500 for small businesses and shops, Rs1,000 for medium-sized businesses and Rs3,000 for large businesses and factories.

The Excise Department will issue consolidated bills for the sanitation fee. Bills covering July, August and September are being distributed during October, with taxpayers required to clear their dues by October 31.

Informal settlements and slum areas are generally exempt from the sanitation fee.

Officials said implementation of the new property clearance requirement would begin this month. The measure is intended to improve collection and ensure that the government receives the full amount due from property owners.

Scanned with CamScanner

# In crude Ohio rally speech, Trump says he may not help if Democrats win

■ President Trump made profane attacks on Democrats with promises of financial help if Republicans win the midterms and a warning that he would be less willing to work with Ohio if Democrats prevail.



Web Desk

WASHINGTON/RIYADH

US President Donald Trump used an Ohio rally to mix profane attacks on Democrats with promises of financial help if Republicans win the midterms and a warning ?that he would be less willing to work with the state if Democrats prevail.

"Just get out and vote," Trump said at a rally for Republican candidates, including US Senator Jon Husted and Ohio gubernatorial candidate Vivek Ramaswamy. "If you do that, we're going to win, and we're going to win big, and we're going to shove it up their ass."

Multiple incumbent Republican senators across the country face tough political headwinds in the November 3 elections, with Trump's popularity falling in recent months as higher ?prices persist for gasoline and other staples amid the US-Israeli war with Iran. Both Husted and Ramaswamy are in competitive races against Democratic opponents.

Former US Senator Sherrod Brown is running against ?Husted. Amy Acton is facing Ramaswamy.

Polls have suggested that Democrats could gain ground in the midterms, which will decide control of ?the narrowly divided House of Representatives and Senate, but Trump said Republicans would do better than critics expect. "I think we're going to have a big surprise because they don't know what's happening," he told the ?crowd in Vandalia, Ohio.

Ohio's is among eight US Senate races rated competitive. The state has turned into a campaign battlefield over data centers and culture war issues such as youth transgender surgeries.

Trump repeatedly attacked Democrats during ?his speech, at one point calling them "dumb son of a bitches," while arguing that maintaining Republican control would give Ohio officials a direct line to his administration and make it easier for the state to secure federal help.

He said Ohio's elected Republican officials frequently call him seeking money for the state, adding that he would be less inclined to accommodate Democrats if they win key races. Referring to Acton, Trump said: "But I'm not going to help her."

Husted is counting on Trump ?to motivate supporters who might otherwise skip the midterms, but the senator also directly criticized Brown, a veteran Democrat, as someone who has accomplished little in his political career. "He's been in office for 50 ?years — can you name one thing that he has done for you?" Husted said at the rally.

# Brazil's Bolsonaro takes early lead as results trickle in for high-stakes election



WEB DESK

BRASILIA/SAO PAULO

Senator Flavio Bolsonaro took an early lead as Brazil began reporting results on Sunday afternoon in the first round of a tight presidential election, following a campaign dominated by corruption scandals, economic anxiety and accusations of US meddling.

The field of 13 candidates has been led by two clear frontrunners — leftist President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, 80, who is seeking a fourth term, and ?Flavio, the 45-year-old son of former President Jair Bolsonaro, who hopes to return his father's right-wing movement to power.

With about 32% of votes reported, Flavio led Lula with 50.74% of the votes to the president's 41.14%.

Early results showed southern states that lean to Bolsonaro reporting faster, while votes from Lula's northeast stronghold are tallied slower.

If no candidate wins more than 50% of valid votes, the top two will face off on October 25. Surveys show Lula and Flavio polling roughly even in a likely runoff.

A victory for the senator would extend a wave of wins across Latin America by right-wing candidates aligned ?with US President Donald Trump, while Lula's reelection could create a headache for Washington, which has clashed with his government over trade and security.

Despite growing worries over Brazil's public finances and sluggish economic growth, the campaign offered meager policy debate, as ?both leading candidates skipped the major TV debates.

While polls right up until Saturday showed Lula would likely lead the first round but not avoid a runoff, Flavio told journalists in Rio ?de Janeiro he was confident he could win the presidency in the first round, citing voters' frustration with his chief opponent.

Flavio was counting on "a protest vote from people who would otherwise vote for another candidate but are opposed to Lula," he said. "I hope ?it's enough to secure a victory in the first round."

Thaise Lima, a 41-year-old lawyer on her way to vote in Sao Paulo, said her main goal was to get Lula's Workers' Party out of office.



# Iran to increase missile range, speed amid regional tensions

■ Brigadier General Mohammad Akraminia said the decision to extend the missiles range was prompted by the presence of potential adversaries at distances of up to 1,000 kilometers

Web DESK

TEHRAN

Iran's military has decided to increase the range and speed of its missiles, while work has begun to upgrade the weapons with newer technologies, according to an Iranian military spokesman.

Brigadier General Mohammad Akraminia, a spokesman for the Iranian Army, said the decision to extend the missiles' operational range was prompted by the presence of potential adversaries at distances of up to 1,000 kilometers.

He said Iranian missiles used during the recent conflict between Iran and the United States had demonstrated effective performance, leading military authorities to pursue further improvements in their capabilities.

According to the spokesman, missiles operated by Iran's ground forces were used to target enemy military bases in Kuwait, while cruise missiles launched from Iranian naval platforms successfully struck enemy vessels.

He said Iran planned to further enhance the speed, range and targeting capabilities of its missiles in the future.

He added that the upgrade program had already begun and was intended to strengthen Iran's defensive capabilities.

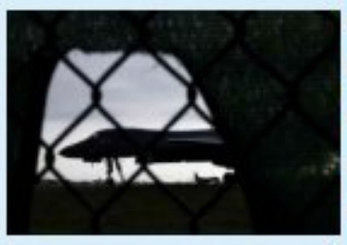
The announcement comes amid heightened regional tensions and growing concerns over Iran's missile capabilities.

Iranian officials have repeatedly described the country's missile program as an important component of its national defense and deterrence strategy.Iran's military has decided to increase the range and speed of its missiles, while work has begun to upgrade the weapons with newer technologies, according to an Iranian military spokesman.

# US removes B-1 bombers from UK base amid security concerns

WEB DESK

NEW YORK



The United States removed its B-1 bombers from a UK air base one week after several men were arrested there on suspicion of preparing terrorist acts, a Pentagon official said on Sunday.

A dozen B-1 bombers were stationed at RAF Fairford air base, located northwest of London. The planes had been used for US strikes on Iran.

"While operational security precluded ?us from confirming the movement of our assets and ?forces in real-time, we can acknowledge now that all US ?bombers that were deployed to RAF Fairford have re-deployed to their home stations in the United States," a Pentagon spokesman wrote in ?an email.

Britain has "strong indications" that Iran was involved in a suspected ?plot targeting the base, Prime Minister Andy Burnham said on Wednesday. ?Iran ?said accusations linking Tehran to the alleged plan were baseless and summoned the British ambassador in Tehran over the issue.

# Merz unveils fresh military aid in Kyiv says Germany won't be intimidated

■ Russia has escalated its drone attacks on Kyiv and other cities in recent weeks, targeting telecoms, electricity and transport infrastructure as well as military assets.

WEB DESK

KYIV



Germany will not be intimidated into dropping its support for Ukraine, Chancellor ?Friedrich Merz said on Sunday as he announced a further 1 billion ($1.1 billion) in military aid during a visit to Kyiv marked by Russian drone attacks.

Air-raid ?sirens and explosions rang out repeatedly across the Ukrainian capital as Merz and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy visited a memorial to soldiers killed during the four-year-old war, as well as the Academy of Sciences, where at least two people died in a drone strike last week.

Russia has escalated its drone attacks on Kyiv and other cities in recent weeks, targeting telecoms, electricity and transport infrastructure as well as military assets.

Speaking at a press conference alongside Zelenskiy, Merz said Moscow was trying to break the morale of the Ukrainian people, and announced 350 million for repairs in the energy sector. He ?said Germany remained Ukraine's strongest backer.

"We do this not only to protect Ukraine's territorial integrity; we do it ?deeply in our own interest, for it is a matter of Europe's security," Merz said, noting that Russia was carrying out cyberattacks and disinformation campaigns that struck at Europe's democratic order.

"This demonstrates that we will not be intimidated," he said.

Russia has said accusations of hybrid warfare are baseless and the result of anti-Russian hysteria.

# Yemeni govt launches offensive to reclaim all areas from Houthis

■ Yemen's internationally recognised government is launching a major military campaign to reclaim all areas controlled by the Houthis rebels.

WEB DESK

ADEN

Yemen's Saudi-backed, internationally recognised government said it was launching a major military campaign to recapture all areas of the country controlled by the Iran-backed Houthis.

The government's armed forces would press the offensive "until the country is liberated from the grip of ?the terrorist militia," Yemeni President Rashad al-Alimi said in a televised address.

A military spokesman later called on the Houthis to lay down their weapons.

The Houthis, known formally as Ansar Allah, have held Yemen's capital Sanaa and vast parts of the northwest, where most of the population live, since 2014. They have so far withstood a series of attacks over the years by Saudi Arabia, the UAE and their Western allies, and have updated their weaponry with the help of Iran.

The ?movement launched a surprise offensive last month which captured the strategic Bab el-Mandeb, opens new tab strait and some 150 km (90 miles) of coast on the Red Sea in a matter of weeks, giving the ?Houthis new leverage over the international shipping route.

That advance also opened a new front in the wider US-Israeli war launched in February against Iran, to which ?Tehran's responses included choking oil shipping through the Strait of Hormuz, opens new tab, to the other side of the Arabian Peninsula.

As the Yemeni government, known as the Presidential Leadership Council, made its ?announcement, the Houthis said they had launched ballistic missiles and drones at Saudi Aramco sites in Riyadh and the Khurais area of Saudi Arabia.

They claimed the attacks caused major fires and were in response to what ?they said were 50 Saudi-led air and missile strikes in Yemen in the past 12 hours.

There was no immediate confirmation from Saudi Arabia.



Scanned with CamScanner

# Angelina Jolie draws global attention to destruction in Gaza

■ Jolie shared satellite images showing large areas of Gaza reduced to rubble and said entire neighbourhoods had been devastated

WEB DESK

KARACHI



- Hollywood star Angelina Jolie has once again highlighted the devastation in Gaza, drawing attention to the destruction caused by the ongoing conflict.

Jolie shared satellite images showing large areas of Gaza reduced to rubble and said entire neighbourhoods had been devastated.

The actress said homes, schools, hospitals, roads and other essential infrastructure in Gaza had been destroyed, leaving little of the basic facilities needed by civilians.

Jolie also warned that 94% of ther. Gaza's population would require shelter and essential supplies ahead of the arrival of colder weather.

The actress has previously spoken out about the humanitarian situation in Gaza. In an earlier statement, she described Gaza as having become a "mass grave" for Palestinians and those trying to assist them.

Her previous remarks sparked strong criticism and anger among Israeli hardliners.

Jolie has been a prominent advocate on humanitarian issues for years and has repeatedly used her public platform to draw attention to the plight of civilians affected by conflict.

# Alina Amir's Playful TikTok Live Move Leaves Umer Butt Laughing

■ Alina Amir Surprises Umer Butt During TikTok Live, Sparks Reconciliation Buzz

SHOWBIZ DESK

ISLAMABAD



TikTok star Alina Amir recently caught Umer Butt by surprise during a TikTok Live, turning an awkward moment into laughter and once again drawing attention to their recent fallout.

In a viral clip, Alina joined the live session alongside one of Umer's friends before playing a song while Umer was sitting nearby. As the lyrics about not ending a friendship began playing, those present burst into laughter, with Umer also smiling at the unexpected gesture.

The light-hearted interaction quickly caught viewers' attention, with many wondering whether Alina and Umer had resolved their recent differences.

The moment came shortly after Umer discussed his disagreement with Alina during a TikTok Live. He said he had initially preferred not to discuss the matter publicly but decided to share his side following what he described as Alina's actions towards him.

According to Umer's account, Alina blocked him on Instagram and removed him from her account but initially continued following or interacting with him on TikTok. He questioned the difference between the two platforms and suggested that their previous TikTok interactions involving coins may have been a factor.

Umer further claimed that after he told Alina he would no longer participate in TikTok games with her, she removed him from TikTok as well. During the live session, he also used harsh language to describe her, presenting his personal account of the dispute.

He also addressed a separate exchange involving Faryal and Rashma, saying they were joking with Alina and that he was not involved in their conversation. Umer said he did not want his name associated with the discussion.

The latest video has shifted the tone considerably, showing a more relaxed interaction between Alina and Umer. Alina's playful gesture and Umer's laughter have once again sparked discussion among their followers about whether the two may



# Faran Tahir takes hilarious dig at his spoiled on-screen kids

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

WEB DESK

KARACHI

Actor Faran Tahir has left fans laughing with a hilarious dig at his on-screen children, joking that he keeps ending up as the father of "spoiled kids" in one drama after another.

During a recent interview with digital creator Amna Niazi, Faran was asked about his character Habib's daughter Zaryab, played by Dur-e-Fishan Saleem, in ARY Digital's drama Dar-e-Nijaat. He was asked when he would have asked Zaryab to leave home if she were his daughter in real life.

Instead of giving a serious answer, Faran turned the question into a joke about his acting career.

"It is so unfortunate that in every drama series I have gotten spoiled kids. This has been the dilemma so far," he said.

Faran's response quickly caught attention, with viewers amused by his complaint about repeatedly being cast as a father dealing with difficult children.

In Dar-e-Nijaat, Faran plays Habib, the father of Zaryab, whose personal choices and complicated relationship with Zamil have become an important part of the story. Her decisions have also created several difficult situations for her family as the drama has progressed.

The actor's comment added a lighter moment to the serious storyline, especially as Habib is often shown trying to handle family problems and guide his daughter through difficult circumstances.

This is also not the first time Faran has played a father dealing with challenging children. In Bas Tera Saath Ho, he plays Mursaleen, also known as Taya Jaan, whose on-screen children include Zoya Nasir and Haris Waheed. (aryplus.tv)

Faran has been receiving attention for his performance in Dar-e-Nijaat, while his latest humorous remark has given fans another reason to talk about his character and his familiar role as a drama father.Actor Faran Tahir has left fans laughing with a hilarious dig at his on-screen children, joking that he keeps ending up as the father of "spoiled kids" in one drama after another.

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# Olivia Rodrigo Is Youngest Artist to Hit 31 Billion Streams

■ Areeba Habib Impresses Fans With Elegant Festive Style Statement

SHOWBIZ DESK

Olivia Rodrigo

Olivia Rodrigo has reached a new career milestone, and her fans are happy to shout about it. The 23-year-old singer has passed 31 billion streams on Spotify.

She is now the youngest artist to ever reach this number. For many fans, the news feels like proof of how fast her career has grown.

The boost came after the release of her latest album, "you seem pretty sad for a girl so in love". The record has kept listeners coming back and pushed her total higher.

Her fans did not wait long to react. Social media filled up with posts, cheers and celebration within hours. On X, one fan simply wrote, "Unstoppable." Another said it was "record breaking stuff from Olivia." Short and sweet, but the excitement was clear.

A third fan shared a fun fact about her debut album. They said Sour is the first album in Spotify history to have seven songs pass one billion streams each. This claim comes from a fan post, so it is worth checking before you share it.

# Study Reveals Linguistic Patterns Behind Taylor Swift's Songwriting

■ Researchers Identify Recurring Language Patterns Across Taylor Swift's Song Catalogue

WEB DESK

LONDON



Although Taylor Swift has reinvented her sound and image across different musical eras, a new academic study suggests that her songwriting has maintained remarkably consistent language patterns throughout her career.

Researchers analyzed more than 123,000 words from 247 songs spanning Swift's career, from her 2006 debut to The Life of a Showgirl: The Encore, released this year. The research examined recurring symbols, imagery, themes and linguistic patterns in her lyrics.

According to the study, one of the strongest themes across Swift's songwriting is her awareness of how she is viewed by other people. Her lyrics frequently explore public perception, criticism and the pressure of being in the spotlight.

The research found that Swift often adopts the perspective of an observer or outsider when addressing her public image. Songs including Shake It Off and Who's Afraid of Little Old Me? use sarcastic or defensive language to engage with public commentary and media attention.

Colour is another recurring feature of Swift's lyrics. While words associated with colours such as red, maroon, lavender and gold appear prominently across her catalogue, the study found that "grey" is the most frequently used colour term, appearing in songs including Coney Island and Evermore.

The study also highlighted Swift's frequent references to the human body. Words describing body parts such as eyes, lips, hands, shoulders and faces often appear in lyrics dealing with relationships, memories and emotional experiences.

Clothing is another recurring element, with references to cardigans, blue jeans, sports shirts and little black dresses often used to convey identity, nostalgia and emotional states.

Researchers also examined what they described as counterfactual thinking — imagining what might have happened under different circumstances. Swift's lyrics frequently explore alternative outcomes, missed opportunities and situations that could have unfolded differently.

The research was based on a bespoke database known as the Taylor Lyric Corpus (TaLyCo). Despite the major changes in Swift's musical styles and visual eras over nearly two decades, the analysis suggests that her underlying approach to language has remained notably consistent.

The findings indicate that themes such as public scrutiny, physical imagery, clothing, colour and alternative versions of events form recurring elements of Swift's songwriting across her extensive catalogue.

# Dananeer Mobeen makes singing debut with new track 'Touch'



WEB DESK

KARACHI

Pakistani actress and social media personality Dananeer Mobeen has ventured into music with the release of her debut track, 'Touch'.

Mobeen announced the release through a promotional video shared with her followers on Instagram, introducing fans to a new side of her artistic career.

The actress said considerable effort had gone into producing the song and expressed hope that listeners would enjoy its melody and overall sound.

The track also features singer and musician Haider Mustehsan. The song is characterised by an energetic rhythm and upbeat musical elements.

Mobeen first gained widespread recognition on social media before establishing herself as an actress. She has appeared in popular Pakistani projects including Sinf-e-Aahan and Mohabbat Gumshuda Meri.

Her move into music marks another step in her expanding career in the entertainment industry.



Actress Maya Ali has showered praise on young stars Aena Khan and Fazal Hussain for their performances in Mitti De Baway, admitting that both actors are quickly winning her over with their impressive work in the Green Entertainment drama.

Scanned with CamScanner

# Youth Cricket League Quetta: University of Balochistan beat NUST by 9 wickets

- University of Balochistan secures convincing victory in 10th league match at Chagai Stadium






NEWS DESK

QUETTA

The Youth Cricket League Quetta continues to provide cricket enthusiasts with exciting and competitive matches, as participating teams compete for qualification to the next stage of the tournament. The league matches have attracted considerable interest among young cricketers and sports circles in Quetta.The 10th league match of the Youth Cricket League Quetta was played on October 4, 2026, at Chagai Stadium, Quetta Cantt, between the University of Balochistan and NUST University Balochistan Campus. Both teams entered the match with the aim of securing an important victory and strengthening their position in the league stage.The match witnessed an impressive performance by the University of Balochistan team, which maintained control of the contest and eventually secured a convincing nine-wicket victory over NUST University Balochistan Campus. The result marked another important achievement for the University of Balochistan in the ongoing league competition.The 10th match added further excitement to the tournament, with the participating teams continuing their efforts to demonstrate their skills and earn valuable victories during the league stage. The performances of the young players are also providing them with an opportunity to gain competitive experience and showcase their cricketing talent.With the league stage progressing, the competition for places in the semi-finals is expected to become increasingly intense. The remaining teams will continue their campaign in the upcoming matches, with every game carrying importance for their hopes of progressing to the knockout stage.The successful teams from the league stage will move forward towards the semi-finals, while the ultimate objective for the competing sides will be to reach the Champions Trophy. The ongoing matches are therefore expected to produce more exciting contests as the tournament moves towards its decisive stages.The Youth Cricket League Quetta is providing a platform for young cricketers to participate in organized competitive cricket and demonstrate their abilities. The continuation of the league matches is expected to further promote cricketing activities among youth in Quetta and provide talented players with opportunities to gain valuable match experience.



## Sabalenka swept out of China Open in third round

WEB DESK

BEIJING

Aryna Sabalenka was swatted aside in straight sets by 34th-ranked Nikola Bartunkova in the third round of the China Open on Sunday, leaving the event without its top two seeds.

Czech player Bartunkova, 20, sent down four aces to beat the former world number one 6-4, 6-3 in one hour and 35 minutes. "I focused on myself, to be calm," Bartunkova said."She's a legend... so I'm really happy that I won the match," she said of the four-time Grand Slam champion.Bartunkova next faces Austria's Sinja Kraus in the round of 16. Second-seeded Sabalenka squandered five chances to break serve in the sixth game of the first set, with Bartunkova strong on defence and firing deep.

The 28-year-old from Belarus threw on a cap for the eighth game of the first set as the women switched between playing in the shade and the sun, but it did not turn the tide in her favour. Afrustrated Sabalenka tossed her racquet at a break down in the fourth game of the second set, and lost on the first match point when she returned into the net.

# Ireland and Israel end Nations League rivalry with ill-tempered stalemate

- Ireland and Israel drew 1-1 in a tense UEFA Nations League clash in Serbia, ending a politically charged two-game series that saw Ireland win the first meeting 3-0.

SPORTS DESK

ISLAMABAD



Tempers flared again as Ireland and Israel drew 1-1 in the second of their two UEFA Nations League meetings, concluding a fortnight dominated as much by political tensions as football.

Ireland had faced ?calls from some supporters and politicians to boycott the fixtures before beating Israel 3-0 behind closed doors in Hungary ?in their first meeting a week ago.

"I'm absolutely delighted this is finished," Ireland's Icelandic coach Heimir Hallgrimsson told reporters.

"It's taken a toll out of us all. I've given so much credit to the players. They have been absolutely amazing in tough times, and I wish no national team ?to go through what we have gone through for the last two weeks."

Ireland is one of Europe's most ?outspoken critics of Israel's war in Gaza, and the Football Association of Ireland chose to stage Sunday's ?match behind closed doors in Serbia amid the pressure to withdraw from the fixtures.

The absence of supporters did little to ?ease the tension on the pitch.

Irish media reported that one of Ireland's coaches Damien Doyle had accused an Israeli player of ?spitting at him after the halftime whistle. Reuters could not independently verify the allegation or establish its original source.

Asked about the spitting incident at the post-match press conference, Hallgrimsson declined to provide details.

"I was there. I'm not going to comment. It's something a disciplinary committee will look at," ?he told reporters.

Israel coach Ran Ben-Shimon said he had already left the sideline and did not see what happened.

"Halftime I ?was in the dressing room, in my room with my staff, I didn't see anything. When I'm going to see and check, I ?will get ?back to you with the answer," he told reporters.

As in the first meeting, there were no pre-match handshakes or exchange of pennants, while players from each team bowed their heads during the opposing national anthem.

Ireland again wore black armbands commemorating all the victims of the conflict in Gaza, with the Israelis sporting black armbands in memory of the victims of the October ?7 attack that sparked the ?war.

Troy Parrott gave Ireland the ?lead with a 39th-minute penalty but Dor Peretz levelled immediately after the break for Israel with their first effort on target.

Israel hit the woodwork twice in the second half of a ?poor game in which neither side could fashion a winner.

The draw left Ireland third in ?Group B3 on ?five points, three behind leaders Austria with second-placed Kosovo ahead of them on goal difference. Israel are bottom with two points.



## Kainat Imtiaz bids farewell to international cricket after 13 years

SPORTS DESK

ISLAMABAD

Pakistan women's fast bowler Kainat Imtiaz has bid farewell to international cricket after a 13-year career, having represented the national side in 19 One-Day Internationals and 21 T20 Internationals.

The right-arm pacer has recently embarked on a new chapter in the sport, beginning her career as a match referee during the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) National Women's U19 T20 Tournament held in August and September.

Kainat made her T20I debut against South Africa in Potchefstroom in October 2010, becoming Pakistan women's T20I cap number 22. She later made her ODI debut against Ireland in Fatullah, Bangladesh, earning ODI cap number 64.

She represented Pakistan at the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup 2017, featuring in four matches during the tournament.

She also played an important part in Pakistan's women's squads that won gold medals at the 2010 and 2014 Asian Games in China and South Korea, respectively.

## Jannat Mirza, Alishbah Cheer Pakistan at Asian Games

- Jannat Mirza, Alishbah Cheer Pakistan at Asian Games



SPORTS REPORTER

TOKYO

Pakistani TikTok stars Jannat Mirza and Alishbah Anjum were spotted passionately supporting Team Pakistan during the much-anticipated Pakistan-India men's T20 cricket final at the Asian Games 2026 in Japan.

The TikTok star sisters, who travelled to Japan to experience the Asian Games, proudly waved the Pakistani flag and cheered for the national team during the high-profile clash. A video showing the sisters supporting Pakistan has also surfaced on social media, attracting attention from their followers.

Jannat had earlier expressed her excitement about experiencing the Asian Games in Nagoya and exploring different sporting events beyond simply watching the competitions.

The Pakistan-India final was played at Korogi Sports Park in Nisshin on October 3. India scored 211 for six in 20 overs after choosing to bat first, with Abhishek Sharma contributing 61 runs and Tilak Varma remaining unbeaten on 51 off 22 balls.

Pakistan made a strong effort in the chase, led by Hasan Nawaz's impressive 96 off 51 balls, but finished on 192 for six. India won the match by 19 runs to claim the gold medal, while Pakistan took silver.

Jannat and Alishbah's enthusiastic presence and support for the national team also became a talking point among Pakistani social media users, adding a celebrity touch to the much-followed cricket final.

# Battling Djokovic stuns top seed Zverev at China Open

- The 39-year-old Serbian electrified a packed crowd in Beijing, where he extended an astonishing winning streak to 32 matches and is a firm fan favourite.

SPORTS DESK

BEIJING

Novak Djokovic rolled back the years to oust Alexander Zverev from the China Open on Sunday, beating the top seed 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 to set up a blockbuster semi-final with Daniil Medvedev.

The 39-year-old Serbian electrified a packed crowd in Beijing, where he extended an astonishing winning streak to 32 matches and is a firm fan favourite.

Djokovic called it one of his best matches of the year, alongside his epic five-set win over Italy's Jannik Sinner to reach the final at the Australian Open. He told reporters such battles were "evidence to me that I can still beat the best players in the world on the biggest stage".

"Things are a bit different nowadays. It's hard to be consistently playing on the highest level like the youngsters," he said.

He needed to play a mix of shots in "high-risk tennis" against the German, but he said feeling "physically pretty good" on the court after dealing all year with health issues helped him fight back.

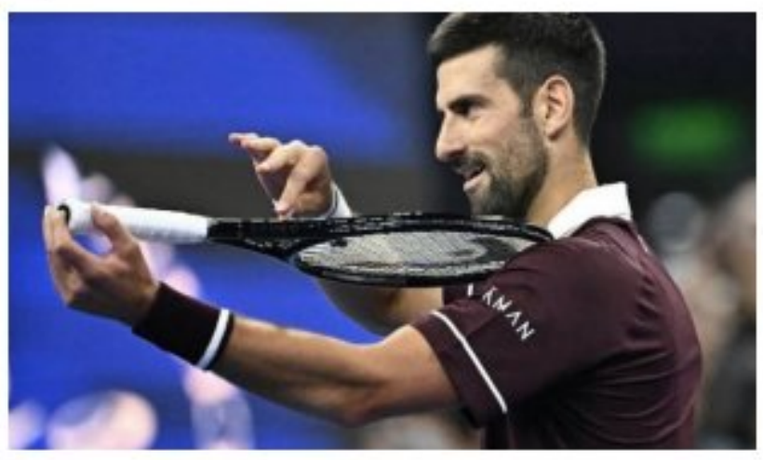
Djokovic got off to a poor start, double-faulting twice in the first game to help Zverev, a decade his junior, break serve instantly.

Boos filled the stadium soon afterward when the umpire agreed to replay a point Djokovic had won, after Zverev complained about a flicker in the LED panels during play. The German saw out the first set from there, but a valiant Djokovic roared back to seal the second with a cross-court winner to break serve and force a decider.

The 24-time Grand Slam champion faced 19 Zverev aces throughout the match but held steady on his own serve to go 5-4 ahead in the final set.

He then broke the world number two to take the set and the match, seemingly defying his recent physical difficulties with victory in a gruelling two hours and 34 minutes.

Djokovic will face Medvedev in the final four after the former world number one dispatched 's



Francisco Cerundolo 7-6 (7/4), 6-3. Poland's Hubert Hurkacz also advanced to the semi-finals after beating Karen Khachanov, and will play Australia's Alex de Minaur, who survived a gruelling test to beat Andrey Rublev 1-6, 6-2, 6-3.

Sabalenka swept out

Aryna Sabalenka was swatted aside in straight sets in the third round, leaving the women's draw without its top two seeds.

Czech player Nikola Bartunkova, 20, sent down four aces to beat the former world number one 6-4, 6-3 in one hour and 35 minutes.

"I focused on myself, to be calm," 34th-ranked Bartunkova said. "She's a legend... so I'm really happy that I won the match," she said of the four-time Grand Slam champion.

Bartunkova next faces Austria's Sinja Kraus in the round of 16.

A frustrated Sabalenka tossed her racquet at a breakdown in the fourth game of the second set, and lost on the first match point when she returned into the net. Top seed Elena Rybakina -- who replaced Sabalenka as world number one weeks ago -- is also out, having lost to Alina Charaeva in the second round.

Scanned with CamScanner



## Hajj 2026: Second installment under government scheme collection begins today

WEB DESK

ISLAMABAD

The collection of the second installment for pilgrims registered under the government Hajj scheme has started from today, with the Ministry of Religious Affairs announcing the payment schedule.

According to the ministry's spokesperson, government scheme pilgrims can deposit the second installment from October 5 to October 20.

Pilgrims are required to upload a medical fitness certificate before submitting the second installment.

The ministry said Hajj applications would be considered cancelled if the second installment was not deposited by the stipulated deadline.

In case of cancellation, the amount already deposited by the applicant will be refunded to their account.

# KP Chief Minister 'accused' of using state helicopter for PTI long march

● IHC had barred provincial governments from using public resources to facilitate march: KP CM travelled by helicopter to Lakki Marwat before leading PTI procession: Armed men reportedly seen at PTI march: Punjab minister says use of govt helicopter for march violated court order

WEB DESK

ISLAMABAD



A dispute has emerged over the use of a government helicopter by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Chief Minister Sohail Afridi to reach Lakki Marwat and lead the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) long march towards Islamabad,

According to the report, Sohail Afridi reached Lakki Marwat by helicopter on Sunday before formally launching the march from Gandi Chowk. Some media reports confirmed that CM Afridi travelled by helicopter to the city to lead the PTI procession.

The development has drawn attention to a 37-page judgement issued by the Islamabad High Court (IHC) on September 18 in a case concerning the PTI's planned march.

The court directed provincial governments not to use public resources or funds for the Islamabad march and prohibited the use of official vehicles and machinery to facilitate it.

The court also said that peaceful political protest was a constitutional right, but such activity could not interfere with the fundamental rights of other citizens.

It ruled that political parties, provincial governments and public office holders could not block roads or other public places in a way that restricted citizens' movement or access to essential services.

The TV channel reported that armed individuals were present in the march and that one had been identified as a member of the Gul Bahadur group. And this claim was based on images circulating on social and digital media.

It also referred to violence during earlier PTI protests, including the 2024 demonstrations, and said that four Ranger personnel were martyred while 66 cops and 32 civilians were injured.

Meanwhile, Punjab Information and Culture Minister Uzma Bukhari said the use of the helicopter by the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa chief minister for political activity was a violation of the Islamabad High Court's order.

Bukhari also accused the PTI of a long-standing practice of using government resources for political activity. She said the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government was creating circumstances that could force constitutional action against the provincial administration.

She said the people of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa could not be left at the mercy of armed groups and militant elements.

The PTI has launched the march towards Islamabad after talks with the federal government failed. The procession is seeking the release of former prime minister and PTI founder Imran Khan, who remains in prison.

# Amir Muqam says KP 'has no government', rules out governor's rule as preferred option

● Federal Minister Amir Muqam criticised KP's governance and security situation, saying the province was facing worsening conditions while opposing governor's rule as a political option

SPECIAL REPORTER

GILGIT



Federal Minister for Kashmir Affairs, Gilgit-Baltistan and SAFRON Amir Muqam has criticised the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government over the province's security and governance situation, saying there is effectively no government in KP and that governor's rule would not be a politically favourable decision.

Speaking at a press conference alongside Zahid Khan and Samar Bilour, Amir Muqam said the federal government did not want to reach a point where it had to take an extreme step regarding Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. He said governor's rule was not politically a good decision, adding that the government did not want to go to the last resort.

Muqam said Khyber Pakhtunkhwa had been left unattended while the chief minister was working on a one-point agenda. He claimed that the situation in the province was tense and that the chief minister was busy participating in protests.

He said the situation in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was deteriorating day by day, while the chief minister had been travelling between Lahore and Sindh for the past two months.

The federal minister said terrorism was taking place in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and that the province was "burning", leaving people unable to move freely. He said residents were facing difficulties and carrying the bodies of their loved ones, stressing that there should be unity on the issue of terrorism.

Muqam also alleged that corruption was at its peak in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and claimed that the chief minister was not fulfilling his responsibilities. He described the province as currently being without proper governance and said the KP government should realise the problems being faced by the people.

# Attached summons DSP, seeks record in Imaan Mazari and Hadi Ali Chattha bail case

■ An ATC judge expressed anger over police failure to produce the bail case record of Imaan Mazari and Hadi Ali Chattha, summoning the DSP and ordering him to remain in the dock.

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD



An anti-terrorism court expressed strong displeasure with police officials for failing to produce the case record in the bail pleas of Imaan Mazari and Hadi Ali Chattha and summoned handcuffs during the hearing.

The bail applications of Imaan Mazari and Hadi Ali Chattha were heard by Anti-Terrorism Court Judge Abu Al-Hasnat Zulqarnain.

The judge became angry over the absence of the investigation officer and summoned the DSP in person. Defence counsel Raja Ali said he was ready to present detailed arguments before the court. The judge, however, asked where the investigation officer was. A court official informed him that the officer was out of the city.

Expressing displeasure, Judge Abu Al-Hasnat Zulqarnain asked where the officer was out of the city and ordered the DSP to be called. He said verbal explanations would not be accepted and also summoned handcuffs and the security in-charge.

When the DSP appeared before the court, the judge asked him where the case record was.

The judge became angry when the DSP spoke in English and told him to speak to him in Urdu.

The DSP said that, according to his information, the investigation officer was out of the city. The judge questioned how the DSP had appeared without the case record and said he did not accept verbal explanations.

The DSP asked for some time to provide the information, prompting the judge to demand something on the record. The judge warned that he could send both the DSP and SP to jail for six months and expressed strong anger over the officials' conduct.

The judge further warned the DSP that he could make him stand in the dock and send him to jail for six months in uniform if he failed to produce evidence, saying that the matter had become a "drama" and that the courts were subsequently blamed.

# Bilawal Bhutto inaugurates Pakistan's first coal-drying unit at Thar



WEB DESK

KARACHI

Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari on Monday inaugurated Pakistan's first coal-drying unit at Thar Coal Block-I alongside Sindh Chief Minister Murad Ali Shah,

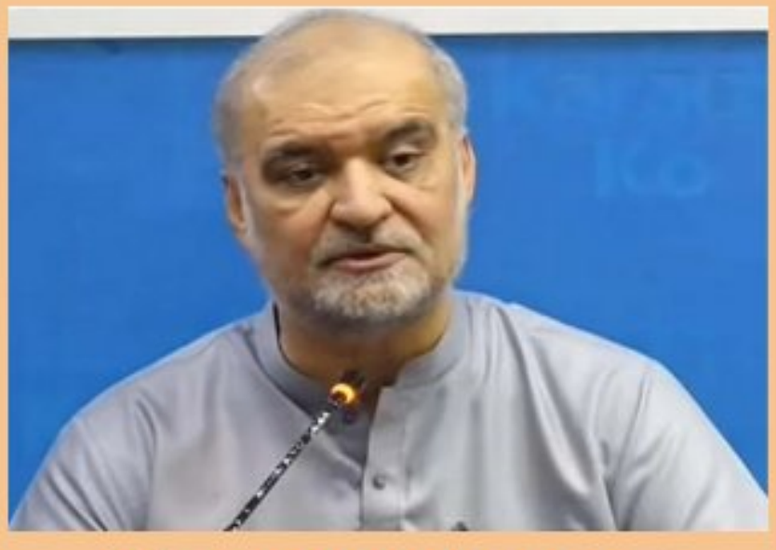
Nowadays, 7.6 million tons of coal is being generated from Thar Coal Block-2. After the inauguration of Phase-3, the total coal production will reach 1,12,00,000 annually.

Thar Coal Block 2 will also produce 1,980 megawatts of electricity. About 2,640 megawatts of electricity is being produced from Thar Coal Block-1 and 2. After the inauguration of Phase-3, 3,300 megawatts of electricity will be generated.

The Government of Sindh is harnessing Thar's vast indigenous coal resources, with the potential to generate up to 100,000 MW of electricity, to strengthen Pakistan's energy security and support sustainable economic development.



*A school teacher instructs students during a classroom session at The City School, Warsak Campus, in connection with World Teachers' Day.*



## JI to announce next phase of fuel levy protest campaign after Oct 7: Hafiz Naeem

■ JI chief criticises govt's petrol relief package, says measure announced "under pressure"

STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD

Jamaat-e-Islami (JI) chief Hafiz Naeemur Rehman said on Monday that the party will announce the next phase of its protest campaign against the fuel levy after October 7, while criticising the government's petrol relief package.

Addressing a presser in Karachi, the JI chief said the government's relief package was not a favour to the people and claimed it had been announced under pressure.

"The government had to give this package after coming under pressure," he said.

The JI had postponed its march, which called for the abolition of the petroleum levy, a day after it began on September 21, following an appeal from the prime minister and his assurance of a meeting with the party leadership.

The prime minister left for the United Nations General Assembly session after the development and returned earlier this week. However, no eeting between him and JI leaders has taken place so far.

Addressing the media earlier today, Hafiz Naeem said the petroleum relief package would not benefit all motorcyclists, noting that there are around four million motorcycles.

"The only solution to this issue is the abolition of the petroleum levy," he stressed.

He also questioned the silence of other political parties over the petroleum issue. "Why is everyone silent over the petroleum issue?" he asked.

Hafiz Naeem further criticised what he described as a separate system for the wealthy, saying such an approach would not work.

He reiterated that the government's petrol relief package should not be treated as a favour to the public and called for the petroleum levy to be abolished.

Printer & Publisher: Wasim Ahmed , Printed at Ulus Printer,s Quetta & Published At Office No.06 2nd Floor Zainab Chaimber Sahar-e-adalat Quetta

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