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Chief of Defence Forces and Chief of Army Staff Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir speaks at the Pakistan Minerals Investment Forum

Security forces kill 74 Indian proxy terrorists in Balochistan, KP operations

■ Pakistan's security forces killed 74 terrorists in intelligence-based operations across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan, recovering weapons, ammunition and explosives, ISPR said.

STAFF REPORTER
QUETTA



Security forces killed 74 terrorists during multiple intelligence based operations in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan, according to Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR).

In a determined effort to eliminate terrorist threats and dismantle the terrorist networks, security forces are conducting a series of intelligence based operations (IBOs) in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, adding that these operations have been further expanded to the areas of Mir Ali and Orakzai.

Over the last 48 hours, during the conduct of these series of IBOs, own troops effectively engaged multiple terrorist's locations.

Following intense and fierce exchanges of fire, 35 terrorists belonging to Indian-sponsored "Fitna-al-Khwarij" have been neutralised in Mir Ali and eight were eliminated in Orakzai, thereby inflicting a significant blow to the khwarij networks operating in these areas.

In Kurram area of Balochistan's district, security forces are conducting comprehensive intelligence based area sanitisation operation from 3 November.

During the conduct of these intelligence based operations, multiple terrorist hideouts were effectively engaged and after multiple engagements, thirty one Indian sponsored khwarij were killed. ISPR said huge cache of weapons, ammunition and explosives including homemade explosives and improvised explosives devices were also recovered during sanitization, thwarting Khwarij nefarious designs to use these materials in terrorists activities.

"Sanitization operations continue to eliminate holed up khwarij from these areas, as relentless Counter Terrorism campaign

Pakistan will join world's major economies before 2050, PM tells minerals moot

■ CDF Munir says Pakistan is aiming to become a competitive destination for long-term mineral investment

Staff Reporter
ISLAMABAD



Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has expressed confidence that Pakistan will become one of the world's major economies before 2050, saying Goldman Sachs has forecast that the country could become the world's sixth-largest economy by 2075.He was addressing participants of the Pakistan Minerals Investment Forum 2026 on Friday.

Pakistan's economy, the premier said, is moving towards a journey of growth and transformation with renewed confidence.

He said the country aimed to stop exporting its valuable mineral resources in raw form, adding that the resources would instead be utilised for domestic industries.

"The day is not far when Pakistan will utilise its mineral resources for the ely want to extract raw minerals and export them abroad.Referring to the Reko Diq project, he said it is one of the world's largest undeveloped copper and gold deposits.

country's downstream industries,"

PM Shehbaz said, adding that the country does not merely want to extract raw minerals and export them abroad.Referring to the Reko Diq project, he said it is one of the world's largest undeveloped copper and gold deposits.

The project, which remained stalled for two decades, is moving towards practical completion and the operational phase, he added.

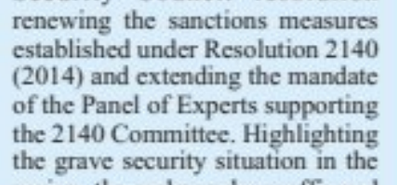
The prime minister said the establishment of the National Minerals Data Centre and digitisation of geological records would ensure the availability of authentic information.He said the federal and provincial governments would work together to promote the minerals sector. The prime minister said the government is committed to providing the business community with all necessary support to promote investment.

He said the government would work as one team to protect investors' interests, adding that the protection of investors is the ecurity.government's protection and their security is its security.

PM Shehbaz further stated that the cooperation and trust of local communities were essential for the success of mineral projects.

He said protecting manpower, assets and supply routes is the government's responsibility.

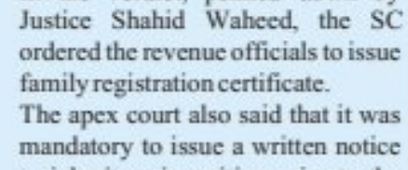
Moreover, he said reliable infrastructure for electricity, water and communications is essential for investment.



Pakistan calls for unconditional end to Houthi attacks on Saudi Arabia

WEB DESK
NEW YORK

At the United Nations Security Council, Pakistan has condemned Houthi attacks on Saudi Arabia and reaffirmed its support for Yemen's sovereignty and stability, The remarks were made by Pakistan's Permanent Representative to the UN, Syed Haider Shah, following the adoption of a United Nations Security Council resolution renewing the sanctions measures established under Resolution 2140 (2014) and extending the mandate of the Panel of Experts supporting the 2140 Committee. Highlighting the grave security situation in the region, the ambassador reaffirmed Pakistan's resolute support for Saudi Arabia's sovereignty, territorial integrity, security, and stability.Syed Haider Shah said that Saudi Arabia has the legitimate right to defend its territory and protect its citizens and residents in accordance with the UN Charter and international law.



SC makes recommendations to protect rights of inheritors of property

Staff Reporter
ISLAMABAD

The Supreme Court (SC) on Friday made some important recommendations for the protection of the rights of inheritors of property, A five-member larger bench, headed by Justice Shahid Waheed, presented the recommendations.

In the verdict, penned down by Justice Shahid Waheed, the SC ordered the revenue officials to issue family registration certificate.

The apex court also said that it was mandatory to issue a written notice to inheritors in writing prior to the transfer of the property.

It ruled that the inheritor should be present in person and his or her statement should be recorded in case of Hiba (gift).

The court made the presence of female revenue officer obligatory to record the statements of females.



Ishaq Dar reviews restructuring of PNSC

■ The Deputy Prime Minister emphasised that the restructuring process must be anchored in professionalism and aligned with global standards.

WEB DESK
LAHORE

A meeting chaired by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Senator Ishaq Dar in Islamabad on Friday reviewed restructuring of Pakistan National Shipping Corporation (PNSC),

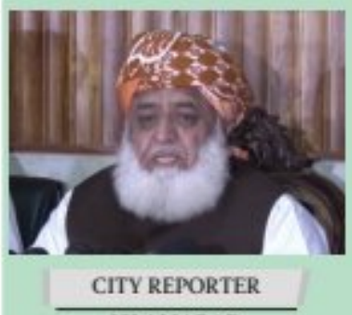
The meeting discussed transforming PNSC into a competitive, commercially viable and globally recognised maritime entity. Participants reviewed proposals to enhance operational efficiency and align corporate governance with international best practices.

The Deputy Prime Minister emphasised that the restructuring process must be anchored in professionalism and aligned with global standards.

Dar directed the concerned authorities to engage world-class shipping and financial consultants to devise a forward-looking roadmap to maximise commercial returns, strengthen Pakistan's maritime trade logistics and safeguard our national economic interests.

Maulana Fazlur Rehman turns out to be 'salaried person'

■ Amount in JUI-F chief's bank account shoots up from Rs8,456 to Rs16 million; Maulana Fazl's salary also registers increase by Rs8.3 million in one year



CITY REPORTER
ISLAMABAD

JUI-F chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman has turned out to be a salaried person,

But the questions are: which organisation has employed Maulana Fazl And which is the organisation which pays millions of rupees to him in salary There is also a question mark over the income and expenditures incurred by Maulana between 2021 and 2023. "How on earth the amount in his bank account increased from Rs8,456 to over Rs16 million in just three years."

There is also a question that why there is a difference between the Form-B and wealth statement submitted by the JUI-F chief.

Another point to be noted is that how the annual salary he is drawing shot up from over Rs700,000 to over Rs9.1 million only in 2024.

And which is the organisation, which is responsible for such a substantial increase in his salary.

Similarly, who owns a spacious and luxurious house in G-6 sector of Islamabad.

No provincial matters discussed at Zardari-Naqvi meeting in Nawabshah: President House

■ Says Nawabshah meeting focused on national security and regional situation

STAFF REPORTER
ISLAMABAD



The President's House on Friday issued a clarification regarding a meeting between President Asif Ali Zardari and Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi, rejecting media reports suggesting that provincial matters had come under discussion.

The clarification came a day after Naqvi made a surprise visit to Nawabshah to meet the president. Sources had said the meeting focused on proposals for the creation of new provinces and the possibility of holding a referendum on the issue. Sources also claimed that Naqvi had travelled to Nawabshah on an urgent basis, carrying an important message from a senior national figure, and sought to take the president into confidence over the matters discussed.

Following the reports, the President's House spokesperson dismissed claims that provincial matters had been discussed during the meeting.

"There is no truth in media reports claiming that matters relating to the provinces were discussed during the interior minister's meeting with the president," the spokesperson said.

"Matters concerning national security and the regional situation were discussed at the meeting, but no provincial matters were discussed," the spokesperson added.

The debate over creating new provinces as part of a broader restructuring of the system gained momentum on July 31, when Naqvi called for additional administrative units or provinces to overhaul what he described as the country's outdated governance system.

Addressing the Pakistan Economic Summit 2026 in Islamabad, he argued that the existing governance model had effectively "collapsed" after decades of failing to deliver. He said decentralisation was essential to improving public services, ensuring timely justice and creating opportunities for young people.

His remarks drew a mixed response, with several PML-N leaders criticising him and describing him as one of the beneficiaries of the existing system. Among them was PML-N leader and Prime Minister's aide Rana Sanaullah, who questioned how Naqvi could criticise the political system after rising to the office of interior minister through the same system in just three and a half years.Defence Minister Khawaja Asif, however, differed with his party colleague, saying he largely agreed with the interior minister's assessment.

CamScanner

IHC bars lawyers from discussing politics after their meetings With Imran, Bushra

- Gives one week to Khosa, Safdar to prepare arguments in Al-Qadir Trust case

SPECIAL REPORTER
ISLAMABAD



The Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Friday issued an important order for the lawyers regarding their talk to the media after their meetings with former prime minister and PTI founder Imran Khan and his wife Bushra Bibi,

During the hearing of appeals filed by the couple against their convictions in 190 million Pound case (Al-Qadir Trust case), IHC Chief Justice (CJ) Sarfaraz Dogar and Justice Muhammad Asif, in their two-page order, said that they hoped that Barrister Salman Safdar and Latif Khosa would not discuss political issues following their meetings with the couple and would restrict themselves to legal matters only. They further said that the advocate general would organise the meeting the duration of which would not be less than one hour.

Khosa had said that he could not give arguments in the case since he had not met with Imran and Bushra.

Barrister Safdar, on the other hand, said that he had received instructions to give arguments in the case. "However, the duration of my meeting was short."

The judges, in their remarks, said that they were giving one-week time to the lawyers to prepare their case.



A worker manufactures gas geysers at his workshop as demand for heating appliances rises with the falling temperature in the city.

CASS Lahore Hosts Roundtable on Resetting Pakistan-Bangladesh Relations Through Trade, Media and Diplomacy

SPECIAL REPORTER
LAHORE



The Centre for Aerospace and Security Studies (CASS), Lahore, organised a roundtable discussion titled "The Islamabad-Dhaka Reset: Reshaping the Narrative through Trade, Media and Diplomacy" on 11 November 2026. As an independent think tank, CASS Lahore regularly organises academic engagements that bring together scholars, practitioners, and policymakers to deliberate on critical regional and international security issues. The event was attended by academics, intellectuals, and domain experts. Dr Hassam Ahmed Siddiqi, Senior Research Associate at CASS Lahore, delivered the opening address. Prof Dr Aalia Sohail Khan, Country Director of the American Institute of Pakistan Studies, highlighted the importance of educational cooperation in rebuilding bilateral relations between Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Drawing lessons from countries that have reconciled following periods of conflict, she emphasised that academic exchanges, student and faculty mobility, joint research, and institutional partnerships could serve as sustainable avenues for bilateral engagement. She particularly stressed the need to move beyond the formal signing of memoranda of understanding towards tangible and mutually beneficial academic collaborations. She also underscored the importance of strengthening education–industry linkages to translate academic cooperation into practical economic opportunities, promote skills development, and foster stronger institutional and people-to people connections. Raja Amer Iqbal, President, District Board of Management, Technical Education and Vocational Training Authority (TEVTA) highlighted the diplomatic and economic opportunities presented by the evolving political landscape in Bangladesh. He emphasised the potential for expanding bilateral trade, improving direct cargo connectivity, encouraging joint ventures, and exploring cooperation through the Bangladesh-China-Pakistan trilateral mechanism. He also identified non-tariff barriers, regulatory restrictions, customs delays, and logistical challenges as major impediments to expanding bilateral trade. Stressing the importance of commercial feasibility and private-sector engagement, he called for enhanced media collaboration and effective diplomatic facilitation through improved visa arrangements to create a conducive environment for advancing bilateral relations.

In his concluding remarks, Dr Shahid Razzaque, Director at CASS Lahore, observed that the evolving geopolitical landscape had created renewed opportunities for Pakistan and Bangladesh to rebuild their bilateral relationship. He highlighted the importance of institutional cooperation, trade facilitation, maritime connectivity.

Rain brings relief from smog in Lahore as AQI drops to 111

SPECIAL REPORTER
ISLAMABAD



Rain and drizzle in several cities across Pakistan have intensified the cold weather, while rainfall has also brought some relief from air pollution in Lahore, reducing the city's average Air Quality Index (AQI) to 111.

According to the Meteorological Department, winds blowing since last evening and light rain in different areas have contributed to a slight improvement in air quality.

The provincial capital is expected to remain cloudy today, with chances of light drizzle at scattered places during different parts of the day.

Weather data shows that Lahore's maximum temperature is expected to reach 29 degrees Celsius, while the minimum is likely to remain at 17 degrees Celsius. Humidity has been recorded at 70 per cent, with winds blowing at a speed of five kilometres per hour.

Meanwhile, the air pollution situation in Bahawalpur remains extremely alarming, with the AQI reaching 520.

In another development, the first winter rainfall and snowfall in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Gilgit-Baltistan have brought a sharp drop in temperatures, making the weather extremely cold.

Heavy snowfall at Babusar Top has forced the closure of roads beyond Baisar, leaving two oil tankers stranded due to adverse weather conditions.

Snowfall has also been reported in the mountains of Upper Hunza and at Khunjerab Pass.

Sindh records 40 times rise in third party motor insurance policies

- The reform was introduced by the Sindh government with support from the SECP.

SPECIAL REPORTER
KARACHI



The number of third-party motor insurance policies issued in Sindh has significantly increased from 11,200 in March 2026 to 452,515 by November, representing gigantic growth of approximately 3,940% in eight months,

In a statement released on Friday, the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP) said the increase follows amendments to provincial motor vehicle registration in March, making third-party insurance mandatory for vehicles registered in Sindh.

The reform was introduced by the Sindh government with support from the SECP.

To support implementation, the SECP established the Motor Insurance Repository, a digital system that enables authorities to verify insurance policies. The repository enables digital verification of insurance policies and links them with Sindh's vehicle registration and taxation systems. This has helped increase policy issuance following the legal reform.

According to the statement, third-party motor insurance provides financial protection to people affected by road accidents. Subject to the terms of the policy and applicable law, it covers liability for injury, death or property damage caused to others. It does not cover damage to the policyholder's own vehicle.

Sindh has nearly 2.6 million registered vehicles, leaving significant scope to expand insurance coverage further. The increase in policies reflects progress in strengthening compliance and improving financial protection for road users. Continued public awareness, effective enforcement and accessible insurance products will be important to sustain this progress.

"Third-party motor insurance helps road accident victims and their families access compensation," SECP Chairman Dr Kabir Ahmed Sidhu said.

"Building on Sindh's progress, we are engaging with the Federal Government and the governments of Punjab and other provinces to support similar laws and enforcement measures. We aim to make this insurance mandatory across Pakistan," Sidhu added. .

Peshawar police ban private jirgas, vow to seal hotels and marriage halls

SPECIAL REPORTER
PESHAWAR

Peshawar police have decided to launch strict legal action against organisers of private jirgas, with hotels and marriage halls used for hosting such gatherings also facing closure.

Capital City Police Officer (CCPO) Peshawar Dr Mian Saeed Ahmed said legal proceedings would be initiated against those organising private jirgas, while hotels and marriage halls providing venues for such gatherings would also be sealed.

He made these remarks while chairing a meeting to review police performance, during which the overall law and order situation and efforts to curb crime in the city were discussed in detail.

During the meeting, police officials were directed to intensify operations against street criminals and tighten the crackdown on drug dealers, snatchers and organised criminal groups.

Dr Mian Saeed Ahmed also ordered a zero-tolerance policy against aerial firing and the illegal display of weapons, directing officers to take indiscriminate action against individuals involved in anti-social activities.

The CCPO said protecting the lives and property of citizens remained the police force's top priority, adding that timely delivery of justice on merit must be ensured at all costs.



A street vendor neatly arranges peeled, ready-to-eat seasonal oranges at his roadside stall to attract customers.

Punjab empowers additional assistant commissioners to register properties

SPECIAL REPORTER
LAHORE

The Punjab government has introduced a major change to the land and property registration system, granting additional assistant commissioners posted at divisional headquarters the powers of sub-registrars. The Board of Revenue has issued an official notification, formally assigning these powers to the officers, with the decision taking immediate effect.

According to the notification, the authority has been granted under Section 6 of the Registration Act, 1908, allowing additional assistant commissioners at divisional headquarters to carry out property registration.

The notification also makes it clear that all land and property registrations across Punjab will be processed exclusively through the Punjab Land Records Authority's (PLRA) e-registration system.



The provincial government has also introduced a monitoring mechanism to oversee the officers exercising registration powers. Under the arrangement, relevant deputy commissioners have been directed to supervise registration officers and ensure an effective system of checks and balances. The Board of Revenue has formally communicated the decision to all divisional commissioners, deputy commissioners and the Punjab Land Records Authority.

CamScanner

Power Sector Privatisation

Pakistan's power sector is approaching a critical turning point as the government prepares to introduce a new two-tier business model for the privatisation of electricity distribution companies. The proposed reforms aim to encourage private investment, introduce competition in electricity supply and improve operational efficiency. However, the real question remains whether these measures will ultimately provide relief to ordinary consumers or merely transfer the existing financial burden from public institutions to private investors and electricity users.Under the proposed model, the ownership of distribution infrastructure, including poles and wires, would remain with the successful buyers of distribution companies, while electricity procurement, sales, billing and recovery functions could be auctioned to other private suppliers. Faisalabad, Gujranwala and Islamabad electricity distribution companies are currently among those being considered for privatisation. The initiative represents a major shift from the traditional state-controlled electricity distribution system towards a competitive private-sector market.One of the most significant aspects of the proposal is the transfer of legacy capacity payment obligations, estimated at Rs1.7 trillion annually, along with the corresponding customer base. The government believes that private suppliers could manage these obligations more efficiently by purchasing contracted electricity capacity and serving the customers associated with it. However, this arrangement raises important questions about the financial viability of the model and the extent to which investors will be willing to assume such substantial liabilities.The biggest concern is that privatisation alone will not immediately reduce electricity prices. Consumers will continue to bear an estimated idle capacity payment burden of Rs17 per unit, meaning that the immediate impact on electricity bills may remain limited. Although the government expects competition to create opportunities for lower tariffs in the medium and long term, meaningful relief will depend on transparent contracts, effective regulation and genuine improvements in operational efficiency.The proposed separation of distribution and electricity supply could introduce competition among private companies, allowing consumers to choose suppliers offering more attractive tariffs. Nevertheless, the government must ensure that competition does not become an excuse for neglecting less profitable consumers. The continuation of protected tariffs and existing cross-subsidy arrangements is therefore an important feature of the proposed framework. Low-income households must remain protected from additional financial pressure during the transition.Another major challenge is the rapidly increasing shift towards solar energy and other alternative power solutions. A growing number of consumers are seeking independence from the national grid because of high electricity prices. This trend is already creating difficulties for the traditional power distribution system. The government must recognise that consumers will remain connected to the national grid only when electricity becomes affordable, reliable and accessible.The proposed introduction of private battery storage services is also a positive development, particularly in addressing peak-hour electricity demand and reducing pressure on the national network. Modern storage solutions could improve energy management and create new investment opportunities. However, their success will depend on a clear regulatory framework, competitive pricing and transparent commercial arrangements.Pakistan's electricity crisis is not simply a question of insufficient generation capacity. It is deeply connected with expensive power purchase agreements, transmission and distribution losses, electricity theft, weak recovery mechanisms and administrative inefficiencies. Unless these structural problems are addressed, changing the ownership and management of distribution companies will not produce the desired results.The government must also ensure that private investors do not receive excessive commercial advantages at the expense of consumers. Strong regulatory oversight, transparent bidding procedures, accountability and effective consumer protection must remain central to the reform process. Privatisation should be measured by improvements in service delivery, reduced losses and affordable electricity rather than simply the amount of revenue generated through the sale of public assets.Ultimately, the proposed two-tier model could become an important step towards restructuring Pakistan's power sector and reducing its dependence on government subsidies. However, its success will depend on whether the government can balance investor interests with public welfare. Pakistan needs a power sector that is financially sustainable, commercially efficient and responsive to consumer needs. If the reforms deliver genuine competition and lower costs, they could open a new chapter in the country's energy landscape. Otherwise, there is a serious risk that ownership may change hands while the burden of expensive electricity continues to fall on ordinary citizens.



By: Ehtsham Dar

Pakistan's Criminal Justice System Needs Structural Reforms to Ensure Timely Justice

A decisive move away from an unjust, exploitative bureaucratic model toward a social welfare service model — because injustice breeds only more injustice, impatience, and brutality, regardless of who is responsible."*



In the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, despite devolution of powers under the 18th Amendment and the constitutional guarantee of Article 10-A of the 1973 Constitution, the timely collection of standard evidence remains critically compromised. Due to the archaic, exploitative bureaucratic model enforced within the police, the criminal justice system is under severe strain. This is evident in a 73.41% ratio of under-trial prisoners, a dismal 12% conviction rate, an imbalanced police-to-population ratio of 1:517, rigid adherence to an "Elitistan" model, and a ranking of 130th out of 143 countries by a reputable international institution in justice delivery.

This severe strain on the social contract between the citizen and the state demands a living, realistic, robust, and sincere dialogue to transition from an archaic bureaucratic model to a modern, social welfare-oriented service model. Injustice breeds nothing but more injustice, impatience, and brutality — regardless of who is responsible.

While individuals within institutions are undoubtedly vital due to their academic, legal, and professional competence, coupled with sincerity and hard work, they are not indispensable. Institutions themselves are indispensable because of their foundational mandate, the uninterrupted social benefits they deliver, and their capacity to adapt to changing realities. Change is the only constant. To date, no institution in Pakistan — especially the police — can claim immunity from this reality.

Grounded in Article 10-A of the 1973 Constitution, Pakistan's criminal justice system faces severe institutional challenges in delivering timely, non-discriminatory, and cost-free justice to uphold the rule of law. The system comprises the police, prosecution, judiciary, correctional centers, and prisons.

Operating with scarce resources and inadequate personnel, the police face systemic failures: investigations and challans are rarely completed within statutory timelines; duty hours are undefined; investigation funds are chronically delayed; and prosecution cooperation is lacking. Prisons suffer from extreme overcrowding. The judicial process is plagued by countless adjournments. There is a complete absence of comprehensive institutional accountability — from the junior-most to the senior-most ranks. As a result, performance has been reduced to a digital fluctuation of statistics, the burden of which is borne by both the ordinary citizen and the state. Consequently, citizens are left invoking historical metaphors — requiring the wealth of Croesus, the patience of Job, and the lifespan of Noah — merely to witness justice.

The Police: First Interface and the "Pro Max Elitistan" Model

The police are the first and most critical interface between the citizen and the state in ensuring the rule of law. The police service is meant to provide employees with a dignified livelihood to lead purposeful lives, guaranteeing the protection of life, property, and honor without compliance with the law.However, officers perform security, protocol, ceremonial, judicial, and administrative duties without fixed working hours.

prejudice and in full compliance with the law.However, officers perform security, protocol, ceremonial, judicial, and administrative duties without fixed working hours.Originating from the same society, the police department also suffers from a societal "neuro-cardio disease" of extreme materialism, self-interest, sycophancy, backbiting, and social media-driven validation for immediate financial gain. In a capitalist system, the prescribed remedy is the "Pro Max Elitistan" model, which grants senior officers endless privileges, immunities, and vast discretionary powers.

Nurtured by capitalist educational institutions, this model prioritizes competitive grade-chasing over character-building and makes a luxurious lifestyle the ultimate goal. To achieve it, societal narratives erode the distinction between _halal_ and _haram_, fueling social intolerance.

Meanwhile, the physical and mental degradation of junior officers is even deeper. They live in continuous uncertainty, are alienated from their families, and face systemic humiliation while trying to preserve self-respect. This inflicts irreparable damage on their professional efficacy, well-being, and moral character.

Systemic Flaws and Structural Breakdown

The decay rests on three fundamental pillars:

1. The Criminal Procedure Code 1898: Designed for colonial subjugation, not citizen rights. Ostensibly adversarial, but in practice accused-centric.

2. Over-reliance on Oral Testimony: Approx. 90% of judicial decisions rely on verbal testimony. Forensic and digital evidence remain discretionary under Article 164 of the Qanun-e-Shahadat Order 1984.

3. The "Pro Max Elitistan" Model: Prioritizes serving the elite over public welfare. Performance is reduced to a "digital depiction of figures." *Administrative and Constitutional Deficiencies*

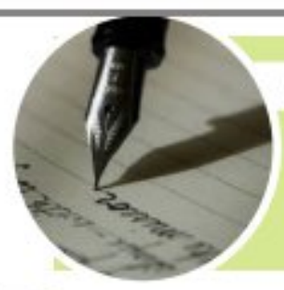
1. Absence of a Provincial Police Service: Post-18th Amendment, law and order is a provincial subject, but no integrated provincial cadre from Constable to IG exists. Public Safety Commissions remain dysfunctional.

Current laws: Punjab Police Order 2002, KP Police Act 2017, Balochistan Police Act 2011, Sindh Police Act 2019.

2. Compromised Evidence: Due to severe resource shortages and lack of timely forensic support.

3. Normalization of Corruption: Bribery and misappropriation of operational resources are normalized.

4. No Victim Standing: The aggrieved party has no locus standi during bail, framing of charges, or sentencing. The prosecutor represents only the state. The "presumption of innocence," without scientific evidence, grants de facto impunity. *5. Budget Distortion*: A massive portion of the provincial police budget is consumed by salaries, pensions, protocol, VIP security, and judicial duties — leaving junior officers to bear operational shortfalls. *Statistical Indicators of Systemic Crisis**A. Under-Trial Overcrowding*: Per _The Express Tribune_, Jan 30, 2026, 72.5% to 73.41% of inmates in Punjab are under-trial. International standard.



By: Muhammad Mohsin Iqbal

The Fortress Endures: Pakistan and the Vision of Islamic Solidarity

Pakistan stands as a living testament to an enduring spiritual and ideological conviction. From its very inception, the rallying cry that unified millions were both simple and profound: "What does Pakistan mean? La ilaha illallah." Under this banner of faith in the Oneness of Allah, the nation emerged on the world map in 14 August 1947, as a homeland for Muslims of the Subcontinent, guided by the vision of Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah and the philosophical foresight of Allama Iqbal. It was not merely a political endeavour but the realisation of a distinct national identity rooted in Islamic ideals of justice, sovereignty, and unity. Yet the path was fraught with peril. Even before the new state could draw breath, formidable obstacles arose—economic collapse, mass migrations, and external scepticism. Many predicted that its borders would soon dissolve under pressure, but divine will ordained otherwise. Like a ship battling turbulent seas, Pakistan endured and reached the shores of stability through resilience and faith.As the country gained its footing, a landmark gathering in Lahore in February 1974 marked a turning point. The Second Islamic Summit Conference brought together leaders from 38 Muslim nations, including King Faisal of Saudi Arabia, Anwar Sadat of Egypt, and Muammar Gaddafi. Hosted by Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, this assembly transformed individual aspirations into collective strength. Muslims, like fingers joining to form a mighty fist, stood united on a common platform. The summit addressed the aftermath of the 1973 Arab-Israeli war, supported Palestinian and Arab causes, and elevated Pakistan's stature as a bridge among Islamic nations. From this unity flowed a shared mission that propelled the country forward.Throughout its history, Pakistan has answered calls for global security and the stability of the Islamic world. It earned the honourable distinction of the Fortress of Islam, particularly through its longstanding commitment to safeguarding the Haramain Sharifain. Pakistani troops have served in Saudi Arabia since the 1970s, with deployments in training, advisory, and protective roles—often numbering over 10,000 at peaks, including during the 1990-91 Gulf War. This sacred duty reflects not mere strategy but a religious obligation deeply felt by the nation. Adversaries, notably neighbouring India, seized every opportunity to portray Pakistan as a failing state. Yet at moments of trial, unseen help arrived. In May 2025, Pakistan demonstrated military prowess that astonished observers, restoring its lost prestige through resolute leadership that honoured the divine trust placed upon it. A landmark Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement with Saudi Arabia, signed on 17 September 2025 in Riyadh by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, formalised decades of brotherhood. This pact declares that any aggression against one is an aggression against both, encompassing comprehensive cooperation in defence, training, technology, and joint deterrence. Reports suggest potential deployment of up to thousands of Pakistani personnel and assets, including JF-17 aircraft, underscoring Pakistan's role as a steadfast guardian. Building upon this success, Pakistan has played a constructive mediating role in Gulf tensions, earning widespread appreciation for its balanced diplomacy. Cooperation with Turkey has deepened through bilateral deals in defence and trade, while Kuwait and other regional states have expressed interest in similar partnerships. Pakistan's armed forces, with approximately 650,000–685,000 active personnel—one of the world's largest standing armies—alongside an estimated hundreds of nuclear warheads and modern platforms like JF-17 fighters and advanced missiles, provide credible strength to these endeavours. Looking to the future, Pakistan's perspective remains one of hope anchored in unity and good intentions. The day is not distant when an alliance of Islamic countries, forged through mutual respect and shared values, may emerge—bearing precedents in the European Union or NATO yet rooted firmly in Islamic principles of solidarity. Such a framework would face formidable obstacles: historical differences, external influences, and economic disparities. Yet with the spirit that carried Pakistan through partition, the 1971 trials, and recent triumphs, it remains achievable. Pakistan, with its strategic location, military capability, and diplomatic bridges—linking South Asia, the Gulf, and beyond—can serve as a pivotal node in this vision. It continues to champion economic cooperation within the OIC, advocate for peace with justice on issues like Palestine and Kashmir, and promote connectivity that benefits the wider ummah.Pakistan's journey, from ideological birth to its current resurgence, exemplifies faith sustained against the odds. As it advances, the nation carries not only the aspirations of its 250 million people but the hopes of many who see in its endurance a beacon for the Muslim world. With trust in Allah, unity among its ranks, and steadfast resolve, Pakistan is poised to fulfil a greater role in fostering stability.

prosperity, and brotherhood across Islamic lands. The future beckons with challenge and opportunity alike; guided by its founding principles, the nation shall meet both with honour.

CamScanner



Japan has announced a $4.3 million grant to support Pakistan's polio eradication programme, with the funding to be used to procure more than 28 million doses of the vaccine,

Gold prices plunge by Rs10,900 per tola in Pakistan

■ Gold prices in Pakistan fall by Rs10,900 per tola to Rs416,536 as international rates drop below $4,000 per ounce amid expectations of US interest rate hikes.

Business Reporter

KARACHI

– Gold prices recorded a sharp decline in Pakistan, with the price of 24-karat gold falling by Rs10,900 per tola amid expectations of higher interest rates in the United States.

According to the All Pakistan Sarafa Association, the price of 24-karat gold dropped by Rs10,900 to Rs416,536 per tola.

Similarly, the price of 10 grams of gold declined by Rs9,345 to Rs357,112.

Silver prices also fell, with the per-tola rate decreasing by Rs190 to Rs5,578.

In the international market, gold prices fell below the key $4,000-per-ounce mark. The price dropped by $109 to $3,940 per ounce.

SNGPL, SSGC seek increase in gas prices, submit applications to OGRA

■ SNGPL and SSGC have sought gas price increases from July 1, citing rising LNG costs, limited local supplies and international oil prices.

Special Correspondent

ISLAMABAD

Sui Northern Gas Pipelines Limited (SNGPL) and Sui Southern Gas Company (SSGC) have submitted applications to the Oil and Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA), seeking an increase in their average prescribed gas prices for the current fiscal year.

The gas utilities have requested that the proposed increases take effect retrospectively from July 1, the beginning of the current fiscal year.

(MMBtu), seeking to raise its average prescribed price from Rs1,702 to Rs1,712.40 per MMBtu.

Meanwhile, SSGC has sought a substantially higher increase of Rs366.75 per MMBtu, proposing to raise its average prescribed price to Rs2,071.75 per MMBtu.SNGPL has also included Rs60.147 billion in LNG service costs in its proposed gas price. According to its application, the cost of LNG for the company would amount to Rs471.16 per MMBtu.

MMBtu.SNGPL has also included Rs60.147 billion in LNG service costs in its proposed gas price. According to its application, the cost of LNG for the company would amount to Rs471.16 per MMBtu.

The company stated that limited availability of indigenous gas during the winter season would necessitate arrangements for additional supplies. It estimated that 16 LNG cargoes would be required to meet the demand. Both gas utilities have also cited an increase in international crude oil prices as a factor behind their request for higher gas prices.OGRA will conduct hearings on the applications submitted by SNGPL .



PSX crosses 180,000 milestone as bullish momentum

■ Pakistan's stock market extended its bullish run on Thursday, with the KSE-100 Index gaining over 1,000 points to cross the 180,000 mark, reaching 180,202 in early trading.

Staff Reporter

KARACHI

The Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) continued its positive momentum on Thursday, with the benchmark KSE-100 Index recording significant gains during early trading.

The market witnessed a bullish trend at the opening of the fourth trading session of the week, as the benchmark index climbed by more than 1,000 points to reach 180,202 points.

In the previous trading session, the KSE-100 Index had closed at 179,083 points.The latest gains reflect continued positive momentum in the country's equity market, with the benchmark index moving above the 180,000-point threshold. "



Nepra raises subsidised electricity tariff for industrial, agricultural consumers to Rs25.30 per unit

Business Reporter

ISLAMABAD

The National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (Nepra) has increased the subsidised tariff for additional electricity consumption by industrial and agricultural consumers from Rs22.98 to Rs25.30 per unit under the Prime Minister's electricity package, over a month after deciding to revise the six-monthly sustainability review,In a notification issued on Thursday, Nepra revised the incremental consumption tariff, with the new rate set to take effect from the November 2026 billing month.

The revised tariff represents an increase of Rs2.32 per unit for industrial and agricultural consumers using electricity beyond their prescribed consumption levels.The decision was taken through a casting vote of the NEPRA Chairman, while two members recorded dissenting notes against the revised rate.

Members Amina Ahmed and Maqsood Anwar Khan opposed the decision, describing the Rs25.30 per-unit tariff as unjustified and proposing that the package be temporarily suspended.

Dollar rises to 19-month high as Fed hike bets grow, yen softens

■ The dollar hit a 19-month high as stronger US inflation and hawkish Fed signals fuelled rate hike expectations, while the yen weakened toward 160 per dollar.

Staff Reporter

TOKYO



The dollar climbed to a 19-month high against major peers on Thursday, supported by growing expectations of a Federal Reserve rate hike, while the yen edged toward the key 160-per-dollar level following a dovish central banker's speech.

Traders ramped up bets on further Fed tightening after stronger-than-expected October inflation data and a series of hawkish remarks from US central bank officials, who expressed concern over stubborn inflation and left open the possibility of a larger 50-basis-point increase.Some major brokerages, including Goldman Sachs, now expect another hike early next year, in addition to one in December.

The dollar index , which measures the greenback against a basket of currencies, rose by 0.15% to 103.02, the highest since April2025.

New York Fed President John Williams is set ?to appear on a panel late Thursday that will be closely watched given his "pre-October FOMC meeting views the Fed had time on ?rate hikes," said Gavin Friend, senior markets strategist at National Australia Bank, in a note.

"Fast forward two weeks and following a hotter-than-forecast October CPI report, Fed officials appear to be falling over themselves to talk up rate hikes," Friend said. "Any guidance from Williams will be seized on."

Against the Japanese yen , the ?dollar reversed an earlier decline to trade 0.04% higher at 159.83, underpinned by wide interest-rate differentials as traders increased bets on further Fed hikes. It hit a more than two-month high earlier on Thursday.

Bank of Japan board member Toichiro Asada, one of two dovish policymakers who dissented from September's decision to increase borrowing costs to 1.25%, pushed back against calls within the board for a near-term interest rate hike, saying in a speech that premature rate hikes could hurt growth and push down underlying inflation.

Earlier a warning from Japan's top currency diplomat Atsushi Mimura that it was "too early to forget" intervention by Japanese authorities during the summer pushed the dollar/yen pair to its lowest point of the day but the respite for ?the yen was brief.

Balochistan offers vast investment opportunities in minerals, oil and gas sectors: Bugti

■ Balochistan CM Sarfraz Bugti highlights investment opportunities in minerals, oil and gas, promising security, streamlined procedures and facilities for investors.

Commerce Reporter

ISLAMABAD



Balochistan Chief Minister Sarfraz Bugti has said the province offers vast investment opportunities in the minerals, oil and gas sectors, including the Reko Diq project, assuring investors of security and all necessary facilities.Addressing a session on the opening day of the two-day Pakistan Minerals Investment Forum 2026, Bugti said Balochistan was ready for investment and would provide investors with a secure environment and all required facilities.

He said the provincial government had established a new security division for the mineral corridor, while a new Frontier Corps (FC) wing was also being set up to ensure the safety of investors and projects.

Bugti said there would be no bureaucratic hurdles for investors and that a one-window operation facility would be provided to facilitate investment.Highlighting the province's mineral and energy potential, he said there were significant opportunities in minerals, oil and gas, particularly in the Reko Diq project.

He added that work on the Reko Diq project was expected to begin by 2029.

Bugti also revealed that substantial oil and gas reserves had been discovered in Saruna, which he said were even larger than the reserves at Sui.

Food minister shares Pakistan's strategy for climate-resilient agriculture sector

■ Speaking to the media on the sidelines of the Leaders' Summit of the 31st Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the minister said agriculture was among the sectors most severely affected by climate change in Pakistan, posing a major challenge to food security and agricultural productivity.

News Desk

ANTALYA



:Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research Rana Tanveer Hussain on Thursday said the government was taking various measures to strengthen the resilience of Pakistan's agriculture sector against climate change, with a focus on developing climate-resilient seeds, improving disaster preparedness and mitigating the impact of extreme weather events.Speaking to the media on the sidelines of the Leaders' Summit of the 31st Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the minister said agriculture was among the sectors most severely affected by climate change in Pakistan, posing a major challenge to food security and agricultural productivity.

He said Pakistan's contribution to global greenhouse gas emissions was only around 0.1 percent, yet the country remained highly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.He stressed that international financial support was essential to help developing and climate-vulnerable countries address these challenges.

The minister said the government was focusing on developing and introducing climate-resilient seed varieties to enable farmers to cope with rising temperatures, heat stress and other climate-related challenges. He added that considerable progress had been made in developing improved seeds to minimise the adverse impact of changing climatic conditions on agricultural production.

Referring to recurring floods, including the devastating floods of 2022 and 2025, Rana Tanveer said the government was also strengthening disaster preparedness and early warning mechanisms to minimise losses to agriculture and communities.He appreciated the efforts of local governments, the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and Provincial Disaster Management Authorities (PDMAs) for establishing effective early warning systems and taking measures to improve the country's capacity to respond to climate-induced disasters.

The minister said that although the government was undertaking substantial efforts at the domestic level to address climate challenges, international cooperation and financial assistance remained indispensable.

He emphasised that global climate finance commitments should be translated into tangible financial support rather than remaining limited to pledges, enabling vulnerable countries like Pakistan to strengthen agricultural resilience.

CamScanner

Iran's Guards say 'accident' left two tankers on fire in Hormuz



Web DESK

TEHRAN

Iran's Revolutionary Guards said Thursday that two tankers carrying over four million barrels of oil had caught fire after an "accident" on an unauthorised route in the Strait of Hormuz.

Since the outbreak of the Middle East war in late February, Tehran has heavily restricted traffic through the strategic shipping channel, insisting vessels use routes it has approved.

The United States has in response imposed a naval blockade on Iranian ports and helped tankers travel the strait, which normally carries about one-fifth of global oil.

"Last night, two tankers -- acting in violation of regulations and despite repeated warnings from the Revolutionary Guards Navy regarding the unauthorised and dangerous nature of the southern maritime route -- were involved in an accident while traversing this prohibited path in the strait," the Guards said in a statement.They did not specify the nature of the "accident" but said it left the two tankers immobilised after they were hit with a "violent explosion".

"These two supertankers were carrying a combined total of over four million barrels of oil, which are now ablaze -- a consequence of the blind trust placed in the aggressive American military," the statement said.

Iranian forces have made multiple announcements in recent weeks of ships catching fire attempting to use routes that Tehran considers off-limits.



Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue, Senator Muhammad Aurangzeb, meeting with Mr. George Zhu, Founder and Chairman of Transsion Holdings along with his team, to discuss ongoing operations, future investment plans, and Pakistan's export potential.

Israeli airstrike on Gaza hospital kills five, including surgeon

■ According to Gaza health authorities, at least 1,600 Palestinians have been killed in Israeli attacks since the ceasefire agreement came into effect

Web Desk

GAZA

At least five Palestinians, including a surgeon, were martyred and 20 others injured in an Israeli airstrike on the Nasser Hospital building in the southern Gaza city of Khan Younis.

Despite a ceasefire agreement reached between Israel and Hamas in October 2025 under US mediation, Israeli attacks on Gaza have continued, while negotiations on the next phases of the agreement remain stalled.

Key issues, including the disarmament of Hamas and the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza, remain unresolved. Israel currently controls nearly two-thirds of the territory.



Mahmoud Basal, spokesperson for Gaza's Civil Defence, said the Nasser Hospital's surgery department was targeted in an attack on Thursday morning, causing extensive damage to the building.

Medical staff identified the martyred surgeon as Rizq Abu Shairah.

The Israeli military has not issued an immediate comment on the attack.

According to Gaza health authorities, at least 1,600 Palestinians have been killed in Israeli attacks since the ceasefire agreement came into effect.

Although the US-mediated ceasefire in October 2025 brought large-scale fighting in Gaza to a halt, Israeli attacks on Palestinian territories have continued.

Israel claims that Hamas is attempting to rebuild its military capabilities, while Hamas maintains that it remains committed to the ceasefire agreement reached a year ago and accuses Israel of violating its terms.

According to Palestinian authorities, more than 74,000 Palestinians, including women and children, have been killed in Israeli military operations in Gaza since the war began following the Hamas-led attack on Israel on October 7, 2023.

Hezbollah chief calls Trump's midterm defeat 'an opportunity'

■ "Today, we have a good opportunity. Trump was defeated in the elections... an earthquake has occurred in America," Qassem said in a speech broadcast live to supporters.

Web Desk

BEIRUT

Hezbollah chief Naim Qassem hailed President Donald Trump's recent midterm defeat, describing it as "an opportunity" for his Iran-backed Lebanese movement and other opponents of the US in the region.

Trump's Republican Party suffered massive losses in last week's elections, in which the Democrats seized control of Congress.

The president has admitted that the war he launched with Israel against Iran in February was a key factor in the defeat.

"Today, we have a good opportunity. Trump was defeated in the elections... an earthquake has occurred in America," Qassem said in a speech broadcast live to supporters.



"The one confronting Iran, Lebanon, Palestine, Yemen... has lost," he added, arguing that Trump could "no longer continue as is."

"His defeat has ramifications for us that are in a way positive."

He added that Israeli caretaker Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu "has been broken" after he too suffered a loss in a recent election.

Indonesia VP hands resignation to parliament as Jokowi backs Prabowo

● Indonesia's Vice President Gibran Rakabuming Raka resigned amid political tensions, while former President Jokowi pledged support for President Prabowo's administration.

Web Desk

JAKARTA

Indonesia's vice president handed his resignation to parliament's upper house on Thursday, ending days of speculation about his political future, while his father, former President Joko Widodo, voiced support for current leader Prabowo Subianto.

The ?expression of support after the departure of Gibran Rakabuming Raka, Indonesia's highest profile resignation since that of President Suharto in 1998, could soothe signs of strain in the political alliance of Prabowo and predecessor



Widodo.

"We will continue to support President Prabowo's administration, especially programmes that serve the interests of the broader public," the highly popular Widodo, known as Jokowi, told reporters outside his home in Solo in central Java.

The rift between Prabowo and Jokowi, who twice defeated the s powerful former general for the presidency before throwing him support in the face of term limits, had looked set to further destabilise the government, analysts said. Prabowo's government is battling scandals over signature political programmes and doubts about its prowess to manage Southeast Asia's biggest economy, where the political turmoil has sapped investor sentiment.

Scrutiny is growing over the government's fiscal plans and broader policy direction, while downgrade risks ?still linger for the stock market, with the rupiah weakening about 0.6% to plumb a fresh record low of 18,255 against the dollar.

Minutes before Jokowi's remarks, Gibran arrived at parliament in Jakarta, the capital, where he met leaders for 20 minutes, handing in his resignation and asking parliament to process it, said Ahmad Muzani, the speaker ?of the upper house.

Gibran made his decision "through my own volition ... for the interests of the government and nation," Muzani told reporters while reading out the resignation letter.

Senior law minister Yusril Ihza Mahendra said Gibran quit for personal reasons and cited "growing public sentiment", in the letter of just five paragraphs.

Trump to flex muscles on Asia tour after midterms losses

Web Desk

WASHINGTON

After his party suffered a midterms hammering, President Donald Trump faces a new challenge: proving he is still the boss of US foreign policy on the global stage.

With Trump politically hamstrung as he enters the remaining two-year 'lame duck' period of his White House tenure, world leaders may be quietly wondering how to leverage the new balance of power in Washington.

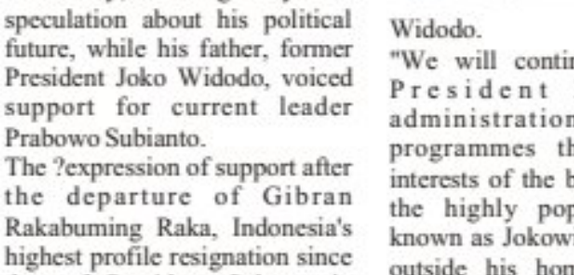
The 80-year-old Republican heads to the ASEAN summit in the Philippines and APEC summit in China from a radically transformed and hostile political landscape at home after the Democrats seized both the House of Representatives and the Senate.



Constitutionally banned from seeking a third term in the 2028 presidential race, the unpredictable billionaire could be all the more inclined to focus his energy on the international stage.

"After bad midterms, this is how presidents reset," Edgard Kagan, an expert at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), told a news briefing.

Erdogan urges return to diplomacy to end Iran-US conflict



NEWS DESK

Antalya

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Thursday said diplomacy should resume "without further delay" to end the US-Iran war after talks with his Iranian counterpart.

Erdogan met Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian on the sidelines of UN climate conference in the Turkish province of Antalya, his officesaid.

During their discussion, Erdogan underscored "the importance of getting to the negotiating table without further delay" and said Turkey would continue to support efforts aimed at securing peace.

"Common ground for agreement must be strengthened and diplomacy given a chance," he said, expressing hope that the conflict with the US "would end as soon as possible".

Russia, Ukraine reach deal on prisoner swap as US says lack of trust holds back talks

■ Russia and Ukraine agree in principle to a major prisoner swap after Abu Dhabi peace talks, but US mediators say key disputes over territory remain unresolved as negotiations continue.

STAFF REPORTER

ABU DHABI

Russian and Ukrainian negotiators agreed to a major prisoner exchange at two days of peace talks in Abu Dhabi that endedy, but US mediators said differences remained on major issues, including territory.

At their first negotiations in nine months, the two countries agreed in principle to exchange prisoners of war and to determine the numbers on Thursday.

US envoy Jared Kushner said the new swap would be the "biggest humanitarian release of prisoners" in the 4-1/2-year-old war, while Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy said its scope would be "significant."

Both Russia and Ukraine said that progress had been made in the Abu Dhabi talks and negotiations would



continue. But there was little else in the way of concrete breakthroughs announced after the US-brokered meetings.

Kushner, US President Donald Trump's son-in-law, said mediators were appealing to each side's interests to end Two and he expressed confidence they Europe's biggest conflict since World War Two and he expressed confidence they would find a pathway to peace.

Despite public optimism from Trump, there has been no sign of major compromises on the main issues after more than 4-1/2 years of war since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

Kyiv has strongly rejected Russian President Vladimir Putin's demands to surrender the whole of the eastern region of Donbas in return for peace. With talks deadlocked on land, US mediators have tried to steer discussions towards postwar security guarantees and reconstruction.

"The reality is there is no trust right now between the sides and that is to be expected after a conflict like this," Kushner said, adding that the talks had touched on territorial issues and that these would be the hardest to resolve.

"I think this was a good first step," he said.

Kushner said he and fellow US envoy Steve Witkoff will travel to Moscow on Thursday for talks with Putin, where they will raise the question of adding European partners to the talks, who Kushner said must be at the table.

The US negotiators then plan to fly to Ireland to meet with Zelenskiy, who is due to attend a meeting of European leaders there.

CamScanner



Alishba Anjum criticizes public exposure of private matters

■ Influencers speak out on privacy, respect, and personal boundaries

News Desk

LAHORE

Social media influencer Alishba Anjum has criticized men for publicly airing private matters, emphasizing that such actions force women to respond when they had chosen silence out of respect.

"I don't understand why some men feel the need to bring private matters into the public, especially when the woman chose to stay silent. Now you leave her no choice but to speak," she said.

Her remarks come amid ongoing discussions surrounding Sehar Hayat's divorce, which has ignited a broader conversation about privacy and respect in the digital era.

Sehar shared a two-part Instagram video detailing her divorce, explaining that repeated public mentions of her and her daughter, Ayra Fatima, compelled her to respond after months of silence. She revealed that she had previously asked Sami Rasheed not to mention them on social media, but continued references forced her hand.

Sehar alleged that trust issues existed before the wedding, that her haq mehr was altered without her knowledge during the nikah, and that she discovered financial inconsistencies in their relationship. She also accused Sami of emotional and physical abuse, including during her pregnancy, and described enduring prolonged mental stress while hoping the situation would improve.

Conflicts extended to disagreements lic over living arrangements and family dynamics, leading Sehar to pursue khula after multiple unresolved issues. She urged the public to avoid dragging families, especially children, into personal disputes.

Sehar's videos have sparked strong reactions online, with many influencers and followers expressing support. While some shared firsthand knowledge that lent credibility to her claims, others openly criticized Sami Rasheed. The debate resurfaced recently after Sami referenced Sehar and their daughter in a promotional post for his music, reigniting discussions around privacy, accountability, and respect in the digital age.

Ushna Shah Playfully Experiments with AI-Generated Makeovers on Instagram

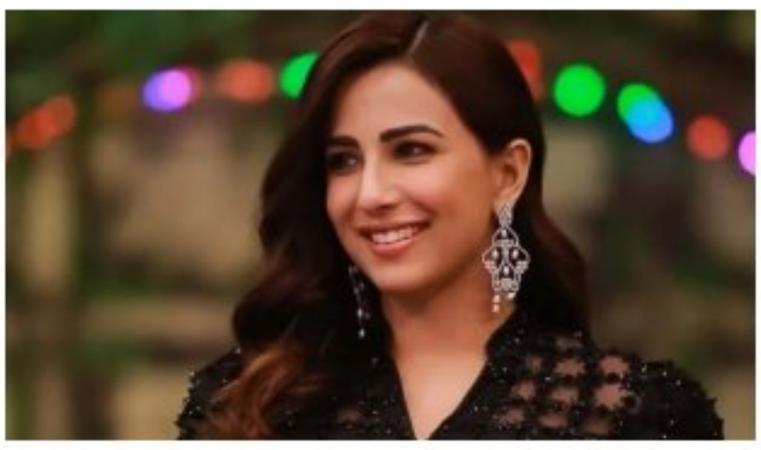
■ Ushna Shah is married to professional golfer Hamza Amin

Web desk

KARACHI

Pakistani television star Ushna Shah, renowned for her compelling performances in dramas such as Bashar Momin and Parizaad, has shared a series of AI-generated images of herself on Instagram, showcasing both her playful side and her candid take on beauty trends.

In her latest Instagram stories, Ushna experimented with a short pixie haircut rendered by AI, pairing the virtual look with a mix of chic urban and traditional attire. In one image, she is styled in a navy blazer, white tee, and denim jeans, with a soft side-



fringed pixie cut. Her humorous reaction—"I really imagined something else"—highlighted the gap between digital expectations and reality.

The actress further explored three variations of the pixie hairstyle, ranging from sleek and voluminous to edgy and spiked, while dressed in an embroidered kameez. Her verdict remained humorous and self-aware: "AI just confirmed that I will not be able to pull off a pixie. Damn it."

Fans praised Ushna's honesty and humor, noting that her experiment reflects a broader truth: not every beauty trend suits everyone, even in the age of AI makeovers.

Professionally, Ushna Shah is celebrated for her versatility, with notable performances in Habs, Alif Allah Aur Insaan, and Balaa, often portraying bold and complex characters. Off-screen, she is known for her advocacy on self-expression and animal rights, including an open letter to the Punjab Chief Minister.

Ushna Shah is married to professional golfer Hamza Amin; the couple tied the knot on February 26, 2023, in Karachi.



Mahira Khan stuns fans in Toronto saree look

■ Mahira Khan dazzles in elegant saree during Toronto film promo

WEB DESK

KARACHI

Mahira Khan once again captivated fans with her impeccable style, turning heads in a stunning ivory saree during her recent visit to Toronto. The trip was part of the promotional tour for her upcoming film Aag Lagay Basti Mei.

Sharing a series of Instagram photos, Mahira exuded elegance and charm in a heavily embellished saree adorned with sequins, delicate threadwork, and floral appliqués. The ensemble shimmered beautifully under warm lights, creating a soft, starlit effect.

City & Local Guides

She styled her hair in voluminous side waves and opted for dewy, earthy-toned makeup that highlighted her natural glow. Statement diamond earrings added a touch of refined luxury to her already radiant appearance.

In her post, Mahira expressed affection for Toronto, calling it a city close to her heart. Fans quickly flooded the comments with praise, admiring not only her beauty but also her acting range, comic timing, and screen presence.

The promotional events in Toronto drew enthusiastic responses from audiences, building excitement for Aag Lagay Basti Mei, which has been generating significant buzz ahead of its release.

5 best bedtime exercises for better sleep

■ Light physical activity before bed helps release tension

WEB DESK

ISLAMABAD

Struggling to fall asleep after a long day? The right bedtime exercises can calm your mind, relax your muscles, and prepare your body for deep, restful sleep—without needing any equipment.

Light physical activity before bed helps release tension built up during the day.

Unlike intense workouts, gentle exercises signal your body to slow down, reducing stress and improving sleep patterns naturally.

1. Deep breathing stretch

Sit or lie comfortably and take slow, deep breaths. Inhale through your nose, hold for a few seconds, and exhale slowly.

This exercise reduces anxiety and helps your body shift into a calm, sleep-ready state.

2. Neck and shoulder rolls

Gently roll your shoulders forward and backward while slowly rotating your neck.



This simple movement helps relieve stiffness caused by long hours of sitting or screen use.

3. Child's pose

This yoga pose stretches your back, hips, and thighs while promoting relaxation.

Kneel down, stretch your arms forward, and lower your chest toward the ground. Hold for 30–60 seconds while breathing deeply.

4. Legs-up-the-wall pose

Lie on your back and place your legs up against a wall. Keep your arms relaxed by your sides.

This position improves blood circulation and helps reduce swelling and fatigue in the legs.

5. Seated forward bend

Sit with your legs extended and gently reach toward your toes.

This stretch relaxes the spine and hamstrings while calming the nervous system, making it easier to fall asleep.

Tips for best results

Hajra Yamin Wows Fans With Chic Denim Look

■ Hajra Yamin's Playful Instagram Post Draws Kubra Khan's Attention

Web Desk

ISLAMABAD

Famous actress Hajra Yamin recently captured hearts online with a playful Instagram post that left fellow celebrity Kubra Khan clearly impressed. Her cheeky caption, "No complaints indeeeeeeedd," quickly went viral, drawing admiration from fans and peers alike.

Hajra's post showcased her effortlessly cool style, featuring a denim-on-denim ensemble that perfectly balanced casual comfort with refined fashion. She paired an open mid-wash denim jacket with a simple white crop top, creating a relaxed yet polished look that felt both nostalgic and modern.

Her voluminous, glossy waves added softness to the rugged textures of denim, framing her face beautifully. Hajra's makeup emphasized a clean, radiant complexion while a bold deep red lip provided a dramatic and eye-catching contrast, lending sophistication to the otherwise laid-back outfit.

The playful interaction between Hajra and Kubra Khan in the comments amplified the post's popularity. Fans flooded the post with praise, calling her "sizzling" and admiring her effortless beauty and charm.

Hania Aamir shares a mix of glamorous shoots and candid moments on Instagram

WEB DESK

ISLAMABAD

Hania Aamir, widely loved for her bubbly personality and hit drama roles, has once again grabbed attention by sharing a mix of glamorous shoots and candid everyday moments on Instagram, giving fans a closer look at both her star persona and real life charm.

The visuals move seamlessly between high fashion elegance and relaxed, behind the scenes glimpses, creating a narrative that feels both aspirational and relatable.

In one standout look, Hania stuns in a traditional golden saree paired with jewelry, including emerald toned pieces that elevate the regal aesthetic.

In contrast, another clip shows her in a pink embroidered outfi.

Meanwhile, a more contemporary photoshoot features her in an off-shoulder gown, accessorized with a emerald necklace.

However, what truly resonates with fans are her candid moments.

From playful selfies with friends to spontaneous laughter in a car, Hania's unfiltered personality shines through.

According to social media trends, such a blend of polished and raw content helps celebrities maintain a stronger connection with their audience. Adding an artistic touch, even a simple image of a cat by the window becomes part of her storytelling.

Professionally, Hania Aamir rose to fame with her natural acting style and quickly became one of Pakistan's most sought after television



stars. Known for her roles in popular dramas Anaa, Meri Zindagi Hai Tu and Kabhi Main Kabhi Tum, she has built a reputation for portraying lively and emotionally engaging characters.

Over time, she has also expanded into films and brand endorsements, strengthening her presence in the entertainment industry.

On the personal front, Hania has often been in the spotlight for her relationships.

She was previously linked to singer Asim Azhar, and their widely followed relationship eventually ended, making headlines at the time.

Since then, her name has been associated with various rumors, as is common with high profile celebrities.

Recently, speculation has resurfaced suggesting a possible reconciliation between the two, although neither Hania nor Asim has confirmed these claims.

Resham responds to controversy surrounding Deedar remarks

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD

Veteran Pakistani actress Resham has broken her silence amid ongoing controversy involving her longtime colleague Deedar. Once leading stars of the 1990s film era, the two actresses have recently been at the center of renewed public attention.

Appearing on Drive with Shazia Zeeshan, Resham addressed criticism directed at her, including accusations about her personal life and claims that her prime has passed. She dismissed these remarks, attributing them to jealousy rather than truth.

Resham stated that her charitable work, particularly organizing Langar (free meals), has drawn unnecessary criticism. She suggested that envy often arises from her philanthropic efforts and



success, adding that she prefers not to engage in personal attacks despite the comments made about her. In her remarks, she also referenced Deedar, questioning her professional identity while asserting that her own career and contributions speak for themselves. Resham emphasized that people's words often reflect their own nature, adding that positivity should be met with positivity.

Despite the tension, Resham maintained that she remains focused on her work—both in the entertainment industry and her charitable initiatives.

CamScanner

Pakistan, Sri Lanka play out draw in weather-hit opening Test

● Saud Shakeel falls three runs short of century as hosts build 272-run lead

SPORTS REPORTER

RAWALPINDI



Pakistan and Sri Lanka played out a draw in the weather-hit opening Test at the Rawalpindi Cricket Stadium on Friday after the hosts declared their second innings at 284-8, extending their overall lead to 272 runs.

Experienced batter Saud Shakeel narrowly missed out on a century, falling for 97 as Pakistan consolidated their position before both teams agreed to a draw.

The hosts resumed their innings in the final session with Shakeel closing in on his fifth Test century. However, Lahiru Kumara ended his impressive knock by clean bowling the left-hander for 97 off 210 deliveries, including seven boundaries.

Razaullah remained unbeaten at the other end as Pakistan declared their innings at 284-8, after which both teams agreed to a draw.

Earlier, Shakeel and Ghazi Ghori continued Pakistan's batting charge in the second session, putting together a crucial 92-run partnership to take the hosts' lead beyond the 200-run mark.

Shakeel registered his 13th Test half-century, while Ghori provided valuable support before Milan Rathnayake broke the partnership by dismissing the latter for 35 off 69 deliveries, including three boundaries.

Arafat Minhas joined Shakeel and contributed to a 44-run stand, taking Pakistan past the 250-run mark. However, Dhananjaya de Silva ended the partnership by dismissing Minhas for 16 off 29 deliveries after hitting three boundaries.

Earlier, Pakistan resumed day five at 57-1, holding a 45-run lead, but suffered a top-order collapse. Azan Awais fell for 22 to Lahiru Kumara, while Asitha Fernando dismissed Mohammad Taha for 24.

Babar Azam and Shakeel then added a valuable 50-run partnership before Rathnayake removed Babar for 34 and Salman Ali Agha for 13, reducing the hosts to 125-5.

Earlier in the match, Sri Lanka recovered strongly after Pakistan's bowlers made early inroads. However, debutant Saqib Khan's sensational seven-wicket haul helped the hosts regain control, although the visitors s lead.

secured a 12-run first-innings lead.

In reply to Pakistan's first-innings total of 434-9 declared, Sri Lanka were reduced to 65-3 before Kamindu Mendis scored 58 and shared a 90-run partnership with Dhananjaya de Silva.

De Silva and captain Kusal Mendis subsequently combined for a remarkable 249-run partnership, with both batters scoring centuries to put Sri Lanka in a commanding position.

However, Pakistan fought back on the fourth morning, bowling out the visitors for 446.

Saqib was the standout performer with figures of 7-130, dismissing De Silva for 167, Kusal for 119 and three lower-order batters. Mohammad Abbas claimed two wickets, while Razaullah chipped in with one.

NCCIA investigation into Rizwan, Imam-ul-Haq nearing completion: Naqvi

● PCB Chairman Mohsin Naqvi says the NCCIA probe into Mohammad Rizwan and Imam-ul-Haq is nearing completion, while new central contracts will be announced soon.

Sports Desk

LAHORE



The National Cyber Crime Investigation Agency's (NCCIA) investigation into Pakistan cricketers Mohammad Rizwan and Imam-ul-Haq is nearing completion, while the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) is preparing to announce new central contracts, Chairman Mohsin Naqvi

Speaking to the media in Lahore, Naqvi said he had contacted the NCCIA, which had sought further clarification from Rizwan before finalising its findings.

He said the investigation was expected to conclude within a few days, although he could not provide an exact timeline.

The PCB chairman confirmed that both players had been allowed to resume domestic cricket despite the investigation remaining pending.

Rizwan and Imam came under scrutiny following allegations that confidential information and dressing-room matters were leaked during Pakistan's 0-3 Test series defeat in England.

Regarding the central contracts, Naqvi said the new agreements had been finalised or would be completed by the following day, adding that their announcement would be made soon.

The announcement is already around three months behind schedule, as the previous central contracts expired on July 31.

Responding to concerns about the financial prospects of the Pakistan Super League (PSL), Naqvi highlighted the substantial amounts paid for the newly introduced franchises and Multan Sultans.

He said franchise owners should not expect to generate profits within just one or two years and should have conducted proper feasibility studies before investing in the league.

Naqvi added that existing or prospective franchise owners interested in selling their teams at a profit were free to do so, provided they followed the prescribed rules and regulations.

When asked about the selection of several players for their Test debuts and the subsequent dropping of some after only a few opportunities, the PCB chairman expressed satisfaction with the overall state of Pakistan cricket.

He said he had full confidence in his team to manage the affairs of the game and assured the cricket administration of his continued support.

Naqvi expressed hope that Pakistan would achieve significantly better results once the next batch of young players was ready over the coming six months.

Finland, Norway block visas for Russian athletes

■ Hours later, Norway announced that it would prevent professional Russian and Belarusian sportspeople from competing on its territory.

SPORTS DESK

ISLAMABAD

Finland's government announced it was restricting visas for Russian athletes, insisting that they had "no business" in the country as long as the Ukraine war goes on. Hours later, Norway announced that it would prevent professional Russian and Belarusian sportspeople from competing on its territory.

Finland is preparing to host the Figure Skating World Championships in the city of Tampere in March 2027, and the International Skating Union (ISU) said in a statement it was "studying" the implications of the decision.

The Finnish government issued a resolution that tightened restrictions for Russians applying for short-term work visas, including for professional sports.

According to the new restrictions, "Russian citizens will only be allowed to work under a Schengen visa in tasks that are essential to Finland's national interests," said a foreign ministry statement.

Schengen visas allow travel within 29 European countries signed up to the system.

Russian athletes, including those competing under a neutral flag, will be blocked from acquiring visas to the Nordic country.

"As long as Russia's war of aggression continues, Russian athletes have no business in Finland," Foreign Minister Elina Valtonen said in a statement.

"Their entry into the country would be a threat to Finland's international relations."

- 'Tool for propaganda' -

Norway's government noted in its statement that Norway already had strict rules for visas for Russian and Belarusian citizens.

But recent "relaxations introduced by international sports federations" meant more athletes and support staff from the two countries might come there to compete.

Norway is preparing to host the World Cup in cross-country skiing in December in the town of Trondheim.



Pegula wins thriller at WTA Finals, Gauff eliminated

■ Jessica Pegula saved a match point to beat Linda Noskova and reach the WTA Finals semi-finals, eliminating fellow American Coco Gauff despite her win over Marta Kostyuk.

WEB DESK

ISLAMABAD

Jessica Pegula saved a match point en route to a gritty 7-6(2) 4-6 7-5 win over Linda Noskova on Thursday to advance out of her round-robin group at the WTAFinals and send fellow American Coco Gauff packing from the season-ending championships.

Pegula had a career-high 16 aces while Wimbledon champion Noskova had a career-high 15 double faults in a see-saw battle that spanned 2 hours and 45 minutes at ?the tournament, which was moved from Riyadh to Indian Wells due to the US-Israeli war on Iran.

"I've learned that sometimes the serve feels good and sometimes it doesn't, and how to manage the days when it doesn't and to ride it when you are serving well," Pegula told reporters.

"I don't think I served that well in my first couple matches and I served great today. Sometimes there's no rhyme or reason."

In the end, Noskova, Gauff and Pegula all finished 2-1 in the group while alternate Marta Kostyuk went 0-3.

Noskova went 5-2 in sets to win the group, followed by Pegula at 5-3 and Gauff at 4-3.

The win sets up a first meeting between Pegula and Russian teenager Mirra Andreeva in the semi-finals ?on Saturday.

"It's the match people wanted, well now you are going to get it," said Pegula. She had earlier called Andreeva "a diva" ?who "needs to be humbled," but didn't realise that her remarks were being livestreamed during a practice session before the tournament.

In the same comments ?Pegula also praised the world number three, and she apologised afterward to those involved.

"She's fast, she has a great serve, she's strong, she hits the ball pretty hard and she's smart," Pegula said on Thursday.

"I'm going to do my best."

GAUFF RALLIES PAST KOSTYUK

After sealing the first set with a stab volley that sent fans leaping to their feet under sunny California desert skies, Gauff rallied from 1-5 down in the second, winning six games in a row. "I was fully prepared to play a third set there," said Gauff, who needed treatment on her back during the second set.

"It's the last tournament of the season so I ?just wanted to ?finish it on a high note and give myself the best chance to play the semifinals. Either way, I didn't want to be sad walking off the court."



Cristiano Ronaldo ventures into TV industry, begins production of debut series

SPORTS DESK

ISLAMABAD

Portuguese football superstar Cristiano Ronaldo has embarked on a new journey beyond the football field, announcing the start of production on his first television series, titled Day 1s.

According to foreign media reports, Ronaldo shared the news on Instagram, confirming that production of his debut TV series had begun and that further details would be announced soon.

Day 1s is a football-themed drama series that will explore the business operations, power struggles, contracts and personal relationships within a major football agency.

British actor Damian Lewis is set to play football agent Stanley Dalton, while former French footballer Thierry Henry and British rapper Dave are also associated with the project. Henry is expected to make a brief appearance in the series.

Ronaldo is serving as an executive producer on the project and is also expected to make his acting debut in a scripted television drama.



Cummins disputes Usman Khawaja 'skin colour' captaincy claim

Web Desk

ISLAMABAD

Australian cricket captain Pat Cummins disputed Friday a claim by former teammate Usman Khawaja that he was never appointed Australian captain because of his skin colour, saying: "I just don't think that's the case."

Khawaja opened a can of worms this week with the publication of his autobiography that revisits the 2018 ball-tampering scandal in South Africa that rattled Australian cricket.

He also revealed in the book that he was upset when overlooked to be captain after then-skipper Steve Smith was sent home from Cape Town. Tim Paine got the job instead and was succeeded by Cummins in 2021. "I was a natural selection for interim captain, but was overlooked," said Khawaja, Australia's first Pakistan-born national player who was Queensland captain at the time.

He suggested it was because he had been a prominent protagonist during earlier pay disputes with Cricket Australia, but also due to his heritage. "The second -- and, I believe, more important -- reason was that they weren't ready for a brown Australian cricket captain, even as an interim."



Beardman takes six on debut as England crash To 131

WEB DESK

Australia

Australia's Mahli Beardman took 6-24 on debut as England crashed to 131 all out from just 33.4 overs in the first ODI in Perth on Friday.

The 21-year-old West Australian bowled with real pace and aggression to tear through the England upper order, most of whom fell to poor shots.

He was well supported by left-armer Spencer Johnson, who took 3-42 as England fell apart on the drop-in wicket at Optus Stadium.

The three-match ODI series got off to a low-key start, with most eyes on the Sandpapergate ball-tampering scandal following the launch of former Australian opener Usman Khawaja's autobiography.

England openers Ben Duckett and Tom Banton were relatively untroubled, taking the score to 24 off five overs until Duckett slashed at a Johnson delivery outside off-stump and edged to Jack Edwards at backward point.

CamScanner



Anmol alias Pinky, two co-accused indicted in Karachi drug case

STAFF REPORTER

KARACHI

A provincial anti-narcotics court in Karachi has indicted Anmol alias Pinky and her two co-accused in a drug recovery case, but all three suspects pleaded not guilty.

The case was heard at the provincial anti-narcotics court located in Karachi's jail complex, where charges were formally framed against Anmol alias Pinky, Ibad and Azizur Rehman in a case registered at the Defence Police Station.

During the hearing, the court read out the charges to the accused. However, all three denied the allegations and refused to plead guilty.

The court subsequently summoned prosecution witnesses for November 23 to proceed with the trial.

According to the prosecution, a drug recovery case was registered against Anmol alias Pinky and her co-accused, Ibad and Azizur Rehman, at the Defence Police Station earlier this year.

PPP determined to regain its position in Punjab: Faryal Talpur

● Several political and social personalities from Lahore and other parts of Punjab announced their decision to join the PPP

STAFF REPORTER

LAHORE



Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) leader Faryal Talpur has said the PPP is the only federal party in the country and its doors are open to all democrats.

She said PPP is determined to regain its political position in Punjab.

During her visit to Lahore, Faryal Talpur held a series of meetings with party leaders, workers and delegations at the People's Secretariat in Model

Faryal Talpur directed divisional presidents to identify suitable candidates for upcoming local government and general elections and prepare reports on the political and organisational situation in their respective districts.

She also called for exploring possible electoral alliances with smaller political parties and organisations at the local level.

During the visit, she also met PPP leaders from Nankana Sahib, political and social figures, journalists and Lahore-based field reporters.

Several political and social personalities from Lahore and other parts of Punjab announced their decision to join the PPP.

The new entrants expressed confidence in the vision of President Asif Ali Zardari and the manifesto of PPP Chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. Faryal Talpur welcomed them into the party. Speaking informally with journalists, Talpur said she had visited Punjab to meet newly formed party organisations and, particularly, interact with party workers.

On the question of creating new provinces, she said the PPP believed in the supremacy of the Constitution and maintained that the matter should be discussed in accordance with constitutional and legal requirements.

She added that no constitutional discussion or draft regarding the establishment of new provinces had so far been presented to her.

Commenting on development in Sindh, Talpur said the province should not be compared with Punjab and suggested visiting Tharparkar to assess development initiatives.

She said development projects were visible in Sindh, including Karachi.

Regarding Punjab having a female chief minister, she welcomed the development, adding that she had no competition with her.

Five-year wait ends as 128km Lillah-Jhelum road project completed

● Punjab's 128-kilometre Lillah-Jhelum Road project has been completed after five years, connecting Pind Dadan Khan with the Lillah Interchange.

SPECIAL REPORTER

LAHORE



The 128-kilometre Lillah-Jhelum Road project, launched in 2021, has been completed after five years, providing a major boost to connectivity for residents of Jhelum and Pind Dadan Khan.

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz expressed gratitude over the completion of the project and commended the Communications and Works (C&W) Department for its efforts. She also directed the relevant authorities to take necessary steps to ensure the early completion of the Jhelum-Pind Dadan Khan Road.

The chief minister was given a detailed briefing on the project, which has been completed at a cost of Rs13.538 billion. The road will connect Pind Dadan Khan with the Lillah Interchange.

According to the briefing, the dual carriageway project also includes two bypasses and several connecting roads. The road, previously 20 to 24 feet wide, has been expanded to 76 feet. Paved shoulders will also be constructed along both sides to improve traffic flow and strengthen the road infrastructure.

The project was divided into five sections: GT Road to Bukhari Road, Bukhari Chowk to Misri Mor, Misri Mor to Pinnan Wala Jalalpur, Pinnan Wala to Pind Dadan Khan, and Pind Dadan Khan to Lillah.The project also includes the construction of the 4.2-kilometre Jalalpur Bypass and the 3.98-kilometre Pind Dadan Khan Bypass, along with 185 small bridges. Work on three culverts is also expected to be completed soon, while five bridges have been constructed along the Bukhari Chowk-Misri Mor section.

Maryam Nawaz said thousands of kilometres of roads were not merely being constructed in Punjab but were setting new milestones in the province's communications infrastructure.

IHC directs Imran Khan's lawyers to avoid political discussions after jail meeting

■ The court expressed the expectation that lawyers Salman Safdar and Latif Khosa vwould avoid political discussions during their meetings with Imran Khan

Staff Reporter

ISLAMABAD



The Islamabad High Court (IHC) has directed lawyers representing Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder Imran Khan in the 190 million-pound case to refrain from discussing political matters during and after meetings with him in jail, keeping their conversations limited to legal issues.

A two-member bench comprising Chief Justice Sarfraz Dogar and Justice Muhammad Asif issued a two-page order while hearing appeals filed by Imran Khan and his wife, Bushra Bibi, in the 190 million-pound case.

The court expressed the expectation that lawyers Salman Safdar and Latif Khosa, whom it described as highly professional, would avoid political discussions during their meetings with the former prime minister and afterwards.

According to the order, the Advocate General will arrange a meeting between Imran Khan and his lawyers, which must last at least one hour.

During the hearing, Latif Khosa argued that he could not present his arguments without meeting his client. Salman Safdar, meanwhile, said he had already received instructions for arguing the appeal, but the duration of the previous meeting had been insufficient.

Accepting the lawyers' request, the court granted them one week to prepare their arguments.

The IHC also directed its relevant office to prepare the paper books for the appeals in the 190 million-pound case within seven days.



Iran's Guards target US early warning radar system in Bahrain

SPECIAL REPORTER

TEHRAN

Iran's Revolutionary Guards said their forces had targeted a US early warning radar system in Bahrain, according to a statement carried by the Iranian state broadcaster on Friday.

There was no immediate confirmation of a strike on Bahrain by Manama or the United States, whose bases and equipment in the Gulf were repeatedly targeted earlier in its eight-month war with Iran.

"A few hours ago, IRGC Aerospace Force fighters targeted and destroyed the U.S. aggressors' early-warning radar on the island of Bahrain in response to the enemy's air aggression against a telecommunications tower in Sirik," the Guards said in the statement, referring to a port city in southern Iran.

"This is a serious warning to the aggressor enemy to stop its aerial provocations and oil smuggling in the Strait of Hormuz," it added in the statement, posted by the state broadcaster on Telegram.

The US Central Command, which oversees American military operations in the region, said last month that it had helped Gulf countries export 1.5 billion barrels of oil since the summer via Hormuz, a key energy trading route.

Gulf countries bore the brunt of Tehran's wrath after the United States and Israel launched attacks on Iran on February 28, triggering the war.

In retaliation, Iran restricted shipping through Hormuz and struck infrastructure including airports, seaports, energy facilities, landmarks and American assets in the US-allied countries.

The United States imposed a blockade on Iranian ports early in the war and in August, Washington announced what it called an "economic asphyxiation" campaign on Iran aimed at curbing its trade and financial flows.

Washington has appeared to dial back threats of renewed strikes after the defeat of President Donald Trump's Republican party in recent midterm elections, in part due to the unpopularity of the war on Iran.

Delhi overtakes Lahore as world's most polluted city as air quality drops

WEB DESK

NEW DELHI



India's capital Delhi overtook Lahore in Pakistan to become the world's most polluted city on Friday, with air quality reaching hazardous levels and visibility dropping as smog blanketed the city of 20 million people.Air quality index (AQI) in Delhi was "hazardous" at 334, making it the most polluted global major city, according to Swiss group IQAir, which measures air quality levels based on the concentration of toxins An AQI reading up to 50 is considered good with little or ?no health risk

India's official Central Pollution ?Control Board pegged the AQI higher at 403 and rated it "severe"

The Swiss and Indian readings vary due to the different AQI scales and methodologies used to calculate and classify air pollution levels

Cars and motorcycles emerged from dense smog, which also appeared to obscure street lights on the city's main roads, videos from news agency ANI showedPollution is a seasonal problem in many parts of northern India and neighbouring Pakistan, ?as the cold, heavy air of winter traps vehicle emissions, construction dust and smoke from agricultural ?burning



Secretary Information and Broadcasting Ashfaq Ahmad Khalil presents certificates to participants during an event in connection with Iqbal Day organized by the Directorate of Electronic Media and Publications (DEMP) at the Information Services Academy (ISA).

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